



Get a professional teaching qualification, practice your teaching skills on a work placement and immerse yourself in this beautiful country through cultural excursions and adventure side trips.

Översikt

This exciting internship program takes participants to the beautiful Krabi Province of Thailand. From the start of the internship, participants are immersed in community English teaching programmes for adults which run in conjunction with their TEFL (Teach English as a Foreign Language) certification training, and have the opportunity to become qualified teachers.

Throughout the program exciting adventure and cultural side trips are run to gain the most of this stunning region. Participants who complete their 10 week initial teacher training at the GVI base in southern Thailand will then be equipped and ready to move on to an additional 3 month volunteer teaching placement in communities requesting assistance throughout Thailand. In addition, GVI also offers a job placement service to all GVI TEFL graduates, assisting them in finding further paid placements in local communities around the world or paid positions in the TEFL Industry if possible. GVI is listed as an Institutional Member of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL) and is a Member the College of Teachers (CoT).

Expeditionen

The priority projects requested by the communities of the region are English language teaching but program participants also assist with additional cultural and environmental activities. You will spend time working on local and tourist environmental and cultural awareness, and assist sustainable development and local capacity-building initiatives, all in and around the region's breathtaking natural beauty, temples and ancient ruins of past kingdoms.

Project Aims

Ao Luk is a rapidly developing community found in the north of Krabi, bordering on Phang Nga and the Phang Nga bay. A new pier, numerous homestays and other community based tourism initiatives allow the people of Ao Luk to seek added income through tourist opportunities that allow them to develop in a way that respects their traditional ways of life and conserve the natural beauty of the region. By providing English language assistance and community development in Ao Luk, GVI volunteers put the skills and knowledge in the hands of the local people, which they can utilize to benefit their own lifestyle.

In Krabi, GVI supports the effort of its local partners to increase the long term benefits of tourism to the local population by:

- * Supplying free communicative English language lessons to the local communities.
- * Training local teachers in English language teaching.
- * Supplying free English language lessons to local partner staff, guides, rangers and researchers.
- * Supporting Thai culture and the efforts of organizations and communities to preserve it.
- * Supporting community environmental awareness.
- * Supporting tourist environmental and cultural awareness.
- * Increasing the capacity of the local community to benefit in a long-term, sustainable manner from the tourism coming into their area.

The Problem

Development in many tourist areas of Thailand have led communities to lose their local traditions and ways of life. Natural resources are regularly depleted and little native land remains as tourist development takes over beach fronts and forest lands. The local community of Ao Luk is committed to developing tourism that blends into their local lifestyle in the manner of community based tourism as well as protects their natural resources and habitats. Homestays, community resorts and community forests are all part of the latest tourist trend that allows the Ao Luk community to continue to live and respect their traditional ways of life.

How You Can Help

Volunteers will work at community centres, at the workplaces of local people and within the local schools to supply free English language lessons, as well as assisting in the creation of sustainable businesses funded by, and supplying funds to, local people rather than outside investors. Business ideas that rely upon the long-term conservation of the area's natural resources are supported wherever possible. In addition, volunteers will assist with environmental education and community projects when possible, allowing them to further get involved with and assist the community, even outside of the classroom.

Volunteers also have the opportunity to use the skills to develop lessons outside of the main community centre, and work with community members in the nearby villages or in their place of work.

Mera om expeditionen

The day always starts early, particularly if you are on the kitchen duty rotation. After a breakfast that normally consists of pancakes or porridge, volunteers who are gaining their TEFL qualification take part in information sessions about English teaching methods and techniques, followed by peer, trainer and feedback sessions and assisted lesson planning for evening classes. Those who have already completed the TEFL programme will work upon lesson plans or prepare their daily activity, ensuring they are organized for the day's work before making their way to the community centre or other places of work. The content of the lessons and the presentation techniques to be used are the responsibility of the volunteers, and one of the big opportunities of this programme is to rise to that challenge and become creative!!

Participants will also get the chance to:

- * Enjoy a unique Thai cultural adventure by immersing yourself in a traditional Thai community within a stunning tropical paradise, living and working alongside local people, and experiencing their culture, food and way of life.
- * Take the opportunity to learn some of the Thai language, which will be incredibly useful if you decide to continue travelling in the country or use your new skills to work within Thailand.
- * Become immediately immersed in English language classes, teaching English in the local schools and community centres and gaining a TEFL qualification.
- * Design and plan your own English language lessons, taking responsibility for the course content and the presentation techniques you decide to use.
- * Gain certifications and celebrate with local language students.
- * Assist both the child and adult environmental education and awareness programs, visiting and teaching within the local schools, workplaces, the expedition base and in the open environment.
- * Assist in the development of a local community centre.
- * Relax and party with your new-found friends at the well-deserved weekly fiesta!
- * Learn how to cook a number of tasty Thai dishes, including some regional favourites.
- * Post-expedition or internship: obtain teacher and environmental placements and job opportunities globally.

