



DOLPHIN RESEARCH



Our partner is a non-profit research organisation situated in Plettenberg Bay in the picturesque Garden Route. The Centre has run extensive mammal research programmes in Southern Africa and has many international publications. The "extra-hands" from their volunteer programme has helped fund research since 2002.

YOU get hands-on experience in the everyday running of a research organisation. Volunteers are required to "muck-in" on all activities from

the mundane through to the spectacular.

On-going research projects involve monitoring the occurrence, movements, numbers and habitat of Bottlenose and Humpback Dolphin in the area. Researching the population status and diet of the Cape Fur Seals. And land-based studies on the migratory routes of Humpback Whales and the daily movements of other cetaceans in the area.

There are also opportunistic studies involving Killer and Southern Right Whales when they visiting the bay. Field-work studies are project and weather dependant. When not at sea or in the field there is plenty of office work and data capturing to keep you busy. Some of which may be laborious but vital in the study of marine science.



Volunteers also have the opportunity to help out at the local Seabird Rehabilitation Centre when injured or oiled birds come in. While occasional whale, dolphin, seal and shark strandings provide valuable post-mortem information. Or YOU may get involved in educational activities promoting awareness and conservation in schools and communities.

Limited opportunities also arise to accompany commercial tour boats taking photographs and helping out the tour guides.

Volunteer opportunities are limited to a maximum of 6 people at any one time.

PROJECT OUTLINE

Project Dolphin Research

Province Western Cape

Closest city Plettenberg Bay

Malaria-free area Yes

Vaccinations None

Duration

Minimum: 2 weeks

Maximum: 12 weeks

Requirements

Suits mature volunteer that is willing to get involved in routine and spectacular task
Ideal for Biology students and interns

Costs

FROM £750.00 for 2 weeks per person single

Each additional week available on request

Combination

This project can be combined with any other project

INCLUSIONS

Single Accommodation

Project donation

Airport collection and drop-off

Orientation programme and project specific training

Meals

EXCLUSIONS

Flights

Visa costs

Travel Insurance

In-country transport

Costs and items of a personal nature

Hours

5 day week

Normally weekdays

08:30- 17:00 (hours may change)

Accommodation

Volunteer house – sleeps 6

Laundry service available

Transport

Collected and dropped off at project area.

Meals

All meals included prepared by your hostess

Host Resources

Orientation provided

Training provided

Possible Exposure to

Data capturing and office administration

Monitoring the occurrence, movements, numbers and habitat of Bottlenose Dolphin in the area

Monitoring the occurrence, movements, numbers and habitat of Humpback Dolphin in the area

Researching the population status and diet of the Cape Fur Seals

Land-based studies on the migratory routes of Humpback Whales and the daily movements of other cetaceans in the area.

Assist on smaller ad hoc academic studies

Opportunistic studies involving Killer and Southern Right Whales

Field-work studies and data gathering

Help out at the local Seabird Rehabilitation Centre

Help with occasional beach strandings

Help with educational and conservation activities

Assist on commercial tour boats

* Prices subject to change without prior notice