

REVIEW

Organization Name: Biosphere Expeditions

Location: Multiple

Website: <http://www.biosphere-expeditions.org/>

VERDICT: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Project Overview: Biosphere Expeditions started in 1999, with an emphasis on field research. They are a premiere volunteer travel organization with multiple expeditions throughout the world. These expeditions are limited with the number of volunteers and are led by a scientist and a project leader. The organization has won multiple awards and accolades from premiere conservation organizations, as well as travel organizations and is an official accredited member of the United Nations and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. They are also a registered not for profit organization in the USA, UK, Germany, France and Australia, which means depending on where you live, you may be able to write off some of the expenses.

As a volunteer, you will be in the forefront of real scientific field research. The large variety of expeditions they offer gives you a good selection to choose from. You can volunteer for marine life as well. The accommodations they provide you are very reasonable given the remote nature of some of these projects. Dependent on the expedition, you will be expected to set up and review camera traps, telemetry work and work with local communities to resolve any human-wildlife conflicts. They also offer expeditions that I have never seen, such as the Sumatran tiger research in Indonesia.

Is it Conservation?: Yes. Biosphere Expeditions is an exceptional organization that is a member with the IUCN. All of their projects have direct impact on field research and conservation.

Verdict Explanation: This is a fantastic organization that has received many awards for their expeditions. You can stand assured that no matter what expedition you pick, each will have a positive and immediate impact on the field and for conservation. Their accredited membership with the IUCN is validation to their position and stance on conservation. Your funds go towards the projects and for the work done by Biosphere Expeditions, all of which help the environment and the local communities. The priority of Biosphere is Safety, Science and Satisfaction which says a lot about the principals of this great organization. They post all of their field reports and have published many scientific reports, all from the field. I have to say that after reviewing so many projects out there, Biosphere Expeditions really stands out as a leader in volunteer tourism!

I have volunteered with this organization in Malawi and after one month with the field scientist studying everything from tree population to bats, elephants, carnivores and everything in between, I can assure you that the organization and the researchers at each site are dedicated and true conservationists. Of all the research projects I have volunteered with, this one really felt the most impactful.

These reviews are based solely on my opinion and research done by leading conservation organizations