Tidigare volontärer berättar

"From day one, the positive environment on base was evident. In this expedition, we were fortunate enough to arrive on Songkran - the Thai New Year. Sharing the date with the hottest day of the year, Songkran is celebrated by literally soaking neighbors, family and friends with water. Ao Luk was vibrant - erupting in a city-wide water fight. Pick-ups filled the streets and from their beds, passengers doused anyone that passed. Coming by the bucketful, their generous showers were met with return fire from onlookers' water pistols. To witness people of all ages taking part, always with a smile on their face, set a brilliant tone for the rest of the expedition. Even after Songkran passed, the good times continued. Although the days are long, the work challenging, and the routine concrete, the experience is second-to-none. The opportunity to live and work with people so different than those I would meet in my everyday life has been eye opening and to share with them in the TEFL training has been amazing. GVI Thailand has a real sense of a teaching community where ideas are exchanged daily and everyone has a common goal in mind: to be the best teachers they can be. And it shows.... The classes offered at Ao Luk's Non-Formal Education Center are well attended and GVI is a respected organization in the community. Once in class, one can see just how valuable this project is. Students are enthusiastic and are committed to learning. It is an absolute pleasure to teach. Finishing your first lesson, although it was daunting at first, is a real thrill. The students in their eagerness to learn are so bright and welcoming to new teachers that even the toughest lesson is a joy. As I approach the close of my first five weeks, I'm proud of what this group has accomplished and look forward to more time in the classroom and our continued growth as teachers."

Emily

"25th April was my 25th birthday and certainly one of the most memorable of my life. The day began early with my team on breakfast duty- usually eggs in some form or other; pancakes, French toast, scrambled, etc and plenty of fresh fruit. If you're wondering how fresh- we have a mango tree on base that drops fresh mangoes daily. After breakfast we drove to a small village in rural Ao Luk to take part in a clean up at a village temple where the whole village, including the monks sat down in one big cross legged circle for lunch. A really wonderful and friendly communal experience. I ate so much fried rice it was unbelievable! When we returned to base we had our weekly one on one tutorial sessions with our TEFL trainers. I had a really positive talk and although I only signed up for the 5 week expedition originally, I am now thinking of staying on for the full 10 weeks. Trust me- 5 weeks just isn't enough! Afterwards, I had a cooking workshop with our local chef Pi Ban. She taught me how to cook a Thai dish called Pad Thai which is just awesome- like a sweet chili noodle dish with chicken or prawns. Oh and a whole lot of sugar. I'm so happy that I can cook this now because I'm seriously addicted. A quick shower after dinner and when I came out of my room it was already dark. The palapas (palapas are like bamboo huts with tables or platforms in them) were lit up with fairy lights and blinked in the darkness. One of the GVI team, Jude, handed me a beer and we sat down. The rest of the team came to join us and then the lights went out. A birthday cake with candles made its way toward me. Everyone sang... A deep breath... A sputter of flame... And I was 25 years young and feeling very much alive. I was given a card signed by everyone and a gift. It was a sort of Thai scarf that is worn around the waist and is apparently presented to Thai boys to signify that they have passed into manhood. They might have been pulling my leg buy hey! There was also plenty of drink, ice cream and Anita's questionable Pineapple Jam Trifle. We partied until the early hours. I have made some amazing friends here at GVI and in the local community. I felt privileged to be with them all on my birthday and I will never forget that day for as long as I live."

Lina

Vilken skillnad gör denna expedition?

Ao Luk is located in Krabi province in the south of Thailand, an area that was devastatingly affected by the Asian tsunami tragedy of 2004. GVI's Thailand internship focuses on building local capacity by providing English language and environmental education to the local people, so they can maximise from the benefits of the resurging tourist trade. In Ao Luk, GVI works closely with a number of local organisations and attendance of GVI's English lessons is fully credited towards graduation from one of the area's recognised education centres. This English language education assists in providing local people with viable employment alternatives, who have previously had little or no opportunity.

