



VOLUNTEER VACATIONS: INDIA

Volunteer Trips:

Teach English as a Second Language in Bangalore India

Community Work in Bangalore

Help Underprivileged kids in Goa

Teach English as a Second Language in Bangalore India

DATES OF Departure 2010: May 16, July 4, July 18, Aug.1, Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 17

PRICE: \$1759

Are you a natural with children?

Bars, restaurants and a buzzing nightlife will lure you to downtown Bangalore as much as the more familiar landmarks of Hindu holy men and tuk-tuks. It's a city able to satisfy your every need; especially if you love a good curry! You'll be working in either primary, secondary, boarding or nursery schools, and be in charge of small classes of students aged between 5 and 18. As well as English you'll get the chance to teach IT and maths and to set you on your way, we'll even throw in our internationally recognised TEFL training certificate which you can complete before you start your adventure.

Trip Highlights:

- Exploring the diverse and fascinating city of Bangalore
- Living in India - one of our favourite places in the world
- Weekend trips to Hampi, Mysore or even, for a long(!) weekend, Goa - great fun!

Fast Facts

Project Information

- Project Duration: Min 4 weeks - Max 12 weeks
- Project Costs: US\$ 1759.00 for 4 weeks, US\$ 220.00 for every week thereafter
- Location of project: *Various locations in Bangalore*
- Arrival Airport: *Bangalore (airport code BLR)*
- Activities: *Teaching English and other subjects*
- Working Hours: *Flexible; Monday to Friday 4 to 8 hours a day, all other time is free*
- Getting to the project: *Dependent on location; around 30 minutes auto-rickshaw ride (budget approximately US\$25 per week)*
- Requirements: *Minimum Age 18*

What's Included

- Accommodation: *Shared room in guesthouse.*
- Food: *All meals*
- Airport Pickup: *Included on arrival date. Ask us for details if you're arriving early!*
- Training: *In-country orientation and Online TEFL course*
- Support: *Pre-departure helpdesk, Local in-country team and 24hr emergency support*

What's not included

- *Flights, Insurance, Visas, Return Airport transfer, Local Transport*

Project details:

In Bangalore the teaching projects exist in local primary, secondary, boarding and nursery schools. The majority of these schools are local schools which are not-for-profit schools, some of which are funded by local donations and fundraising. Some of the schools are Christian schools and are quite religious, but do not expect volunteers to get involved with prayer or religious services.

The majority of the children who attend the schools come from disadvantaged backgrounds. The school pupils are aged between five and 18 and the average classes have between 15-20 pupils.

Private schools are often well equipped and students have an advanced level of English, making teaching easier. Facilities in the poorer schools however are often basic - so you may find yourself with little more than a blackboard and piece of chalk.

During the school holidays, April and May, there is work with local community projects and street children.

Why the project needs volunteers:

Despite the fact that English is one of the official languages of India, the standard of conversational English in schools is usually very poor. As a teaching volunteer, you will play a vital role in improving the spoken skills, and therefore the life-chances of the children, and teachers, in the schools of Bangalore. Volunteers can help shape young lives in India by sharing their English skills and teaching talents. Native or fluent English speakers with or without formal teaching experience can contribute greatly to a child's educational development.

What kind of skills you need to go on this type of project:

Volunteers are not required to be fluent in any of the Indian languages as English is widely spoken and understood by most Indians. Volunteers on the teaching programme will be trained before they go on their project through i-to-i's International 40-hour on-line TEFL programme (Teaching English as a Foreign Language). This course is included in the cost of the venture.

Volunteers are required to have a desire to help the people and environment of India. Be flexible, have self-motivation and an openness to a new culture and a willingness to learn.

Why Bangalore?

Bangalore used to be known not very long ago as a sleepy quiet peaceful garden city with a salubrious climate all through the year – ideal to retire in! These very advantages have also led to its growth and development into a major mega metropolis – a bustling crowded capital (of the state of Karnataka) of about 8 million which is a major centre of research and development and a reputation as the ‘silicon valley’ of India. It is a very cosmopolitan centre embracing people and cultures from all over the world, throbbing with life and vibrancy, a place that offers residents and visitors a wide choice of activities, with theatres, cultural centres, art galleries, parks, and restaurants catering to any kind of taste at very reasonable prices. Bangalore is centrally located in the southern peninsula and within easy reach of Goa, Kerala, Pondicherry, Chennai, Mysore, the Nilgiri mountains and world famous heritage sites like Hampi – each of which can be visited over different week ends.

However, like every great urban centre, Bangalore also has its share of problems of growth and rapid increase in population. The city is in a state of change as it struggles to improve infrastructure, open a new international airport, and learn how to cope with problems of urban poverty. This is where opportunities abound for those who are more fortunate and inclined to help and make a difference – to volunteer to spend time with organisations and schools for the poor and disabled and thereby mix the pleasures of experiencing life in a beautiful part of India with the satisfaction of having spent a short part of their lives productively in helping the cause of the less fortunate.

