

Safe Haven



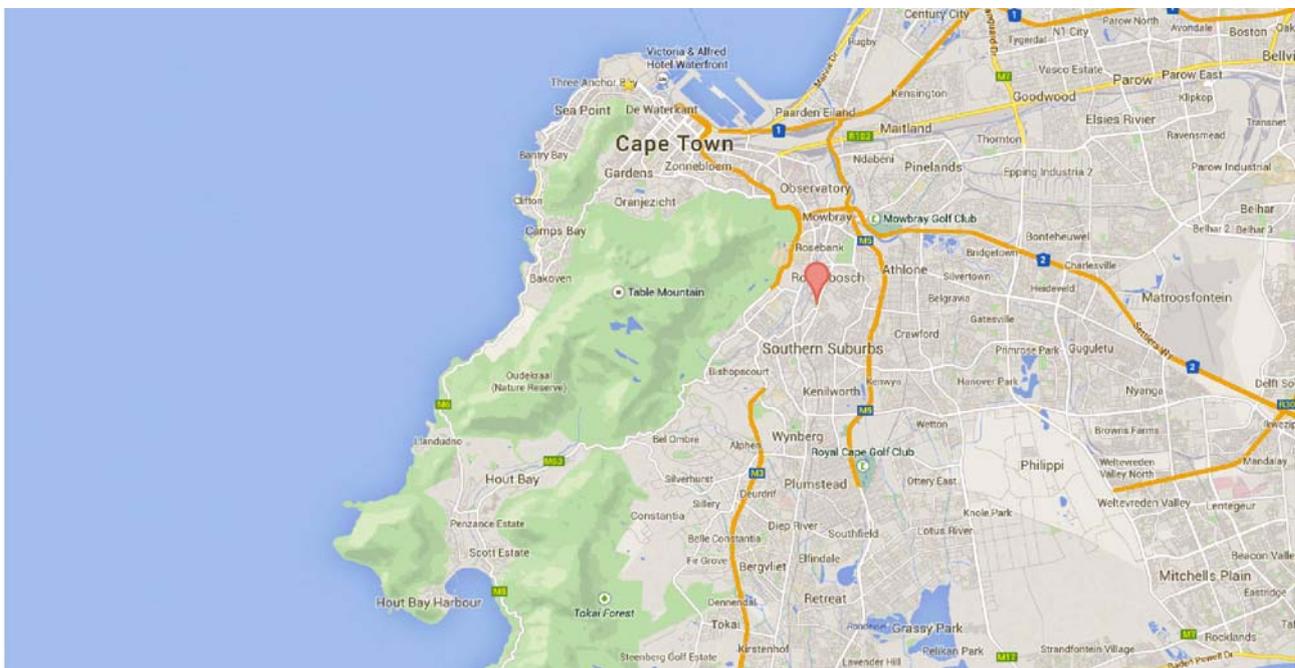
Overview

Location	Newlands, Cape Town, South Africa.
Duration	From 2 weeks.
Dates	All year round.
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum age: 18.• You must have an Upper Intermediate level of English.• Special skills: You must be passionate about working with children.
Your impact	 <p>The impact of your volunteer work depends on the nature of the project. In addition, it may also depend on whether the project offers a full volunteering experience or a combination of volunteering and tourism. For details, please see the description of the project and what's included in the project fees.</p>
Documents required	Enrolment form, curriculum vitae, letter of motivation, passport copy, proof of medical insurance, police clearance certificate.
Day of arrival	Thursday.
Day of departure	Saturday.

Highlights

- Improve the quality of life of children facing life-threatening diseases.
- Assist their families in difficult and challenging times.
- Experience amazing tours and adventures in and around Cape Town.
- Receive personal support from the volunteer coordinator.
- Share this experience with other volunteers from all over the world.

Project information



The Save Haven Project was established in 2010. This project is a NPO that strives to improve the quality of life of children facing life-threatening and terminal diseases. They support the children and their immediate family in a dignified and compassionate manner.

The project provides accommodation for the direct families of ill children from out of the Cape Town area during the children's hospitalisation and recovery. A home away from home is offered to those who cannot afford the high cost of hotels and the daily travel to and from hospitals whilst receiving treatment.

They also provide a safe haven for abandoned and abused children.

The projects' values are:

- to strive to be open and honest in all their dealings with every parent, patient, nursing staff member and others;
- to assist the ill child and their families with their hospital experience by making it more comfortable; therefore, they provide accommodation, meals and friendly staff. For the healing process, it is imperative to keep families together whilst going through a traumatic time;
- to assist families who can no longer take care of their babies. Together with social workers, the project places babies in foster homes.

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- to care for all their children and treat each and every one of them with love, respect and dignity;
 - to offer a friendly, homely environment for all their families and children.

Programme details

This volunteer experience will be very rewarding if you are passionate about caring for children. You will network with very interesting people from all walks of life and get to know different cultures and religions.

