

WELCOME TO

Volunteers Without Borders



Dear Potential Volunteer,

Thank you for taking the time to locate our organization and we would like to personally send you a warm welcome. We are pleased to hear you will be volunteering with Volunteers Without Borders. Although there are numerous avenues for volunteering, we can assure that we offer **life changing volunteering opportunities** at the **LOWEST possible cost** to you, the volunteer. Now that you've filled out the online application and that you're on board, our goal is to take care of you every step of the way. We will ensure that you are fully prepared before you leave to the country of your choice and begin working on your first volunteer program with us. This information package was designed to serve two purposes. The first purpose is to give you more detailed information about the country you have chosen to volunteer in as well as providing some additional insight into the various types of programs we offer. The second purpose is to provide you with specific items that you will be expected to bring along with you, what types of vaccinations you will be needing before you leave, and what we recommend for your emergency/medical travel insurance. Not only do our volunteering programs benefit the organization and community you will be working with, but they also provide volunteers with an appreciation and gratitude for others, sense of fulfillment, as well as new perspectives. Our goal is to inspire volunteers to raise awareness, share their stories and continue to support or contribute to our programs in any way possible in the future. Although our programs can be quite demanding at times, we ensure that you will be given adequate time and days off to tour around the area you are working in and get the opportunity to participate in any outdoor activities or adventures you would be interested in.

It is your job to explore this information package and then reply back to us at: info@vwbinternational.org to let us know that you are ready for the next step of the enrollment process. If you have specific questions please see our frequently asked questions page as this covers most questions that the volunteers may have. To locate this page, visit our website and click the 'About VWB' tab.

Like most developing countries in the world; political instability could arise at any given time, so we encourage you to check with your local government travel advisory just to be sure that nothing is expected to occur in the location while your over there. With that being said, we can ensure you that every country that we offer has been checked out by our team to ensure the security and safety for our volunteers.

While volunteering on any of our available programs, you will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of health, educational, community development, or wildlife and marine conservation programs. This will give you a chance to make an important contribution to the local community and while doing so, gain an in depth understanding of the country and its culture. We assure you that this experience will leave a lasting impression and stay with you for the rest of your life.

Information to help you prepare for your trip

If it's your first time volunteering or going abroad, there are several things you will need to make sure you bring on your trip before you leave. Here is a list of the following items that we have deemed necessary to bring to make sure you can enjoy your time on the program. The list below is a general suggestion; each volunteer may prefer more specific items that we have not included in this list. Please make sure that you remember to bring any special items that you are used to having back home, that may only be purchased in your own country.

What to Bring:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable shoes and sandals | <input type="checkbox"/> Camera and/or iPod |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shorts and pants | <input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone - You can buy simcard) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Coat/Jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> Rechargeable batteries w/charger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag | <input type="checkbox"/> Laptop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses and Sunscreen | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight/head torch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel Guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Lock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mosquito net & insect repellent | <input type="checkbox"/> String |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hand Sanitizer | <input type="checkbox"/> Eyeglasses/Contacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Medication (Anti Malarial Tablets) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duct Tape and/or superglue | <input type="checkbox"/> Picture Book / Journal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Binder or notepad | <input type="checkbox"/> Country Map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet Paper | <input type="checkbox"/> Ear Plugs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small water heater or kettle | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes or Electronics for donation |

Vaccinations:

The World Health Organization recommends that all travelers be covered for diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, polio and hepatitis B, regardless of their destination. The consequences of these diseases can be severe and outbreaks do occur. [Click here](#) to learn more.

“As the President and Founder of Volunteers Without Borders Association, I’d like to offer you a warm welcome! I have done a lot of volunteering myself and believe it is the most fulfilling and gratifying way to give back to countries around the world that need all the help they can get. Whether you’re an adventurous traveler or looking to help make a difference, we are happy to have you join us. By volunteering, you will make a difference to the local people that you come in contact with overseas. Our volunteering opportunities expose you to the often-harsh everyday realities of life for many people around the world in underdeveloped areas. We thank you for your time and consideration.”

