

# Tanzania Wildlife Conservation Course Credit Internship

*Embarking on an internship abroad is a fantastic opportunity to gain valuable practical skills and course credit in one's field of study while experiencing full immersion in a novel culture.*

A multitude of Frontier volunteers and interns are University or College students undertaking academic study. Why not make the most of your time abroad by adding volunteer experience to your resume as well as gaining academic course credit in your field of study. This internship will give you the opportunity to gain relevant work experience that will not only enable you to stand out to prospective employers but will also save you time and money; after all, a minimum of 4 weeks spent volunteering during your summer vacation works out a lot cheaper than another semester at College!

So how does it work? Volunteers can arrange with their academic institution to gain transferrable course credit by participating in our field programmes. Our research team both in our London Headquarters and overseas field staff will liaise with your academic course supervisors on your behalf to ensure that your participation contributes to your academic performance and confers course credits. Further to this, we are able to sign supporting documentation, verify your participation and provide mentoring and in-country support. To sum up, Frontier will be there for you every step of the way!

The Frontier Field camp is located in a stunning part of Tanzania on Mafia Island. Surrounded by lush mangrove forests, coconut plantations and unique ecosystems which straddle water and land, you will be living and working from a picturesque and simple camp a short walk from the beach. Your residence is a basic affair near the village of Utende, with communal sleeping in a thatched banda, an open kitchen and friendly neighbours in the form of local wildlife.

We are working in this area to help local communities and animals to live in harmony, so that the livelihoods can be improved, while enabling wildlife to continue to use the habitat that remains intact.

## **Check out our Camp Tour video!**

Conservation efforts are key to the survival of a vast array of declining species. As such it is vital that we equip future generations with the skills and knowledge required to preserve not only the larger more charismatic animals, but also the smaller inhabitants of the area. Through the practical application of a series of surveying and monitoring techniques, we aim to provide a basis of understanding that will enable you to pursue a career in conservation or simply introduce broader conservation issues facing our most threatened species.

Much of Africa's wildlife is under threat and as habitats shrink and human environments grow there is more frequent contact between wildlife and local people. This can cause conflict, which has a negative impact on both the wildlife and villagers. Our project is working closely with local villagers to find a way to address this issue and to allow wildlife and people to share the land and its resources. As part of your training on this valuable and exciting project you will have the opportunity to handle a number of interesting amphibians, birds and small mammals. You might also be interviewing local villagers or teaching at local education days about the conservation value of the species found on Mafia Island. As you develop an eclectic range of surveying & monitoring techniques and how to work with local communities you will be helping to conserve the remaining habitat and the animals it supports and also to ensure that local communities are closely involved in conservation activities. Mafia Island has had little previous scientific exploration, and as such the work that you will be a part

of conducting will go towards increasing the species lists for the island and reducing the knowledge gaps that exist for species across Tanzania and Africa.

The work you carry out will be rewarding and exciting, and hugely beneficial to Mafia Island Marine Park's conservation efforts, as well as being amazing fun! At the end of the day you will gain immense satisfaction from knowing that you have helped to save this precious island wilderness, protecting it for future generations.

## **PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

- We will tailor your internship to fulfill university/college requirements for independent study or course credit for your field of study
- 24/7 supervision and mentoring
- Direct liaison between with your mentor and university or college tutor
- Your mentor can also provide a College reference at the end of your internship
- Gain skills and knowledge required for a sure start in a conservation career
- Help to monitor & conserve African wildlife
- There is also the opportunity to gain a qualification in habitat conservation

It is possible to gain Course Credits in the following fields of study:

- Biological Sciences
- Coaching
- Coral Reef Conservation
- Community Health
- Conservation Biology
- Construction
- Ecology
- Ecosystem Management
- Healthcare
- Health Education
- Journalism
- Languages
- Marine Biology
- Marine Mammal Conservation
- Medical Placements
- Teaching
- Tropical Forest Conservation
- Tropical Wildlife Conservation
- Wildlife Management

## **PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

- Intermediate level of English
- Introduction to your Course Supervisor

## FAST FACTS

<b>Location</b>	Mafia Island, Tanzania
<b>Activities</b>	Pit fall trapping Small mammal trapping Transects Point counts Butterfly trapping and sweep netting Socio-economic surveys Set up survey sites GPS training and compass work
<b>Transport</b>	Airport pick and first night hostel accommodation in Dar es Salaam can be arranged at extra cost (£40/\$60) (optional) Airport pick up from Mafia Island Airport Transfer to camp from Mafia Island Airport (£4/\$6)
<b>Accommodation</b>	Communal camp near to the beach

## WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

The Frontier-Tanzania Wildlife Project is an African conservation and community development initiative which aims to gather scientifically valid information to help local villagers and government bodies plan their conservation and development activities. By surveying habitats, wildlife and local livelihoods in the area, the project has helped establish plans to protect precious species while at the same time encouraging community development strategies that address local needs. By working closely with local villagers we are also helping to ensure they play a central role to ensure their views are heard. You will be adding to the species list for Mafia Island as it is previously unexplored.