The projects' vision is:

- to bring joy, comfort and medical care to every terminally ill child in South Africa;
- to mobilise financial resources locally and globally to build and sustain one of the finest children's hospices in Cape Town;
- to provide training and skills development opportunities through association with universities and teaching hospitals and to encourage doctors, nurses, social workers, counsellors and art therapists to spend a certain amount of time rotating through the hospice in order to practise their skills and deepen their understanding of children in need of care;
- to provide volunteers from all socio-economic backgrounds with an opportunity to contribute to the community.

Your role

You will gain a fun-filled volunteering experience in which no two days will be the same.

Your daily tasks and activities will change from day to day and can include:

- visiting hospitals and interact with children,
- doing art therapy with children,
- assisting with events (daytime/evening),
- visiting local schools and being involved with the Schools helping Schools Project,
- assisting with public relations via telephone,
- assisting in other project-related activities.

It is important to note that this description serves as an example only. The daily tasks and challenges depend on the volunteer and the work that needs to be done. The final job description can therefore vary substantially from the above.

Arrival

You will need to arrive on a Thursday at Cape Town International Airport. Our driver will meet you at the airport and take you to your accommodation.

After an orientation meeting at the language school in Newlands on Friday, your first day of volunteering will be on Monday.

Accommodation

You will live at the Volunteer House. It is a private house in an upmarket residential area and consists of rooms with 2 single beds and 2 bunk beds. There are 4 bathrooms to share, a communal kitchen, a dining room, a lounge with TV and DVD and a beautiful garden with a swimming pool. A commercial laundry service is close by. Bedding is provided. Towels will be not provided.



Meals

Self-catering. The main shopping areas as well as restaurants, pubs, etc. are within walking distance of the Volunteer House.

Free time

Together with other volunteers and language students from Good Hope Studies you can take part in the entertainment programme of the Social Club. There are organised events, outings and tours most evenings and at the weekends. To find out about the current programme, go to www.goodhopevolunteers.com.

How to get to the project

There is a daily transfer to and from the project.

What to bring

There are no special requirements in this regard but we recommend bringing comfortable, practical clothes. Anything else you might need is readily available at local supermarkets in South Africa.

While there is no specific uniform, volunteers are asked to wear sensible clothing, e.g. long shorts and closed shoes. Hot pants, string bikinis and flip-flops are not suitable for work.

Medical insurance

It is required that you take out medical insurance before travelling to South Africa. For stays exceeding 90 days, it is compulsory to take out a South African medical insurance. We recommend NetworX from Compcare, which is specifically designed for people who visit South Africa for 3 to 12 months. You will receive an information leaflet and an application form together with your confirmation of booking.

Health

No vaccinations are required except for travellers going to the north-eastern areas of South Africa, where anti-malaria precautions are recommended. Clients should consult their doctor for recommendations.

A yellow fever certificate is compulsory for those persons who have travelled from, or intend travelling through, countries in the yellow fever belt:

Africa: Angola, Burundi, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zaire.

South America: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guyana, Guyana, Panama, Peru, Surinam, Venezuela, Argentina and Paraguay.



Bring medication just in case you suffer from any travel-related illnesses, e.g. stomach upsets, since your body needs to adjust to the change in food and water during your first few days in South Africa.

It is important to keep in mind at all times that HIV and Aids are widespread diseases in South Africa.

Safety

HIV and AIDS are a major public health concern. You should be aware that you are working with children that could be infected.

Cultural diversity

We suggest doing some light reading regarding the history of South Africa and its people. Please note it is a very ethnically diverse population, and there are many different groups of people with different ideas and behaviors. We suggest being as open minded as you can - try understand the history and note that in rural areas the differences can be more pronounced. Please try to be modest in what you wear and how you behave.

What's included / not included

Included:

- Project placement
- Airport transfer on arrival
- Accommodation (Volunteer House: shared room, shared bathroom, self-catering)
- Daily transfer to and from the project
- Full-day excursion on the first Saturday
- A donation towards the project
- Good Hope Volunteers welcome pack
- Weekly site visits by our coordinator
- An orientation at the beginning of your volunteering
- Participation in the activities of the Social Club (extra charges may apply)
- Electronic certificate (printed copy on request)
- Local support including a 24-hour emergency number

Not included:

- Food
- Local transport
- Any items of a personal nature
- WiFi



When combining with a language course

When you participate in a language course before you start at this project or when you participate in a language course in the morning and volunteer in the afternoon, the day of arrival is Sunday and the free full-day excursion on the first Saturday is not applicable.

Visa

You can volunteer in South Africa on a visitor's visa for up to 90 days.

Nationals from certain countries (e.g. Brazil, Switzerland, Germany, Australia, France, Netherlands, Spain) will receive their visa when entering South Africa. Other nationals need to apply for a visitor's visa at a South African Embassy in their home country before travelling.

If you come to South Africa on a visitor's visa, you can extend once by another 90 days.

If you plan to come for more than 90 days, you need to apply for a visa at a South African Embassy in your home country.

For the latest information contact the South African Embassy or Good Hope Volunteers.