

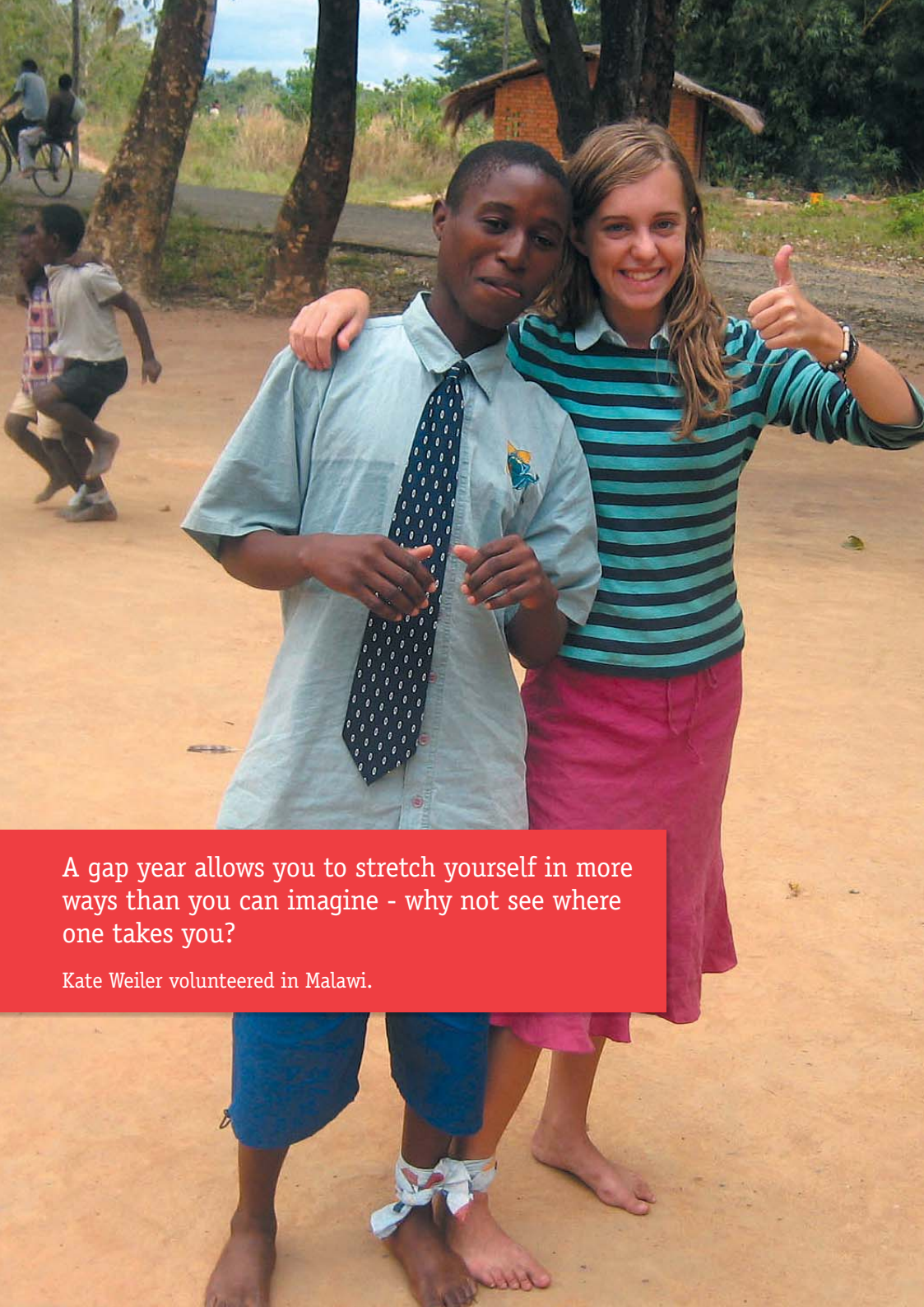


LATTITUDE GLOBAL VOLUNTEERING

International volunteering and gap
year projects for 17-25 year olds



What
experience
will you
bring back?



A gap year allows you to stretch yourself in more ways than you can imagine - why not see where one takes you?

Kate Weiler volunteered in Malawi.

At Lattitude we believe volunteering overseas allows you to develop new skills, discover hidden strengths and become part of a local community. Our wide range of project choice means you can easily find a project to suit your needs.

With Lattitude you will be more than just a tourist and will have the opportunity to learn about a culture from within. So if you're serious about volunteering, and you would like to leave your mark on a community abroad, Lattitude is for you!

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About Us

Lattitude Global Volunteering (formerly Gap Activity Projects) is a not-for-profit organisation supporting international volunteering for 17-25 year olds. For over 35 years, we have been sending young people on unique, structured and rewarding experiences. Last year we assisted over 1,500 young people to take up the challenge and volunteer overseas.

Why Lattitude?

