

Guatemala Veterinary Program

Gain hands-on veterinary experience and assist in the rehabilitation of some of world's most incredible wildlife, whilst discovering the beauty of Guatemala!

As one of Central America's most diverse countries, Guatemala offers landscapes and experiences which have long captivated its visitors. Overflowing with incredible natural, historical and cultural appeal, with its lush jungles and wildlife makes Guatemala one of the most exciting countries in the region for wildlife conservation enthusiasts!

Work alongside veterinary professionals at an incredible animal rescue and rehabilitation centre and contribute to the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of the populations of some of Guatemala's most precious and rare animal inhabitants. The work carried out by the centre is vital to protecting the country's wildlife, which have fallen victim to habitat loss, unsustainable hunting and capture for the illegal pet trade. Gaining hands-on veterinary experience with some of the world's most incredible wildlife and assisting in their rehabilitation and re-introduction back to the wild is an opportunity not to be missed!

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Gain invaluable practical veterinary work experience
- Contribute to the important work of the rescue and rehabilitation centre
- An unforgettable 2 day trip to the Tikal Mayan temples
- Make unforgettable memories and lifelong friends

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- In order to participate on this project you will need to be studying or have relevant experience/qualifications in veterinary science

FAST FACTS

Location	Peten, Guatemala
Activities	Animal monitoring and check-ups Field laboratory procedures Surgeries and treatments where applicable Capture and management of primates, psittacines and reptiles
Lectures and discussions on enhance learning	
Routine cleaning,	

feeding and maintenance work	
Transport	Airport pick-up
Accommodation	On site volunteer accommodation

WHAT DOES THE PROJECT DO?

Guatemala is home to some of the most varied and intriguing species found worldwide. However, many of the animals that arrive at the rescue center have suffered as a result of human-wildlife conflicts such as poaching, trafficking and the loss of their habitat through deforestation. They are often malnourished, traumatised and have injuries inflicted by their captors. This project aims to give students an insight and hands-on experience into the veterinary work carried out at the centre which will help with the rehabilitation of these animals.

The work carried out at the centre is invaluable, and those who join this project as a veterinary student are sure to have an incredible and unforgettable experience here!

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

You will be working alongside veterinary professionals at the rescue and rehabilitation center in Petén, where you will get true hands on insight into the veterinary work being carried out on a daily basis. Depending on the length of your placement, you will have the opportunity to take part in various procedures, lectures and activities around the centre. Activities on a 2-week placement may include:

- Lectures focusing on primates, psittacines and reptiles
- Necropsy reviews of documented past cases
- Safe capture and handling of species
- Obtaining and processing of blood samples and faecal matters, with discussion and administration of needed treatments and follow-ups
- Participation in necropsies and administration of various veterinary treatments (surgery assistance and types of treatments are case dependent)
- Routine work with the animals

The work that you will be involved in will be dependent upon your level of experience and the needs of the animal rescue centre at the time of your visit. In some cases you may be involved in emergency rescues and surgeries, which will help in training students in fast decision-making in real-life emergency situations.

You will also have the chance to go on a 2 day overnight trip to Tikal Mayan Temples during your placement. Once a powerful seat of the Mayan empire, Tikal is now the most famous archaeological

site in Guatemala and the temples are a must see while you are in Guatemala. The entire park is surrounded by lush jungle and wildlife, giving you the feel of being in a different world!

Throughout the duration of your placement you will be continually learning from the professionals around you while being able to develop your own skills. Being able to gain hands-on work experience in a Veterinary setting while living in such a beautiful and inaccessible environment will make this 2-week placement an experience not to be missed!

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?

After arrival into Guatemala City Airport you can catch one of the frequent local bus services to the rescue centre, a journey of seven hours north of Guatemala City, or alternatively you can catch a reasonably priced flight to Flores airport where a member of staff from the project in Guatemala will meet you and take you to the rescue centre.

WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?

You will be staying in a shared volunteer on-site housing, where you can enjoy spending your time bonding with fellow students. The house is clean and comfortable, with western style bathrooms and flush toilets, mosquito screens and electricity.

WHAT WILL I BE EATING?

Whilst on your placement you will enjoy three meals a day prepared for you on site. You will be able to experience traditional native dishes such as chiles rellenos, chicken pepian, shrimp ceviche and flan-style sweet treats. You can also venture to local markets to purchase fresh local produce.

COSTS

2 weeks	US\$ 2,745
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DATES 2019

April 22nd - May 5th

May 13th - May 26th

July 8th - July 21st

July 29th - August 11th

August 19th - September 1st

AIRPORT INFORMATION

Nearest airport(s): Guatemala City (GUA)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Mail us on 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.