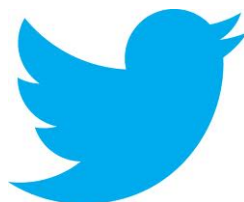
~ Kevin Francis

President & Founder of VWB



Website:
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MOZAMBIQUE



Mozambique is one of Africa's most up and coming places to travel to. A few things this country has to offer is 2500 km of pristine coastline lined with stunning white sand beaches; excellent diving in a number of different areas, as well as magical offshore islands that have the ability to captivate and inspire just about anyone.

For nearly two decades, many of the most remarkable attractions were inaccessible due to a longstanding guerrilla war going on in this country. Luckily, those dark times are in the past, and Mozambique is one of Africa's rising stars, with its upbeat atmosphere, overflowing markets and an endless coastline just waiting to be explored. Like most of Africa, getting from one place to another can take a lot of time, but for those that are willing to endure this hurdle, you will reap instant rewards and be presented with a long list of incredible places to go to that most people would consider it paradise.

Currency Advice

The local currency accepted in Mozambique is Mozambican **Metical (MZN)**, but the South African Rand (ZAR) or USD is also accepted in many places. In some areas, prices can be high in Mozambique, and credit cards are not always accepted, even at many up market hotels. Where they are accepted, it's often only with steep commissions, which means that you will need to rely here more heavily on cash, ATMs and (in major centers) travelers checks. The best currency to bring is USD in a mixture of large and small denominations, a few travelers' checks for emergency and a Visa or MasterCard card for withdrawing money from ATMs. Euros are not accepted.

Travel Document Information

To enter Mozambique, a valid passport and entry visa are required. Most nationalities can obtain a visa at Mozambican border posts or upon arrival. Please check with a travel expert from your country for requirements. A 30-day visa upon arrival costs approximately \$25.00 CAD. Alternatively, longer visas can be obtained from a Mozambican embassy or consulate in your home country.

Malaria Concerns

This program is located within a malarial zone; however, there have not been any confirmed reports of malaria over the past 16 years. To help protect you against malaria, we recommend bringing a bottle or two of mosquito repellent and a mosquito net. It is also up to you as to whether you choose to take anti-malarial medication. There are also various homeopathic alternatives available.

Medical Insurance & Facilities

There are no hospitals, doctors, or chemists in the area where the project is located. The closest hospital is in Manguzi, South Africa, located just across the border (*open between 8am to 5pm*). Please arrange vaccinations and travel insurance in your home country before you arrive. If you tend to get seasick, we also recommend for you to bring extra medication for that.

Communication

There are no landlines in this area so a mobile phone and Mozambican SIM card are necessary. SIM cards can be purchased and registered easily in Maputo. Limited Internet access is also available.

When To Go

This project operates year round with programs lasting four weeks. We generally start each four-week program on the first Monday of every month, holding a maximum of eight volunteers. Additional weeks can be arranged upon request. When deciding when to volunteer, December - February is summer (hot and humid), whereas June - August is cooler and drier (10 - 12 °C in the evenings). Humpback whale migration is typically July - November and Turtle season is generally November - March.

Accommodation Recommendations

If you choose to stay in Maputo, it will give you time to stock up on necessities for your trip to the project, exchange local currency (Meticais), and/or purchase a SIM card for your mobile phone, etc. We recommend the following hostel:

Fatimas BackPackers

<http://www.mozambiquebackpackers.com>

Email: fatimas@tvcabo.co.mz

Phone: +258 (0) 82 4145730 / 82 3070870

Transport Recommendations

The easiest way to reach the project is to fly into Maputo and find your way to the Ferry port (Catembe). From there, the road trip from Catembe to your project location is approximately 120km. The roads are sand and usually require a 4x4 vehicle, and it can take up to 4 hours one-way. *Private, return transfers can be arranged for a fee.* Transport can also be arranged from Durban on Mondays and Thursdays. Both routes to the border are via tarred roads. The trip from Durban takes approximately 4-5 hours and from Johannesburg, anywhere from 8-12 hours.