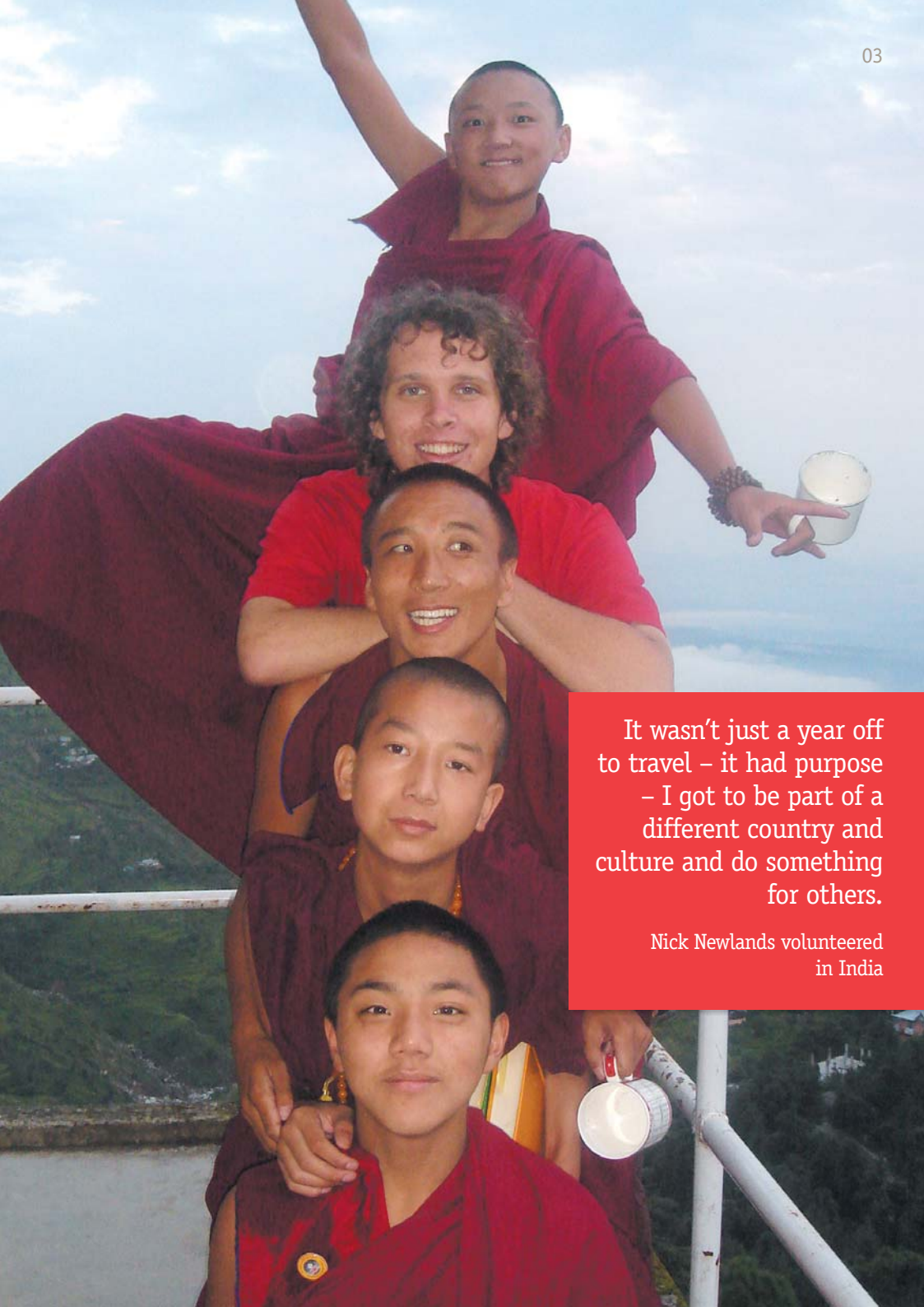
- We offer a diverse range of projects across a large number of countries.
- Our volunteers become part of a local community.
- For over 35 years, we have been offering worthwhile volunteering experiences.
- Every volunteer receives a pre-departure briefing pack, in country orientation and full support throughout their placement.

At Lattitude, we recognise that everyone is looking for a different experience and offer a diverse range of projects and countries, departing all year round and lasting from three to twelve months depending on your destination.

You may like to work at a camp or school, in an English speaking country and become a mentor and inspiration to the children placed in your care. Alternatively, you may like to really step outside your comfort zone and work at an outreach centre or under-resourced school in a country like Tanzania or Vanuatu, delivering help to communities and people who really need it.

No matter what you choose, volunteering is at the heart of all our projects; offering you the chance to support people and communities, broaden your horizons, and immerse yourself in different cultures.

We offer a comprehensive range of support and training to accommodate both first time and seasoned volunteers. Many of our staff have experienced their own year (or multiple years out) so as a team our first hand knowledge makes us highly proficient at guiding you through your journey. It is these people who will help you organise everything before you depart and keep in touch while you are away.



It wasn't just a year off
to travel – it had purpose
– I got to be part of a
different country and
culture and do something
for others.

Nick Newlands volunteered
in India

Lattitude Quiz

Not sure where you want to volunteer or how you would like to help out? Take the Lattitude Quiz and see where you may want to start looking.



CLASS 3



It was nice to have lessons with you
I can't wait to use everyday English.
I will learn more now English to
Thank you.

I. My desire to volunteer could be best described as:

- A. I'm interested in volunteering with a community
- B. I'm interested in volunteering where I get to educate people
- C. I am interested in volunteering within remote regions so that I can get my hands dirty
- D. I'm interested in volunteering with kids

II. I am best described as:

- A. A good communicator and creative
- B. Caring and compassionate
- C. Flexible and adventurous
- D. All of the above

III. Careers that interest me are:

- A. Teaching / NGO and community work
- B. Engineer / Sustainability Consultant
- C. Medicine / Youth work / Sports person
- D. Law/ International Relations

IV. I'm searching for:

- A. Fun. Share my skills and passions with others and meet new people
- B. Discovery. The chance to have my eyes opened to the real world and help make a difference
- C. Adventure. Step out of my comfort zone and experience a new culture
- D. Action. Learn new skills, be part of a team and get my hands dirty

V. I would like to combine my volunteer experience with the chance to:

- A. Visit 17 countries in 17 days
- B. Walk part of The Great Wall of China
- C. Explore a lost empire in the Amazon
- D. Visit some wildlife reserves

VI. I'm looking for a project that:

- A. Allows me to immerse myself in a new culture
- B. Allows me to develop the skills of others
- C. Allows me to step outside my comfort zone
- D. Allows me to learn a new language

VII. I would like to have the chance to:

- A. Help disadvantaged people live in a more sustainable way
- B. See the smile on someone's face when I help them
- C. Become a mentor, tutor, and inspiration to people placed in my care
- D. Share my conversational English skills in countries where educational standards are low

VIII. I would like to go to a country that:

- A. Is bursting with culture and be more than just a tourist
- B. I can give something back and know that I have really made a difference
- C. Allows me to share my skills with people from a variety of backgrounds
- D. Blends history and adventure and allows me to experience life

Results

8-14:
Welcome to the world of volunteering! You want to travel, meet people and lend a helping hand. You may want to think about placements in Australia, Canada, or New Zealand.

15-20:
You are interested in developing relations with your international neighbours. You sound like you would lead by example and make a good teacher. Maybe you should consider taking the next step and undertaking the Asian Experience?

