



SRI-LANKA VOLUNTEERING 2010

HOPE supports a wide range of projects which cater for Sinhala, Tamil and Muslim children without discrimination. We cover all parts of Sri Lanka and are proud that our grants make a life-long impact on the children we help.

Sri-Lanka was the home of Hope for Children's very first project in 1994; an education and skills training centre for the street children from Colombo and Matara, called the Borella Day-Care centre. We support an eye care programme which provides eye screening for children and free spectacles. HOPE also support The Colombo Friend In Need Society - where we supply prosthetic limbs for landmine victims, education, and a Mobile Service Unit offering assistance to children living in remote areas. Lastly, we fund a listening room at the School for the Blind in Ratmalana.

It's quite incredible the difference that we have made to children's lives over the 15 years we have been working in Sri Lanka. We have reached children in remote areas that were not receiving aid anywhere else.

In this Overseas volunteering challenge, you will experience first hand, the work that Hope for Children supports. You will get to teach children, hear about their hardships and experience a culture completely different to your own. And all with the beautiful backdrop of Sri-Lanka. There are 20 places available in this exclusive opportunity, so you will be enjoying the experience with like-minded individuals with one main thing in common—you all want to help disadvantaged children and make a difference!

ITINERARY

Here is a proposed itinerary for your trip. This is completely flexible and if there is a particular project that you want to focus on, or if you plan on volunteering with us for a different amount of time, the itinerary can be amended.

WEEK 1 Based 20KM south of Colombo, in an area called Moratuwa, the first project you will work on is the Borella Day-care centre. Here you will teach English and interact with the children through games and music. This was HOPE's first project and one we hold close to our hearts!

WEEK 2 After an inspiring weekend trip to The Sacred Tooth Temple in Kandy, you will start the week helping at The School for The Blind in Ratmalana, where you will teach blind children English.

WEEK 3 During the weekend you will join in with one of Sri-Lanka's best loved traditions; a game of cricket at Udawalawe Park. During the week, you will be spending your mornings at The School for The Blind and your evenings at The SERVE centre,

where you will run an Art class and teach computer skills to children.

WEEK 4 You will work at The School for the Deaf where you will play games with the children, while supervising them. Giving them the opportunity to have fun and interact with each other and you!

WEEK 5 You will visit the eye-care centre at the beginning of the week. You will also work at SERVE again towards the end of the week.

WEEK 6 At this point the programme will open up more. You have the opportunity to stay working at any of the projects, or you can take yourself off on your own travels around Sri-Lanka. You will be given a daily allowance so that you have a bit more freedom.

PROGRAMME OPTIONS

SUMMER PROGRAMME	FLEXI-PROGRAMME
This is the programme described on the previous page. It is 6 weeks in a fixed and structured programme which takes place for 5 weeks between July and September.	This is where you make your own tailor-made programme. Deciding yourself, the level of accommodation and the type of programmes that you will be working on.
TYPE OF WORK You will teach various subjects, including English, Art, Drama and Computer skills. You will also teach blind and deaf children and provide support within an eye-care centre.	TYPE OF WORK Your choice! We have a range of projects that you can get involved with whether you are focused on teaching, manual work or leading drama classes. You can do any combination of types of work that you like.
WHEN Typically from late July until September.	WHEN pretty much whenever!
HOW LONG 6-8 Weeks	HOW LONG How ever long you want!
ACCOMODATION You will get the experience of living with a local family for a portion of the trip. The rest of the time you will be in a local guesthouse.	ACCOMODATION You can choose if you would prefer to stay with a local family or in a guesthouse.
WHO IS THIS FOR This is a great programme for those looking to meet people and gain experience on a wide selection of projects.	WHO IS THIS FOR This is fantastic for independent volunteers, family volunteering opportunities and corporate challenges.
PRIOR EXPERIENCE This is your chance to gain work experience within the international development charity sector in working with children. No experience required!	PRIOR EXPERIENCE Each case is different, but some prior teaching, international development experience is preferred.
INDUCTION You receive an initial induction session. You will also receive training sessions from an experienced teacher who has a masters in teaching in developing countries.	INDUCTION Participants receive tailored inductions based on their prior experience.



Boys with HOPE Teddies taken by our Head of Programmes on his last visit to Borella day-care centre.



COST OF THE PROGRAMME

Registration Fee: £100

Minimum Sponsorship: £2,500 (not including registration fee)

This will cover the costs of your programme including; flights, accommodation, transport, English speaking coordinator, food, drinks, modest spending allowance and day trips. You will also receive an orientation and some teaching lessons in the weeks prior to departure. This cost includes a £500 donation to the projects that you'll be working on.

You will need to take some spending money for evenings out, any activities that aren't listed on the itinerary and souvenirs. You will also be responsible for paying for your own Visa, travel insurance, vaccinations and medication, and travel to Heathrow airport.

* The registration cost is the same for the flexi programme, and the summer programme. To get a quote for minimum sponsorship for the Flexi-programme email William Byles - williambyles@hope4c.org

CONTACT

If you are interested in any of the trips featured here, please don't hesitate to get in touch. For more information on the trips and bookings, contact William Byles on 020 7159 3339 or williambyles@hope4c.org



Our Volunteer's Comments

"This experience has made me a stronger person."

"The best aspect of the programme was being directly involved with the community."

"I have never met so many inspiring, welcoming and friendly people!"

"I saw the children's English become more accurate and more confident in front of my eyes everyday."

"The emotional impact has been huge. It's the kind of experience you need to see to believe."

"I feel I that I have re-invigorated an enthusiasm and desire for learning in the pupils."

"I found each member of our group charitable and compassionate."

"The group worked well together and were very enthusiastic."

"I have helped a huge number of children on a small scale, so I have made, although little, an impact on people that they will always remember."

"My fondest memory was every moment I spent with the children."

"I have made numerous children happy by playing games with them in-between teaching providing good memories for them and myself to treasure."

"It's a fantastic, fulfilling experience."

