

## THE GAMBIA - Animal management & conservation

### VETERINARY WORK

Work as a Vets assistant in a private clinic, to gain an understanding of animal care within a veterinary environment.

- Assess animal welfare
- Administer treatments
- Assist the Vet with duties

In THE SEREKUNDA AREA



This program is intended for anyone who is studying animal management, conservation and loves animals.

ENVIRONMENT

### GREEN TURTLES PRESERVATION

This is a time-limited program which takes place in Gunjur and Tanjil, from June to the middle of December. You are helping with taking care of green turtle eggs, hatchlings and releasing it to the ocean.

### ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION ACTIVITIES

This program is suitable for the environment lovers. You can get involved in different environmental activities such as tree planting, listing the animals in the forest, raising awareness in the local community about the importance of the environment, beach cleaning actions and many more.

Work in Tanji Bird Reserve and

Abuko Nature Reserve.



# CONSERVATION & ANIMAL MANAGEMENT, THE GAMBIA

## ACTIVITIES



### THE GAMBIA - BRUFUT, TANJIL AND UP COUNTRY GAMBIA

#### TURTLE OBSERVATION s DATA LOGGING

This is a time-limited program which takes place in Gunjur, from June to the middle of December. You are helping with taking care of green turtle eggs, hatchlings and releasing it to the ocean. You will monitor and help local scientists and conservationist record numbers and observe the turtle community. You will help with the Turtle Tank and will get a real hands on experience of working with Turtles.

#### TANJIL BIRD RESERVE & ABUKO NATURE RESERVE

A highlight of your work will be a visit the reserve sand wildlife areas of Brufut Woods, Tanjil and Abuko Wildlife reserve.

**Abuko Wildlife reserve** . Abuko is rare among African wildlife reserves: it's tiny, it's easy to reach and you don't need a car to go in. With amazing diversity of vegetation and animals, this well-managed reserve is one of the region's best bird-watching haunts (more than 250 bird species have been recorded in its environs). There are 5km of paths through the 106-hectare reserve, and a field station with views over a watering hole that's often a good place for wildlife watching.

**Brufut Woods.** Brufut Woods is a small reserved area in The Gambia. The small areathat has been protected is about 3 acres. It is located at het Southern part of The Gambia. This area has been protected by the village community and the collaboration of West African Bird Studies Association The Gambia. the place is less than 30

minutes drive from Kololi. It has for long been a good place for birdwatching in The Gambia.

**Tanji Bird Reserve.** Tanji Bird Reserve is a bird reserve area in The Gambia. It was established in the year 1993 under the Department of Parks and Wildlife The Gambia. It has an approximate area of 612 acres located at the Southern Part of the The Gambia. It lies about 3 km North of the famous fishing center. Tanji Bird Reserve has a rich diversity of winter visitors and African bird species. Some books have recorded about 300 species of birds have been there. The reserve has an area of Dunes, Lagoons, Woodlands and Bijolisland and a protected Island for the breeding center.

## **SUSTAINABLE LAND USE**

Within Tanjil Bird Reserve and Abuko Nature reserve, we will identify how the land is being used by local communities for sustainable farming, preservation for wildlife and promotion of the eco systems.

## **BEACH CLEAN**

Whilst in Tajil, you will be able to beach cleaning and beach wildlife monitoring.

## **FENCE MONITORING**

Your group will check the state of the solar powered electric fences which have been erected to preserve unallowed entry to the Reserve and subsequent damage to the environment. Once checked, their conditions will be relayed to the local fence committees who maintain and operate them. This process also enables you and the project staff to see what can go wrong with the protective measures, sothat their design and management can be improved.

## **BIRD STUDY & DIVERSITY MONTORING**

You will aid in the long-term study of birds in the area, including both indigenous and migratory species found in the habitats of Tanjil and Abuko. It is important to monitor the different species of birds, their breeding, andabundance so the team can take the most appropriate action to conservethem. You will also assist the project scientists in collecting data on the density and diversity of birds visiting paddy fields, their spatial and temporal distribution, feeding behaviour, and foraging strategies, as well asassessing the agricultural habitats used by different species and their

## **ENGLISH TEACHING, COMMUNITY WORK, SOLAR LIGHT PROJECT, COOKING DANCE & MUSIC**

Whilst on your work experience and project in The Gambia, you can participate in additional activities within the community. This can include helping in schools, paining community building, or participating in local cooking, music and dance workshops.

# YOUR ITINERARY – THE GAMBIA

## Day 1

After arriving into Banjul airport, a project representative will greet you and transfer you to a hotel in the ocean resort of Bilijo. This will be your accommodation for the first night, allowing you to rest and ensure a good night's sleep before your early pick-up the next day!

You will be briefed on all the activities you will be taking part in, whilst in The Gambia.

## Days 2-7

On day 2, you'll be picked up from your Bilijo hotel at 6am and driven to the project site in Up River Gambia, driving through the River Gambia National Park. This is an authentic Gambian experience, living and working in a small rural village in Up Country.

After dropping off your bags, you will head straight to the village. The rest of your time on the project will see the group divided into two teams for the various project activities, including:

- Species tracking and animal behaviour observation in Abuko Nature Reserve
- Trip to Baboon Island for lessons on wildlife management
  - Hippo and Chimpanzee tour
  - Fencing, sustaining wildlife and wildlife protection with local Rangers

Weekends are designated for leisure, giving you the freedom to further explore The Gambia or simply relax in the village.

## Day 7-14

We transfer to Brufut where our base will be for a week. We will split into groups to undertake the following daily duties:

- Turtle Handling/Hatching in Tanjil
  - Turtle Tank work
- Conservation and forestry work
- Tanjil Bird sanctuary data work & bird study
- Species tracking and animal behaviour observation in Brufut woods
- Beach Clean and environmental work

Last day - after an evaluation and feedback discussion, presentation and celebration, you will be saying goodbye to the project staff and local community, you will depart to the airport.

Your departure transfer is included back to Banjul airport, for your flight back to the UK.



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