Your role as a volunteer:

Your main roles will be assisting local teachers in the instruction of classes. Most of the schools welcome volunteers who want to get involved in other aspects of school life, or run extra-curricular activities such as sport, art and crafts, drama etc.. As the standard of English is quite poor it is recommended that you come with ideas such as games and fun activities for the classroom.

Please Note; the Diwali Festival (Festival of lights) takes place every year either at the end of October or beginning of November where the projects will be closed for a week.

Projects will also be affected for a week over the Christmas period December 25, please be aware of these dates when making your booking.

Where the project is based:

The majority of the schools are based in the suburbs of Bangalore.

Please book your flight to arrive into Bangalore (airport code BLR) on the advertised arrival date to ensure your airport pickup.

Bangalore is so ideally situated that weekend trips can be made within Karnataka and surrounding States of Tamilnadu, Kerala and Goa. Some of the popular trips taken from Bangalore by previous customers are :-

Mysore is the old capital of Karnataka. It is just three hours away from Bangalore. It is a mixture of old and new culture - places to visit are the Palace (beautifully lit at night with thousands of bulbs), Chamundi Hills and the old fruit and vegetable market place. You can drive on further for a couple of hours and you are in the **Bandipur** Game Sanctuary. You can spend the night in the forest guest house and take an early morning safari into the lush jungles. **Ootacamund** is a hill station at seven to eight thousand feet. A good get away in summer, can be reached from the sanctuary in three hours.

Hampi a renowned world heritage site is an overnight trip away from Bangalore. There are beautiful ruins of temples, palaces and cave sculptures from the 14th Century. It is a very popular place with i-to-i volunteers.

Belur, Halebid are exquisite temples of the 12th century. These can be seen with **Sravanabelagola**, a 18 metre high monolithic Jain statue. All three can be visited by bus in a day long trip.

Coorg is about six hours away from Bangalore by road. You can live in a homestay on a coffee plantation and enjoy going on hilly treks.

Chennai, Mamallapuram (Shore Temple) and **Pondicherry** (previous French colony) are on the East coast in the neighbouring state of Tamilnadu. These three can be visited over a weekend.

Kerala a state on the West coast has a variety of tourist activities to indulge in - trip on the back waters in a rice boat, beaches of Kerala, Periyar a game sanctuary on a lake and a hill station Monnar with tea plantations To fully enjoy this "God's own country" you need a long weekend.

Goa known as the carefree sea side resort is an extremely popular place to chill out on its 25 kms of beaches. To be able to relax and enjoy its food and ambiance you need a long weekend.

We work in partnership with hundreds of established projects that are run by local communities. The information on our website comes directly from the projects and we work with them to ensure this information is as accurate as possible. However, due to the very nature of the projects themselves the exact details of what happens on a daily basis can change with little or no notice. If you have travelled with us and have any updates to this information, please let us know.

COMMUNITY WORK IN BANGALORE

DATE OF Departure 2010: May 16, June 6, June 20 July 4, July 18, Aug.1, Aug. 15, Sept. 5, Sept. 19, Oct. 3, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Nov. 21, Dec. 5

Have you got people skills?

You could put your talents to great use by assisting on one of a number of community projects around the colorful city of Bangalore; working in schools that help underprivileged, severely handicapped and deaf children. You'll soak up the sun as well as world-famous sights including the magnificent Vidhana Soudha and budding Cubbon Park, while using your talents to support the project through befriending, counselling, education and healthcare assistance.

Trip Highlights:

- Working to help improve the lives of the disadvantaged in one of India's most booming cities
- Fresh coconut juice - a Bangalore speciality
- Weekends exploring the surrounding countryside or even heading off to Hampi - there is always something to do around this great city

What does this community project do?

You could get involved with one of a variety of community development projects available in Bangalore, which include:

1. Working with girls and women with disabilities in a residential home.
2. Working in a school for deaf and hearing-impaired children.
3. Providing schooling to children from local orphanages/the slums.
4. Teaching English and computing knowledge to young children from the slums.

The majority of these projects are based in either schools, orphanages or drop in/day care centres, which local children attend on a daily basis.

Why does this project need volunteers?

Disabled children and orphans in India are deprived of many opportunities to ensure their successful development. The aims of these projects are to provide education and social skills to disadvantaged/underprivileged children and keep them away from life in the slums. You can make a difference in the lives of these children by helping with after school programs, computer training for teenagers and street children, and other valuable programs. The orphanage does request that volunteers stay for a minimum of two months.

Why Bangalore?