21-26:
Adventurer. You want to get off the beaten track and lend a helping hand in communities wherever possible. Ever thought about Latin America?

27-32:
Grass-roots Volunteering! So you are not afraid to live in a grass hut with no electricity! You may want to consider volunteering in Africa or on a Pacific Island!

IV.	A-1	B-4	C-2	D-3
III.	A-4	B-3	C-1	D-2
II.	A-2	B-1	C-3	D-4
I.	A-3	B-2	C-4	D-1

Point scores:

What can you do?

Everybody is looking for a different experience, which is why we offer a wide variety of opportunities around the world. Whether you're better suited to working outdoors or in a classroom, as part of a team or individually, there is a project which would benefit from your skills. The main opportunities Lattitude offers are listed here.



Outdoor Education

Lattitude has established partnerships with a wide variety of camps and outdoor education centres, some of which cater exclusively for community members who are disadvantaged or have disabilities. You will help children develop their outdoor skills as you develop your own, leading activities like kayaking, rock-climbing and orienteering. You'll chip in with day-to-day supervision of camp-goers and general maintenance. For many the week spent with you is the highlight of their year. These projects are about teamwork, ideal for fit, healthy volunteers with an abundance of energy who are not afraid of hard work.



Community

Community projects are as diverse as the countries they are offered in. Volunteers work within four main areas: Care, Outreach, Health and Development and you may choose a project where you get to help disadvantaged people or those with disabilities live more independent lives; work on social projects with disadvantaged people and teach them new skills; work in hospitals gaining valuable field experience; or work with an NGO to create awareness about the organisation and its programmes.

At some placements volunteers may find themselves undertaking a combination of these duties. While each project comes with its own unique challenges, these are some of our most rewarding, and will suit patient, sensitive, mature volunteers who are flexible and have a can-do attitude.



Education

Education is the key to a prosperous future and Latitude has established a diverse range of projects across a variety of countries, which have been categorised into three key areas.

Schools Assistant: Become a mentor, tutor and inspiration to many students as you take on a combination of boarding house duties, administration and classroom assistance.

English Teaching: Share your conversational English skills in countries where this is not the first language. Varied aptitudes and ages mean your classroom will never have a dull moment.

Teaching: Teach a variety of subjects in countries where educational standards are low. You'll draw upon your own education and devise creative ways to teach your students.

Each project will offer a unique set of challenges, but a love of kids is a must, along with maturity and excellent communication skills. As these projects differ so much from country to country make sure you read the country profiles for more in-depth information.



Environment

The need to take better care of our planet is an issue that unites the globe and we have partnered with a variety of dedicated organisations already carrying out valuable work. Volunteers get hands-on experience working alongside students, teachers and scientists, carrying out tasks that include building, cutting and maintaining trails, replanting and cataloguing species and educating local people about their environment. These projects offer volunteers the chance to get closer to nature and develop their understanding of, and passion for, their environment.

Where can you go?

Each country we go to is unique, offering a huge variety of lifestyles, cultures and challenges. Lattitude runs projects worldwide, which means there really is something for everyone. New projects are being added all the time – so keep an eye on our website, or give us a call, for the very latest updates.

There are currently 17 countries you can choose from as your destination.

The Americas

1. Argentina
2. Brazil
3. Canada
4. Ecuador
5. Mexico

Africa

6. Ghana
7. Malawi
8. South Africa
9. Tanzania

Asia

10. China
11. India
12. Japan
13. Vietnam

Oceania

14. Australia
15. Fiji
16. New Zealand
17. Vanuatu





Asia

China

China offers an extraordinary mix of old and new, from the ancient history of the Terracotta Warriors to the thriving metropolis of Beijing. The world's most populous country is ideal for those who want to experience a non-English speaking country.

Lattitude placements are in seven provinces; Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Fujian, Qingdao, Yunnan, Guangxi and Sichuan.

Education > English Teaching

Teachers are considered important members of any Chinese community and you will be in great demand from the moment you arrive. Volunteers work within a variety of primary, middle and vocational schools as well as at universities, helping up to 50 students at any one time with their conversational English.

India

Immerse yourself in the magic of the Indian culture. Volunteers can experience traditions such as the Holi festival, the grandeur of the Taj Mahal, the lively Bollywood film industry and the majesty of the Himalayas.

All placements are in the North East and North West of India. We offer Tibetan placements in the hill stations of Dharamsala, Dehra Dun and Darjeeling.

Community

Community placements are varied and include orphanages, day centres and hospitals for children or adults with mental or physical disabilities. Most placements that involve working with children also include some teaching. Skills such as art, music, drama, sports and cooking will be valued.

Education > Teaching

Teaching placements vary enormously from long-established 'pukka' independent boarding schools (based on the English public school system) to poorly resourced community schools; from Hindu ashrams to Christian missions; and from relatively remote rural areas to city centres. Education is greatly valued in India and nearly all the schools we work with teach their classes in English.

Education > English Teaching; Tibetan Monastery
Teach classes of varying ability, from the very young pre-primary (usually in groups) to adults (often one-to-one). Teaching in some placements may be fairly unstructured as English takes second place to prayers and rituals, so volunteers need to be self-starters and well motivated. There may also be opportunities to teach other subjects, such as maths, art and drama, IT and science.



Japan

Japan is highly advanced technologically and in many ways very westernised, yet it retains a strong traditional culture. It is full of history, wonderful temples and beautiful countryside; volunteers will find Japan an incredibly clean and organised country.

Lattitude placements are situated on the islands of Honshu (the largest island of Japan), Hokkaido and Shikoku.

Community > Care

Volunteers work at Cheshire Homes, Community Centres and homes for the elderly. Duties include one-to-one practical care, running activities for the residents and playing games. Wherever you are you will be fully involved in the life of the community, forming strong relationships with those you work with and those you care for.

Community > Medical

Most placements are in Red Cross Hospitals where volunteers work across a number of wards, providing excellent experience for anyone hoping to work in medicine or health related fields. You may be asked to help teach English to the nursing staff and in turn the hospital will offer Japanese lessons.

