

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



Duration: 2 weeks minimum to 12 weeks.

Dates: January - November

Requirements:

- Minimum age: 18.
- Upper Intermediate level of English.
- Affinity for working with youth.
- Enrolment form, curriculum vitae, letter of motivation, passport copy, proof of medical insurance, police clearance certificate.

Day of arrival: Sunday

Day of departure: Sunday

Project Highlights:

- Make a meaningful difference in the lives of adults and young children from the local community.
- Immerse yourself in the local cultures, with English as a common second language.
- Explore the natural beauty of Plettenberg Bay and the Garden Route.
- Participate in a variety of adventure activities, including bridge bungee, swimming with seals, marine safaris, river-rafting, and more.
- Experience comfortable home-stay accommodation surrounded by pastoral landscapes and indigenous forests.
- Build friendships with volunteers from around the world.

Project Information:

- The project supports a historically disadvantaged but vibrant, multi-cultural rural township community.
- Volunteers participate in classroom and outdoor activities to help prepare children for formal education.
- The main languages are Afrikaans and Xhosa, with English increasingly understood by children aged 5 and older.
- Volunteers engage in hands-on work like painting, gardening, and decorating.

Programme Details:

- Daily activities include participation in morning routine activities, meal preparation, group activities, and outings.
- Volunteers are integrated into the daily routine and may receive specific responsibilities over time.

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Your Role:

A typical day:

- 07:00: Breakfast.
- 08:00: Transfer to the project.
- 08:00 – 12:30/13:00: Participation in morning activities.
- 12:30 – 14:00: Finalization of meals and lunch break.
- 14:00 – 16:00: Afternoon activities.
- 16:00/16:30 onwards: Leisure time.
- 18:00 – 19:00: Dinner with the team.

Weekends:

- Friday evenings: BBQ and leisure time.
- Saturdays: Free day for personal activities, including exploring local attractions and adventure activities.
- Sundays: Free time, following the Saturday routine.

Project Location:

- Kurland, a rural township about 20 km from Plettenberg Bay.

PROGRAM AND PACKAGE DETAILS

Transport

Arrival: Collection by Shuttle at either George or Port Elizabeth Airport and transferred to Firefly Falls base camp.

Departure: Shuttle to George or Port Elizabeth Airport from Firefly Falls (Alternative destinations can be arranged at extra cost)

*Please note airport transfers are only included for a minimum 3 week stay. For any stays under 3 weeks airport will be charged separately

Getting to and from the Project: Weekly transportation to your project site

Activities: Transport provided BUT on clients account

Accommodation: (Firefly Falls)

- Shared two-bed rooms with bedding and towels provided.
- Well-equipped communal kitchen as well as other communal areas.
- Entertainment facilities including a hot tub, bar, and outdoor BBQ area.
- Free WiFi at the main homestead and entertainment area.
- Bedding changed weekly, laundry facilities available.
- Bordering an indigenous forest

Meals:

- Daily breakfast and lunch are self-prepared (basic continental breakfast and build your own sandwiches for lunch if you lucky, maybe some leftovers from dinner)
- Home style and home cooked sit down dinners provided with entire team.
- Vegetarian, vegan, and special dietary options available. (please communicate dietary requirements before arrival)
- Tea, coffee and hot chocolate station
- Food eaten between meals is for the volunteer's own account
- If you require extra snacks or sweet treats we will happily transport you to the nearest local superette on collection from the days project.
- Any restaurant/takeaway meals over down time is at clients cost

Free Time:

Numerous adventure activities within an hour's drive, including bungee jumping, skydiving, swimming with seals, whale watching (in season), numerous hiking trails, ziplining and more. Consult project coordinators for activity arrangements once you have arrived.

What to Bring:

- Pocket money/credit and debit cards.
- Personal toiletries, beach towels, and prescribed medications.
- Sunscreen, mosquito repellents (There are lots of mosquitos in the forest)
- Practical working clothes are very important, bring long sleeved tops and long pants for work. (Mosquitos!)
- The correct footwear is very important for the reforestation project, please ensure you have strong boots that are ankle height, they need to be weather resistant and comfortable. (You will have long days of manual labour making a positive impact one day at a time)
- Books, laptop, camera, and personal items.

Cell Phone Use: Cell phone use is prohibited during working hours. Discuss photography with project supervisors for guidance.

Clothing Guidelines (while in the field): Modest clothing is essential. No low-cut tops, short shorts, or swimwear. Bring long sleeved tops and long pants for work as well as the correct shoeing that will allow you to work in a stable yard as well as ride horses.

Medical Insurance: You must have medical insurance covering a minimum of US\$100,000 from departure to arrival in your home country.

Health: No vaccinations are required unless traveling to specific areas, consult a doctor for recommendations. Keep in mind that HIV and AIDS are prevalent in South Africa.

Safety: Training will be provided for before you head into the field. Please stick to these training guidelines.

Included:

- Project placement.
- Airport transfer.
- Accommodation.
- In field transport
- Meals.
- Welcome pack.
- Orientation.
- Electronic certificate.
- Local support.
- WiFi.

Not Included:

- Activities and other transport outside of programme transport.
- Personal expenses. (including additional food costs)
- Visa costs.
- Travel insurance.
- Flights.

Your Commitment: Take your commitment to the project seriously. Your daily presence and adherence to working hours are essential and will help keep the experience positive for all involved

Please let us know if you have any further queries around this project.

We look forward to hosting you.