



KENYA: TEACHING UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN IN MOMBASA

Kenya is the heart of African Safari country! But Kenya is not just about big game - it also has beautiful, unspoilt beaches, thriving coral reefs with their glorious colours, memorable mountain vistas and ancient Swahili cities.

Beaches, Game Reserves, Coral Reefs, Mountains --- Kenya has them all. The people here are extremely friendly and their hospitality can sometimes be over whelming. Their culture and traditions date back for centuries, and with up to 70 different tribal communities you will find plenty to talk about.

WHAT DO YOU GET?

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Africa and the many diverse cultures in Kenya.
- The enormous satisfaction of helping disadvantaged children and knowing that you made a difference to them.
- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- Experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who'll meet you at the airport on your arrival - helps you feel safe and never alone!
- An in-depth Induction makes you feel local straight away!
- An opportunity to make lifelong friends from all over the world.
- And best of all ... an unforgettable experience!



► SUMMARY FACTFILE

Start Dates	All year round (except during school holidays) - you choose your start and finish dates!
Duration	Minimum stay 2 weeks and up to 1 year, subject to visa requirements
Requirements	No qualifications needed, just a big dose of enthusiasm!
Price	From £695 / US\$1,045 for 2 weeks, ranging to £1,695 / US\$2,545 for 12 weeks. Full Price List and other Currencies
What's included	► Accommodation ► Food ► Meeting you at the Airport ► Transfer to your accommodation ► Transport to and from your project every day ► Full pre-departure support ► Local in-country team support and backup ► 24-hr emergency support ► Two free T-shirts.
What's not included	Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required, but we'll provide necessary documents and assistance), Return transfer to airport.
Who can do this Project?	All our projects are open to all nationalities. Unless otherwise stated, you need to be aged between 17 and 70+

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

Teach children from 3 to 16 years old in government or private schools. The schools are quite small, giving you an instant family feeling. In Kenya, unlike many other countries, the private schools are not rich – in fact, most of the schools we work with are very poor, which is why they are so grateful for your help!

The Teaching Programme

Our teaching placements are based on the Island of Mombasa within the suburbs. Situated on the coast, Mombasa is generally renowned for its laid back culture, but the schools offer a different contrast. They ask for your support to help push the children's education forward, and to help improve teaching techniques for the teachers.

The schools themselves are quite small, making you feel immediately like part of their family. They generally range from 50 to 300 pupils at one given time. This means that class sizes may be small or you may have a lot of children, but normally very manageable, normally ranging from 20 to 40, although occasionally you may have smaller classes.

The schools we work with include government and privately funded schools, and some are even church schools. Again, many of the schools are in very underprivileged areas, with a lot of the children coming from a cross-section of backgrounds; mostly from the poorer communities, which is why they are so grateful for help from our volunteers!

Mombasa is a very friendly place and the schools are no exception. You will be inundated with questions from both the teachers and the children, who make you, feel very wanted.

You will teach in schools where the children range from 2 years of age, up to about 16 and your help is an important part of their development. If you'd like to teach younger children, you'd be especially appreciated!

Travellers have two types of teaching placements:

- Primary Schools, which has children from the age of 2 to 16 years of age, in a formal teaching environment.
- Care work with informal teaching, to children in orphanages and care centers, this is in an informal environment.

You will generally be asked to help out with any age groups. You are, in fact, very likely to be in popular demand everywhere - in and out of the classroom.

At Primary level: Kiswahili, English language, and mathematics are compulsory.

At Secondary level, students undertake the compulsory subjects and then major or specialize in arts or sciences, or a combination of the two.

Work Content

You will normally assist the Kenyan teachers to start with, but depending on your ability you may be given complete control of a particular class or group. You will receive a lot of help and support from the Kenya teachers and staff at the schools to help you prepare for your lessons and settle you into your role as teacher; and, like all Kenyans, they are very friendly and patient and are always willing to help.

The children have a fantastic air about them, and you will be immediately welcomed in by groups of children running up to greet the new teacher. The children and teachers are so grateful of the help that it will be hard to stop them smiling! The teachers and children will make you very welcome and you will spend a lot of your time visiting families and generally socialising.



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A Typical Day

Written by an ex-volunteer:

- Get up at 6.45, take a bath, have breakfast etc.
- Arrive at school at 7.45.
- I then taught lessons until lunch, which was 12 - 2pm.
- Afternoon lessons were from 2 - 5, but I was able to leave at 4pm. I usually then planned my lessons for the next day or did marking etc.
- After that I went swimming or to the gym before dinner.
- Evenings I either watched TV or went out!!
- Weekends I went to the beach, friends houses etc.



You will be able to teach a specific subject of your choice if you wish to, such as mathematics. In addition, for those of you who enjoy sports, you will be glad to know that sports are also a very popular subject for the children, and they would love for you to help out with the game periods which the schools have. The facilities are poor, but football and volleyball have quite a following. Most sports are participated on at various times throughout the day. However, most are after 3pm for an hour or two. The level of education of the children does differ.

