



GHANA: TEACHING

AKWAABA - which means "welcome" - is never more meaningful than in Ghana. The Ghanaian people are among the friendliest in Africa. So ... **AKWAABA** to this beautiful country!

Teach English to children in schools. You can also teach other subjects, such as Music, Sports and IT, which are very popular with the children. You can teach for any length of time from two weeks to three months or longer - the choice is yours.



WHAT DO YOU GET?

- First hand teaching experience
- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.
- 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 - you choose your start and finish dates!
Duration	Minimum stay on this project is 2 weeks to 1 year, subject to visa requirements
Requirements	Minimum age 17, no qualifications necessary (just a good dose of enthusiasm!). If you're teaching English, you must be fluent in the language.
Price	From £795 / US\$1,195 for 2 weeks, ranging to £1,795/ US\$2,695 for 12 weeks. Full Price List
What's included	► Accommodation ► Food ► Meeting you at the Airport ► Transfer to your accommodation ► Transport to and from your project ► 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:

The schools that we work with are a mixture of primary and secondary. You will generally be asked to help out with any age groups, although where possible we will try to keep you to your preferred age range. You are very likely to be in popular demand everywhere - in and out of the classroom.

Teaching the children in Ghana is very satisfying, as it is in most African countries, because the children actually do want to learn! We asked a volunteer in Ghana "What do you feel you gained from doing this project?" and she answered: "Blimey, where do I start! Social skills, communications skills, greater initiative, leadership skills, planning skills (for lessons and travelling at weekends), patience, confidence, cultural knowledge to name just a few! It is impossible to write how priceless it is to do this kind of placement and the amount of knowledge and experience it provides"

Your help is very much appreciated and schools will usually embrace the volunteers whole heartily. Before you leave, you'll be provided with a mountain of information on just about everything to do with Ghana and your placement, including a Teaching Guide to help you to structure your lessons.

Our Ghana Manager and his team will look after you well. You'll get lots of advice about the do's and don'ts of Ghanaian culture, what to do and where to go.

The Teaching Programme

We work with schools based in two areas around Accra, the two areas are Kwabenya and Darkuman. The schools here are about six miles from the city centre.

- All schools accommodate from about 150 - 400 children.
- Class sizes are generally 30-35 but can be a bit larger depending on the status of the school.
- The age range of children are around 4-15 years old.

Most of the schools that we work with are poor schools where the support given by our volunteers makes a tremendous amount of difference.

If you have the skills, you can also teach other subjects, from academic subjects to Music, IT or Sports.

You don't need any qualifications to participate in a teaching placement in Ghana, but, if you're teaching English, you do need to be fluent in the language and it should preferably be your home language.

Many of the schools have got black boards but it's a good idea to take out a pack of chalk with you. Generally the schools lack many of the facilities that we take for granted in our own country but, for African standards, the facilities are 'okay'. The schools and class rooms are generally very neat.

Work Content

English is the main subject that you will teach but if you have something else you would like to teach such as music, maths, science, sports etc they would be more than grateful to get this experience.

Your teaching hours will normally be between 7am and 3pm and can vary from 20 – 35 hours per week. The ages of the children that you could be working with are between 4 and 15. Although English is the official language, a multitude of African tribal languages are spoken such as Ewe and Ga.

Volunteers are given plenty of support from the ground organiser and the schools are keen to help in any way they can. Because of the challenging environments, volunteers need to be driven, self-motivated and be able to think on their feet, but also have a relaxed approach (as nothing runs to schedule in Ghana!) and more essentially, a good sense of humour.

Music plays an important part of Ghanaian life and Ghana is a wonderful country to experience music. The music in West Africa has many similarities with Latin American music. This is mainly because Latin American music



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originated from West Africa due to the slave trade. Although music is extremely popular amongst the children at the schools, it has been dropped from many schools due to lack of funding. So the music taught by the volunteers is outside of the curriculum and generally taught as extra curricular activity.

Volunteers teach music either at a primary or junior secondary school. Both schools are very different in their resources and facilities that they can offer the children. The junior secondary is blessed compared to many other Ghanaian schools and has music facilities available; the primary school however is extremely poor and only has the bare essentials - desks and a black board. They generally have no music facilities, which can make the work that the volunteers do even more challenging but doubly rewarding. In the past we've had volunteers who have brought out their own instruments and even created basic instruments with the children as part of the lesson.