Bangalore used to be known not very long ago as a sleepy quiet peaceful garden city with a salubrious climate all through the year – ideal to retire in. These very advantages have also led to its growth and development into a major mega metropolis – a bustling crowded capital(of the state of Karnataka) of about 8 million which is a major centre of research and development and a reputation as the ‘silicon valley’ of India. It is a very cosmopolitan centre embracing people and cultures from all over the world, throbbing with life and vibrancy, a place that offers residents and visitors a wide choice of activities, with theatres, cultural centres, art galleries, parks, and restaurants catering to any kind of taste at very reasonable prices. Bangalore is centrally located in the southern peninsula and within easy reach of Goa, Kerala, Pondicherry, Chennai, Mysore, the Nilgiri mountains and world famous heritage sites like Hampi – each of which can be visited over different week ends.

However, like every great urban centre, Bangalore also has its share of problems of growth and rapid increase in population. The city is in a state of change as it struggles to improve infrastructure, with a new international airport, and learn how to cope with problems of urban poverty. This is where opportunities abound for those who are more fortunate and inclined to help and make a difference – to volunteer to spend time with organisations and schools for the poor and disabled and thereby mix the pleasures of experiencing life in a beautiful part of India with the satisfaction of having spent a short part of their lives productively in helping the cause of the less fortunate.

Your role as a volunteer

Your main role is to provide basic daily care for the orphans/disabled children or children from the slums. You are also encouraged to actively participate in programs such as health education, games, drawing, and arts and crafts. If you have plenty of energy, you may also choose to get involved in sports and create teaching materials to aid the children's learning. You may be working in small groups or on a one-to-one basis and will be expected to contribute in any way possible, so it is advised to come prepared with bags of ideas, activities and fun games for the children!

The skills you need

Most of the projects seek committed individuals to help strengthen their projects and programs, so a willingness to learn is essential. Caring projects such as this are tough, but rewarding, so if you're resilient and independent you'll be more suitable for this type of work. You should also be emotionally mature and able to cope with distressing situations that could occur. A background in care work is not necessary, but some knowledge of working with mental or physical disabled people would be useful. A genuine love for children, flexibility, self-motivation and openness to a new culture are also highly valued at these projects.

Accommodation included

You will be living in a nearby local guesthouse, run by an Indian family, or a comfortable shared apartment giving you the perfect chance to live alongside the local culture and make friends with other volunteers.

Project resources and advice

Many of the projects are funded by the Government or supported by local NGOs, but have very few resources, so it would be greatly appreciated if you could bring additional equipment from home, such as story books, pens, crayons, cassettes and arts and crafts material.

Local facilities

The projects are based in the suburbs of Bangalore about 15-30 minutes outside the city centre. You will be able to get local transport to your project each day from your accommodation.

Please note; The Festival of Diwali (Festival of Lights) takes place every year either at the end of October or beginning of November where the projects will be closed for a week for the festivities.

Projects will also be affected for a week over the Christmas period December 25, please be aware of these dates when making your booking.

Food included

All your meals will be provided each day, in the form of breakfast, lunch and dinner, which will be traditional vegetarian-friendly Indian cuisine.

Things that you will need to organize yourself

- Flights to India: i-to-i can secure preferential rates, please ask us
- Travel insurance: i-to-i can secure preferential rates, please ask us
- Visa
- In-country transport (except your airport pickup on arrival date)
- Tours, trips and add-ons: i-to-i can secure preferential rates, please ask us
- Extra food and equipment

Fast Facts

Project Information

- Project Duration: Min 2 weeks - Max 8 weeks
- Project Costs: US\$ 1429.00 for 2 weeks, US\$ 200.00 for every week thereafter
- Location of project:*Bangalore*
- Arrival Airport:*Bangalore (airport code BLR)*
- Activities:*Various activities including general care and assistance in the local community. This can include playing games with children, teaching English & basic life skills to all ages*
- Working Hours:*Flexible; usually Monday to Friday 4 to 8 hours a day, all other time is free*
- Getting to the project:*Dependent on location; 10-30 minutes walk, bus or auto-rickshaw ride (budget approximately US\$25 per week)*
- Requirements:*Minimum age 18*

What's Included

- Accommodation:*Shared room in guesthouse.*
- Food:*All meals*
- Airport Pickup:*Included on arrival date. Ask us for details if you're arriving early!*
- Training:*In-country orientation*
- Support:*Pre-departure helpdesk, local in-country team and 24 hour emergency support*

What's not included

- *Flights, Insurance, Visas, Return Airport transfer, Local Transport*

HELP UNDERPRIVILEGED KIDS IN GOA

DATE OF Departure 2010: May 16, June 6, June 20, July 4, July 18, Aug.1, Aug. 15, Oct. 3, Nov. 21, Dec. 5

Cost: \$1099

How many smiles would you like to see?