Höjdpunkter

Participating in a 100-hour TEFL course, as desired; immersing yourself in a traditional Thai community within a beautiful tropical paradise; living and working alongside local people, experiencing their culture, food and way of life; assisting in both child and adult education programs, visiting and teaching within the local schools, community centre, expedition base and in the open environment; learning how to cook a number of tasty Thai dishes, including some regional favourites; going on an exciting trip to Wat Tham Sua (the Tiger Cave Temple) – a forest monastery built upon a karst cliff with stunning views.

Plats

The Krabi province is located on the Andaman Sea, and is blessed with an abundance of natural resources, numerous national parks and stunning scenery with a wide range of attractions. Most famous is Phang Nga Bay, a geological wonder filled with islets, sunken caverns and startling rock formations rising sheer out of the sea. The 120 small islands are world-famous for their beautiful, unspoilt beaches and spectacular scenery which is renowned for attracting divers from around the world. The base is located in Ao Luk town, 45 mins inland from the beach and Phang Nga. Being close to town, the base gives volunteers the opportunity to be completely immersed in the local culture, and enjoy the beaches and cultural destinations at weekends. Interns will be placed at the GVI base in Ao Luk or other locations throughout Thailand for the last 3 months of their stay.

Ute i fält

The GVI base is located in the Krabi Province, close to a number of natural attractions including mountains, waterfalls, caves, mangroves and white-sand beaches. The base has running water, electricity, a basic kitchen, a communal area, a small library and dorm-room accommodations with bunk beds. Cooking and cleaning of the base is shared on a rotational basis by GVI volunteers. The TEFL training will take place on base, and the English Language lessons and other presentations will be conducted at the local community centre and in surrounding villages.

Kvalifikationer du får

In addition to the 100 hour TEFL course, the following is offered:

- * An introduction to basic conversational Thai language
- * An introduction to Thai culture
- * An introduction to coastal habitats and marine ecosystems, as well as local flora and fauna
- * Environmental education and sustainable development – assisting local organizations and communities to develop in a sustainable manner in the face of mass tourism
- * First Aid training
- * 3 month teaching placement in a community or school within Thailand

Blueberry Volontär

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Traineeships

Participants are reviewed on a weekly basis and given a final evaluation at the end of their initial 10 weeks of training. Upon completion of the 10 week initial teacher training program at the GVI base in Ao Luk, Thailand, successful qualifying interns have the opportunity to travel or relax during a deserved down time break for 2 weeks. After the break or Thai lessons (see below) interns then move on to an additional 3 month volunteer teaching placement in communities requesting assistance throughout Thailand. GVI works with partner organizations in the region to meet the growing needs of local people to gain valuable English language skills. Possible placements include teaching at Thai schools and community centres throughout Thailand and may include locations such as a small island off the coast of Krabi where people still live a traditional, simple lifestyle as well as placements in an idyllic rural province in northern Thailand surrounded by hills and rice paddies. All of GVI's placements are off the tourist trail and allow for volunteers to experience real, unseen Thailand. Specific downtime schedule will be arranged with host partner but the average of 2 weeks per 3 months divided on weekends and holidays is usual.

The 3 month teaching placement offers you the chance to fully immerse yourself in the local community with endless opportunities to enjoy the local culture and customs. The teaching will provide you with the opportunity to put your new TEFL skills to work in a creative and challenging environment. And most importantly you will be doing a service for communities and organizations that will benefit from these valuable language skills.

Location will depend on the need of communities at the time of your placement. Accommodation may be in a home-stay family or a private room, depending upon location. You will learn more about your placement when you finish your TEFL qualification.

One of GVI's teaching placements is located in Ko Klang, a small Muslim island off the coast of Krabi. The island is a traditional fishing community made up of 3 villages. Volunteers spend their days teaching English at 1 or more of the 3 schools located on the island. As the island is located amongst a number of tourist attractions English education provides the community with skills that they can use for better educational, economical and career opportunities. Accommodation is located at Su's home stay, a local woman committed to providing volunteer assistance for her island home. Housing is separate from Su's house in one of the small bungalows or rooms found at a small teaching center. Meals are shared with Su's family and offer the opportunity to enjoy and learn to cook some of Thailand's tasty dishes. Ko Klang is an ideal and picturesque location for experiencing Thai culture. In their free time volunteers can enjoy the simple island life or take a 10 minute boat ride to Krabi where western amenities such as restaurants, shops and internet cafes are readily available. The island is close to a number of tourist locations such as Railay beach and Phi Phi Island, perfect for weekend getaways.

