

Assistant Volunteer Coordinator

Project Biodiversity is looking for an assistant Volunteer Coordinator from June to October, for the 2022 Loggerhead nesting season in Sal Island, Cabo Verde. We need a passionate, driven individual who wishes to help us coordinate a dynamic team of volunteers and field assistants working to protect this incredible species in its native habitat.

Project History

In 2007 it was estimated that the Loggerhead population in Cabo Verde would be extinct by 2015 if immediate actions weren't taken to halt the illegal hunt and trade of turtle meat and human induced threats to the population. For the last 14 years, both international volunteers, assistants and members of the local community have worked tirelessly to ensure protection of the female turtles – by patrolling the beaches nightly throughout the nesting season, educating members of the community about turtle conservation, and working with the government to improve regulations. While the number of turtles killed has drastically reduced, the illegal poaching and trafficking still persists.

In 2021, we aim to further empower the community to act to protect turtles, through direct beach protection, as well as grassroots education and engagement. As a crucial part of our team, you will have the opportunity to directly contribute to the conservation of this endangered species, and ultimately help build a more sustainable Cabo Verde.

Loggerhead nesting season runs from June to October, with nests hatching from mid-August to late December. Throughout the season the team of Project Biodiversity is made up of local and international assistants and volunteers whose work involves patrolling beaches (night and morning) to monitor nesting and deter hunting, collect data, conduct research, and manage hatcheries. A team of coordinators are responsible for managing this team of people, with duties ranging from patrol logistics to group activities and volunteer wellbeing.

This opportunity will provide you with a good experience of group management, whilst having the opportunity to contribute to the survival of marine turtles.

Duties and Responsibilities

As the assistant volunteer coordinator, you will be based in the field camp of both local and international field assistants as well as a rotating group of international volunteers. You will be based in the field camp for six nights with one night off per week. You will work closely with both the Volunteer Manager (who is based out of the camp) and the Camp Director (based in the camp).

Specifically, your duties include:

- In-Camp volunteer management
 - Coordinating transport of new volunteers to the camp, giving the camp tour to introduce new volunteers to the team and camp facilities/protocols.
 - One-on-one meetings with volunteers, in coordination with the volunteer manager, to ensure good well-being and to receive immediate feedback on volunteer satisfaction.
 - General monitoring of volunteer well-being in the day-to-day camp living
- Camp team management
 - Organisation of group activities for volunteers and assistants to promote team building and a positive group dynamic
- Assisting the Camp Director in:
 - Scheduling of camp cleaning duties and afternoon tasks
 - Camp maintenance and supervision of camp team

Requirements

- Desire to work within a non-profit organisation
- Previous volunteering or outdoor living experience
- Previous experience managing individuals or small groups of people
- Experience in similar working conditions
- High level of energy and flexibility
- At least 20 years old
- Understand written and spoken English
- Good attention to detail
- Ability to work and live with people of different backgrounds and nationalities
- Able to work independently and show initiative

Other useful skills

- You speak more than one language – particularly Spanish, French or Portuguese
- You have experience working in the field of conservation

What is provided for?

Project Biodiversity is based in Santa Maria, a popular tourist destination known for its beaches and water sports. You will be based in the field camp out of town with self-catering accommodation in Santa Maria provided on rest days. Meals are provided for in camp but are not provided on the days off.

The salary offered is 45,000cve net per month (approx. €382 liquid) and you will have to cover flights and insurance personally.

How to apply

To apply send a copy of your CV to seaturtles@projectbiodiversity.org

Only applicants available for the full nesting season, from June 8th to October 20th, will be considered.