



# **VOLUNTEER ABROAD**

# So you're interested in volunteering abroad?

This information guide answers some of the questions you may have about volunteering, such as the types of projects you can participate in, where in the world you can go, what is required of you, and how your efforts make a difference.

We carefully select organisations that work long-term to make a real difference to local communities. As a volunteer, you can support projects for a few weeks or several months, and you can work on everything from animal protection to social projects and the preservation of our marine environment. We only collaborate with serious organisations where you have the opportunity to make a significant contribution to the local community – while challenging yourself and your perspectives.



# Meaningful Travel Experiences

The KILROY Way is our framework for creating genuine and meaningful travel experiences that have a positive impact on both you and the place you visit. After a few decades in the industry, we've learned a thing or two about travel, and we want to be part of creating a new tourism industry where we embark on longer journeys with a greater purpose.

## Why volunteer abroad?

The first question you should ask yourself when you start planning a volunteer trip is why you want to volunteer abroad. It's important to understand that a volunteer trip is not synonymous with a vacation but rather a job you do without compensation. In return, you gain fantastic experiences, new friends, and insight into an exciting new culture. But volunteer work can certainly be combined with other adventures!

## What is required of me?

Volunteer projects are organised by local non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and require flexibility, open-mindedness, and a willingness to help. Fluency in English is typically sufficient, but some projects in Central and South America may require basic knowledge of Spanish. Regardless of the project, expect to work hard and be emotionally prepared for the experience. The projects may ask a lot of you, and your commitment is incredibly important. Before you leave, we do our best to give you a realistic expectation of what awaits you at your destination. All to ensure that you are as well-prepared as possible for your big adventure. And always remember, you're not saving the world, but you're helping to make it a better place!

## Why do I need to pay to volunteer?

It may seem strange to pay to volunteer, but there is a logical explanation. The most important thing to remember is that you are not paying to work - you are paying for the expenses incurred during your stay. Costs usually cover accommodation, food, transportation to and from the project, orientation, and a donation to the project. Your contribution as a volunteer is incredibly valuable, and in return, you gain worthwhile new experiences and lessons that will be of great benefit in your life.

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# Our most popular volunteer projects



