MOZAMBIQUE

Project pages
On the South-east coast of Africa, just above South Africa, lies this former Portuguese colony.

It’s coastal regions host stunning beaches, the occasional hippo, and world-renowned diving sites which are said to be one of the best places on earth to see the mighty whale shark – the biggest fish in the world. For adventure seekers, the Zambezi region in the north is considered one of Africa's final frontiers.

After years of civil war, Mozambique has seen peace now since 1992 and while the economy is strengthening, it remains one of the poorest and most underdeveloped countries in the world. With low life expectancy and high infant mortality rates. Community projects in Mozambique are invaluable and make a real impact on the lives of the people here.

**Life outside of the project**

Whether you are based in Vilanculos or Tofo you will not be far away from a stunning beach. During evening times after work, you can relax on the beautiful beach which is literally on your doorstep. At weekends there are plenty of things to do from Scuba Diving and sailing safaris to Bazaruto Island to deep sea fishing or horseback riding on the beach. There's plenty to keep you occupied in your free time!

**Weather**

- **Average temperature:** 28°C
- **Wet season:** October - March
- **Dry season:** April - September
- **Hurricane season:** November - April
Marine Research and Whale Shark Conservation including Padi Diving Course

The project
Volunteer in Mozambique on the Marine Research and Whale Shark Conservation Project and help with hands-on whale shark research, coral reef monitoring, humpbacked whale monitoring and turtle nest surveys. Explore one of Africa’s best scuba diving destinations with a PADI or SSI Dive Course, which is included in the project (project to decide on the course).

The Marine Research and Whale Shark Conservation Project involves gathering field data on whale sharks, coral reefs, manta rays and other marine biodiversity to make recommendations for improving the conservation of marine life as well as creating general awareness about the marine environment. In recent months, the number of whale shark sightings has dropped and it is essential that the monitoring and conservation of marine habitats and wildlife continue to try to establish the cause of this change in behaviour. The project collaborates with a number of international marine research bodies including the Eocean global whale shark database.

Role of the volunteer
As a volunteer, you will help carry out the marine research and monitoring activities for the project under the guidance of our project co-ordinating project scientists. You will join other volunteers on the project to collect the data via beach walks, boat surveys, swims and scuba dives off the coastline of Tofo in Mozambique. For those of you who volunteer for 4 weeks or longer, you will have the opportunity to participate in a seahorse and biodiversity monitoring trip. You can expect an excellent diving, snorkelling and beach experience whilst gaining first-hand marine research skills and contributing to a worthwhile project.

Skills required
In order to carry out these activities you will need to be a capable swimmer (swim 100m unassisted), snorkel and it would be advantageous if you are able to hold your breath to dive down. In order to carry out these activities, you will need to be capable of equalising your ear pressure and willing to learn to scuba dive. A four-day internationally recognized open water diving course (PADI or SSI) is provided as part of this project to train you to be able to carry out this coral reef monitoring. If you already have this qualification you may do an advanced open water diving course instead or an equivalent number of extra research dives. Beginner divers need to volunteer for a minimum of 3 weeks to maximise their time spent on conservation volunteer activities.

Why choose this project
- Learn about whale sharks, the oceans biggest fish, swim next to these harmless species, observe the population dynamics and learn about its threats.
- Discover marine life and the threat that the coral reef is under threat due to exploitation, bleaching, alien invasive species and other ecological changes associated with tourism and other human activities.
- Monitor the condition of coral reefs in the Tofo area using methods based on the international reef check program. This involves doing scuba diving transects along the reefs and recording coral cover and indicator species of fish in one of Africa’s best diving destinations.

Project location
You will be placed in Tofo beach, located on the eastern shores of Inhambane Peninsula and 22km outside Inhambane City. There is an array of marine life in Tofo and you may get the opportunity to see whale sharks, giant manta rays and turtles amongst the magnificent coral reefs so close to the beach, making snorkelling and scuba diving in Tofo a very popular activity.