Vietnam

Most visitors to Vietnam are overwhelmed by the sublime beauty of the country's natural setting: the Red River Delta in the north, the Mekong Delta in the south and almost the entire coastal strip of the country is a patchwork of brilliant green rice paddies and palm trees.

Lattitude placements are in Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi and the surrounding areas.

Education > English Teaching

Learning English is seen as one avenue to a prosperous future in Vietnam and Lattitude volunteers take on a position of responsibility as they teach English to people of all ages. Volunteers will help up to 40 students at any one time and be held in very high regard.



what's included?

Country	Min. Age	Departs	Length	Pre-departure interview	Pre-departure briefing	Food & Accom	Pocket money	Airport pick-up	In-country orientation	In-country support	24 / 7 support
China	18	Feb/Aug	4-5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
India	18	Jan/Feb/Aug	4-5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Japan	18	Mar/Sep	6 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vietnam	18	Jan/Feb/Jun/Aug	3-4 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Please note: Where food and accommodation is provided it is by your host.

Oceania

Australia

Although the largest island in the world, only 40% of the country is habitable, and 80% of the population live on the Eastern seaboard. Be awestruck by Australia's laid back beauty from dramatic outback landscapes to the picturesque Sydney Harbour!

Latitude placements are spread throughout all of the Australian States and Territories, mainly in smaller towns.

Education > Schools Assistant

Working within indigenous, independent day and boarding schools, volunteers take on a combination of duties including classroom assistance, general administration, extra curricular activities and, where appropriate, boarding house duties. Students will turn to you for pastoral support and advice as you become a mentor during this defining period in their lives.

Environment

Volunteers get involved in protecting the natural environment through planting trees, clearing scrubland, restoring habitats for endangered species, flora/fauna surveys, maintaining walking tracks, or coastal stabilisation programmes. All placements are in areas of natural beauty.

Outdoor Education

Working at YMCA or Outward Bound centres volunteers assist with maintenance, administration and general outdoor activities. All centres are in areas of natural beauty and they provide activities that allow camp goers to discover, develop and achieve their potential. Your role will be to facilitate this by providing a safe, supportive environment.

Fiji

Fiji is made up of some 330 islands with Melanesian, Polynesian, Micronesian and European influences. Fiji's true magic lies in its people and its enchanting mix of cultural traditions, strong religious faiths and stunning scenery.

Latitude placements are located largely on the main island of Viti Levu with a small number of projects on the surrounding Islands.

Community

Projects in Fiji can involve working with NGOs such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army or the National Trust. Duties vary from raising awareness to site maintenance. There are also a small number of projects in international schools, non government assisted schools and a special school for children with disabilities. Teaching can be a main duty or assisting with day-to-day care. We also have projects in an orphanage and working with a remote village's development committee.



New Zealand

New Zealand (Aotearoa) – The land of the long white cloud. With the magical scenery that inspired the Lord of the Rings series, New Zealand is a country of great natural beauty and provides visitors with many reasons to explore this magnificent country.

Latitude has placements on both the North and South Islands.

Education > Schools Assistant
Working mainly in boarding schools, volunteers will become part of the school community. Duties include working in the boarding house, assisting teachers in the classroom, before/after school care, sports, and general administration. Students, particularly boarders, will turn to you for advice as you become a trusted friend, mentor and tutor.

Environment
Located in areas of natural beauty, volunteers get involved in local initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment through planting trees, clearing scrubland, restoring habitats for endangered species, flora/fauna surveys, maintaining walking tracks or coastal stabilisation programmes.

Vanuatu

Vanuatu is a collection of islands located in the South West Pacific made up of rural villages and dramatic landscapes. Most islands have a narrow coastal plain and mountainous interiors; some with active volcanoes! Projects would suit volunteers who would like to get involved in grass-roots education.

Latitude placements are mostly located on the islands of Ambae, Pentecost, Paama and Tanna.

Education > Teaching
Work as a full time teacher in primary or secondary schools. You will normally teach subjects from your own educational background and help with extra curricular activities and some boarding duties. Most schools are very under-resourced, and you will directly contribute to Ni-Vanuatu students’ education, improving their opportunities for the future.



What's included?

Country	Min. Age	Departs	Length	Pre-departure Interview	Pre-departure briefing	Food & Accom	Pocket money	Airport pick-up	In-country orientation	In-country support	24 / 7 support
Australia	18	Jan/Feb/Jul/Sep/Oct	6 up to 11 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Fiji	17	Jan/Aug	3-4 or 7 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
New Zealand	18	Jan/Feb/Aug/Sep	6, 7 or 12 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Vanuatu	17	Jan	5-6 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓

Please note: Where food and accommodation is provided it is by your host.

case studies



Hello from Vietnam

Name: Hanh Dung

Local representative from Vietnam

Xin chào! Vietnam offers volunteers the chance to work in primary and secondary schools, teaching conversational English to groups of up to 40 students at a time. Many Vietnamese see English as the key to a good future and volunteers provide them with an opportunity to practice their English speaking skills with a native speaker. During their stay, volunteers will witness their students become more confident and eager to practice! As the local representative for Hoh Chin Minh City, I regularly visit volunteers at their placements and see the improvements they have made over time. When a student personally thanks me for the time our volunteers have spent with them, I am reminded of just how important this opportunity is to them. In addition to volunteering within the schools many of our volunteers spend their free time learning Vietnamese from a local, and visiting the many sites Vietnam has to offer.

Hanh is our local representative in Hoh Chin Minh City, Vietnam and assists with the in-country orientation as well as providing support to volunteers within the region.



Parents Corner

Name: Shari Hart

Parent of a returned volunteer

My son decided on a gap year after Year 12. He researched a number of organisations and decided Lattitude could offer the experience he was looking for; 'a challenge!' Tom was offered his first choice: Vanuatu. Our initial reaction was, what an amazing opportunity!

The support, encouragement and expertise Lattitude offered ensured Tom was well prepared for his experience. As parents we found Lattitude approachable and were always happy to alleviate any hesitations we had. They gave the contact details of past volunteers who were happy to answer the barrage of questions Tom had. The representative in Vanuatu was also valuable, assisting with any matters immediately.