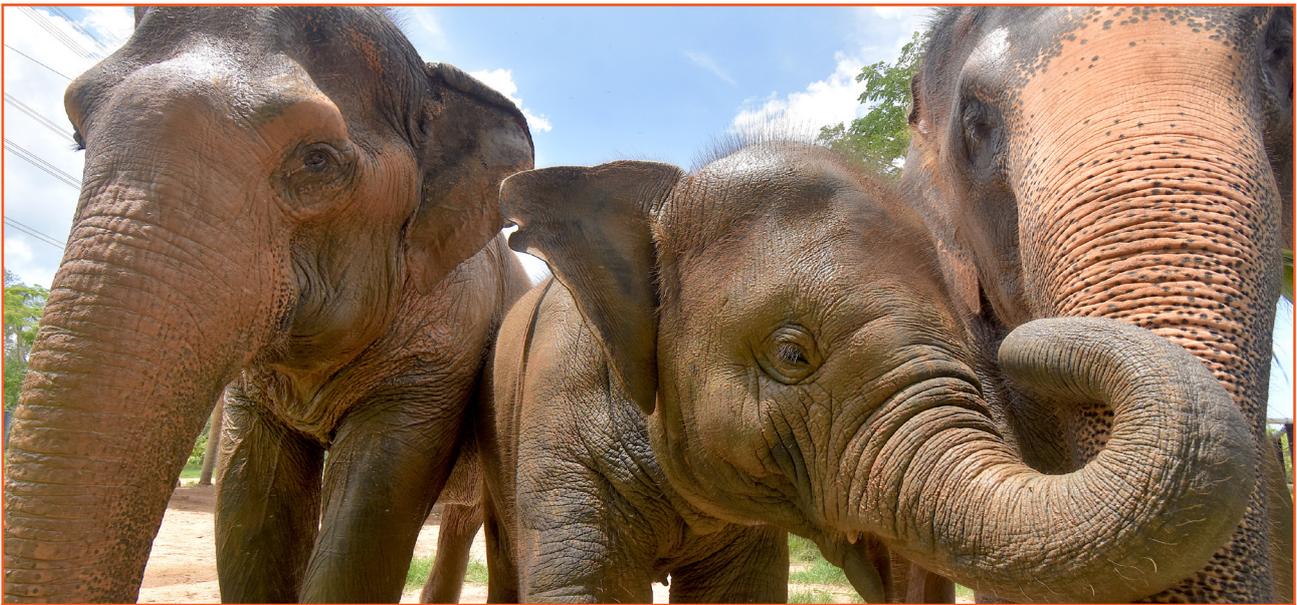
Community Projects

South Africa



## Sunshine Educare

Sunshine Educare is a pre-school and learning centre situated in the informal settlement of Wolwerivier [Wolf River] where facilities are extremely limited. Supported by the SAVE Foundation, the school focuses on providing education and care for children aged 3 months to 6 years. Sunshine Educare addresses the lack of safe daytime spaces for children, who were previously left to care for themselves or entrusted to the care of older siblings. The pre-school, now with three classrooms, offers a nurturing environment where qualified local teachers guide volunteers in engaging educational activities. The program aims to combat malnutrition by providing balanced meals, fostering social development, and instilling hygiene practices, resulting in a transformative experience for both volunteers and the children in need.



Animal Protection Projects

Thailand



## WFFT

Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand

This program has two main areas of focus - the Elephant Refuge and Wildlife Rescue Centre. Together they provide refuge and sustainable living conditions for domesticated elephants and various rescued birds and animals. The Elephant Refuge, located southwest of Bangkok, focuses on ethical volunteering with elephants, offering a hands-on experience in a sanctuary that allows elephants to roam freely in large forested areas. The Wildlife Rescue Centre, on the other hand, welcomes volunteers to work with a diverse range of rescued wildlife, some native to Thailand, others illegally traded. The volunteers' tasks involve preparing food, cleaning enclosures, and potentially participating in enclosure construction or upgrades. The centre strives to mimic natural habitats for the animals and, when possible, reintroduce them to the wild. Both components of the program emphasise ethical and compassionate care for animals while offering volunteers a meaningful opportunity to contribute to their well-being.



Nature Conservation Projects

Namibia



## Wildlife Rescue Centre

This is a fantastic hands-on experience with wildlife at a renowned nature conservation project in Namibia, where the emphasis is on preserving the wild in its natural habitat. The Wildlife Rescue Centre actively advocates for the coexistence of humans and wildlife in Africa. While promoting the release of injured animals back into the wild, the project recognises that not all creatures can return to nature. Volunteers play a vital role in caring for orphaned, injured, or conflict wildlife, including lions, leopards, cheetahs, wild dogs, and various other species. The sanctuary, deeply rooted in the mission to conserve Namibia's land, cultures, and wildlife, also integrates local cultures, particularly the San Bushman community. Volunteers contribute to the care, rehabilitation, and maintenance of the sanctuary, gaining hands-on experience with African wildlife and participating in innovative conservation projects. This unique opportunity fosters a vision of an Africa where both humans and wildlife thrive together, emphasising the importance of preserving diverse species and their habitats for future generations.



Marine Conservation Projects

Philippines



## Marine Biology

If the ocean is calling, this unique program is made for you! There are multiple options, tailored to both total diving newbies and qualified divers, eager to delve into scientific diving, marine biology, and conservation efforts. This non-profit organisation, based in the Visayas region of the Philippines, is dedicated to marine research, campaigns, and local outreach to address the pressing issues affecting marine ecosystems. It's one of the best dive spots in the world to get your PADI diving certificate whilst making a valuable contribution to vital marine conservation initiatives. If you have less time to spare, and are already a qualified diver, the 4-week program for divers with PADI advanced certification is a cool break from your daily life. It involves training with scientists and biologists after a check-out/refresher dive. Volunteers engage in the frontline fight for marine habitat preservation, combating issues like plastic pollution and overfishing in the Philippines, in a vital area known as the coral triangle.

