

TRAVEL

“My Trip To The Artisanat”

Under the hot sun of the Cameroun sky, I walked through a mecca of craftsmanship, innovation, and most strikingly... vibrant spirits. This was the pulse of the Artisanat. As I made my way through the market, I noticed the tables full of beautifully crafted goods. Necklaces made of colorful beads, ornately carved chess sets made of stone, traditional wooden masks, and beautifully crafted leather goods and instruments, among the many other treasures of the culture.

Stopping from table to table I spoke with the artisans about their process, learning the ingenious ways they found to highlight the treasures of their land and utilize the trivial pieces and scraps of everyday life to create an object of beauty. Hearing every story and seeing the many options made it hard to choose! I left with several items though - several pieces of jewelry, an awesome jembay, and some beautifully carved stone elephant sculptures, all for a great deal and an even better cause!

NOVICA'S IMPACT

ARTISAN: Mika The sale of goods on the Novica site has vastly improved the quality of Mika's life. Having an outlet to sell her goods has allowed her to work in her village, while still providing care for her family. She no longer has to seek out work in surrounding areas, traveling long distances, separating her from her two small children for long periods of time. The income from her Novica sales has also allowed Mika to open a shop with fellow artisans, bringing more traffic to the village, thereby improving the overall quality of life of the community as a whole.

NOVICA ITEM LISTING

“Onyx & Mother of Pearl Ring”



by Mika (South Africa)

Encased in sterling silver, South African designer Mika fuses onyx and mother of pearl to create a striking, yet soft, floral touch of sophistication.