Delar av det glada volontärgänget



Övrigt - TEFL

Accreditation

GVI's TEFL/TESOL program is recognized as both a teacher training ground and a provider of quality English classes to local people. GVI is listed as an Institutional Member of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL) and is a Member of the College of Teachers (CoT). All the work GVI conducts is on behalf of, and with, a range of governmental and local associations and organizations.
Job Placement service

GVI offers a job placement service to all GVI TEFL graduates, assisting them in finding placements in local communities around the world or paid positions in the TEFL industry.

GVI will supply information on a range of present placements with remote communities and paid vacancies in the TEFL industry around the world, and additional information on where to look for placements and jobs independently. GVI TEFL graduates are also assisted with CVs and applications. A full report detailing the GVI TEFL components, plus confidential character and / or professional references, will be supplied for those interested in pursuing a TEFL or environmental education career path.

TEFL Course Summary

The GVI TEFL course is a unique product written to train people to teach with minimal resources, so attracts people with an interest in sustainable development and conservation, and those wishing to enter the commercial TEFL industry. The goal of the course is to produce teachers to teach in communities which are developing rapidly in response to tourism, and to assist local people in accessing the revenue, so become involved in the changes in their community and benefit from it.

The 100-hour course is run in the first four weeks of the initial teacher training . The end result provides high quality teachers who can use their skills to teach in a range of environments, from communities with few resources to commercial TEFL posts. GVI is listed as an Institutional Member of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL), and the 100-hour TEFL course complies with the UK's College of Teachers code of conduct (CoT). The local community development program built around the TEFL training was created to meet the aims of GVI's local Thai partner organisations and enjoys their strong support.

The GVI TEFL course takes participants with no formal preparation in teaching from ground zero to being a highly skilled teacher of English as a foreign language, and offers a further teaching placement in a Thai school or community offering the opportunity to fully immerse into Thai culture and education as well as



Utvärdering

gain more valuable teaching experience. The course equips the participants to teach with limited access to resources, focusing mainly on speaking and listening skills, and to teach people through predominantly oral techniques. There is no one methodology taught and course participants are exposed to a variety of widely-recognized teaching approaches in the industry today, based on relevant theories on second language acquisition (generally within humanistic and communicative approaches). They are trained through learner-centred principles and techniques and, likewise, are expected to teach using learner-centred means.

The course content is delivered through daily input sessions. Course participants' practice teaching within an existing English program in the community (administered by GVI), and are provided with feedback from peers and experienced TEFL teachers.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course the interns will be able to:

- * Understand and apply language learning theories when designing EFL courses and lessons
- * Use appropriate teaching strategies according to course and student needs
- * Design consistent curricula to enhance language learning
- * Plan class activities using a variety of resources – published, authentic and self-made.
- * Evaluate students' achievements using varied strategies.

How is the GVI TEFL Certificate Course Unique?

The GVI TEFL course offers participants a unique opportunity to learn to teach with minimal resources in a commercial setting or in remote communities, using current methodologies in the industry. The premise of the course is to offer high quality training to interns and local students, to raise the quality of English teaching and simply offer affordable, high quality English tuition to people in remote regions and developing communities around the world, allowing them access to tourism and revenue. The course is also of benefit to local areas due to its uniqueness because:

- * Participation on the TEFL course assists GVI and local partner organizations in an overall goal of sustainable development in remote and developing regions
- * Practice teaching classes on this course are part of an existing and ongoing English curriculum delivered by GVI in the community, making this course not only a more holistic teacher training ground but a means to provide the local community with much-needed, affordable English tuition
- * Instead of students coming to the training site, classes take place at the cultural center in town, to give you a natural connecting point in the local and indigenous community
- * The TEFL course is part of an expedition which also focuses on environmental conservation projects
- * Although the course focuses on preparing participants to teach in communities; the content, rigour and quality of the course prepares interns for teaching in many EFL contexts, including paid jobs in developed areas
- * You will learn to teach using few resources. This is not only a realistic aim for teaching in small or remote communities, but will also benefit you in terms of sparking your creativity in lesson planning. Also, there is a trend in the TEFL industry of teaching without paper in lessons – so this will be good preparation in that regard and could be an impressive asset when job-seeking
- * GVI offers a job placement service to GVI TEFL graduates who qualify, and if possible assists all graduates in locating vacant teaching positions around the world, volunteer placements in local communities or paid positions in the TEFL industry.

Participants will spend a lot of time working at the local community centre where English language lessons and cultural activities occur, such as local art and sport lessons for the local youths, plus dance, music and theatre. The local community members are very excited about the assistance efforts of GVI's volunteers, and are keen to share their culture and region in return.

Foton från expeditionen



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