



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **CAPE TOWN COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

Settlement/ School and Educare/ Disabled school/ Adventure club/ Kite project

#### **When is the best time of year to volunteer?**

There is no best time to volunteer as our communities require support all year around. Our projects run year-round, however during the period between Christmas and New Year's we do not run any set projects. This is to allow the children to spend some time with their parents and for our hard-working volunteers to have a short break. The volunteer house is still open and all meals, socials, support and accommodation is still included.

The projects are less structured over school holidays when holiday programs and outings are run for the children.

#### **I want to make the most of my programme, what length of time is best?**

The longer you can volunteer the better. Volunteers who stay longer can build greater relationships with the children and have a greater impact on the community. We recommend a minimum of 4 weeks.

#### **Where will I find the shuttle at the airport?**

One of our staff will be waiting for you at the airport with a signboard. If your flight lands early or you can't see your driver, please go to the information desk and we will meet you there. Or you can call +27 21 556 9369.

#### **Is it safe to work in a township?**

Yes, you are very safe being in the township. We have an excellent relationship with the community and community leaders and there is always a local person with you while you are on the project.

As your safety is our top priority if at any time we feel there might be unrest we will place you on another project during this time or alter the project accordingly.

#### **What do I need when I'm on the project?**

Good footwear, appropriate clothes for working with children, good sun cream, and a bottle of water.

If you are on the adventure club, you also require swimwear for the ocean or pool. We do have wetsuits for you to use, although if you have your own it is good to bring it.

#### **How do I get to my project?**

We drive you to and from your project.

#### **Can I take photos of the children?**

Yes, you can take your camera to the project and take photos. Always ask permission when taking photos of adults.

#### **I'm scared of HIV and AIDS, what are the risks?**

HIV is a blood bound infection. You will not contract HIV through playing and touching the children. We do not know the HIV status of all the children we work with, therefore if there is an accident involving blood let your project leader take control.

#### **How many hours / days will I be working?**

Volunteers usually work 20 – 25 hours a week on the project. In addition, you may need to spend some time planning. This is usually spread over 4 – 5 days, although the exact program may vary dependent on special events or the project you are on.

**If I am on the adventure club or kite surfing project do I need to know how to surf or kitesurf?**

No, you will receive a minimum of 1 surf lesson a week with an instructor or 12 hrs of lessons on the kite project.

There are surf boards available for volunteers to use upon request on their time off. You will need to rent your own kitesurfing equipment after the 12hrs lessons.

**On the Adventure club and Kite project, am I on the beach all day?**

The surf and kite programs are incentive programs for the children to do well and go to school. Therefore, the children are at school during the day. Volunteers assist with any of our other projects in the morning from 8:00 – 13:00 and in the afternoons the volunteers will teach the children swimming or surfing.

Please remember that these activities are weather dependent and your days might vary accordingly. Also remember to have patience as the volunteers and children's safety is our priority.

**Will I have time off?**

Yes, volunteers have the weekends off unless we are organising a special event or you are on the kitesurf project.

This is your volunteer program so you may take time off during the week provided you first ask the volunteer coordinator and give us time to plan around your absence.

**What do I do on my time off?**

Whatever you want. You can arrange tours etc. at Saltycrax Backpackers.

Once a week we organise a volunteer social activity (e.g. football game, concert, market, restaurant etc) which all volunteers may join.