Whichever program you choose, you'll connect with like-minded individuals, creating opportunities for lifelong friendships. Accommodation is basic but charming, set in a beautiful woodland clearing with a diverse community, shared bathrooms, and communal areas for recreation. Volunteering in this great environment allows participants to actively contribute to the conservation of the extraordinary marine life in the "amazon jungles of the sea." For those of you who'd like to stay on longer and want to become real diving experts, there is also a divemaster program available. Whilst volunteering you will get your PADI divemaster certificate, meaning you can get the experience you need to get a paid job as a diver in the future.



# Community Projects

Community projects aim to support areas within the local community, such as schools, hospitals, kindergartens, or construction projects. Tasks may include teaching English, sports, or assisting with minor maintenance and renovation work. Community projects are available in almost all our destinations, including South Africa, Nepal, Ecuador, and Namibia.





# Greenway School

Teaching

Cambodia

The Greenway School in Cambodia's Pul village, Samraong, is dedicated to providing English education to underprivileged children who wouldn't have access otherwise. Local teachers assist volunteers in lesson preparation, following a structured curriculum with weekly testing.

Students supplement their regular public school education with English classes at the Greenway School, which they attend during their free time. You will be teaching children from Pul village and the surrounding areas, aged 6 to 13. The kids have various English proficiency levels.

Over 100 children attend daily, eager to learn and appreciative of having the educational support. Class sizes range from 10-30 students and include basic teaching resources like whiteboards and flashcards. Volunteers are encouraged to bring and donate additional learning materials to enrich the curriculum.

The school was established by volunteers under the guidance of Cambodian manager and teacher Mr. Ya Nuth, who has played a vital role in community development. The teaching setting is traditional, with flexibility in lesson planning within the established curriculum's framework to ensure comprehensive coverage and preparation for assessments. You may end up teaching classes alone or together with other international volunteers. You will work alongside local teachers, enabling smaller group engagement and one-on-one assistance.

- ✓ A great fit for those with a passion for education and learning
- ✓ Your time on the project can be anywhere from 2 to 8 weeks
- ✓ Bikes are available to explore the surroundings during your time off





# Kathmandu Construction & Renovation

**Construction & Renovation****Nepal**

You'll join efforts with other international volunteers in constructing and renovating public buildings in need of upgrades, enhancing quality of life in communities throughout Kathmandu.

You'll be working in various locations, including schools, children's homes, rehabilitation centres, the KAT Centre (Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre), disabled children's homes, and women's empowerment centres. Daily work involves a range of outdoor construction and renovation tasks, such as demolishing structures, building walls, painting, carpentry, and fencing school premises.

Your accommodation is in Kathmandu, and the city's unique charm is evident in its bustling streets, historic temples and carved statues, despite the decaying buildings in the city centre.

- ✓ **Perfect for those who love construction and renovation**
- ✓ **You can volunteer on this project for 2 to 4 weeks**
- ✓ **Highly recommended to add an optional Culture Week to learn about the local culture, traditions and temples in the Himalayas**





# Bali Kindergarten

Teaching English

Indonesia

In this project you will work with local kindergartens in and around Ubud, teaching children basic English in a fun, creative and informal manner. The project aims to encourage children to learn and grow creatively while enhancing their language and communication skills. The activities help to boost the children's confidence, setting them on a positive path for the future.

The project collaborates with over 15 kindergartens, while also operating its own self-run kindergarten for 4-5 year-olds, offering them the opportunity to learn English from an early age.

The teaching prioritises play and sparks the children's interest in school. The children are always excited to meet new volunteers, and this project is suitable for those who genuinely love working with children. However, be prepared for the enthusiastic and sometimes overwhelming friendliness of the young children you'll be surrounded by daily.