On the whole the teachers and children will make you very welcome and you will spend a lot of your time visiting families and generally socializing.

School Term Times

The education system has three terms in a year in primary and secondary schools that basically stretch for about three months semesters with about a month break in between. Term times do vary each year; therefore the dates below are as a guideline only:

- Term 1: 4th Jan – 8th April
- Term 2: 2nd May – 5th Aug
- Term 3: 5th Sep – 18th Nov

There will be slight school variations on the above school dates, as well as approximately one week examination periods at the end of every term. During this time your help is needed with the examinations and with the marking of papers. Different schools have slight changes to the dates of closing and opening but they do not deviate by more than a week or at most two, so if you're thinking of doing this project please speak to us about exact dates.

TEFL Course

If you're a little unsure about the idea of standing in front of a class and teaching, you can, before you leave, enroll in our weekend TEFL courses. (www.tefltime.com) This will help you teach if you have no previous experience and would like to gain a little teaching knowledge.

LOCATION:

Mombasa is an island connected to the mainland by bridges and ferries and the town itself overlooks a fascinating harbour of traditional sailing dhows alongside commercial shipping. To most people, Mombasa is a wonderful place, a combination of a tourist resort and a working city with a throbbing heart and laid-back attitude. This sultry area offers interesting things to see, beaches to relax on and beautiful nature reserves to visit. Mombasa is a bustling city with a history stretching back to the 12th century. There is a vibrant mixture of cultures, architecture and entertainment.

The true heart of Mombasa is the exotic old town. Here the streets are narrow and winding and filled with the heady scent of spices. Amongst the Arab architecture you'll find women wearing the traditional bui bui and busy markets that throb with life and colour, all added to by the wrap-around cloth of the traditional coastal khangha and kikoy that is worn by both men and women.



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Fort Jesus lies at the edge of the water. This is an imposing fort that stands watch over the harbour. It was built in the 16th century and has high gun turrets, battlements and underground passages. Modern Mombasa is a city of great diversity and life. This is a town where all are welcomed and quickly absorbed into this great coastal melting pot. Mosques, Hindu Temples and Christian churches surround streets that thrive with a world of cultures.

Outside Mombasa, at the Shimba Hills National Reserve, you will encounter a lovely forest setting with elephant, leopard and the rare, sable antelope. Towards the south, there are a number of beaches and resort hotels. The beaches are white and sandy with coral reefs which are heaven to scuba and skin divers. Further south, on Shimoni and Wasini islands, authentic Swahili culture survives and you can also visit the protected marine reserve. North of Mombasa there are also several beaches like Nyali, Bamburi, Shanzu, Kikambala and Vipingo.

ACCOMMODATION & FOOD:

Your accommodation may vary, but you will most likely live with a local host family. This will give you the opportunity to experience the true African experience from the inside and not just as a "tourist" on the surface of the country.

We will try to accommodate you as close to your project as we can, so you are able to walk to work, but this may not be possible in which case you will have to use local transport, called Matatus.

Mombasa is the second most important city in Kenya (after Nairobi) It is the main port for Kenya and the surrounding countries, as well as being the oldest town. The pace of life is relaxed and people of Mombasa enjoy themselves (particularly on Friday and Saturday nights!). A spectacular coral reef runs for 480 km along the palm-fringed coastline. The waters below are filled with marine life, while up above a huge diversity of birdlife occupies the mangrove forests or overhanging cliffs.

Food: Meals will be provided by your host family, and they will be local cuisine.



VISAS:

You do need a visa for Kenya; this can be purchased before you arrive or upon arrival into the country. We'll liaise with you about your visa requirements and make the visa process very easy.

FLIGHTS:

You have the option to arrange your own flights or we can assist you with your flight arrangements. If you would like us to do this for you, we will liaise with you regarding available flights and dates to suit you. All arrangements for your flight bookings/payments will be fulfilled by [Murray Rogers Travel Limited](#), ATOL No. 6856.

INDUCTION ON ARRIVAL:

When you arrive, you will be welcomed at the airport by our Kenyan Organiser, who will take you to your accommodation. During your first few days you will be given an induction so that you can learn about Mombasa and its culture, as well as useful information like how to use the transport system etc.

COSTS:

Please see the prices pages of our website [Full Price List](#). The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

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|---|---|
| ✓ Accommodation | ✓ 24hr emergency helpline |
| ✓ Food | ✓ Full pre-departure support |
| ✓ Meeting you at the airport | ✓ UK administration |
| ✓ Transport to and from your project each day | ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations) |
| ✓ Local in-country team support and backup | |

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- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile projects

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

For every volunteer, a donation is made by Travellers on your behalf into the **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

COUNTRY PROFILE:

Kenya is the heart of African Safari country! But Kenya is not just about big game - it also has beautiful, unspoilt beaches, thriving coral reefs with their glorious colours, memorable mountain vistas and ancient Swahili cities.

Think of Kenya and you think of ...

