

WHY PAY TO VOLUNTEER?



African Impact
EXPLORE · INSPIRE · IMPACT

Volunteer tourism, or 'voluntourism' as it is popularly known, is loosely defined as a holiday in which you give back to the land you are visiting; contributing to either community development or conservation. But it's so much more than that. Voluntourism encompasses a new trend of responsible tourism, where travelers are making informed and responsible choices and planning trips which don't negatively affect the country or communities they are visiting. When volunteering, it is critical that travelers choose a volunteer organisation or charity with a proven ethos and philosophy around sustainable and responsible tourism practices. This applies both to their work with local communities, wildlife and our volunteers themselves.

African Impact is proud to have a 10 year track record of facilitating responsible volunteer programs in Africa, providing 24 hour support and guidance for volunteers and offering on-going support to communities in need. Understandably, these operations cost money to run and this is where the volunteer fee comes in.

The bulk of your volunteer fee covers:

Safety

- ◆ 24/7 support from on-site project team
- ◆ Transfers to and from the airport with an African Impact staff member meeting you at the airport
- ◆ Transport to and from daily projects
- ◆ Emergency Medical Assistance
- ◆ Project orientation and induction
- ◆ Health and safety briefings
- ◆ Safe and comfortable volunteer accommodation

Support

Pre-departure Support

- ◆ Our friendly Destination Managers are on hand to guide you through your booking, answer any questions you have and provide you with as much material as you need to help choose a volunteer program.
- ◆ They have visited our projects and have first-hand knowledge of the volunteer experience they are advising you on.
- ◆ They will also advise you on all documentation needed for your application, and also assist you with any other travel arrangements or requirements you need help with.

On-Project Support

- ◆ As part of our responsible voluntourism policy, it's important to us to ensure our volunteers are fully prepared and briefed before beginning on a project.
- ◆ All volunteers go through a comprehensive orientation program once they arrive at their project destination. This encompasses training on the project tasks and activities, volunteer responsibilities, any risks and how to keep safe, education on the local culture and tips and advice for the duration of their stay.
- ◆ Our volunteer coordinators live in the volunteer accommodation and are there for 24 hour support.
- ◆ One-on-one guidance during volunteer tasks and activities.

Our Ambassador Program

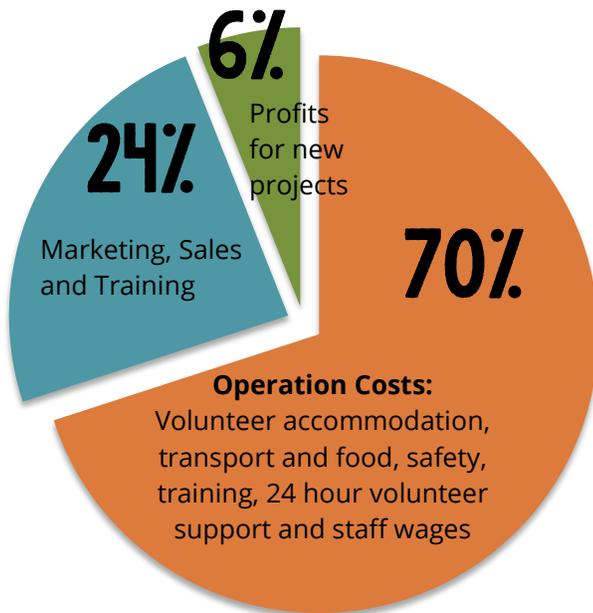
Upon your return home, you are invited to join our global Ambassador network and become part of the extended African Impact family. Through this program you'll be given support to help raise awareness of our projects, assist other potential volunteers in making their decision and even earn commission on referrals who book a placement with us. [Click here for more details.](#)

Skills and Training

Volunteers get as much as they give and their interaction with the community, as well as the training from our experienced teams allow volunteers to learn about a range of various topics which include different cultures, animal behaviour, teaching practices, farming and gardening, people skills, research techniques, animal tracking and healthcare. There are often instances when outside experts are brought onto projects to help educate locals and volunteers.

WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

A breakdown of how your volunteer fee helps maintain sustainable projects



MARKETING, SALES & MANAGEMENT

- ◆ Good marketing means volunteers can find the right project to join
- ◆ Training: We equip our friendly destination managers with the knowledge to answer your questions and help prepare you for your trip
- ◆ We manage our projects carefully to ensure that they are responsible and sustainable, to effect long-term, positive change
- ◆ We are continuously investing in our website so that everything you need to know is at your fingertips

OPERATION COSTS

- ◆ Salaries and wages for our amazing, hard-working teams to support and assist volunteers and communities 24-hours a day
- ◆ Money is spent on purchasing vehicles and arranging transport necessary to run our projects
- ◆ Included in your volunteer fee is comfortable accommodation and three wholesome meals each day
- ◆ Your volunteer fee helps us communicate with our partners, head office, emergency services when needed, and attend to all necessary administrative tasks
- ◆ To make a lasting impact, our fee helps with the tools and equipment needed to facilitate our projects, including things like teaching materials, educational toys, seedlings, building supplies, animal feed and much more!

PROFIT FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- ◆ We carry out extensive research when developing new programs and spend time analyzing the viability and impact of any potential project
- ◆ We invest in all of the equipment and resources necessary to get a new project off the ground and maintain it properly
- ◆ Our profits help us to continue supporting local communities and conservation efforts even in the absence of volunteers
- ◆ We use our profits to support our partner charities, ALERT and The Happy Africa Foundation.



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