Tom developed a broader outlook on life and has become a more responsible person. My advice to parents is let them experience this, absolutely! It is such a rich and rewarding opportunity that instils self-sufficiency and an independent confident spirit.

Tom Hart taught a variety of subjects at the Labultmata Primary School, an under-resourced school on the remote island of North Pentecost, Vanuatu.



Think you can't afford it?
Think again...

Fundraising

Fundraising is a valuable part of the Lattitude experience. Lattitude provides a Fundraising Guide and advice to all volunteers. It may seem daunting at first, but with time, effort and imagination you will succeed!

Bursary

For applicants from the UK, we have a number of bursary schemes available for volunteers from a variety of backgrounds.

As a registered UK charity, Lattitude is able to fundraise for projects that help us meet our aims. One of these is to make volunteering overseas accessible to everyone. Our bursary scheme and funded placement projects reduce the barrier of cost for young people experiencing financial problems. They are designed to help young people who would not otherwise be able to afford to go.

"I don't come from a wealthy family and the bursary that Lattitude gave me made such a difference. It paid a large amount towards my Lattitude fee and so freed up some saved money I had to go towards my flight out there and without that, I don't know if I would have been able to go! The year I spent away was the best year of my life. I will always look back on it with a smile and happy memories. Keep doing what you're doing there at Lattitude, you enable people to do some amazing and invaluable work that without your skills and contacts, would not happen! I thank you from the bottom of my heart... and hope that you bring the same kind of joy that I experienced to many others!"

Mellani volunteered at a school in Australia.

For more information email volunteer@lattice.org.uk or call + 44 (0) 118 959 4914 and ask to talk to the bursary officer.

The Americas

Argentina

Argentina is a country of vast beauty, bursting with culture. From tropical climates in the north, the Andes in the west and spectacular Patagonia in the south, Argentina is a perfect introduction into Latin American life; Viva el Argentina!

Basic Spanish desirable. Lattitude has placements in Cordoba in the North and Neuquen in the South.

Education > English Teaching

Teach conversational English to students in state or private schools or *institutos* (language centres). Volunteers will help students develop their skills and confidence in speaking English and will be involved in extra curricular activities. Some placements involve teaching other subjects such as sports, music and the arts.

Community

A few placements involve working with young children, living on-site and getting involved in all aspects of running the orphanage. Other placements combine formal teaching for part of the week and charity work for the rest and are a great way to get to know different parts of the community.

Brazil

Brazil is famous for its breathtaking Amazon rainforest, Carnival and four time world cup winning football team. Learn Portuguese and immerse yourself in the intense culture that is Brazil. Live it... Love it!

Basic Portuguese desirable, however volunteers can take a course on arrival. Lattitude placements are mostly in the south near Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro and surrounding areas.

Community

Based at language centres with outreach programmes you will help children from low socio-economic backgrounds with their school work. Run largely by church organisations, you can also help with local activities such as drama, computing and sport.

Education > English Teaching

Work in under-resourced state schools, private schools or teachers' centres teaching conversational English. You may be a classroom assistant or provide workshops to the teachers. Additional placements are in church centres, working with teenagers at risk or disadvantaged children and adults.

Environment

Get hands-on experience, as you help sustain the environment. Tasks include building, cutting and maintaining trails, replanting and cataloguing species and educating local people about the environment. In most cases volunteers will be required to contribute US\$20 a week for food and accommodation.



Ecuador

Ecuador is incredibly diverse, home to the Galapagos Islands, volcanic landscapes, dense rainforests and the start of the mighty Amazon River, Ecuador has it all. Experience 0°00'00 latitude!

Basic Spanish desirable, however volunteers can take a course on arrival. Latitude placements are based around three main locations: Yunguilla, Quito and Cuenca

Volunteers have two placements, which can be teaching in the morning then a community placement in the afternoon. There are also a couple of specialist placements where volunteers can teach music.

Community

Community projects could involve working in day care centres for marginalised children, people with physical or mental disabilities or street children. Volunteers have an important role to play in giving children personal attention and support, organising games and activities and caring for their general well-being.

Education > English Teaching

Ecuadorians are keen to develop their English language skills and as a native speaker you will have the chance to improve the communication skills and confidence of your students. Volunteers work in state or private, primary or secondary schools, teaching up to 40 students at any one time.



Ecuador Case Study

I came away from my gap year in Ecuador an Ecuadorian - at least in part. Our new community made us feel so welcome. We took part in local meetings, were invited to make jam and felt so involved in community life that, at times, I couldn't remember what it was like to live anywhere else. I learnt a tremendous amount in those five months and as I packed my things, sad at having to leave what had become my home, I thought back to the awkward 18 year old I arrived as, wondering how I was going to survive without TV, internet and my phone. I remember being really scared that no-one would want to speak to someone who could barely differentiate 'hola' from 'gracias'. Now, though I can't speak Spanish perfectly fluently, I'd like to think I'm not too far off doing so. As I packed, I truly felt like I was leaving home, again.

For five months Ezim Ajuf was on a Latitude funded placement. He volunteered as an English teacher in the Ecuadorian village of Yunguilla, a small community of three hundred inhabitants based in the Ecuadorian cloud forest.



What's included?

Country	Min. Age	Departs	Length	Pre-departure	Interview	Airport pick-up	In-country orientation	24/7 support				
				briefing	Food & Accom	Pocket money						
Argentina	18	Mar	4 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brazil	18	Feb	4-5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Canada	18	Jan-Apr/Sep	3-12 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Ecuador	18	Feb/Aug	5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mexico	18	Feb	4-5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Please note: Where food and accommodation is provided it is by your host. At some placements volunteers may need to pay towards or cover their own food costs

The Americas

Canada

Canada is a land of astonishing beauty from the old world charm of Quebec, to the rugged Rocky Mountains. Spanning six time zones and bordering three major oceans, it is the world's second largest country.

Latitude placements are throughout Canada.

Community

Partnering with the L'Arche community, volunteers work and live alongside like minded people in small home-sized units, helping disabled young people live more independent lives. A limited number of placements are available in Quebec for people proficient in French.