- ✓ Perfect for those who love working with young children, and teaching them language skills
- ✓ You can participate in this project for 2-8 weeks
- ✓ Weekends are free, so you can explore everything Bali has to offer!





# Adventure Club

Curricular Activities

South Africa

The Adventure Club project serves as a weekly curricular activity for disadvantaged youth from local schools, aiming to keep them engaged and away from potentially harmful situations after school. You will be assisting in teaching valuable life lessons to the children through adventure activities, teamwork, educational classes and sports, such as skateboarding, swimming, and surfing, which serve as incentives for good school attendance and behaviour.

Due to the lack of physical education resources in preschools and primary schools, the project provides fun games and lessons for younger children in the mornings. In the afternoon the focus is on children aged 10 to 14, helping them develop essential skills and offering guidance to deter them from the risks of alcohol and drug abuse common in their areas.

At this project you will gain valuable experience working with children and groups while also engaging in fun outdoor activities like surfing and skateboarding through provided lessons.

- ✓ Perfect for those who love working with children and teaching them new skills
- ✓ Your time on the project can range from 2 to 8 weeks
- ✓ A fun Cape Town introduction weekend is included





# Nature Conservation Projects

As a volunteer you'll actively work for a better environment by conducting observations & measurements, removing invasive species, and contributing to local environmental efforts. Common tasks may include fieldwork or tree planting.

Do you have a passion for protecting biodiversity in the Amazon rainforest or cleaning up the beaches in Thailand? Find out how you can make a difference!





# Dream Centre Las Tunas Conservation

**Monitoring Sea Turtle Nests****Ecuador**

Located in Las Tunas, a beautiful coastal area in Manabi, Ecuador, this project focuses on monitoring sea turtle nests on the beaches of Las Tunas, Puerto Rico, and Ayampe. The project seamlessly combines conservation and community engagement, offering a unique experience.

As a volunteer, your typical week includes activities like turtle nesting monitoring (seasonal), beach cleaning, reforestation, community empowerment, crafting with recyclable and natural materials, and interacting with the local community. The community of Manabi manages the projects and volunteering program, dedicating over a decade to conservation, community tourism, and forest preservation under the guiding principle of **"No Nature, No Life."**

You'll work 4 to 5 hours each day, leaving your afternoons free to enjoy the beach, surf, play sports with locals, or relax. There are optional Spanish classes, surf lessons and salsa dance classes available. Las Tunas is known for its pristine beaches, clear waters, and friendly community of farmers and fishermen, making it a fascinating place to explore.

- ✓ **A great combo of animals, nature and community with beautiful surroundings**
- ✓ **This project offers volunteering opportunities between 2 and 5 weeks**
- ✓ **Lots of stunning nature nearby, as well as surfing, horseback riding and even whale watching!**





# Thailand Coastal Conservation

Research, Turtle Conservation & Environmental Education

Thailand

This program in Thailand's coastal region of Phang Nga offers a well-rounded perspective on the local environment and communities. Volunteers join local partners to address climate and conservation challenges in a seriously breathtaking setting.

The expedition encompasses diverse activities, including biodiversity research, turtle conservation, environmental education, and island surveys amidst stunning natural landscapes. It provides an understanding of regional conservation issues and the measures taken by the local teams. Beyond conservation work, participants help with community initiatives promoting environmental education and get a true feeling for the local culture.

Exact tasks vary depending on the time of the year. The rainy season of May to October sees more on-the-ground work such as biodiversity surveying in nearby national parks. Work with turtle research and conservation centres takes place year-round, along with beach cleanups and community education classes.

The project is ensuring the preservation of both marine and land ecosystems through a three-point strategy: firstly, by advancing scientific knowledge through research; secondly, by raising awareness among local communities about conservation matters; and finally, by empowering and motivating local residents to work with sustainable practices.

