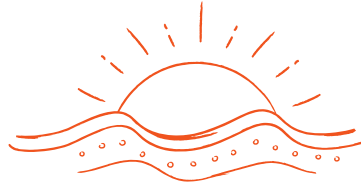


# MARINE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER VACATION 2026

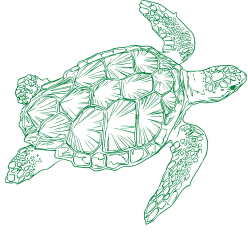


Sodwana Bay, South Africa



DEEP BLUE  
CONSERVATION

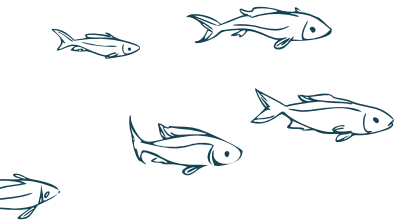
# YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE



Ready for an adventure like no other? Dive into a world of volunteering where you can experience some of the best coral reefs in the world, make a difference in marine conservation research, and explore an untouched piece of South Africa, all rolled into one epic program!



Pack your beach gear and get ready to make waves in one of the world's top dive sites, Sodwana Bay! This picturesque paradise is a hidden gem, waiting for you to discover. Dive headfirst into the vibrant blue ocean, soak up the sun on the sandy shores, or take a refreshing dip in Lake Sibaya. And when the sun starts to set, sip on some drinks while enjoying the breathtaking view. With all this and more, you'll never run out of things to do on our volunteer vacation!



Say goodbye to planning stress and hello to an all-inclusive trip. Send us an email to book your spot, and we'll take care of the rest! From food, accommodation, dives, trips and everything in between, we've got you covered. Just pack your bags and let the good times roll!



**CONTACT US NOW!**

Email: [info@deepblueconservation.org](mailto:info@deepblueconservation.org)  
Whatsapp: +27 71 353 2328 (Jo)

# DAILY LIFE WITH DEEP BLUE



## Arrival

Our programs kick off every Friday of the month. Once you touch down at Richards Bay airport, our trusty driver will pick you up and transport you to our awesome volunteer house in the heart of Sodwana Bay!

Be prepared to be welcomed into the Deep Blue family with a welcome braai (barbeque) to meet our awesome team!

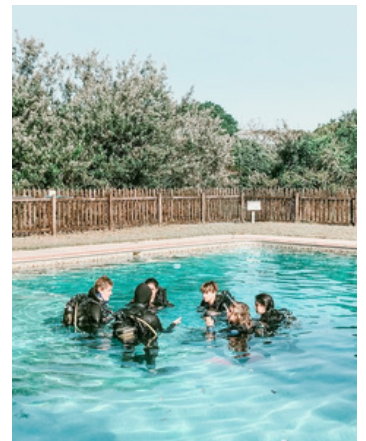
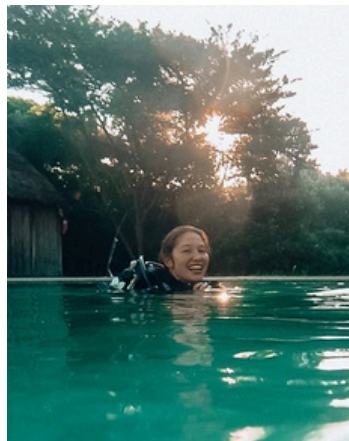
## First week

Your **first day** will be for settling in! Our Project Coordinator, Jo, will give you an orientation with everything you need to know about our project. We will also show you around the town and take you to get some food for the week at one of the local shops. If you are doing a dive course with us and have not finished your online theory, the rest of the day will be used for dive theory!



*Welcome!*

The **second day**, you will have your pool session where you will get to learn about diving from one of our amazing instructors and take your first breath under water!

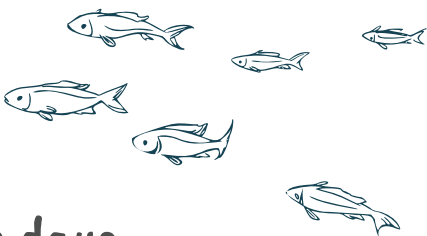


**Day three and four** will be your Open Water course dives, you will do two dives a day and by the end of day four you will officially be a PADI Open Water diver!



On **day five** you will do your first dive as a qualified diver and get your first taste of helping with our data collection.

**Day six and seven** will be our off days. Day six will be used to do an awesome trip to one of our amazing sites in the nearby area and day seven will be time to recharge and relax.

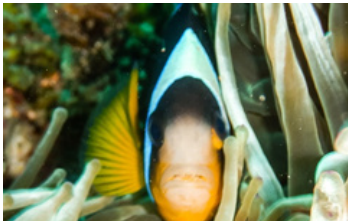


### Daily schedule on dive days

We are lucky enough to dive five days a week! Here is a rough daily schedule for dive days but can vary depending on the weather.