Education > Schools Assistant

Volunteers work mainly within boarding schools and take on a combination of boarding house duties, classroom assistance and office work. You will have the chance to become a mentor and inspiration to the many students placed in your care.

Outdoor Education

Prerequisites: First Aid and Lifesaving qualifications essential prior to departure.

Help children learn and develop their outdoor skills. The work ranges from counselling to maintenance and outdoor activities like kayaking, rock-climbing or hiking. Community camps are also available where you work with disadvantaged people or those with additional needs.



Mexico

From the colonial architecture of Mexico City to the ancient Mayan and Aztec empires. Mexico in Central America, is a landscape of cultural difference and historical narrative.

Intermediate Spanish desirable for Community placements, for all other projects volunteers can choose to undertake a basic language course on arrival. Latitude placements are in Tulancingo, Puebla, Guadalajara and Tepoztlan and surrounding areas.

Community

Work with children and young people in a variety of homes and institutions, including orphanages. The ability to relate to children is essential. Your work will involve assisting with the day-to-day practical care of the children, playing games, offering vital friendship and affection and providing them with a forum to practice their conversational English.

Education > English Teaching

Working as a classroom assistant or one-on-one with students you will improve their spoken English and give them the confidence that comes from being able to communicate with a native speaker. Students will range from primary age up to university level.



Africa

Ghana

Situated on the coast of West Africa, Ghana is a country full of beautiful beaches, lush tropical vegetation and the huge expanse of Lake Volta. Although a politically stable country, many Ghanaians live in poverty, giving volunteers the chance to make a huge difference.

Latitude placements are along the coast between Takoradi and Accra.

Community

Working within orphanages or nursery departments at local schools, volunteers undertake a variety of duties, including organising activities, teaching English and, most importantly, offering the children encouragement, comfort and a friend to play with.

Education > Teaching

English is the official language of Ghana and volunteers will draw upon their own educational background to teach both primary and secondary age pupils a variety of subjects, including maths, English or sport. Volunteers will find that most of their students first learn a local language, so you will develop their confidence in speaking English.

Malawi

Malawi is one of the smallest and most beautiful countries in Africa, often known as "The warm heart of Africa". The people are extremely welcoming and the Mulanje Mountains and Lake Malawi attract adventure seekers from around the world.

Latitude placements are all over Malawi, primarily in rural areas.

Community

Latitude works with a number of orphanages that have schools attached; offering volunteers the chance to get involved with the practicalities of childcare, such as feeding and dressing, as well as assisting with lessons in the classroom. We also work with schools that cater for children with visual or hearing impairments.

Education > Teaching

Education is considered a privilege and volunteers work within under-resourced schools which are either government run, or supported by tea estates or churches. Volunteers draw upon their own educational background to teach a variety of subjects and develop a range of extra curricular activities.



Africa

Tanzania

Tanzania has an exotic display of wildlife and is home to the untouched beauty of the Serengeti National Park and Mount Kilimanjaro. Placements in Tanzania are not for the faint of heart, requiring a lot of tenacity and dedication.

Most of Latitude's placements are close to Dar Es Salaam, a few placements are further afield.

Community

Work at a centre for children with learning or physical disabilities. Duties may include playing games with the children, art, helping with administration and providing handicraft training as well as teaching basic English to the other young adults who work there. Volunteers will find these projects challenging, but rewarding.

Education > Teaching

Working with private and 'estate' schools, volunteers mainly teach conversational English and help with pronunciation. You may be asked to teach subjects like English, art and music, set up clubs and societies for students and get involved in community outreach work. Some projects are isolated and resources limited, but volunteers will be cherished as they become a positive role model.

South Africa

The country's natural beauty extends from the game reserves of the Kruger to the beautiful Kalahari Desert. Volunteers will assist within a variety of communities to improve educational standards and local initiatives.

Latitude placements are in North and South KwaZulu Natal, Limpopo, Western and Eastern Cape Provinces, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth.

Community

Give back to those less fortunate as you work at an orphanage or school for children with additional needs. Volunteers assist with recreational activities, physio and speech therapy, the practicalities of childcare, as well as assisting with lessons in the classroom. Volunteers who undertake this work will find it immensely rewarding.

Education > Schools Assistant

Working mainly in fee-paying schools, students, particularly boarders, will turn to you for support as you become a mentor and friend. Volunteers undertake a combination of boarding house duties, classroom assistance (especially English, maths and IT), and general administration. Volunteers may also get involved in community outreach work.



Education > Teaching

Working in state primary and secondary schools, volunteers begin by assisting in the classroom, but often progress to hands on teaching. You will have the chance to become a positive role model to your students, and as a number of these placements are rural with no modern amenities, volunteers need to be robust and ready for a challenge.

Environment

Get hands-on experience, helping to conserve the natural environment in beautiful but remote areas. Volunteers assist with physical habitat management, game animal monitoring, erosion control work and caring for captive species. Alternatively you may assist with the design and implementation of environmental education programmes for school aged children.

Outdoor Education

Lead different groups within the community including at-risk youth and children with additional needs. Mainly located in remote areas of outstanding beauty, volunteers assist with maintenance, administration and outdoor activities, including obstacle courses, ropes, rafting, and hiking. Volunteers will also be trained in skills to develop camp-goers' confidence and self awareness.

South Africa Case Study

I have found my second home!! My classes are gorgeous. I teach grade 9 English, tutor grade 11 and 12 science and help with English. My classes are huge, about 35-40 children with only 15 desks, but the kids are so dedicated to learning and so polite. They work hard as they do not take education for granted, they realise how important it is for their future.

My school is just one big family. I have made some amazing friends. Everyone looks out for each other – it's beautiful. Yesterday another school came for the day. There was a welcome dance done by the students, followed by sports. I played netball, it was so much fun, the students thought it was hilarious and were dancing and singing for me the whole game. One girl actually came up and grabbed my skin and said, 'are you sure you're white, because white people can't move like that!'

Carly Bindon taught a variety of subjects and assisted in the boarding house at St Marks College, a co-ed boarding school in Limpopo Province, South Africa.



What's included?