Helping the children in a primary school with one to one attention will undoubtedly bring you the biggest smiles possible when you sing, dance and help to enrich their lives with your enthusiasm. You will also be helping underprivileged children with their homework and helping educate them through drawing, arts and craft, playing games and getting involved with sports - if you have enough energy!

Trip Highlights:

- Challenging yourself and bringing some joy to the lives of the children at the project
- Working alongside local people and really learning about life in India
- Exploring the sights, sounds and tastes of one of India's most beautiful regions

Fast Facts

Project Information

- Project Duration: Min 2 weeks - Max 12 weeks
- Project Costs: US\$ 1099.00 for 2 weeks, US\$ 230.00 for every week thereafter
- Location of project: *Goa*
- Arrival Airport: *Goa International Airport (airport code GOI)*
- Activities: *Various activities including playing, teaching, singing, dancing, reading stories*
- Working Hours: *Monday to Friday 8am to 1pm, 3pm to 6pm*
- Getting to the project: *15 Minute walk or short bus ride*
- Requirements: *Minimum age 20*

What's Included

- Accommodation: *Shared room in home stay.*
- Food: *All meals*
- Airport Pickup: *Included on arrival date. Ask us for details if you're arriving early!*
- Training: *In-country orientation*
- Support: *Pre-departure helpdesk, local in-country team and 24 hour emergency support*

What's not included

- *Flights, Insurance, Visas, Return Airport transfer, Local Transport*

What the project does and why it needs you!

On this trip you will work at 2 different projects. In the morning you will work at a primary school attached to a local high school. Some children find it harder to learn than others so you will be working with young children giving them the personalised attention that they need to give them a good start in life. The main aim of the project is to give the children a good education and attention that is needed.

The project in the afternoon is a centre set up to look after the children of migrant workers to provide care and attention for them after spending the morning in school. As their parents are working it can be easy for the children to be led astray but now they have somewhere to go in the afternoon where they will get the attention and help they need to guide their lives in the right direction. You will be able to help teach English, help with homework, play games and get involved in some singing and dancing!

Who is it for?

This project is for anyone who loves working with children and who has lots of enthusiasm and energy!

What you`ll be doing

In the morning you will be based at a primary school giving attention and support to the children, helping with communication, singing songs, reading, writing and keeping the children entertained and educated. Your typical hours here will be from 8am to 1pm. In the afternoon from 3pm to 6pm you will be working in the after school club in the childrens home helping with homework, singing, playing games, drawing, and keeping the children entertained.

Where you`ll be staying

You will be staying in basic but clean homestay accommodation based on shared rooms, a short walk from shops, telephone facilities and an internet café. The accommodation is approximately a 15 minute walk or a short bus journey to the projects.

What you`ll be eating

You will be provided with three tradition Indian-style meals a day - a real treat for spice lovers! Vegetarians are easily catered for since over 70% of Indians eat a mostly vegetarian diet.

Project resources and advice

The project is reasonably well resourced but you may like to bring creative supplies from home, eg craft or drawing items, games or musical instruments or, even better, purchase some resources locally when you arrive.

As you will be a role model for the children, it is important that you are keep your dress neat and modest.

When you arrive

If you time your arrival to one of the designated arrival dates then airport pick-up is completely free. Please book your flight to arrive into Dabolim Airport, Goa International Airport (airport code GOI).

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please send back with \$275 deposit

Please complete this application and send it to us with your payment to Steppin' Out , in **U.S. dollars**. Our street address is: 3721 Military Road NW, #B, Washington, DC 20015,.

First Name:	Middle Name:	Last Name:
Is this the name as it appears on your passport?		
Date of Birth:	Country of Birth:	
Passport # :	Exp date:	
Passport Country of Origin		
Current Address:		City
State:	Zip:	Country:
Private-Telephone:	Home:	
Mobile Phone:	Do you receive Text Messages?	
Office-Telephone		
Fax:	E-mail:	
Emergency Contact:		Relationship to Contact:
Contact's Hm Phone:		Contact's Cell:
Health Insurance Carrier and Policy Number:		
Health Insurance Phone Number:		
Please provide your full flight here, including airlines, flight number and arrival and departure city and time, in order for us to guarantee transportation for you. If you do not have it at the time of submitting this contract, it is your responsibility to get it to us as soon as you do have it. Failure to provide your flight itinerary may result in not being able to get you ground transportation (you can send later)		
Are you a skier or snowboarder and what level?		
Will you be renting equipment?		
Please let us know about any of the following:		
Allergies	Symptoms of Allergy	Treatment
1.		
2.		
Any Medication taking	Generic Name of Med	Dosage
1.		

2		
List any dietary restrictions:		
List any physical disabilities/impediments		
Do you have a roommate request?		

PLEASE FAX BACK TO 877.264.7694