

What is quest overseas ?

Quest Overseas in a nutshell

Quest Overseas is a volunteering organisation that prides itself on giving its students the most worthwhile and exhilarating experience possible overseas, in a manner that upholds standards of excellence in ethical volunteering, responsible travel and sustainable development.

We organise 3 month gap year expeditions combining volunteer work and an expedition through Africa or South America, with the option of a language phase for South America teams. We also offer shorter summer adventures for 4-6 weeks that concentrate on either project work or an expedition. Team sizes are up to 16 students and made up of 17-25 year olds that are on a gap year after school or taking a summer break during university.

6 week
summer
expeditions

3 month gap
adventures
combining
project and
expedition

4-6 week
summer
projects

Volunteer South America

Work with children in the shanty towns of **Villa Maria**, care for wild animals in **Bolivia**, work with handicapped children in **Rio de Janeiro**, or conserve the rainforests of **Manu, Peru**.

Volunteer Africa

Build sustainable schools in rural **Tanzania**, provide communities with sustainable water sources in **Kenya**, work with villages to help orphans in **Malawi**, or help build a new home for street children in Rwanda.

Expeditions

Challenging, wild and uncompromising: learn key skills to enable you to travel as part of a group and on your own. Expeditions can involve trekking, ice climbing, safari, scuba diving, sand boarding, white-water rafting and bungee jumping to name just a few! Only the best South America and Africa have to offer.

How much does it cost?

Costs range from £1,700 for 4 weeks volunteer work to £5,100 for a 3 month combined expedition. All personal insurance, food, accommodation, transport, activities, trips during weekends off, experienced full-time overseas leaders, UK support both before you leave and while you are overseas, pre-departure preparation and training is included. International flights are not, but we provide support and advice to help you obtain these.

Why quest overseas ?

KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE

Leaders in the field of team gap year projects & expeditions since 1996.
Expertise in specific areas South America & Africa by all UK and Overseas staff.
Huge network of contacts on the ground – from local truck drivers to NGO heads.

SUSTAINABLE & REALISTIC PROJECTS

Long term (minimum 5 years) commitment to worthwhile projects with financial and personal dedication.
Partnered with the Rainforest Alliance, Tourism Concern, Comhlamh, Ethical Volunteering, and others.
Our own charity, Quest4Change, has raised over £1.5 million, every penny of which has gone directly to our projects overseas.

UNIQUE EXPEDITIONS

Combination of off-the-beaten track with well-known destinations.
Challenging and exhilarating activities and experiences, led by expert expedition staff.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Safety is our primary concern when developing and undertaking overseas expeditions.
One of only a few organisations (and the first Gap Year organisation) to be externally assessed as compliant with British Standard BSi8848; an extremely rigorous independent assessment of expedition companies' operational procedures.
All projects and expedition routes inspected personally by Quest Overseas directors, and regularly visited by Quest staff to ensure our risk assessments and local relationships are at the highest level. Expeditions reviewed annually by senior operations staff and constantly updated by expedition leaders.
Constantly up to date with FCO advice; regular contact with local partners; comprehensive communication system between the UK and overseas; strong links with medical and emergency assistance partners.

VALUE FOR MONEY

Transparent payments to Quest Overseas, covering overseas food, accommodation, activities, transport, personal insurance, trained leaders, medical back-up, and 24-hour UK support.
Project donations, of which 100% go directly overseas to the projects, none to admin or UK

UNRIVALLED REPUTATION

Don't just take our word for it – ask any of our previous volunteers for their review.
Thorough selection, training and preparation, together with all the above, helps us to maintain this record and we are determined to keep it!
We ask for and take seriously any and all feedback from our students and leaders.