Although volunteers will teach music, they must be prepared to also assist with other classes like teaching English as due to the lack of funds, the time can be limited for the subject.



This project is a wonderful opportunity for the children and the participant, and the schools truly embrace the volunteers for the time and energies put into bringing music into the schools again, the way it should be in Africa.

Volunteers will really get involved with the music, for example one volunteer had been out in Ghana for less than a month and was already teaching music to every class in the school! She is officially the school's sole music teacher and is running a school choir for the children. The children have reacted wonderfully to this type of lesson and they have already performed their new skills at a local funeral.

School Terms 2011

Teaching is not available during school holidays, so if you're planning to participate in a placement, please take the school term dates into account when planning the timing of your project. During the school holidays Travellers run a Summer Camp for the children to give them something to do and a place to go that provides them with food and keeps them off the street. On the other hand, if a holiday falls during your proposed placement, you could use this time to do any independent travelling and sightseeing.

- Term 2: 11th Jan – 14th April
- Term 3: 10th May – 28th July
- Term 1: 13th Sept – 15th December – Still to be confirmed

LOCATION:

Accra, on the coast of the Gulf of Guinea, is both big-city hectic and African laid-back. Accra may not be one of the prettiest cities by Western standards, but there is something else this African city has that makes up for lack of planning and fancy buildings. It is a wonderful city to experience. It is full of character, has a warm feel, is extremely friendly and feels very safe. It also has some great beaches!

Spend a few hours in the breezy capital of Accra and you'll swear the wind and waves off the Gulf of Guinea have infused the land and people with equatorial warmth. It is a city that is young, wild and full of soul and here you'll sample the true African spirit. During the day, the streets are full of market stalls and vendors where you can browse and buy mouth-watering foods, colourful Kente Cloth, beads, or baskets. Don't forget to practice your haggling.



During the night the city comes alive with the traditional Ghanaian 'spot' bars and the sound of live drumming music in the warm night air. Village-specific festivals and events occur throughout the year.

ACCOMMODATION & FOOD:

You will either stay in a host family or a family run guest house, depending on which area you are located in. This means that you will get to eat, sleep, work, socialise and generally live like a Ghanaian. Local family stays enable you to fully experience the local culture from the inside.

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Many of our volunteers remain friends with their host families long after they leave Ghana and in some cases they return to the country later especially to visit their family. Sometimes members of their Ghanaian family have even gone to visit them in their home country.

They will look after you superbly and often our volunteers comment how they feel more like being part of the family than a guest! By far the vast majority will do their best to make you feel happy and part of their family.

The houses are fairly basic but will have all the basic facilities like kitchens and bathroom, telephone, television, radio and running water.



Food: Food will be prepared for you and will consist of local cuisine - again this is to enable you to fully experience living as local Ghanaians do.

VISAS:

Visas are required and must be purchased before departure. We'll liaise with you about your visa requirements, if any, 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 Ghanaian 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 Accra 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 | ✓ UK administration |
| ✓ Food | ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations) |
| ✓ Meeting you at the airport | ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection |
| ✓ Transport to and from your project | ✓ Staff Training/Equipment |
| ✓ Local in-country team support and backup | ✓ Donations to worthwhile projects |
| ✓ 24hr emergency helpline | |
| ✓ Full pre-departure support | |

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.

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COUNTRY PROFILE:

The atmosphere in Ghana is extraordinary; with its run-down shacks, half completed buildings and people trying to sell you anything and everything. From the moment you step off the plane you realise that you have arrived in a very different place and you're about to have a completely new cultural experience!

The country has an air of excitement as people strive for achievement and improved quality of life. It is a country that is full of hope and optimism. Ghanaians are proud of their culture and love welcoming people from outside to integrate and mix in with their local customs and way of living.

The air has an amazing aroma; a mixture of charcoal and local dishes cooking over an open pot. The sounds of the energetic tribal language being spoken around you will assure you.... you have landed in Africa!

Ghana is a country of cheerful anticipation. You will find that you are welcome anywhere and everywhere. The people are extremely friendly and hospitable and Ghanaians are proud of their culture and love welcoming people from outside to integrate and mix in with their local customs and way of living.