The main focus of your time at the Frontier Tanzania Wildlife Project will be learning a variety of techniques required to effectively monitor local biodiversity. This includes conducting a range of wildlife and socio-economic surveys to help gather management data required. We utilise a multitude of trapping techniques allowing you to get up close and personal with stunning frogs, birds and maybe the occasional monkey!

You will be living in the heart of the local community on a small camp situated close to the beach. You will be surveying the wildlife and in and around the village of Utende and you may even get the chance to do some surveys inside the small remaining coastal forest on the island. You may also be involved in conservation awareness days at local schools?

If this is your first time doing field research and conservation work, don't worry! It will only take a short while for you to feel totally at home on camp and confident with your grasp of the scientific techniques. The work is intense and challenging but you'll get immense satisfaction from living and working on the island and from having made a valuable contribution to the conservation of this important ecosystem and the livelihoods of the people who live there. You will return home with the new friends you have made and a wealth of incredible memories, photos and videos from this experience of a lifetime!

You'll find your team to be young, fun and dynamic comprising a mix of ages and experiences, with

members who all share a passion for travelling in developing countries and saving endangered wildlife and habitats. Your staff will be young, friendly individuals who are highly experienced in their field and some may have volunteered with Frontier at the start of their careers.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?**

We can arrange an airport pick up for you at Dar es Salaam Airport and a local private driver will escort you to a local hostel where you can spend your first night relaxing and recovering from your journey, these costs are extra and you can pay our representative US\$68/\$60 directly. The following day our rep will return you to the airport in time for your internal flight on the eight seater light aircraft to Mafia Island, please ensure you book your flight well in advance. Once on Mafia Island you will be met by Frontier staff at the airport on Mafia and transferred by bus or tuk tuk to the marine and terrestrial conservation project camp site at Utende. We can provide you with detailed instructions on how to reach the Mafia Island camp if travelling independently.

It is possible to reach Mafia Island by ferry but sailing times can be very unpredictable. If you choose not to fly you will need to travel via the port town of Nyamasati, 90 km south of Dar, from here you will travel by ferry, (approximately a 6-hour trip) to the town of Kilindoni on the western side of Mafia Island. Once on the island you will be met by the Frontier forest and marine field staff at the small harbour town of Kilindoni.

## **WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?**

During the project you'll live on camp in the village of Utende on the east coast of Mafia Island. You will have an authentic and memorable living experience. The Frontier camp was constructed by local craftsmen, using traditional building techniques and local materials.

Camp life is very simple, unsophisticated and fun. You will be staying in communal bandas; huts made from makuti (woven palm leaves), poles and mud, sleeping on beds constructed from sustainably harvested wooden poles, your "shower" will be a jug or a bucket of water and you cook over an open campfire: so prepare for the basic, unencumbered lifestyle!

As well as the survey and conservation work you may help with the community outreach and environmental awareness work in the local villages, scientific data entry and daily camp maintenance, taking turns to cook, tidy and clean the camp, collect water, help with a wide variety of other essential camp duties.

## **WHAT WILL I BE EATING?**

Camp food is simple and nutritious and consists largely of rice, vegetables and beans all of which are purchased locally in order to help support the local economy. Daily variations include pumpkin, cabbage, spinach, sweet potato and even the occasional pasta dish! You will learn how to cook fresh bread on an open fire which is eaten for breakfast. Luxuries such as peanut butter, jam and nutella can be purchased in the nearby town Kilindoni. Part of your role on camp will be to help with the cooking, so get your cookbooks out now and start practicing!

## **COSTS**

4 weeks	US\$ 2,545
5 weeks	US\$ 2,845
6 weeks	US\$ 3,095
7 weeks	US\$ 3,295
8 weeks	US\$ 3,495
9 weeks	US\$ 3,695
10 weeks	US\$ 3,945
20 weeks	US\$ 5,495
Extra week	US\$ 345

## DEPARTURE DATES

First and third Monday of the month.

Alternative dates available on request.

## DURATION

You can join this project for a minimum of 4 weeks

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

### Before you go

- Pre-departure support
- Travel & medical advice & documentation
- Equipment advice
- Discounted medical kit
- Free Frontier t-shirt
- UK residential briefing weekend including food, accommodation and training (extra cost applies)

### In-country

- Airport pickup in Dar es Salaam and transfer to hostel (extra cost applies ~US\$22/\$20)
- First night hostel accommodation in Dar es Salaam (extra cost applies) ~US\$22/\$20
- Transfer to airport for connecting flight to the island (extra cost applies) ~US\$22/\$20
- Airport pick up and reception on Mafia Island
- Transfer to Frontier camp
- Accommodation in marine camp
- Accommodation upgrades available in local lodge (extra cost applies)
- Food
- Local orientation
- Project training
- 24-hour in-country & international HQ emergency support & back-up

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Call us on 020 7613 2422 (UK) / 1 949 336 8178 (US)

Mail us on [info@frontier.ac.uk](mailto:info@frontier.ac.uk)

Check out our social media here:

*Project details were correct at the time this document was generated. Price, dates and other details are subject to change. Please see our website for current details for this project.*