- ✓ Interested in preserving beautiful nature? This is your project!
- ✓ You can stay on the project for a time period of 2 to 10 weeks
- ✓ Endless opportunities to visit islands, beaches, national parks and caves on your free weekends





# Lisbon Forest Conservation

Reforestation

Portugal

The Forest Conservation program focuses on developing and implementing initiatives to restore degraded areas affected by intensive agriculture, fires, or invasive plants. They do this by reintroducing native forests and species while actively involving the community. Volunteers play a crucial role in the large-scale reforestation efforts to rehabilitate these areas.

Volunteer responsibilities, as part of the field team, involve studying and understanding each area and forest, with tasks that vary depending on the time of year, including:

- Implementing control techniques to manage invasive alien species that threaten natural areas due to misguided reforestation practices.
- Planting various species, predominantly in the autumn and winter.
- Maintaining planted areas.
- Managing pedestrian trails.

Most activities take place within a natural park surrounding part of Lisbon, accessible by public transport within about an hour. Additionally, once a month [dates vary], there are field trips lasting 2 to 5 days in different parts of the country, allowing volunteers to explore various villages and areas in Portugal.

- ✓ **If you love working outdoors and have an interest for the natural environment, this is the perfect project for you**
- ✓ **You can join this project for 2, 3 or 4 weeks**
- ✓ **Since you will either have a morning or afternoon shift, there is plenty of free time to explore Lisbon and its surroundings**





# Learn Spanish & Volunteer

Turtle &amp; Coastal Conservation

Costa Rica

This program offers a great opportunity to learn Spanish while getting involved in turtle and coastal conservation. The Spanish lessons will be tailored to suit all levels from beginner to intermediate and are designed to help you interact and immerse with the local community and enjoy being in a Spanish-speaking country.

On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday [2-3 hours per day], you'll participate in volunteer projects designed to conserve and respect local natural resources. Project work is varied and priorities are seasonal and weather dependent. However, most of our efforts are focused on the two following areas:

## Beach Conservation

You'll work alongside the Santa Teresa Lifeguards to maintain the beaches of Santa Teresa, Playa Hermosa and Playa Carmen, including organising clean-ups with a focus on recycling.



## Tropical Forest

You'll help with the maintenance and supply of the tree nursery, planting selected saplings, gathered seeds and ongoing support of recently planted trees to ensure their success.

You'll also support the local waterkeepers who patrol the river systems of Santa Teresa and neighbouring tropical forest resources by helping to report any contamination, clear forest debris and litter from streams before it is washed out to sea and can cause further damage to wildlife, and by maintaining hiking trails that allow visitors access to this beautiful area.





## Learn Spanish &amp; Volunteer

## Costa Rica

In addition to these activities, the program also includes hiking activities, which will allow you to explore and enjoy the beautiful hinterland of Nicoya Peninsula and get a real feel for the biodiversity of this special part of the world. Your experience will be based at the Jakera Jungle Surf Camp, which is a jungle paradise complete with a swimming pool and surrounded by a rich tropical forest teeming with wildlife, such as red squirrels, howler monkeys, and hummingbirds. You'll be a 5-minute walk away from the cool cafes, bars, and shops that line the 6km stretch of road and beach that make up Playa Santa Teresa/Playa El Carmen.

- ✓ Learn Spanish while volunteering in amazing surroundings
- ✓ Great short volunteer program of just two weeks
- ✓ Want to stay longer? Opt for the four week program which includes wildlife volunteering as well as surf and/or yoga lessons!





# Animal Protection Projects

Animal protection projects focus on protecting local wildlife and particularly vulnerable species. As a volunteer, you'll learn more about animal behaviour in natural environments, and tasks may include everything from feeding to building various facilities. Some projects also conduct research.

**Do you have a soft spot for sea turtles, elephants, or perhaps another species?**  
We're happy to provide more information about the different projects!