Much of the entertainment here is based around the beautiful waters. So you can sail via Dhow safari to the Bazaruto Islands, or go deep sea fishing. During the evening time you can sample some of the beachfront seafood restaurants. The volunteer beach house is situated a 5 minute from the beach and local market. There are very basic shops, a few restaurants and bars and a number of beach activities available close-by.
African Marine and Wildlife Volunteer Adventure Tour

Overview
Have an incredible close-up experience travelling and seeing species in their natural habitats on this African Marine and Wildlife Volunteer Adventure Tour. You will learn about the underwater world and marine research in Mozambique and also gain an international diving qualification. In Kruger, you will see the Big 5 and more such as the wild dog on a 5-day safari with field guides who share with you the challenges facing endangered and captivating species. In Eswatini, you will experience the savanna, monitoring species such as guinea fowl, tortoises, birds of prey, bats and more. If you are studying marine biology, zoology, conservation or wildlife management or are just passionate about wildlife, this tour is perfect for you. Join us for an adventure of a lifetime where you will make new friends, gain new skills and learn an incredible amount about wildlife.

Trip Itinerary
Supported by an experienced team of guides and working with qualified local experts you will get to see some of the best species that southern Africa has to offer on this incredible marine and wildlife volunteer tour. Not only will you have an amazing travel experience, you will also be able to contribute to regional wildlife conservation research and conservation efforts.

Week 1 - 4 Mozambique
Here you will gain an international diving certification and learn marine monitoring and data collection techniques. Your work will contribute to larger research initiatives. Weekends you can relax on the beach, learn to surf, go horse riding, explore the local market and more.

Week 5 - Eswatini and Kruger
In Eswatini, you can participate in cultural activities and even hike the mountains or explore the valleys on quad bike or bicycle. If you need a taste of home go to the cinema or head for a local coffee shop! In Kruger, you will have the opportunity to see lions, elephant, giraffes, buffalo, rhino, leopard and cheetah and meet species you have not seen before including camping 4 nights in the wild!

The entire trip takes 35 days, with you returning home on Day 36.

Project location

Mozambique
One of Africa's up-and-coming hot-spots, with stunning beaches, excellent diving and magical offshore islands. It's one of Africa's rising stars, with an upbeat atmosphere, overflowing markets and a 2500 kms coastline waiting to be discovered. Sunshine, blue skies and temperatures averaging between 24°C and 27°C along the coast are the norm, except during the rainy summer season from about December/January through to April when everything gets soggy and sticky, and temperatures exceed 30°C in some areas.

Kruger National Park
In the middle of your trip, here you will embark on a 5-day, 4-night camping safari in the heart of South Africa's Kruger National Park. This includes unlimited game drives to explore just some of the wildlife that the 20,000 km2 Kruger National Park has to offer. With the help of a trained tour guide, you'll be able to venture through the vast wilderness in search of Africa's Big 5. From lions to elephants, rhinos, buffalos and leopards, Kruger has it all. During the tour, you will also have the opportunity to take part in either a sunset or a night drive around the park to seek out some nocturnal wildlife.

Eswatini
The smallest country in the entire southern hemisphere, but also one of the most interesting where you can be guaranteed some fun and adventure. Eswatini, formerly known as Swaziland, is a microcosm of Africa with strong traditions, vibrant cultural festivals and friendly laid-back people. It is a country of scenic beauty and huge possibility being strategically located between South Africa and Mozambique and having a relatively well-developed infrastructure. If you are here in May you may be able to attend the Bushfire Festival, a music and cultural festival not to be missed!

Project facts

Duration: 5 weeks
Cost: £3542 / $6199
Location: Tofo Bay, Mozambique; Mbuluzi, Eswatini; Kruger National Park, South Africa
Requirements: 18+, able swimmer
Tour activities: International Open Water or Advanced Diving course; half-day walking tour in Eswatini plus many optional activities available; 5-day camping safari in Kruger National Park
Volunteer activities: marine research and coral monitoring, data collection, photography of wildlife, beach clean-ups and more
Working hours: 08:30-15:30
Project availability: project runs from January to October
Arrival day: first Monday of the months of January through October ONLY