Country	Min. Age	Departs	Length	Pre-departure Interview	Pre-departure briefing	Food & Accom	Pocket money	Airport pick-up	In-country orientation	In-country support	24/7 support
Malawi	18	Jan	6 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ghana	17	Feb/Sep	5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
South Africa	18	Jan	5-6 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tanzania	17	Jan/Jun	3 or 5 mths	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓

Please note: Where food and accommodation is provided it is by your host.

where will you stay?

Accommodation varies greatly due to the large number of projects on offer. The following will give you an indication of the range available and the exact details will vary depending on which project and country you apply for. Not all options will be available in each country, but no matter where you stay you will be able to add a personal touch so that it feels more like home.



Host Family

Living with a local family is one of the best ways to learn about a culture from within. They will help you acclimatise, share with you their local traditions and as you become part of their family, they will learn from you.

Traditional Housing

When volunteering in some of our remote projects, traditional housing such as huts or bures are offered. You may find this accommodation very rustic, forgoing many luxuries, but it gives you the chance to live alongside your new community and experience their way of living.

Staff/Volunteer Houses

Situated on-site or nearby, volunteer houses are offered by hosts who have a large number of volunteers. These houses are a great way to connect with like minded people from across the globe and you will benefit from this cross cultural experience.

Flat/Apartment

Situated on-site or nearby, a basic flat is provided by some hosts. You may share it with a fellow volunteer or staff member, with whom you will form strong bonds with during your stay.

Room within Host Facilities

At most boarding schools, and in some community centres, volunteers will be offered a room within the host facilities. Sometimes you may share this with your volunteer partner.

Cabins

At most outdoor projects volunteers will be housed in basic cabins, similar to the ones you would have stayed in on school camps.

Tents and Tepees

Some outdoor projects involve taking groups of camp-goers on overnight hikes through the wilderness. As part of this experience you will get to spend the night in tents or tepees.

combinations

Lattitude offers volunteers the chance to combine two different types of projects and save money. You can either combine two placements within one country or you can travel on to another country to undertake your second placement.

A 70% saving on the Lattitude fee can be made if you do a second placement.

If you wish to move directly to another placement in a new country, then you can qualify for a 25% reduction.

Examples of Combination programs

1. Teach English in India and Vanuatu
2. Community work in Fiji followed by teaching English in Mexico
3. Outdoor work in Canada before heading to Brazil to undertake some environmental work.

Please note: This is subject to availability and there may be restrictions on where you can take your second placement due to visa or project requirements. Minimum placement lengths still apply and both placements must be booked at the same time.



support and services

Lattitude will guide you through organising all aspects of your volunteer experience, including flights, insurance, visas, and any training or orientation required.

Staff: All of our staff have travelled extensively, many experiencing their own year (or multiple years) out, so as a team our first hand knowledge makes us highly proficient at guiding you through your journey.

Choice: With a diverse range of projects available across 17 countries, departing nearly every month and lasting between 3-12 months depending on the destination, there's something to suit everyone.

Placements: Lattitude Programme Managers work closely with hosts to develop placements that meet the needs of the community. They also regularly evaluate existing placements so that both the host community and volunteer continue to benefit.

Safety: Your placement mentor and local representative are on hand if ever you need assistance and Lattitude keeps up to date with political, social, and economic situations in each of our host countries through the links we have with Embassies and High Commissions.

Pre-departure support: No matter how big or small your query, Lattitude staff are on hand to help. You will receive a pre-departure pack telling you all you need to know, have the chance to attend a pre-departure briefing and optional training days and be put in touch with previous volunteers so that they can tell you what it's really like.

In-country support: In most countries you'll be met on arrival by one of our in-country reps, attend an orientation and be visited by a volunteer staff member while at your placement to check that all is well. If you ever need assistance your placement mentor and in-country representative can be contacted and you and your family will have access to a 24-hour emergency hotline staffed by Lattitude UK staff. Your local office will also communicate with you regularly via email.

Reference: On successful completion of your project we can provide you with a letter of reference and certificate of completion.

Value for money: Lattitude has an extensive volunteer support network, which helps us to keep your fees low. Your in-country expenses are kept to a minimum as most placements provide free food, accommodation and weekly pocket money.

Partnerships: We work closely with STA Travel, our travel partner, to ensure cost effective flights to and from placements. As one of the world's leading travel agents, STA Travel also offer comprehensive travel services and can book additional tours after your placement, often at a discount from published prices. We have a dedicated team to look after Lattitude volunteers, all of whom are experienced in managing travel to the countries where we work; they are also able to book travel for family and friends if they come to visit you.

costs explained

At Lattitude Global Volunteering we pride ourselves on our professionalism, international expertise and, above all, the support we offer our volunteers and their parents. We have an extensive volunteer support network, which helps us to keep costs to a minimum and give volunteers value for money whilst providing an affordable, safe and worthwhile experience. In addition, we raise 20% of the costs from fundraising and a lot of the work involved in organising your placement is done by volunteers. The Lattitude fee ranges from £1,750 up to £2,400. Please see pricing chart below for more details

	From	To
Lattitude Application Fee:	£25	£25

This fee goes towards the cost of processing your application and holding an interview.

NOTE: All applicants are guaranteed an interview and this fee is non refundable, but is deducted from the total fee.

Lattitude Fee:	£1,750	£2,400
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This fee goes towards the cost of:

- Assigning you a paid staff member who will support and help you to organise everything
- Our in-depth matching processes, ensuring you are offered a placement that suits your strengths
- Your pre-departure briefing
- The travel expenses of unpaid volunteer staff
- Your airport pickup and in-country orientation
- Support whilst at placement; access to an in-country representative; access to the Lattitude network
- Our research and development of partnerships with new hosts
- Safety measures including vetting of placements, 24-hour emergency phone line and crisis management
- Recruiting new volunteers to ensure the sustainability of our placements
- The day-to-day administration at the Lattitude office

This fee is payable as follows:

£250 deposit when you accept your placement offer (this is non-refundable); the fee balance due

60 days prior to departure. This could give you over 12 months to save after you have accepted your placement.

Your food and accommodation is usually provided by the host organisation*. Depending on their resources and the country where you are volunteering, pocket money may also be provided.