Dangers and Annoyances

Mozambique is in general a safe, hassle-free country and can be a relief if you've recently been somewhere like South Africa, Kenya or Tanzania. With that being said, you do still need to take the usual precautions. Avoid isolated areas; especially stretches of beach, and in cities and tourist areas take a taxi at night. When using public transport, don't accept drinks or food from someone you don't know and ensure your bag or belongs is secure. Be skeptical of anyone who comes up to you on the street asking whether you remember them from the airport, your hotel or wherever. In the majority of cases, they are just trying to get money from you.

In tourist areas like Maputo, touts and flycatchers can be extremely aggressive, especially around bus stations and budget tourist hotels. Do your best to minimize the impression that you're a newly arrived tourist. Duck into a shop if you need to get your bearings or look at a map and don't walk around any more than necessary with your luggage. While looking for a room, leave your bag with a friend or reliable hotel rather than walking around town with it. Buy your bus tickets a day in advance (without your luggage) and, when arriving in a new city, take a taxi from the bus station to your hotel. Be very wary of anyone who approaches you on the street, at the bus station or in your hotel offering safari deals, and never pay any money for a safari or tour in advance until you've thoroughly checked out the company. There are many reports of fly by night Safari companies so please be extra cautious when booking a trip.

A Few Tips

- Avoid external money pouches, dangling backpacks, camera bags, and leave jewellery, fancy watches, and fancy headphones at home. Carry your passport, money and other documents in a pouch against your skin, hidden under loose-fitting clothing. Or, better, store valuables in a hotel safe, if there's a reliable one, ideally inside a pouch with a lockable zip to prevent tampering. It never hurts to make a photocopy of your identification and cards and store it separately in another bag.
- Arriving for the first time at major bus stations can be a fairly stressful experience. You'll probably be hassled by touts as you get off the bus, all reaching to help you with your pack and trying to sell you a cheap hotel rate or safari.
- Have your luggage as consolidated as possible, with your valuables well hidden under your clothes. Try to spot the taxi area before disembarking and make a beeline for it. It's well worth a few extra dollars for the fare, rather than attempting to walk to your hotel with your luggage.
- Take requests for donations from 'refugees', 'students' or others with a grain of salt. Contributions to humanitarian causes are best done through an established agency or project.
- When bargaining or discussing prices, keep your money or wallet out of sight.

Water

Unless your intestines are well accustomed to Africa, don't drink water from the tap that hasn't been boiled, filtered or chemically disinfected (such as with iodine tablets). Also avoid drinking from streams, rivers and lakes unless you've purified the water first. The same goes for drinking from pumps and wells – some do bring pure water to the surface, but the presence of animals can still contaminate supplies.

Cultural Awareness

Mozambique is a pretty colorful and lively country, where most of the population has a good understanding of the English language. We encourage volunteers, planning to stay for 2 to 3 months or more, to consider learning essential words and phrases in the local language in order to communicate better with the surrounding community. We plan to offer lessons for those that are interested. Female volunteers should be aware that in the towns and villages, it is normally respectful to have your knees and your mid-riff covered (and in some cases, your shoulders). Some practices in Mozambique are very different to what volunteers may be used to at home. Visitors to Mozambique do not have to agree with all the customs around them, but should respect them and endeavor to understand the complex cultural history that shaped them.

PLEASE NOTE: There is a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy in place for alcohol consumption, during volunteer work hours, while on the project. The consumption of alcohol is looked negatively upon and even forbidden in certain countries and it is essential that you abide by this rule. We need to ensure that you are giving the project the right impression of Volunteers Without Borders during your stay. **If volunteers choose not to follow this policy, they will be removed from the project immediately, and no refund will be issued.**

BOTTLENOSED DOPLHINS MARINE CONSERVATION

Observation, Monitoring, Fin ID, Beach Cleanups, Stranding & Adoption



Location: Southern Mozambique (Santa Maria Region)

