

Volunteer in a Cape Town Animal Shelter



Highlights

Working closely with vets at an animal shelter in Cape Town, you will spend 2 to 4 weeks or even longer on these volunteer abroad programmes helping to tend and care for neglected and abused pets. This particular clinic sees over 170 dogs and 130 cats per day, all of which need veterinary care and rehabilitation. If helping to care for these animals, either by assisting vets, or by exercising, feeding and playing with them appeals, then read on.....

The animal shelter is based in a Township in the Southern Peninsula of Cape Town. There is a clinic on site and also a mobile clinic which visits local Townships. Typically, you will spend the morning working in the mobile clinic. You might find yourself helping to educate people in the community about animal care and welfare. You may also get involved with helping the vets to administer de-worming treatments and inoculations. Education is also an important aspect of the mobile clinics, especially teaching young children how to care for pets, to reduce the issues with animal abuse in the Townships.

In the afternoon (after a lovely lunch served up at your accommodation) you will head over to the animal shelter where you will spend the afternoon helping to care for the cats and dogs housed there. By feeding these animals, petting them and playing with them, you will give them valuable attention and affection which could help them to be rehabilitated and then re-housed.

In the evening, you will be picked up and taken home for dinner. You can then spend the rest of the night relaxing, or go out socialising with the other volunteers.

Given that you have come all the way to Cape Town, you will also want to make sure that you also get a chance to take in some of the local sights and sounds. Included in your trip price is a tour out to Cape Point and a chance to see the penguins at Boulders Beach. You will also be taken up the cable car to visit the world famous summit of Table Mountain. Don't stop there! After you have finished your volunteering, you could head off down the Garden route or go off on safari.....

Is it for me?

This is a very genuine opportunity to meet local people and gain an insight into their lives and culture. And there is always the chance to extend your trip so that you can have some R & R afterwards – which you will have well and truly earned!

You will be spending a lot of time with animals, so a love for cats and dogs is essential.

Some volunteers view the experience as a chance to make new friends with other participants on the volunteer abroad programmes and enjoy socialising with each other in the evenings. You don't have to participate, but bear in mind that you will be living in communal accommodation, so some degree of social interaction is likely!

Accommodation

When you are not working, you will be living with other volunteers in a comfortable house in Fish Hoek, which is a

Prices from

875 GBP (2 weeks) per person

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short drive from Cape Town. All of your meals will be served here and your laundry will also be taken care of during your stay.

Itinerary

Your itinerary may vary, depending on your own experience and the number of other volunteers on the placement at the same time. Below is a sample itinerary.

08:00

After a breakfast of cereal, toast, fruit and your morning cuppa head off on the short drive to the animal shelter

08:30-12.30

Travel with the mobile clinic to a local township to assist animals in need and educate the community on how to care for their pets.

12:30-12.45

You will be picked up from your project and taken to your volunteer house, where lunch is waiting for you.

14.30

Return to the shelter and spend the afternoon assisting in the on-site clinic or bottle-feeding any baby animals and preparing food for the animal's dinner.

16.30

End of the working day. You will be picked up from your project and taken home where we evaluate the day and discuss the schedule for the next day, or you can opt to be dropped off in town to check emails.

18.30

Dinner at your volunteer house. After dinner, volunteers often go for a few drinks at one of the local night spots, go to the beach or the gym.

Details

Price includes

Pricing also includes the following

The project fee which goes directly back into the project that you are involved with. This fee facilitates funding for items such as clinic supplies, dog and cat food and other materials for the maintenance of the shelter.

All airport transfers from Cape Town International Airport upon your arrival and departure

Orientation program

All daily transfers to and from your projects during your stay

Full board and lodging which includes 3 meals a day at our volunteer house

Assistance in your projects by various African Impact staff and project managers.

Comfort level

Reasonably comfortable (Inns, B&Bs, luxury camping etc.)

Experience required

A reasonable interest is all that is needed