# Kimberly Wild Cat Centre

African Wild Cats

South Africa

Explore the Wild Cat Centre in Kimberley on a 17-day adventure starting and ending in Johannesburg. The farm, located on the border of the Free State and Northern Cape, is a home and sanctuary for various African big and small cats, including lions and African wild cats, as well as other fascinating animals such as meerkats, black-backed jackals, bat-eared foxes, and vervet monkeys.

This family-run facility serves as a haven for injured, mistreated, and relocated animals, aiming to raise big cats as wild as possible for potential re-release into the wild. Some cubs are retained as educational ambassadors.

Since its inception in 2010, the project has successfully released animals like caracals, jackals, meerkats, Cape Genet, African wild cats, and more, contributing to wildlife conservation and opposing canned hunting practices. During your stay, you will work closely with these majestic animals and share your experience with passionate animal lovers. Get the opportunity to observe and interact with big cats and other wildlife, gaining insights into their behaviour, reactions, and unique characteristics.

- ✓ Learn all there is to know about the wildlife in South Africa and help to re-release animals back into the wild
- ✓ You can help out on this cool project for 2 to 8 weeks
- ✓ A 2-day welcome orientation is included to help you to get to know Joburg





# Rhino Rangers

**Anti-poaching****Namibia**

Rhino Rangers is a unique program designed to emphasise the critical importance of protecting threatened species, immersing participants in the world of anti-poaching methods and challenges. Over 14 days, you'll learn firsthand from the dedicated anti-poaching unit [APU] while living with the fearless men responsible for safeguarding the 7,600-hectare Zannier Reserve, located near the Wildlife Sanctuary in Namibia. This reserve is home to some of Namibia's most endangered species and serves as a conservation haven, but it's also a potential target for poachers.

During your Rhino Rangers journey, you'll face the challenges of bush life, experience Namibia's starlit skies, the sounds of nocturnal wildlife, and the awe of Africa. You'll join APU patrols, master firearm skills, learn navigation and tracking techniques, and delve into the science of poaching to combat it effectively. You'll spend nights in the open wilderness, with discreet observation points and rustic bush camps providing essential amenities, including hot showers.

Volunteer tasks include morning and evening rhino patrols, physical labour like constructing observation sites, attending presentations on anti-poaching, navigation and bush skills, and taking part in full-day patrols in different sectors.

- ✓ Experience the real bush life and the thrill of anti-poaching patrols
- ✓ This volunteering project operates on a 14-day programme, which is the recommended duration of your stay
- ✓ Add on the Namibia Adventure Week to explore the deserts of Namibia





# Amazon Animal Rescue Centre

Caring for Abused Animals

Ecuador

The Amazon Animal Rescue Centre, located in the lush Ecuadorian rainforest, provides a safe haven for abused, neglected, and abandoned animals. In collaboration with the Ecuadorian Environmental Police (UPMA) and the Ministry of Environment, the centre is dedicated to combating the trafficking, abuse, capture and hunting of wild animals. As a volunteer, you'll play a crucial role in caring for the animals and maintaining the site.

You'll encounter a variety of species, including ocelots, tayra, capybaras, parrots, monkeys, tortoises, and caimans, among others. Additionally, the centre welcomes tourists who pay a small entrance fee, serving as the project's primary source of income.

Your volunteer tasks will encompass the day-to-day care of the animals, including food preparation and feeding, helping new arrivals adjust, general maintenance, construction work such as enclosure repairs and new builds, cage and enclosure enrichment, assisting the vet when needed, and aiding in the release of animals into their natural habitat. You may also be involved in other activities like gardening, trail improvement, and creating informational signs for visitors.

- ✓ Help taking care of the creatures of the amazon – big and small
- ✓ Contributing to this project is possible from 2 to 6 weeks in total
- ✓ If you've got the time, we recommend the introduction week in Baños where you'll learn a bit of Spanish and participate in fun activities!