- Safaris,
- Elephant, lion, zebra, giraffe ...
- The Masai Mara stretching to infinity,
- Serengeti, the Great Rift Valley
- Children barefoot in the African dust,
- Masai resting under baobab trees

"Revered by anthropologists as the 'cradle of humanity', Kenya is also the heart of African safari country, boasting the most diverse collection of wild animals on the continent. And no matter how many Tarzan movies you've seen, nothing will prepare you for the annual mass migration of wildebeests."

Beaches, Game Reserves, Coral Reefs, Mountains --- Kenya has them all. We have a wide range of placements you can do in Kenya, plus some additional fun specials, too!

Kenya is not just about big game - it also has beautiful unspoilt beaches, thriving coral reefs with their glorious colours, memorable mountain vistas and ancient Swahili cities. It is an independent republic which lies on the Indian Ocean coast and forms part of the East African Region. The capital city is Nairobi, and its' other major towns are Nakuru and Kisumu and the port of Mombasa.

The topography and scenic beauty in Kenya is breath taking, ranging from: the vast rift Valley to the rolling savannas, the isolation of the desert regions in the north, the magnificence of the highlands, with its central piece - the world famous glaciated peaks of Mt. Kenya. Mt Kenya, situated in the Laikipia district, is one of the greatest sites in Africa. There are many tours which will allow you to climb this magnificent natural site, and it is only one of the things you will not want to miss out on!

The people here are extremely friendly and their hospitality can sometimes be over whelming. Their culture and traditions date back for centuries, and with up to 70 different tribal communities you will find plenty to talk about.

The transport and open markets are chaotic and summarise Kenya in a word. They will have you wondering where you are, but also glad to be in one of the most intriguing and amazing places available to travel to.



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THINGS TO DO IN: KENYA

- **The Masai Mara** is Kenya's finest wildlife sanctuary. Everything about this reserve is outstanding. The wildlife is abundant and the gentle rolling grassland ensures that animals are never out of sight. Birds too are prolific, including migrant birds and 57 species of birds of prey. The first sight of this park is breathtaking. Here the great herds of shuffling elephants browse among the rich tree-studded grasslands with an occasional sighting of a solitary and ill-tempered rhino, Thompson's and Grant's gazelle, topi and eland and many more species of plains' game offer a rich choice of food for the dominant predators; lion, leopard and cheetah which hunt in this pristine wilderness.
- **The Wildebeest Migration** Kenya's most spectacular annual event is staged by wildebeests. Literally millions of these ungainly antelopes (about 2 million) move en masse in July and August from the Serengeti in search of fresh grasslands. They head south again around October. The animals spend the rainy season (March – April) widely scattered in the area around Ngorongoro in the southern part of the Serengeti Park (Tanzania). By March this area usually dries up and huge herds form and the animals start moving north towards Masai Mara in Kenya. The herds arrive in Masai Mara around August – September and stay there until November. The best place to see this migration is at the Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya.
- **Tsavo National Park** is set on nearly 22,000 sq km Tsavo is the largest national park in Kenya, and for administration purposes is has been split into Tsavo east and Tsavo west. The most developed area is in the northern area of Tsavo which has some beautiful scenery, especially in the wet season when the countryside is green. With the animals ranging from ostriches to elephants.
- **Safaris** are the obvious Kenya activity, but there are many ways to safari. For something different, Camel safaris - in the Samburu and Turkana tribal areas between Isiolo and Lake Turkana - must rate as the most unforgettable. The countries most talked about wildlife park is the quintessential Masai Mara National Reserve west of Nairobi. Other highly rated parks include the Amboseli for its backdrop of Mt Kilimanjaro, the dense Kakamega with its 330-plus species of birds and the equally fecund soda lakes of Baringo or Nakuru.



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- Excellent support - second to none in the industry
- Accredited projects helps **appeal to future employers**
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions prior to, during and after your **trip of a lifetime!**
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our **EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.**
- 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK:

'My time in Kenya was the best experience of my life. The smiles beaming off each child could fool anyone into thinking they were the most well off children in the world. I spent my time teaching the children English, Creative Arts and P.E as well as playing with the children and painting classrooms. It was amaazing! Thank you so much.'

Harriet Carr

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'For the first week I was working with the children, every day I came up with something new for us to do in the form of art. It was great fun as I got to act like a kid again and throw paint around, we managed to make chainmen, paper mache, cards, and envelopes. I mixed up two bowls of paint and got everyone to dip their hands in and leave a handprint on the poster - even the adults joined in and now they're proudly displaying their work.'

Kayshani Gibbon

HOW TO BOOK:

Please complete a [booking form](#) online or you can send a postal booking from our free brochure. When we receive this, we'll telephone you to discuss the details and then start the exciting process of planning your trip!

We do hope you'll join us and are confident that you'll find this an incredible experience. Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions - we'll be happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

You may also be interested in other courses with Travellers – please visit our [website](#) for details of all our projects. In fact you can choose from over 300 projects in 19 countries!

Make a Difference – Get Involved!



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