



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

# SOUTH AFRICA



## TEACH DRAMA, DANCE AND MUSIC TO UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN IN KNYSNA

Work with children from very poor townships, giving them exposure to cultural activities and enabling their creativity to shine through. This project is based in the beautiful beach resort of Knysna. Some of things you could do include:

- Organising and putting on drama workshops
- Organising an after-school drama club
- Helping the local school children to put on a small-scale productions, in Drama, Dance and/or Music
- Devising and performing educational pieces of theatre (on issues such as bullying)
- Giving Dance lessons and Music lessons
- Helping out with conversational English classes

***Thank you for your interest in volunteering on 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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TravelQuest Ltd t/a Travellers, registered in England & Wales, Registered Office: 7 Mulberry Close, Ferring, West Sussex, BN12 5HY, Reg. No. 3072191, VAT Registration: 786540201

**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, subject to school holidays - you choose your start and finish dates.

**Requirements:** No qualifications or experience required, just lots of enthusiasm, an active imagination and a love of children...

**What's Included:**

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ▶ Arranging your Programme,          | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance       | ▶ Accommodation                              |
| ▶ Certificate of Completion          | ▶ Transfer to your on-site accommodation     |
| ▶ Meeting you at the nearest airport | ▶ Local 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

You'll do some or all of the following:

- Organising and putting on drama workshops in various local schools around Knysna. This would involve energising warm-ups, improvisations, dance-drama and devising pieces of theatre in small groups.
- Organising an after-school drama club (and possibly even during lunch break) or drama sessions during school-time for pupils.
- Helping the local school children to put on a small-scale productions so that they can all be involved in some aspect of it (either acting, creating costumes, masks, set or make-up). Please note that these may not always take place during your project - it will depend on how long you're there for and what's happening when you're there.
- Devising and performing educational pieces of theatre (on topical issues such as bullying) for the school children at any available venues (town hall/school yard/ ... wherever!).
- Alongside the Drama, volunteers could also help out with conversational English classes (and any other subjects where needed). It may also be possible to incorporate drama lessons into the English classes, perhaps once a week.



**Comments from Sharon, Travellers Volunteer Liaison in Knysna, about what two of our Drama Volunteers did in a class she went to observe:**

*"I went up to day to sit in on a drama class at Tembelitsha Primary School that two of our volunteers, Amy Powell and Jack Gunner, were going to take. It was Grade 5B class which is made up of children that are approximately 10 years old.*

*The class started with Amy and Jack teaching them about the different ways of using themselves in drama, namely facial expressions, body language and their voices. How to maximise and minimise their body movements and facial expressions and then the different ways they could use their voices by whispering, shouting, talking, singing and crying.*

*As you can imagine, the class got extremely rowdy and all the children had a lot of fun. The noise levels then increased as Amy and Jack showed the class how to do breathing exercises, and mouth warm-ups so they could make a 'sound collage' by splitting the class up into groups and getting the different groups to make one particular sound. Put together it was deafening but all the children loved it with them all interacting.*

*They then were taught how to create different effects with their voices by changing the pitch, speed and volume of their voices. All they learnt was then put together in character enactment and by volunteers from the class doing freeze frame sketches. They then ended the class with a song.*

*The hour class went by so quickly I actually had to check my watch to see if it was really over! It was so great to see so many children in the class participated and it was quite obvious to me that they all got a lot out of it as when the class was over Amy and Jack were surrounded by children hugging and kissing them! Well done guys!!"*

## SCHOOL TERMS IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Dates for the **2015** school terms (semesters) are given below.

Term 1: 21 January – 1 April

Term 2: 13 April – 26 June

Term 3: 20 July – 2 October

Term 4: 12 October – 9 December

Dates for the **2016** school terms (semesters) are given below.

Term 1: 13 January – 18 March

Term 2: 5 April – 24 June

Term 3: 18 July – 30 September

Term 4: 10 October – 7 December

Please see a complete list of current public (bank) holidays for 2015 and 2016 at <http://www.publicholiday.co.za>

This project is not available during school holidays. Therefore, please compare the above school term dates to the dates of your placement. If a holiday falls during your placement, you should use this time to do any independent travelling and sightseeing. Generally the last week before terms end is given to exams and tests. This means that you'll generally find your work load dropping during this week and you'll have more free time than normal school time.

## 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



*"I don't think I could define my "best experience" as one moment. I have been here for over 2 months now and I can honestly say there has not been 1 day that I haven't enjoyed!!"* Luke Brennan

*“I would like to acknowledge Travellers Worldwide and especially Sharon [Travellers Team] in terms of their excellent planning and organisational skills resulting in me getting the best experience I could have wished for. The school is fantastic, the children ... and the teachers are very friendly and have been so appreciative of what I've been able to do for them.”*

Heather Sandilands

## 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 verandas.

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:

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

***“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**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: [info@travellersworldwide.com](mailto: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 Fact file, 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.

### **On Arrival, your Introduction to the Country:**

When you arrive you will be welcomed by a member of our South African staff who will take you to your accommodation and introduce you to everyone. During your first few days you'll be given an induction so that you can learn about the country and its culture, as well as other useful information, like how to use the transport system, banks, safety issues, tipping, and lots more.



# THINGS TO DO IN SOUTH AFRICA

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.

## LOCATION:

**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.

About 20-30 minutes' from Knysna is **Plettenberg Bay** (better known 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 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 Manager will assist you in finding 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 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, colourful sun umbrellas - a perfect place to sit with the sun on your face, watching passers-by ambling along, sipping a steamy cappuccino 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!**

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