What's included

Accommodation: All accommodation throughout your program
Meals: All meals
Airport pick up: Airport pick up and drop off at Inhambane International Airport
Excursion Planning: - Orientation upon arrival
- International Open Water course (or advanced course, or research dives for an equivalent value)
- Project equipment
- Project activities including boat launches for snorkelling and research dives
- Guided walking tour of traditional and cultural capital of Swaziland
- 5 day camping safari in Kruger National Park
- Night drive in Kruger Park Experienced tour guides throughout

What's not

Flights
Insurance
Visas
Transfers to and from the airport not on scheduled arrival and departure days.
Additional dive training, including a scuba assessment for qualified divers who haven't dived in the last 6 months

Visit www.kayavolunteer.com or telephone 0161 870 6212 (UK) 1.413.517.02.66 (US)
Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

Thank you for choosing to apply for placement on a Kaya programme. We are committed to providing you the best support as you prepare for the experience of a lifetime, which is why we have laid down the following terms and conditions. By checking the agreement of these terms and conditions you have accepted to abide by the rules laid down in this agreement. We suggest that you read the details carefully and speak to us if you require any further clarification. Please note there may be additional conditions that apply to individual placements.

Application Instructions
Apply online: http://www.kayavolunteer.com/projects/book. Upon receipt of the application and deposit, we will secure the position on the Program for successful applicants. Deposits will be refunded for all unsuccessful applicants. Kaya will contact all applicants within 2 weeks of receipt of the application. Applications will not be considered without a programme deposit.

Deadlines, Dates and Prices
Applications are accepted throughout the year and are subject to limited space availability. Placement deadlines are based on the dates of the desired programme. Some programmes and Early Application
Application can be made up to 1 year in advance, however arrangement and communication of the programme specifics will commence 2-3 months prior to programme start.

Application Deadline
3 month prior to programme start. Last minute bookings will be considered on an individual basis. Last minute bookings are advised that their placements arrangements may require more flexibility to accommodate.

Total Fee Due
8 weeks prior to programme start - unless specified for a particular project.

Late Payment
Payment deadlines are displayed on the invoices provided. It is important to meet these deadlines to secure your placement, and missing these deadlines may result in the cancellation of your placement.

Where a payment extension is requested, this will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will incur a late payment fee of £35/$60 basis and will incur a late payment fee of £35/$60 project placements fill up prior to their published application deadlines. Apply early to secure your placement. Important deadlines for the Kaya Programs are:

Date and Project Changes
Upon application you will receive an interview within which your programme and program dates will be confirmed. We encourage you to stick to these as the projects plan around your participation. If you request a change in programme or start dates, and it is prior to your final payment deadline (usually 8 weeks before departure, but earlier for some placements) we can generally accommodate for this at no extra charge, subject to availability (programmes moving to the following year may be subject to programme price increases). After 1 change has been accommodated for, any future changes made will be subject to an administration charge of £40/$70 - made payable at time of change.

If a programme or date change is requested after your final payment deadline, the original payment deadline will remain the same, and changes will be considered on an individual basis and any changes will be subject to the administration charge of £40/$70 - made payable at time of change. For project changes where your original project deposit was hithan £180, only £180 of your deposit will be transferable to your new project.

Program Start and Finish Dates, Current Prices and What’s Included are case-by-case basis and will incur a late payment fee of £35/$60 project placements fill up prior to their published application deadlines. Apply early to secure your placement. Important deadlines for the Kaya Programs are:

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Program Start and Finish Dates, Current Prices and What’s Included are specified in each project page of the Kaya website. Details shown on these pages are subject to change. Project prices are reviewed annually and bookings for the following year may differ from those listed. Payments may be made in GBP or US$. We are able to provide you with a quote in either currency with a set conversion rate of £1=$1.75.

Refund Policy
The standard programme deposit is £180 ($315) per person, per programme. Some Kaya programmes have an additional deposit amount due to additional programme booking requirement. All deposits paid will be applied towards the total programme fee. The programme deposit is non-refundable for Participants who have been accepted into the programme. The programme deposit will be fully refunded to unsuccessful Participants. If the Participant cancels for any reason, the Participant must notify Kaya in writing. The cancellation will be effective upon receipt of the written notification by Kaya to info@kayavolunteer.com. Careful planning goes into developing volunteer and work experience programmes for every individual applicant.