Welcome to the wonderful world of wild dolphins, whales, turtles and whale sharks. We are thrilled to have your interested in our project which was founded in 1998 by a small group of people who had connected with the resident dolphins while setting up Africa's first wild dolphin swim program that supported research, education and conservation. This project is situated in a small town on the southern most tip of Mozambique, close to the border of South Africa. To the south, there is a long line of forest-covered dunes, 100m in elevation. At the point, the coast swings to the west, creating a leeward protected bay. The town is located 117 km south of Maputo. The area is characterized by a warm sub-tropical climate. The warm currents from the Agulhas determine the temperature, the composition of the seawater and the north-south orientation of the coastline. The rainy season broadly coincides with the hot months, between November - March.

Prior to 1975, thousands of tourists flocked to this locations vast sandy white beaches where diving and fishing were the draw cards. During the war tourism development came to a halt as the area became one of the front lines in the battle for independence, suffering considerable damage. After independence, the friendly local population was eager to rebuild to area to its former glory. Soon scuba diving pioneers rediscovered and mapped out the local reefs capitalizing on the marine diversity and favorable diving conditions (good visibility, warm water temperatures and safe launching site). By the mid-90's, stories of unimaginable diving started to circulate in South Africa which led to the re-birth of this area. Tourists began visiting this area in increasing numbers to witness first hand, the wealth of underwater species. Zambezi, tiger and whale sharks are sighted regularly, and the reefs are visited by loggerhead, leatherback and hawksbill turtles. Manta rays, blue spotted eagle rays and ribbon tail rays, together with a multitude of fish species, exist amid colorful soft and hard corals. With some 25 reefs in the area, the choices are many, from the shallows of Malongane, to the depths of Pinnacles and Atlantis. The reputation of southern Mozambique's, now famous reefs, has grown both within the diving community and the recreational fishing sectors. News of the areas fairly predictable point break also started circulating amongst the surfing community. As a result, in 1999, the 'Gotcha Experience Surfing Competition' was held here as well as the Roxy Invitational in May 2009. This location is the most accessible Mozambican beach town for South African tourists to visit.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Upon the establishment of this program, a boat and camera were purchased to capture the dolphins as part of our commitment to research based tourism. This allowed us to photograph the dolphins and get to know whom we were interacting with. Remarkably each time we returned, we found interactions were getting closer and stronger with the dolphins and started to realize that we were seeing the same dolphins each time. News started to spread of our discovery, and people of all ages and backgrounds started contacting us hoping to encounter dolphins and see them up close. As the swims

continued, we found profound connections with some of our resident dolphins. The Dolphins were beginning to actively engage with us through circle swims, direct approaches and long extended visits. The predictability of our behavior and the consistency of visits soon saw an incredible relationship blossom which allowed for some extra ordinary in-water observations of this gregarious species.

Before we knew it, the media asked us for the opportunity to film, photograph and write about our work and close relationship with the Dolphins, which at that stage was proudly advocated as the areas only wild dolphin swim program. Before long, people started arriving from far and wide and with 'business being business' operators within the area started to capitalize on this exposure and tourists soon started arriving with jet skis and boats to come and 'swim with our dolphins'. Unfortunately, most of the people had completely missed the point of our project and the dolphins became slaves to the dolphin swim trade. As years passed, it has been rather disappointing for us to realize that the dolphins have been heavily targeted but we will continue to firmly stand our ground in trying to protect our delicate environment and all that live within. Against all odds we have not given up and do uphold our commitment to the protection of the dolphins of this area in Mozambique.

Since the program began, over 4000 encounters have been recorded over the years, and 30 000+ images taken, validating our organizations long-term commitment to the study of the dolphins and the effects that tourism has on our oceans. The data we have successfully collected has been used in obtaining abundance and identification information on the resident inshore Bottlenose Dolphins and the rare indo pacific humpback dolphin. Daily sighting logs have been maintained for the last decade and we have been able to collect and correlate data captured over the years, yielding positive results for the need of conservation in this area. Our goal is to encourage sustainable dolphin tourism resulting in the conservation of our most precious natural resource; the dolphins. Our work has provided significant data to a long-term study into how dolphins are affected by increased tourism and what measures should be taken to protect these species for generations to come.

