



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships
and Cultural Courses Abroad

SOUTH AFRICA



CARE FOR CHILDREN IN A SAFE HOUSE IN A TOWNSHIP IN KNYSNA

Assist the trained Carers in a children's Safe-House in the local township by helping to care for children from abusive backgrounds. You'll work with a variety of ages, from assisting in the soup kitchen, general caring for the youngsters, and observing counselling to HIV sufferers.

You'll help with basic Reading, Writing, Maths, play games with the children, help them with their homework and generally keep them stimulated and entertained by providing educational activities.

Thank you for your interest on volunteering in this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!

WHAT DO YOU GET?

SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- The enormous satisfaction of helping disadvantaged children and knowing that you made a difference to them.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe.
- We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Africa and the many diverse cultures in South Africa! And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**

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Prices: From **£795** excluding flights.

Please see Full [Price List Online](#).

Duration: From 1 week to 12 weeks or longer, subject to visa requirements

Start Dates: All year round - you choose your start and finish dates - but subject to school holidays.

Requirements: No qualifications needed, just lots of enthusiasm and a love of children.

What's Included:

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| ▶ Arranging your Programme, | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance | ▶ Accommodation |
| ▶ Certificate of Completion | ▶ Transfer to your accommodation |
| ▶ Meeting you at the nearest airport | ▶ In-country team support and backup |
| ▶ 24-hr emergency support. | ▶ Free T-Shirt. |
| ▶ Food | ▶ Transport to and from your project |

What Not Included: Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required), Return transfer to airport.

SUMMARY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WORK CONTENT

During the mornings you'll look after the children that are at the House, helping with basic Reading, Writing and Maths. You'll assist with their general care and also spend time playing games with the children in order to build up their confidence and give them some social skills.

In the afternoons you'll assist with the daily efforts required to run the Soup Kitchen. You'll also help the children with their homework and keep them stimulated by providing educational activities.

The type of work you will be allocated will depend to an extent on your own abilities and capabilities, taking into consideration the children's health and safety.

Your hours may vary, but normally you will work from 8am to 2.30pm but you can stay longer to assist with the Soup Kitchen. Work days are Monday to Friday so you will have weekends free for any sightseeing or independent travel. Here is a list of duties that you may also be asked to help with:

- Assisting with the preparation and handing out food.
- Helping carers and caring for the children
- Helping the children eat.
- Helping carers and caring for the children.
- General cleaning of the Care Centre.
- Washing the children, and their clothes.
- Changing nappies.
- Assisting with literacy and numeracy with the older children
- Assisting with homework

As a result of your volunteer work, the Safe House, the Carers and the community benefit as follows

- Get an opportunity to interact and learn foreign cultures
- Have access to your invaluable help and assistance
- Will improve their own traditional knowledge, skills and ideas on care work as these will be supplemented by any initiatives that you and other volunteers come up with
- The children have access to your love and care, and these are fundamental to their growth and development.



EXTRA ACTIVITIES YOU MAY BE ABLE TO INCORPORATE INTO YOUR PROJECT

You may also have the opportunity to provide help and support to the local community through the various afternoon activities we have to offer. This is an excellent way to immerse yourself in the African culture, but most importantly to give a caring hand to the local community. The activities could range from helping out at:

- **The Safe House:** Make the afternoons fun and exciting for these lovely children by playing games, helping them with homework and just being there to give them the attention that they so appreciate.
- **After-school drama or sports** - Take some time out after school to set up after school sports or drama clubs, the children love it and it's a great way to get to know them better in a relaxed and fun environment. If you'd like to set up a drama or sports club, please let us know when you apply so that we can arrange it with the school before you arrive.)
- **Other community projects** - Past volunteers have helped to paint the outside of a crèche that was in desperate need of a lift. The crèche is now looking very cheerful with brightly coloured walls. A jungle gym was donated to this orphanage and volunteers also helped to put it together for the crèche too! There may be other similar projects available at the time you're there that you might want to participate in.
- **Township soup kitchen:** On days that your school roster might allow you to finish a little early, our volunteers sometimes help at a local township soup kitchen

“Volunteering at the Safe House was one of the most inspirational and fulfilling experiences I have ever had. Over the course of four weeks, I felt a bond with the staff and kids that I do not think could ever be replaced. I miss everyone dearly and will remember my adventures there forever.”

Andrew Rintoul

ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION: THE VOLUNTEER HOUSE:

The volunteer house in Knysna is within walking distance of the town, yet set against a natural green belt. The bird life is prolific and often the local Vervet monkey troop comes to visit to entertain the volunteers with their antics. The sunset views from the top balcony of the volunteer house of the Knysna lagoon are beautiful and great way to relax after a day working at your placement or to catch up on your tan in the summer. See photo on right-hand side.

The house is large and spacious and also has a self-contained flat downstairs for couples and families. The bedding in the two same sex dorms and the towels in their ensuite bathrooms are changed regularly every Friday by our much loved cleaner, Pretty, and there is plenty of cupboard space to store your clothing. Facilities include a kitchen kitted out for cooking, dining area, a few bathrooms, TV, DVD player, free Wi-Fi, garden and several wooden verandahs.

There is an outside courtyard and garden in the secure grounds where you can have a typical South African barbeque known there as a 'braai'. Make sure you try the local spicy sausage known as 'boerewors' and the Karoo lamb chops are to die for on a 'braai', but if fish is more to your taste then a fish 'braai' with South African 'snoek' is a must.