# Animal Rescue Centre

Rehabilitating Native Wildlife

Costa Rica

The Animal Rescue Centre in Playa Chiquita, near Puerto Viejo, Costa Rica, plays a vital role in rehabilitating and, when possible, reintroducing mistreated or injured native wildlife to protected areas. As a volunteer, you'll have the unique opportunity to provide hands-on care and love to a wide variety of Costa Rica's native animals, including monkeys, wild cats, sloths, racoons, anteaters, marsupials, reptiles, and amphibians.

Activities at this project include facility cleaning and maintenance, diet preparation, assistance to animal keepers, attending to visitors and providing guidance, training and observation, and animal care. Additionally, during your stay you'll visit La Ceiba, a private reserve located 4 km from the centre. This reserve, with 50 hectares of primary rainforest, is where many animals are eventually released into the wild after recovery. You'll receive an explanation of the work conducted at La Ceiba and embark on a fascinating night tour of the reserve.

- ✓ Care for animals and help their rehabilitation into the wild paradise of Costa Rica
- ✓ Volunteer for 4 to 11 weeks on this awesome project
- ✓ The nearby Gandoca-Manzanillo Wildlife Reserve offers amazing opportunities for hiking, kayaking and snorkelling in the tropical waters





# Marine Conservation Projects

Marine conservation projects are for those who want to explore life beneath the surface while contributing to the protection and preservation of the marine ecosystem. We collaborate with volunteer projects that allow you to explore magically beautiful places in Fiji and Ecuador, among others.





# Lisbon Marine Conservation

Diving & Marine Protection Training

Portugal

Situated along the south coast of Portugal, volunteers collaborate with a diving school dedicated to local environmental protection. Beyond engaging in dives, participants receive comprehensive training on marine conservation, gaining insights into the marine ecosystem and its protection. The program fosters connections with the local community, focusing on marine preservation education, environmental issues and biodiversity protection.

Supervised by experienced divers, participants - regardless of their diving expertise - can join as a beginner [Open Water Dive Certification] or advanced diver [Advanced Open Water Dive Certification]. Volunteers earn internationally recognised SSI [Scuba Schools International] certifications, tailored to their diving experience and stay duration, including specialties like Marine Ecology and Fish Identification.

The ultimate goal remains consistent: *cleaning the ocean and striving for a better future*. The program offers a fantastic opportunity for ocean and environment enthusiasts.

- ✓ **Volunteering for the marine environment a little closer to home**
- ✓ **You can participate for up to 4 weeks on this specific project**
- ✓ **Learn to dive from experienced divers and put your skills in action**





# Pacific Whale Foundation

Humpback Whales + Spanish Classes Ecuador

Get involved in the world of humpback whales by volunteering with the Pacific Whale Foundation in Puerto Lopez, Ecuador. This unique opportunity allows you to observe these magnificent animals in the warm waters off the Pacific coast.

Since 1997, the foundation has been dedicated to gathering crucial whale data, contributing to scientific research and actively participating in the South American Whaling Committee.

As a volunteer, you'll engage in tasks such as Spanish classes, whale watching research, behavioural data analysis, and photo identification. The program encourages your initiative in contributing to the project's success, providing you with a certificate of attendance and an excursion to Isla de la Plata for trekking and snorkelling at the end of your volunteering.

Join the Pacific Whale Foundation in their commitment to marine conservation and scientific study, making a positive impact on the protection of these majestic creatures.

- ✓ **Help with the collecting and processing of information, data analysis and tracking of whales**
- ✓ **Due to whale migration season, this project is only available from June to October**
- ✓ **Learn Spanish while on the project and enjoy a weekly dinner with the entire crew**





# Penguin Project Cape Town

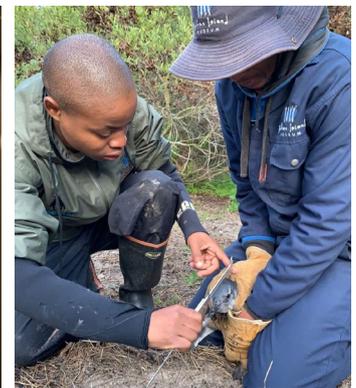
**Endangered Seabird Species****South Africa**

Established in 1968, the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB) is a nonprofit organisation dedicated to reversing the decline of seabird populations, particularly endangered species like the African penguin.