As a result, Kaya and our host communities and partners incur substantial administrative and planning costs, including accommodation reservation fees, prior to the start of each programme. Participants who cancel more than eight (8) weeks prior to the programme start will receive a refund on any programme fee paid, less the deposit. Individuals who cancel or shorten their programme, for any reason (including health, bereavement and visa issues) less than eight (8) weeks prior to the programme start or during the programme will not receive a refund, and we encourage you to approach your travel insurance to seek compensation in this instance. We are happy to provide proof of payment and cancellation if required.

Kaya strives to ensure sustainable projects and quality programmes for Participants. The Refund Policy is defined in an effort to protect and accomplish these goals. Kaya deals with each situation fairly, in consideration of well-established policies, and with the best interests of community members and Participants in mind.

Program Flexibility
Kaya programmes are different from travel or adventure programmes. Each development project and work experience placement is unique and often cannot be implemented exactly as planned for a variety of reasons. Itineraries shown are a guide and the order of activities may be shifted in line with factors, including, but not limited to the weather, changing project needs and individual situations. Project activities shown cover most areas that you may be asked to get involved, but additional activities may arise that require your assistance and not all activities shown may be carried out in the period of your stay. Applicants are advised that these variables may require changes before or during a programme. Part of the challenge and growth opportunity is in adapting to changing conditions and overcoming the obstacles they may present.

Trip Cancellations
Kaya reserves the right to cancel any programme if there are insufficient registrants (where minimum numbers apply) or if Kaya determines it is in the best interest of the applicant's safety and quality of programming to cancel the programme. Kaya is not responsible for other costs incurred by applicants preparing for the trip. Should a programme be cancelled by Kaya, for any reason, applicants will be offered the option of positions in other Kaya Programs or a full refund on all fees paid.

Legal Jurisdiction, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risks
Participants booking their placements on kayavolunteer.com enter a contract with Kaya Responsible Travel Ltd of The Arches, North Campus, Sackville St, Manchester, a company registered in England and Wales (company number 6885700). This contract is governed by English law under the exclusive jurisdiction of English courts. In organising and managing volunteer projects, work experience placements, group programmes, and courses, Kaya, its agents, employees, and staff give notice that they act solely on behalf of and for the benefit of the participants, on the express agreement that Kaya shall not be liable, financially or otherwise, for non-performance or unsatisfactory service; for the injury to persons including death, for loss of or damage to property, for accident or delay, and/or for expenses arising from strikes, weather, quarantine, sickness, government regulation, civil unrest or war, or from any act or omission of Kaya agents or employees, and/or airline, mail service, rail, bus company, vehicle rental entity, hotel, restaurant, or other supplier of service.

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Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

By submitting this application form the participant assumes all of these risks and agrees to indemnify Kaya, its officers, directors, and employees harmless for any and all liability that may arise in connection with participation in the Kaya Programs. Kaya reserves the right to refuse any applicant admission to any programme if he or she is deemed ill suited for the programme. Important programme information will be sent to the email address provided on the application. Photographs, videotapes, and/or statements of participants may be used in promoting Kaya. Kaya publishes programme and project photos on a monthly basis on the Kaya website. These photos and videos are available for participant, friends, family, and interested individuals to download, email, or print for personal use. Photography usage for distribution purposes will be considered on an individual basis on application to Kaya.

Participants accept that they will be subjected to various physical and emotional demands and accept that the standard of living, including food, hygiene and accommodation in the relevant country may be below the general standards of their own country. The Participant also understands that certain risks may arise, including, but not limited to, hazards of travelling in remote areas; travel by automobile, van, bus, airplane, boat, train or any other means of conveyance; the forces of nature; civil disturbances; national or international conflicts; terrorism; arbitrary itinerary changes made by foreign governments or vendors; dive related accidents, boat accidents; interacting with dangerous wildlife; personal injury or illness from the local environment; accident or illness in remote locations without immediate evacuation or medical facilities; or negligent acts of third parties. The Participant asserts that they know, understands and appreciate these and other risks inherent in the programme, agrees that participation is completely voluntary and assumes all risk associated with the programme.

