

Short term volunteering GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnership – “European volunteers in parks”

Placement for volunteers

HOST

Name of protected area or organisation:

Umhverfisstofnun (The Environment Agency of Iceland)

Person in charge – name of volunteer coordinator/tutor:

Chas Goemans (Volunteer Coordinator)

Address: Umhverfisstofnun, Suðurlandsbraut 24, 108 Reykjavik, Iceland

Phone: (+354) 591 2000

Fax: (+354) 591 2010

E-mail: volunteer@ust.is

Web: www.ust.is

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Duration of volunteer placement: 2 weeks and 5 weeks

Dates:

2 week projects

Project 1: 20.06.09 – 04.07.09

Project 2: 27.06.09 – 11.07.09

5 week projects

Project 1: 13.06.09 – 18.07.09

Project 2: 20.06.09 – 25.07.09

Arrival/departure point:

Skaftafell, Vatnajökull National Park

This means that participants must arrive in Iceland a day before the start date and leave a day after to allow for travel time between Reykjavik and to the meeting point at Skaftafell.

Tasks the volunteer will undertake:

Trail Teams work on a variety of footpath construction and repair projects throughout the country, often staying in camps in these areas. Volunteers work in small teams and travel between the country's national parks and nature protection areas to complete a series of practical projects. No previous experience of this work is necessary, as all training will be provided, however enthusiasm and team spirit are essential. Due to the strenuous nature of our work, participants must be physically fit. Applicants should have some experience of practical work, camping and hill walking. The remote work sites and Iceland's notoriously changeable weather make the volunteer programme both an adventure and a challenge. Applicants must be over 20 years of age.

Full details are available on our website:

<http://english.ust.is/of-interest/ConservationVolunteers/Projects/TrailTeam/>

These placements are part of our summer programme and longer placements may be available if required.

Working together with other foreigners: yes

Approx. working time per day: 09:00 – 17:00

Knowledge, skills, language skills, interests required:

All necessary trail construction skills training will be provided. The working language of our international programme is English.

Equipment required from volunteers:

See our equipment list:

<http://english.ust.is/of-interest/ConservationVolunteers/Volunteernews/Newsletter/nr/5750>

Volunteers require a tent. They should bring a tent with them or let us know and one can be provided.

ACCOMMODATION AND BOARD

Location of accommodation: Skaftafell, Vatnajökull NP and other locations

Single-bed room: no

Double-bed room: no

Others: Camping

Shared bath room: yes, campsite facilities

Cooking possibilities: yes, shared cooking facilities with group in kitchen tents or hut

Possibility to meet special dietary requirements:

Vegetarian food: yes

Vegan food: yes

Other food: We can cater for special dietary requirements including vegetarians and vegans.

Daily rates for food according to regional conditions (Euro per day, paid by sending country):

Due to the remote locations of many of our projects, all food and supplies are purchased centrally and transported to the groups. Volunteers then share the responsibility for preparing meals and domestic duties. We therefore request that the payment is made directly to the Environment Agency. We will then provide all necessary food during the placement.

We have calculated food costs at 14 EUR/day. We therefore request 196 €/placement

We would like to offer both 2 and 5 week placements at 196 € (the Environment Agency will cover additional food costs for longer placements).

Accommodation costs (Euro per day, paid by sending country):

Free, camping costs covered by the Environment Agency

OTHER COMMENTS

Please note that the meeting point is Skaftafell which means participants must arrive the day before the placement starts to allow time to travel from Reykjavik to Skaftafell by bus.

Overnight Reykjavik accommodation and Skaftafell bus information and prices are posted on our website:

<http://english.ust.is/of-interest/ConservationVolunteers/Projects/TrailTeam/>