Other Costs	£1,103	£2,190
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You will also need to budget for the items listed below as they are not covered in the above fees.

The costs given are approximate and should be used as a guide only.

Training courses (Teaching Skills/Language Course)	£0	£255
Return airfares/transfers (approx cost of group flight)	£900	£1,500
Travel insurance	£180	£250
Visa	£0	£145
Police check	£23	£40

Other costs associated with your year away may include purchasing a passport, medical vaccinations, additional travel during or after your placement.

TOTAL	£2,853	£4,590
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* Where food and accommodation is not covered you will be clearly informed in advance. It is not policy of Lattitude to make payments to the host organisation. In some programmes, hosts will pay a small living allowance to volunteers. This is dependent on the resources of the host and the country in which you are volunteering.

My placement with Latitude has, in so many ways, shaped the person I am. From teaching classes of 60+ students to learning to live in isolation, every challenge I faced truly became a positively rewarding experience.

Simon Jones volunteered in Fiji



After Your Placement

Once you have finished your placement, there are several things to consider.

De-briefing: We offer de-briefing workshops that enable you to reflect on your overseas experiences, helping you to consider how your development will positively impact your future decision making. We will assist by providing a structure to help you document your learning and provide information about ways you can get involved with the Lattitude Global Volunteering network and our communities across the UK.

Tell us what it was like!: We love hearing stories and receiving photos from our volunteers around the world. We're always on the lookout for great pictures to use on our website, so keep your camera to hand. Don't forget we also run a number of photography and writing competitions each year, so your pictures could win you a cash prize.

Tell everyone else what it was like!: When you return from your placement, you will be unable to stop yourself sharing tales of your adventures and experiences with everyone you meet.

We like to invite returned volunteers to our pre-departure briefings to answer any questions and talk about their Lattitude experiences. We're also always on the look-out for people to become Promotions Officers, who visit schools and careers fairs on our behalf to talk about Lattitude and their experiences.

Promotions Officers are invaluable to Lattitude. With fresh, firsthand, experience of the opportunities we have to offer, our returned volunteers are best placed to spread the word to budding volunteers across the UK.

As a Promotions Officer you will gain valuable experience in events, marketing and charity work that will look great on your CV and stand you in good stead for your career! More details are available at www.lattitude.org.uk.

Work for us!: Every year Lattitude takes on a small number of graduate interns at our offices in the UK, Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Internships typically last for 6 months and are designed for new graduates who have an interest in international development, youth work or not for profit organisations. The intern will typically work on specific projects with the different teams within Lattitude supporting work such as fundraising, marketing, operations and programme management.

At the end of the six month internship the intern will depart to a placement, funded by Lattitude.

Following their placement they may return to work for Lattitude, or may depart to follow their interests elsewhere having received valuable work experience to give them a head start in the career of their choice.

Working for Lattitude: We are always on the look out for bright, motivated, enthusiastic young people to work for us. Returned volunteers have the necessary volunteering experience and proven ability to think on their feet and cope with whatever life throws at them. This, coupled with a degree, or relevant work experience, makes them ideally suited to work at Lattitude.

Becoming part of the Lattitude Alumni Network: By volunteering with Lattitude you are becoming one of our family of over 30,000 people who have made a difference around the world. We regularly keep in touch with returned volunteers, and it's always nice to get everyone together now and again.

Keep in touch with us and let us know what you're up to. If you've got any ideas about alumni events, then tell us! And don't forget that you can always keep up-to-date with us through our website www.lattitude.org.uk or our Lattitude Global Volunteering group on Facebook

Project summary

Country	Community	Education	Environment	Outdoor Education
Argentina	Mar (4 mths)	Mar (4 mths)		
Australia		Jan/Jul/Oct (6 or 11 mths)	Feb/Sep (6 mths)	Jan/Sep/Oct (6 or 11 mths)
Brazil	Feb (4-5 mths)	Feb (4-5 mths)	Feb (4-5 mths)	
Canada	Jan-Mar/Sep (9-12 mths)	Jan/Sep (6 or 12 mths)		Jan-Apr (3-9 mths)
China		Feb/Aug (4-5 mths)		
Ecuador	Feb/Aug (5 mths)	Feb/Aug (5 mths)		
Fiji	Jan/Aug (3 or 7 mths)			
Ghana	Feb/Sep (5 mths)	Feb/Sep (5 mths)		
India	Jan/Aug (4 mths)	Jan/Feb/Aug (4 mths)		
Japan	Mar/Sep (6 mths)			
Malawi	Jan/Aug (3 or 6 mths)			
Mexico	Feb (4-5 mths)	Feb (4-5 mths)		
New Zealand		Jan/Aug (7 or 12 mths)	Feb/Sep (6 mths)	
South Africa	Jan (5-6 mths)	Jan (5-6 mths)	Jan (5-6 mths)	Jan (5-6 mths)
Tanzania	Jan/Jun (3 or 5 mths)	Jan/Jun (3 or 5 mths)		
Vanuatu		Jan (5-6 mths)		
Vietnam		Jan/Feb/Jun/Aug (3-4 mths)		

Please note: The months listed above show when each project departs, while the numbers indicate the project duration. For more information about any of these projects, please visit our website www.lattitude.org.uk or, better still contact one of our team at volunteer@lattice.org.uk, or call + 44 (0)118 959 4914. All projects finish in time for the new academic year.

Next steps

1. Find out more

- Call us on +44 (0)118 959 4914
- Email us at volunteer@lattice.org.uk
- Go to www.lattice.org.uk

2. Apply

- Go to www.lattice.org.uk/apply
Download, complete and submit
your application form with your
application fee (if applying after 1
April 2010)

3. Be interviewed

Once we have processed your application form and fee we will contact you to arrange the interview. Interviews take place throughout the year at Information & Interview Days in a number of locations in the UK.

4. You're in!

If eligible, a staff member will guide you through the process to identify the most suitable placement for your skills, abilities and interest and help you with your pre departure planning.

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Now you know who we are
and what we do, why not
try to find a new use for this
brochure; you could pass it
on to a friend or use it as
wrapping paper. What ever you
decide, don't bin it, recycle it!