FOOD:

You'll be given a food budget which will cover your basic essentials (but not extras like alcohol, snacks and eating out). The kitchen has all the cooking amenities that you might need to take advantage of preparing meals with some of the great seafood, meat, fresh fruit and vegetables South Africa has to offer. There are supermarkets and local shops where you'll do your food shopping.

There are plenty of excellent restaurants within walking distance that offer the most incredible local and international cuisine which our volunteers rave about. Knysna is also famous for its oysters and even has an annual Oyster Festival where everyone eats and drinks far too much!

The waterfront and marine is beautiful and full of restaurants and cafes with cuisine that ranges from breakfast, coffees, cakes and snacks, through to sumptuous meals and various different nationality menus.

WHY TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Over 20 years' experience of sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of flexible projects that are value for money!
- Accredited projects helps appeal to future employers
- Excellent support! And 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions before, during and after your trip of a lifetime!
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

Donations to **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

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| ✓ Accommodation and Food | ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations) |
| ✓ Full pre-departure support | ✓ Free T-Shirt |
| ✓ Meeting you at the airport | ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection |
| ✓ Transport to the placement site | ✓ Staff Training/Equipment |
| ✓ Local in-country team support and backup | ✓ Donations to worthwhile project |
| ✓ 24hr emergency helpline | |
| ✓ UK administration | |

“Travellers is an amazing organization that offers life changing experiences to people of all ages, I will highly recommend it to everyone, and I will be planning another volunteer experience for myself as well as for my sons. Thank you so much for the experience of a life time!”

Deanne Peterson

“The area is beautiful and travelling is easy. The house we stay in is lovely and the Travellers workers are such kind, loving people which really makes it feel like a home away from home. What with all the other volunteers and the Travellers staff, it really does feel like our own little family ... well, our own very big family, I suppose!!”

Luke Brennan

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: info@travellersworldwide.com

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure! Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home.

The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Factfile, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget. As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind. Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

ABOUT THE SAFE HOUSE:

The Safe House is situated in a local township in Knysna. It was started by two wonderful women specifically to provide a safe, warm, loving and secure environment to children who have been removed from their families due to abusive and violent situations. The Safe House cares for children of all ages, ranging from babies to teenagers. At present they have 8 children who live there permanently and many others who stay at the Safe House during the day. Some of the children attend school and some attend a local crèche. The children who stay at the Safe House during the day are there because they're unable to attend school for various reasons, such as learning disabilities and they are too young.

The safe house works with the local community in many ways, such as providing a free after-school Soup Kitchen for all the children in the local area. Local children who would not get adequate food can come to the Soup Kitchen after school for a meal.

The Safe House also acts as a base for the local children where they can come to play and it helps to keep them off the streets. They also offer counselling, particularly for HIV sufferers, as well as working closely with the local animal welfare.

The staff at the house are trained carers, so you'll be able to help them and give general support where needed. Your support is excellent for the carers as well as the children, because you will be able to free up some of their time to concentrate on other important areas that are needed to keep the Safe House running, such as seeking financial support and ensuring that the day-to-day administration is kept up.



THINGS TO DO IN SOUTH AFRICA

LOCATION, EXPLORING AND SIGHTSEEING:

The best advice you'll get from us is to try to see some of the country while you're in South Africa. It's big (huge!) and each different region is exciting and very, very beautiful. Cape Town is probably the most beautiful city in the world (I can say that, I grew up there :-). KwaZulu-Natal comes a very close second, albeit very different. Knysna is where South Africans go on holiday, which gives you some idea of how lovely the region is. When you lie on the beach and watch dolphins jumping the waves, you'll think you're in Paradise.

Knysna is approximately 500km from the beautiful capital city of Cape Town and voted South Africa's favourite town 4 years in a row!

Its mountainous backdrop, impressively sized estuary and indigenous forests really give the town a natural feel to it. Although it still has that 'small-town' feel, Knysna is growing rapidly, and has all the amenities you could ask for such as banks, hotels, internet café's, cinemas and shopping malls.

About 20-30 minutes' drive away from Knysna you'll find **Plettenberg Bay** (better known simply as Plett), which is a bit smaller than Knysna, but equally stunning. Its' pure white beaches stretch as far as the eye can see and there is a lot to do, from whale and dolphin watching, to hiking trails and awesome nightlife.

The Garden Route is famous for all sorts of activities from adrenalin sports such as bungee jumping, skydiving and shark cage diving to more relaxed pursuits such as hiking, quad biking in the forest or visiting one of the many animal sanctuaries in the area. Your local Travellers liaison will be happy to assist you in finding interesting things to do and places to see so make the most of it!

Knysna nestles on the banks of a beautiful lagoon in the heart of the 'Garden Route' of South Africa. It is surrounded by a natural paradise of lush indigenous forests, tranquil lakes and golden beaches, making it a real natural wonderland.

Knysna is a vibrant town, buzzing with creativity and energy, and the pulse of good music. It's a place where you can enjoy the mellow atmosphere of street cafes, watching the world go by. The main street is very leafy with trees along the pavements and it has a wonderful holiday atmosphere with sun umbrellas everywhere.

Most cafes have outdoors seating areas overlooking the street or on the pavements, with colourful sun umbrellas - a perfect place to sit with the sun on your face, watching passers-by ambling along, sipping a steamy cappucino or staving off the heat with a cold drink.



HOW TO BOOK

TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#) online.

Telephone
01903 502595 (UK)
or
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!

We hope you'll join us!

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

www.travellersworldwide.com | www.travelersworldwide.org