Over nearly 50 years, SANCCOB has successfully treated over 95,000 seabirds, with its oil spill response efforts alone contributing to a 19% increase in the African penguin population. In non-spill years, the organisation cares for around 2,500 seabirds, including approximately 1,500 African penguins.

As a volunteer, your tasks involve maintaining a high standard of cleanliness in the rehabilitation centre, cleaning equipment used in food preparation, supporting the upkeep of the permanent bird exhibit, defrosting and preparing fish for various seabird species, and performing maintenance and cleaning duties for the facility and home pens.

- ✓ **Do your part in protecting the African sea birds including penguins**
- ✓ **This volunteering program only comes in a 2-week version, a perfect add-on to your trip to Southern Africa!**
- ✓ **Join the Welcome Orientation to get to know Cape Town for the coming weeks**





# Marine Conservation Expedition

**Coral Reef Research****Fiji**

Dive into the crystal blue waters of the South Pacific with the Coral Reef Research and Conservation program in Dawamasu, Fiji.

This initiative focuses on contributing to the local management of marine protected areas, supporting national conservation efforts for coral reefs and marine ecosystems. Living on a research base, participants not only explore the rich biodiversity and vibrant marine ecosystem but also earn their PADI Advanced Open Water qualification.

Engage in daily water activities, learn about coral reef ecology, and face the possibility of encountering endangered species like sharks, rays, humphead wrasse and turtles. Additionally, contribute to Dawasamu communities through environmental education and sustainable livelihood projects.

The program provides a unique opportunity to blend marine research, community involvement, and personal skill development for a rewarding conservation experience in the stunning South Pacific.

- ✓ Spend your time underwater learning to dive or gaining more experience
- ✓ 8 and 12 week programmes for those without diving experience and a 4-week option if you already have your PADI certification
- ✓ One included activity each month, like learning to cook iTaukei food or taking the boat to Leleuvia island



# Combine volunteer work with other adventures

Volunteering is a way to make your journey more interesting and rewarding. Many travellers choose to combine volunteering with other adventures to give their trip greater meaning, deep diving into a new culture and making a local impact.

No matter how long you're travelling for, you can collect memorable experiences that you'll carry with you for the rest of your life. By being curious about new people, cultures and experiences, you'll learn more about the world – and yourself.

Here are some adventures that are popular to combine with volunteering:

Volunteer with animals for a month and then go backpacking to explore more of the country or region

Learn to scuba dive while supporting a local marine conservation project

Learn Spanish while volunteering with children and young people at a local school



*If you're already abroad and want to make your trip more meaningful, you can always contact us to see what opportunities are available at your current destination. Remember that travel advice is always free at KILROY.*



## Things to consider before departure...

Volunteering involves hard work, which can often be physically and mentally demanding. Evenings and weekends are essentially free time, but weekdays usually follow a full schedule, just like any other workplace. Living conditions are good but modest. You can often choose to stay with other volunteers or with a local family. Regardless of your choice, it's important to have an open mind and realistic expectations for the journey.

Every volunteer helps create the positive atmosphere and environment needed to drive the projects. Unexpected situations can arise while travelling, and not everything necessarily goes according to plan. Conditions, tasks, and workloads may vary from project to project, but with the right attitude, you'll have an amazing adventure!

In addition to the concrete work you perform, the most significant contribution you can make to the project is your time and genuine presence. Be sure to pack your caring attitude.

# ***ARE YOU READY TO START PLANNING YOUR JOURNEY?***



Visit our website to explore projects that interest you. Alternatively, you can contact our travel experts directly, and we'll clarify any questions and provide suggestions for projects that may suit you. Advice at KILROY is always free and talks can be booked at our travel shops or via an online meeting.

Your adventure starts here!

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