Ghana is an exciting modern African culture – open, musical and diverse. Although the country is poor, recently it has attracted new money and Ghanaians are returning from abroad and bringing new investment and ideas with them. Ghana is a stable country and truly delightful to work in and visit. It is now one of the most dynamic countries in West Africa. It was the first country in Africa to gain independence from the British Empire on the 6th of March, 1957, and today Ghana retains a remarkable sense of independence. The country is bursting with customs and tradition and has a long, rich history of crafts-people.

Ghana is very much isolated from what goes in the Western world. When walking around the streets of Accra (the capital city) you won't find any Beckham shirts, McDonald's or other touristy gimmicks; just real people living real Ghanaian lives. Ghana is warm, friendly and feels remarkably safe. You sense that you really are in Africa. Much of the attraction of Ghana results from its legacy as the centre of the gold, ivory, and slave trade during the 17th and 18th centuries, when the mighty Ashanti Empire held sway here. However, Ghana also possesses one of the best game reserves in West Africa, a multitude of good beaches, and plenty of hospitality.

For people who are looking to escape from the comforts and routines of our world and to enter a country that has a proud African culture and heritage, then Akwaaba [welcome] to Ghana.

There really is no 'best' time to visit Ghana, as the temperature is always Africa-hot and if rainfall doesn't soak you, then the humid air will. In the south there are two rainy seasons, from April to June and September to November. Temperatures range between 21 and 32 degrees C, highest in March and lowest in August. Whatever the season, the weather gets more arid the farther inland you go.



THINGS TO DO IN: GHANA

- **The Makola Market** is a large and famous busy open-air market attended by traders from surrounding villages. Run by women traders, Makola is a place where you can buy anything you need - manufactured and imported foods, fresh produce, tools, medicines, shoes, and pots and pans.
- **The Osu Night Market** is illuminated by hundreds of lanterns and candles and is a great place to experience authentic Ghanaian Cuisine. Local dishes like banku and kenkey are cooked freshly and served with assorted grilled fish and prawns, all prepared while you wait.
- **Accra's National Theatre** where you can watch a musical show, play or dance performance, for a real Ghanaian experience!

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- **Ghanaian Festivals** are annual events in each region. Enjoy drumming, dancing and feasting with the locals! Each region has its own affirmation of tribal values, the remembrance of ancestors and past leaders, and the purification of the state in preparation for another year.
- **Safaris Galore!** Owabi Wildlife Sanctuary, Bia National Park, Bui National Park, Mole Game Reserve and Kakum Nature Reserve are all good options for hiking and exploring the savannah and rainforest. The Shai Hills Game Reserve can be explored on horseback.
- **Mole National Park** is a must see! Explore the largest and one of the best-equipped nature reserves. Visitors can explore either on foot or 4-wheel drive vehicle, but must always be accompanied by a guide. Camp and discover the area at will.
- **Beaches** are always a popular attraction. Labadi Pleasure beach, Kokrobite beach, Coco Beach Resort, Dixcove, Busua and Ada offer tropical palms, spectacular Atlantic breakers and swimming.
- **Lake Volta** Enjoy a round trip on the car ferry to Kete-Krachi to visit the largest manmade lake on earth; alternatively, take the three-day trip to the northern capital of New Tamale at the head of the lake. There are great facilities for water-sports.
- **Lake Bosomtwi** Is great for diving, swimming and mountaineering. Take a multi-day canoe trip through the mangrove jungle of the Ankobra River.
- **Aduklu Mountain** is a great place to visit for those who enjoy hiking. Tours are available through the Ministry of Tourism, and Afadjato Mountain in the Volta region attracts climbers of all ages. Mount Afadjato and Togbo Falls at Liati Wote are excellent for hiking.

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- 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:

"I was teaching [Music and English] for 3 months but extended my stay by an extra 3 weeks as I just couldn't say goodbye! It was so rewarding and I am definitely considering teaching in the future ... The kids had so much energy which was really encouraging but made teaching very energetic! I was only meant to teach about 20 hours a week but loved it so much I was there 8.30-3.30 everyday although this made me very exhausted! It was an amazing experience and I cannot wait to go back! hope you are well."

Emily

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!

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You may also be interested in other courses with Travellers, or do other projects in Ghana – 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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