This program is supported by the research contributions from volunteers, donations, grants and tourism that generate income from in-water experiences with the resident bottlenose dolphins. A one-boat policy along with a highly developed code of conduct based on 16 years experience helps to ensure minimal stress for the dolphins when tours are taking place. The swims are guided by a qualified crew that include ecology skippers, Marine Biologists, fellow volunteers and camera crews who contribute the continuation of the photo ID program.



Project Benefits:

- ✓ Ensure baseline data is collected and resident dolphins are protected
- ✓ Promote long-term studies of marine life
- ✓ Data assists governmental decisions about protecting and conservation
- ✓ Increase awareness among local populations and worldwide
- ✓ Deter poachers/illegal activities and encourage prosecution of offenders
- ✓ Help educate local Mozambicans to better understand how they impact their environment and implement ways to minimize the impact

Duties & Responsibilities:

Volunteer programs are set up on a 2 to 4 week duration and are designed for those that would like to gain more knowledge and field experience in the marine environment - with a focus on wild dolphins. The program is an extended stay with the dolphins, whales and turtles (depending on your chosen period) and incorporates ethical marine mammal tourism protocols as standard practice. Volunteers and interns are accommodated with the rest of the crew.

A Volunteers primary focus is working together with participants and Dolphins. Your time will be spent working on board the Avalon, ensuring all participants get the best possible experience while in our care. Volunteers help out with educational briefings, fielding questions, preparing and assisting participants in the water and working closely with our species. Avalon launches 1 - 5 times per day depending on the season and volunteers will have the opportunity of collecting data, taking fin identification pictures, data entry and working with the reconstruction of cetaceans that have been collected. Volunteers may be called upon to assist interns in their specific field of research.

As tourism is quite seasonal, there are times where you can experience much down time. During peak periods though, we are in full swing and you can expect to work long, hot hours with extensive visitor and dolphin interaction. Participants will share the daily routine, with each person designated a specific job per time period. Volunteers may also be asked to assist with animal stranding, turtle monitoring and guest educational sessions. The program caters towards individuals wanting field experience, tourism experience, or simply a career break. Anyone aged 18 and older is welcome. The first week of the program will be spent working closely with team members in training and learning set protocols, in order to maintain the integrity of the project.

Regular screenings/talks are scheduled and volunteers are requested to get involved. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about dolphins and the marine environment in general. Swim ethics and behavior presentations cover dolphins from a wild perspective. Peak times include weekends, which are Thursdays to Sundays. Peak seasons generally coincide with school holidays and are March to April, September, and December to January. Low season ensures plenty of time for surfing, kite surfing, or just plain old relaxing!



DURING YOUR PROGRAM, YOU WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES:

Boat and Land based marine mammal monitoring

Information and data are collected for every cetacean and whale shark sighting. The information is in regards to abundance, location, behavior, identification, associations, weather and conditions. In the winter months, we see migrating whales and in summer months, an increase in whale shark sightings. Land-based observations are conducted to gather information about the dolphins' travel patterns (when we cannot view them at

sea). Information collected includes direction of travel, area observed, behavior, group size, etc.

Photographic Fin Identification

Our dolphins have been photographed and documented since 1996, resulting in a catalogue of some 200 individuals in our 40 km area. The project allows researchers to determine abundance, movement, behaviors, and social structures of this population. Photos are taken while at sea, then moving them into the image bank where they are clipped, saved, matched to the id catalogue, and filed accordingly. This process is a long and laborious task, requiring time and patience. All data obtained in the field needs to be entered into a central database. This is a standard Excel workbook.

Whale Shark Monitoring

When possible, the individual is sexed, and scars/unusual markings, left/right side pigmentation patterns are photographed. Data and photographs are recorded and sent to an international database.

Turtle Monitoring

This program runs between November - March and involves monitoring nesting females and hatchling sites. Local monitors and volunteers ensure the collection of data and tagging of nesting females. Working together with WWF Mozambique and the Turtle Working Group Mozambique, species monitored include Loggerhead and Leatherbacks turtles.