Kaya shall have no responsibility for any activities undertaken by the Participant outside the scope of those directly relating to the programme, including activities that may have been recommended by Kaya staff, or it’s partners, within the location. For all excursion activities Kaya acts as an agent, not a principle of the activity. Any information provided by Kaya, including but not limited to information about visas, vaccinations, healthcare, climate, group sizes and packing requirements is given in good faith for information and educational purposes only but without responsibility on the part of Kaya or it’s partners.

Travel Documents and Insurance
All participants must possess a valid passport for their Kaya trip. Participants are responsible for any costs associated with visas, airport taxes, obtaining the proper travel documents for their trip, and changes to flight itineraries. All participants must have valid, comprehensive health and travel insurance during the time of their programme covering risks associated with a ‘Force Majeure’ event, medical emergencies and repatriation. Details of insurance must be supplied to Kaya prior to commencement of any programme. Kaya reserves the right to refuse entry to programmes if insurance details are not supplied.

Behavioural Expectations
By joining a Kaya Program, the participant assumes certain obligations to Kaya, its community, and other programme participants. If on-site programme directors determine a participant fails to meet the behavioural expectations set out in this contract and within Kaya’s Code of Conduct document, that participant will be asked to leave the programme.

Participants asked to leave under these circumstances will not receive a refund. In addition to other programme responsibilities, as a programme participant you are responsible for:

- Being in sufficient good health to undertake the programme.
- Acting in an appropriate and respectful manner towards the local people, fellow travellers, programme participants, and staff in accordance with the customs, laws, regulations, and ordinances of the country of placement.
- Communicating effectively your interests, skills, limitations, and needs to home community members and programme staff members.

Age
Participants must be aged 18 years over at time of pick up, unless expressly agreed in advance by Kaya. Kaya reserve the right to cancel and application or terminate a placement without refund if false proof is found to have been supplied. For participants under 18yrs, who have been accepted onto a Kaya programme, parental consent is required and participants agree to our Code of Conduct, which includes strict policies about alcohol consumption. Where accepted, participants under 18yrs will be not be offered any different or additional service or treatment to other participants. All participants under 18yrs must participate in an interview and require a reference from a professional person who has known them for over 2 years.

Disclosure
All participants must disclose at time of application any pre-existing or existing medical conditions (including depression and eating disorders) and disabilities. Some placements may require doctor’s notes as a requirement for participation - some which maybe dictated by legal requirement or liability purposes. Any medical conditions arising after Application and prior to Placement must be disclosed to Kaya prior to placement commencement. Kaya reserve the right to refuse Application based on these disclosures if deemed necessary for the safety of the participant and the project.

Kaya reserve the right to cancel and application or terminate a placement without refund if false information or lack of disclosure is found to have been supplied. Kaya is not held responsible for the administration or monitoring of any medication. While Kaya make every effort to establish safety conditions and risk assessment, Participants are warned that the general standards of health, safety and hygiene in many countries visited may not be of comparable standard to Western countries and hence a risk of injury and illness is inherent to this venture.

Some placements may require a police criminal background check, conducted by the government. This check shall be carried out at the applicant’s expense with guidance from Kaya. Some placements require proof that volunteers are clear of certain medical conditions, through the provision of a health certificate. This check shall be carried out at the applicant’s expense.

Complaints
If a Participant wishes to lodge a complaint in relation to their placement, they shall first bring the complaint to the attention of the in-country coordinator, who will make reasonable efforts to deal with and, where possible, resolve the complaint within a reasonable time. If a Participant feels that complaint is not being dealt with adequately by their in-country coordinator they should then contact the Kaya placement advice team to escalate the issue. If the coordinator is unable to resolve any serious complaint, and the participant chooses to terminate their placement early and depart the project, they shall provide the coordinator with a written version on event prior to departure.

Refunds cannot be provided for early departure unless extreme circumstances are found, which will be determined at the sole discretion of Kaya. Issues reported after the end of a programme which were not reported during the programme, giving the site team an opportunity to address the issue in country, will not be considered for any compensation. Participants agree that Kaya shall not be liable for damages or compensation relating to any claim regarding inconvenience, disappointment, discomfort or loss of enjoyment.