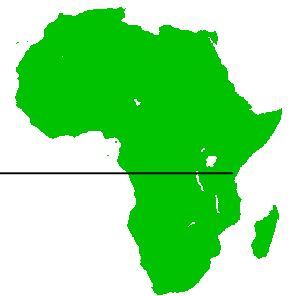


Village Education Project (Kilimanjaro)

Registered Charity No 1041672



*Registered as an International NGO in Tanzania: SO No 9680
In association with Education Projects Committee, PO Box 737 Marangu
Tanzanian Co-ordinator: Dilly Mtui*

Patron: Dame Judi Dench CH

Trustees: Miss KJ Allen MBE, Ms AG Beldam, Mrs ML Branson, Mr MA Richmond, Mrs S Todd, Mr GO Todd

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TEACHING PROGRAMME

The Project

Teaching English as a foreign language in two village primary schools, and teaching extra-curricular activities, such as sport, art, music, drama.

The Training

Two weeks in Sevenoaks, Kent learning how to teach English as a foreign language, with extensive teaching practice using books the charity has supplied to the schools. A thorough study of the English grammar taught at village primary level. A basic course in Kiswahili, and an overview of village culture and life with the Chagga tribe.

The Experience

You will be living in Mshiri village high on the eastern slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, in rented houses sharing with other UK student teachers, and walking everywhere. The village is nearly 2,000m above sea level and covers 1,800 acres with over 6,000 people. Most villagers are subsistence farmers growing bananas, maize and vegetables. You will be mixing with the local community and with the local teachers in the village schools, and shopping at the local markets and cooking, using local foods and village cooking equipment. You can mix with villagers in the local bars, visit their homes, join them in the local Lutheran church, or go swimming in local waterfall-pools, walk in the mountain forest, and talk and play with the numerous village children.

You will accompany primary school pupils on two outings. This will be the first time many of them will have been out of their village or travelled on a bus. In March you will travel to Lake Manyara National Park for a two day safari with the pupils. Without television, books and posters many village children do not know what a lion looks like – let alone a wildebeest or buffalo. In August you will go with pupils to Pangani on the Indian Ocean for four days to give the pupils their first chance to see the sea and to have a holiday.

During school holidays and mid-term breaks you are free to go travelling. Tanzania offers many possibilities including the chance to climb Mount Kilimanjaro or to go to Zanzibar to soak up the sun on the lengths of white-sand beaches!

The Benefits

A most worthwhile 8 months helping village children who only have the chance of primary education. The programme will improve your confidence, develop your organising skills and social skills, and will stretch your initiative, imagination and adaptability. Speaking the local language and living with the villagers will be a challenge which will show the importance of giving time to people, respecting elders, and will open up awareness of rural poverty, the importance of community and family relations, inter-dependence, humour and faith.

The experience of Village Education Project (Kilimanjaro) in running the teaching programme

Village Education Project (Kilimanjaro) was established as a registered charity in September 1994 with the aim of helping village children to get a good primary education and to address the vocational skills they could acquire after leaving primary school. The charity's work comprises the renovation of primary school buildings and the supply of books and teaching equipment. It was set up by Katy Allen, a lawyer in London for over 10 years, who had gone to live in Kilimanjaro in January 1994 and had started teaching English as a foreign language in village primary schools. At the end of 1996 Katy Allen decided to administer the charity and fundraise for it full-time. She set about establishing the Teaching Programme for young people to come to teach as she herself had done. The Programme started in 1998 as a Pilot Project in co-operation with the Ministry of Education & Culture in Tanzania. The Pilot Project was a success, and the Programme has developed with groups of student teachers each year. To date most of the student teachers have been 'gap year' students, but increasingly interest has been shown by older people.

The Programme presently operates in five village schools in two different villages. The Chagga people are extremely friendly, and are all grateful for any help which improves their children's education. The charity works closely with members of Education Projects Committee, and they oversee the Programme and will help you adapt to village life, and assist with any problems.

You will be observed periodically in your lessons with constructive feedback and comments, and all aspects of the local culture can be discussed with the local people overseeing the programme. You will have plenty of time to prepare your lessons and to enjoy village life. You will have one free day each week, and, of course, the schools are closed at weekends.

Teaching Tanzania's eager and delightful village children will be an uplifting experience that we hope you will enjoy to the full.

Previous participants on our Teaching Programme have commented:

'I've had a wicked 8 months. There's no part of the project I can fault. The schools really appreciate what we're doing, and the children – well what can I say except that I love them to bits' Michael Goldingham

'For me this is such a wonderful project, and it is visibly clear how much it really makes a difference' Catriona Watt

'The training course was brilliant and prepared all of us and gave us confidence'
Sophie Ellis

'In 8 months I never thought it would be possible to see the Serengeti, the Indian Ocean, climb Kilimanjaro, raise a pig, manage a vegetable patch, play the guitar, learn Swahili, run a football team and still have enough energy to teach Tanzania's delightful children'
Paul Bamford

'It's been an honour to work for such a genuine project' James Bishop