Beach Clean-Ups

Regular clean-ups are conducted. All debris is collected, recorded and counted. During 2009, the project collected: 341 bags with a total weight of 1,749 kg. Total number of items collected: 12509, total hours spent in collection: 17.5 hours.

Stranding Network

One of tasks is to handle any stranded animals that come ashore. Once a report is received, the crew contacts the relevant authorities and goes to site. Here the animal is measured and all the relevant data is collected. Depending on size, the animal is then removed to a site for further specimen sampling and de-boning. The animal is then buried for a set period of time and later excavated for reconstruction. In the past, we have worked with striped dolphins, humpback whales, true beaked whales, whale sharks, pygmy sperm whales, spotted dolphins, melon headed whales, spotted dolphins and turtles. Many of our specimens were unfortunately lost during the fire however we still have a number of them buried in the ground that will be excavated.

In-Water Monitoring

In-water monitoring is performed on all launches. As volunteers spend more time in the water and the dolphins become more comfortable with them, they will get some close encounters. When this begins, they may be asked to fulfill specific tasks while in the water with the dolphins ie) mother/calf counts.

Adoption Program

The project has established an adoption program, which means a volunteer or anyone, can adopt one of our Dolphins. In doing so, updated records and images are sent to adoptees as well as regular newsletters.

PLEASE NOTE: *This program allows a maximum of 2 participants only at one time.*



DAILY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

- 5:15 - 6:00** (Field Trip) Participation preparation - sign in, safety/ecology briefing, gear allocation
- 6:00 - 7:15** Data entry, special projects, land-based observations
- 7:15 - 8:00** (Field Trip) Participation preparation - sign in, safety/ecology briefing, gear allocation
- 8:00 - 9:15** Data entry, special projects, land-based observations
- 9:15 - 10:00** (Field Trip) Participation preparation - sign in, safety/ecology briefing, gear allocation
- 10:00 - 11:15** Data entry, special projects, land-based observations
- 11:15 - 12:00** (Field Trip) Participation preparation - sign in, safety/ecology briefing, gear allocation
- 12:00 - 13:15** Data entry, special projects, land-based observations
- 13:15 - 14:00** (Field Trip) Participation preparation - sign in, safety/ecology briefing, gear allocation
- 14:00 - 16:00** Data entry, special projects, land-based observations
- 14:15 - 17:00** (Mondays and Thursdays) - Behavior and Species Introduction and Snorkeling for Participants
- 20:00 - 12:00** Turtle monitoring with local monitors

Accommodation, Meals and Laundry:

Volunteers will be accommodated in the village within easy walking distance to the Town Square. Accommodation comes equipped with bed, linen, basic mosquito net and cooking facilities. All basic meals are included and you will be requested to prepare meals and do shopping with the weekly budget that is set out for catering. A hand washing area is available. Alternatively, you can pay one of the housekeeping staff to do laundry for you: \$10.00 CAD per week.

Expectations:

- Please ensure you ready to start at 5:00 AM (summer) or 6:00 AM (winter)
- Times and programs may change due to capacity and season
- Volunteers will not be required to be out at sea for every field trip
- Additional land based duties may be required by Director

Requirements:

- Fluent in English (Portuguese *would be beneficial*)
- Computer literate (using either Microsoft or Mac)
- Good people skills and a team player
- Good physical health
- Comfortable in or around the ocean
- Confident with public speaking or presenting (*you may be asked to prepare and present information to both the community and other resorts in the area*)

What to Bring?

- Swimsuits, towels, plenty of sun block, snorkel, mask, and fins
- Full wetsuit in winter months; shortie or boardies and rash guard in summer
- Computer and/or binoculars
- Sunglasses (polarized are better for the ocean)
- Light rain jacket or windbreaker (for the boat)
- Hat (beanie and scarf in winter months)
- June – October: warm clothes (warm jumper, lightweight jacket, shoes)
- November – May: t-shirts and shorts (light weight jacket, pair of pants)
- Spending money
- Old clothes to be worn for excavations of bones

As would be expected such a project requires a lot of money, time, and dedication to be successful and we thank you in advance for supporting the our volunteer program. We have included all the relevant information you will require to ensure your time with us is

hassle free. We look forward to sharing the magic of our dolphins with you and thank you in advance for your support.