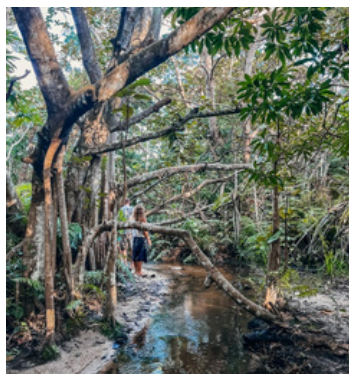
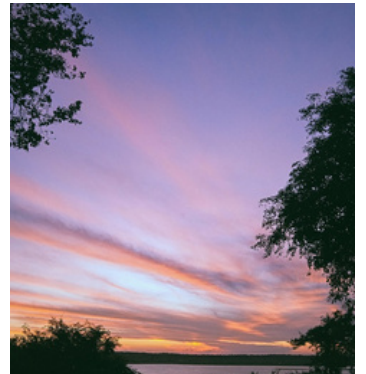
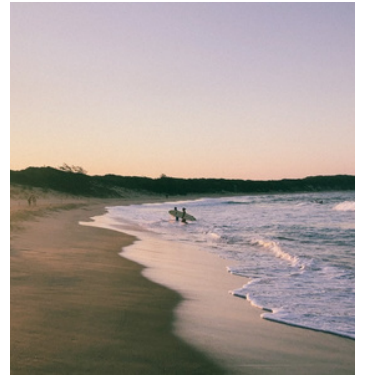
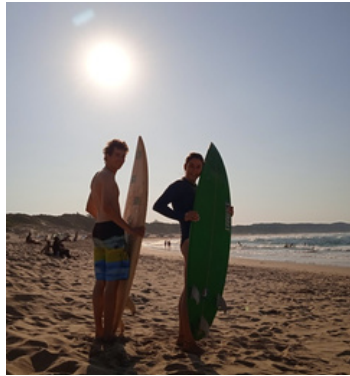


Dive Day Schedule
7:30 - Camp pick-up.
8:00 - Kit up dive gear at the beach.
8:30 - Dive
11:00 - Return to camp.
11:00-13:00 - Lunch break.
13:00-14:00 - Database entry.
14:00-15:00 - Lecture.



# Trips

Once a week, we explore the wild and wondrous corners of Sodwana! We soak up the sun and surf the waves on beach days, dip into the waters of Lake Sibaya, experience a private beach at Lala Nek, or explore the forests at Tolla se Gat. Of course, we can't take on these adventures with empty stomachs, so we always fire up a classic South African braai, relax and enjoy the good vibes.



# NUDIBRANCHS!

While you're on our program, get ready to snap some awesome pics of nudibranchs! These little sea slugs are indicators, showing us how healthy our reefs are and how they're adapting to climate change. Below are just a few of the over 3000 amazing species of nudibranchs!



# WHAT'S INCLUDED IN OUR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

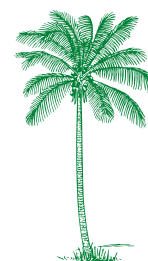
## Airport Transfers

We'll make sure you get from the Richards Bay airport to the camp and back at the end of your trip. For our South African volunteers, the road is all yours if you would like to drive to the camp yourself!



## Accommodation

You will be staying in our new volunteer and intern house located on the Sodwana Bay main road. The camp is a 10 minute drive from the beach and walking distance from restaurants, cafes, bars and shops in town.



## Food

Groceries are included, meals are then prepared by volunteers together in the communal kitchen.

## PADI Dive Course

PADI Open Water or Advanced Open Water if you are already a diver.



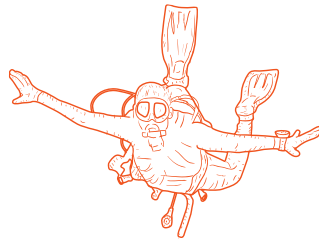
CONTINUED...



## Dives and Gear

1 dive a day, five days a week.

Hard gear rental (BCD, regulator, weight belt, and cylinder).



## Marine Lectures

Casual and relaxed lectures and discussions given by a local zoologist on the ocean and marine life.



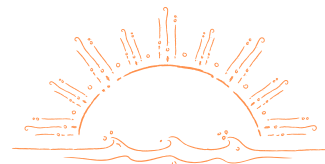
## Transport

Transport to and from the beach as well as around the town for excursions and nights out.



## Beach Gate Fees

Gate fees into the iSimangaliso Wetland Park for dives, as it is a marine protected area.



## Weekly Excursions

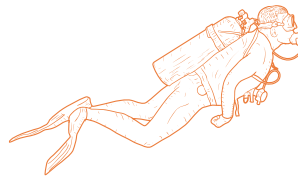
We want to make sure you get the most out of your trip! We offer weekly excursions which include beach days, sundowners at local viewpoints, braais (barbeques) at Lake Sibaya, days at the beach, etc.



# EXTRA EXPENSES

## Travel Expenses

- Plane Tickets.
- Visas.
- Travel Insurance and Diving Insurance (Diving Insurance can be organised through Divers Alert Network, [www.dansa.org](http://www.dansa.org)).
- Comprehensive Medical Insurance.



## Soft Gear Rental

Volunteers are recommended to bring soft gear with them; this includes a wetsuit, mask, and fins. If this is not possible, the gear can be rented during your stay. If you need advice on purchasing soft gear, please email us!

## Extra Diving Courses

- PADI Advanced Open Water.
- PADI Rescue & EFR.



## Extra Excursions

- Safari trip.
- Kosi Bay trip.
- Surf lessons.
- Sand boarding.
- Turtle beach walk (Nov- Apr).





## ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE INFORMATION

**Arrival and departure airport:** Richards Bay airport.

**Arrival date and time:** Every Friday of the month, the morning or midday flight is advised and pickup is usually around 12pm.

**Departure date and time:** Fridays, the afternoon or evening flight is advised and drop-off will usually be around 10am.

Exact dates and times for flights can be confirmed with project coordinators via email to ensure accuracy.



**Richards Bay Airport**  
Nearest airport, +/- a 2  
hour drive to the camp.



# DO YOU WANT TO START YOUR ADVENTURE WITH US?



## Book Your Volunteer Vacation:

Email us and let us know what your current dive experience is and how long you would like to stay with us.

Please also feel free to ask any questions you have or book a video chat with us to discuss the program options!

## Contact Us:

Email: [info@deepblueconservation.org](mailto:info@deepblueconservation.org)

Whatsapp: +27 71 353 2328

Website: [www.deepblueconservation.org](http://www.deepblueconservation.org)



## Follow Us:



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