3 MONTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

A three-month internship is also offered year round. Formal research projects are required to be approved by the Director of Conservation areas in Mozambique as the area falls into a Partial Marine Protected Area. Applicants will have to submit a detailed research project proposal that must be non-invasive and of benefit to conservation. Interns will be responsible for participating in the on-going research at the base station as well as be co-mentor to volunteers. Over and above their specific research aims interns will assist with the daily site running that will include and are not limited to overseeing dolphin encounter sessions and equipment maintenance. Interns will be required to pay 70% of the volunteer monthly fee.

HERE ARE THE STEPS TO COMPLETE OUR ENROLLMENT PROCESS

Step 1) - Review this information package and decide which country you want to volunteer in and what program you are most interested to volunteer on. Once you have done that, please fill out the online application form available on our website and click submit. Please make sure to include the necessary required information.

Step 2) Once we receive the application form, we will send you a temporary confirmation for your desired program. If you need to make any changes, please feel free to email us and let us know. If we do not receive any further correspondence from you, we will send you the program fee payment request via Paypal within 3 business days.

Please note: *A \$225 CAD one-time registration/enrollment fee will also be added to your program fee.*

Step 3) - When we receive confirmation that your program fee has been paid, you will receive a confirmation email from us. In this email, there will be a waiver/release form that will be required to fill out and send back to us at your earliest convenience. You are also encouraged to book your flights at this time. Once you have done so, please send us a copy of your flight itinerary so that airport pickup/transfer (if available) can be arranged for you upon arrival.

Step 4) - After we receive your waiver/release form, we will confirm your placement on the program and detailed program specific information will be provided to you at this point.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Our enrolment and registration process begins by applying online. Once you have filled out and submitted the online application form, you will receive a confirmation email. To continue on in our enrolment process, all volunteers will be required to pay a Registration Fee of \$225 CAD, which will be added to the Program Fee. This fee helps to cover the administration and processing costs. Once we receive your payment, we will send you a confirmation email with the program details and encourage you to book your flight at that time. Our team will be readily available to correspond with you and answer any questions you might have from the time you apply until you reach the project. If you have any further questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact us at:

info@vwbinternational.org

OUR PROGRAM FEES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- **Registration Fee** - (refundable if you choose not to go), ongoing support from VWB staff, program marketing costs, information pack, administration costs, travel costs to develop and ongoing costs to sustain programs and communication costs with volunteers.
- **Program Fee** – accommodation provided with the dolphin crew, basic meals (three per day; assistance with food prep is encourage), gift Pack (t-shirts to be worn on duty, certificate of attendance, DVD with pictures and dolphin diaries of during your stay, DVD with information on our dolphins), research projects and interesting reference papers, tour of the area, participation in a three-launch dolphin tour, training for specific tasks, field trips: three per week weather dependent, field experience working at sea (behavioral observations, data collection, photographic identification), research contribution, mentoring duties include but are not limited to: educational briefings and turtle walks, boat based data capture (photographic, behavioral, etc.), land based data (observations: three per week, data entry, fin identification, etc), preparation of educational/information boards, marine stranding, Bone/skeleton prep, catalogue and reconstruction.

WHAT ADDITIONAL COSTS WILL I HAVE?

- Visa, flights, travel insurance (mandatory), immunizations / vaccinations, in country trips or tours, transfer to other areas of the country, beverages, alcohol, dining out, and spending money, recreational activities (kiting, surfing, scuba diving, bush excursions, etc.), additional activities (open water dive course: \$550 CAD)



During this entire process, we will always be available to correspond with you to answer any other questions you might have from now until you reach the program. Thank you for choosing Volunteers Without Borders.

We can assure you that you've come to the right place!