



## GHANA: PRE-SCHOOL PROJECT

**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!

GHANA IS INCREDIBLE. Everything is in excess... overwhelming hospitality, a multitude of religions, languages, music, dancing, socialising and an abundance of glorious African countryside and wide open spaces.

### WHAT DO YOU GET?

- 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!**
- A unique insight into another culture – **see it from the inside** in a way you could never do as a tourist.
- An opportunity to **make lifelong friends from all over the world.**
- And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**



### ► SUMMARY FACTFILE

<b>Start Dates</b>	All year round - you choose your start and finish dates!
<b>Duration</b>	Minimum stay 2 weeks and up to 1 year, subject to visa requirements
<b>Requirements</b>	No qualifications needed, just a big heart and a desire to provide care and support.
<b>Price</b>	From £795 / US\$1,195 for 2 weeks, ranging to £1,795/ US\$2,695 for 12 weeks. <a href="#">Full Price List</a>
<b>What's included</b>	► 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.
<b>What's not included</b>	Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required, but we'll provide necessary documents and assistance), Return transfer to airport.
<b>Who can do this Project?</b>	All our projects are open to all nationalities. Unless otherwise stated, you need to be aged between 17 and 70+

## PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

The pre-school believes that every child deserves the right to a future and they provide programmes for children to give them the chance they need to make a life for themselves away from the street life in Accra. Professional staff, mentors and volunteers give them support they need to build a future for themselves.

You can get involved in a variety of activities such as playtime with the children, feeding and nap times. There will also be basic teaching involved including basic numerical & English skills, drawing and organizing and facilitating games. This is where you will help to develop audio-visual skills from a young age.

Volunteering on this project not only provides much needed help to the staff of the school, but it helps the children in leaps and bounds by teaching them conversational English and allowing them to socialise with people from all over the world. This works wonders for their confidence and this can be seen as they progress in the school with more and more supportive contact. You will be overwhelmed by the smiles and energy that these children show for visitors and each other – you won't be able to resist a smile back!!

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 Pre-School Programme

We work with a pre-school in Accra which caters for underprivileged children from the surrounding area.

The pre-school can accommodate approximately 20 to 50 children. There are 2 classrooms and the age range of the children ranges from 1-5 years.

The support given by our volunteers makes a tremendous amount of difference and the pre-school will accept you wholeheartedly! The pre-school believes that every child deserves the right to a future and they provide programmes for the children to give them the chance they need to make a life for themselves away from the street life in Accra. They try to give them the best start possible.

The school is funded privately and is in an urban area based in the Kwabenya region of Accra. Many schools in Accra are actually private schools as the people who start them believe that there should be a good standard of basic education available to all children and it is doing their part to help the community.

You are very likely to be in popular demand everywhere - in and out of the classroom! This is a fantastic project and an ideal experience for you if you want to contribute your help, knowledge and skills to a deserving community, and in exchange you gain great experience from a different culture, and also have lots of fun - plus a thoroughly enjoyable and authentic experience.

Generally the schools lack many of the facilities that we take for granted in our own country but, for African standards, the facilities are ok. The schools and class rooms are generally very neat and they work with what they have. You will soon learn to utilise what is available to you.

### Work Content

On this project, you will be assisting the staff with a variety of activities such as playtime, feeding and nap times. You will also be helping with basic teaching, which might include basic numerical and English skills, arts and crafts and any other activity that might be going on.

In general, the placement is a lot of fun, extremely worthwhile and very rewarding!



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The working hours will usually be 7.30am – 3pm (they rise early in Ghana, due to the heat!), Monday to Friday, with weekends off to relax or to do a bit of travelling to must-see places in and around Accra and the region. There are many places of interest to go and visit, with lots of history, natural beauty and very friendly faces!

You don't need any qualifications to participate in a project in Ghana, just a big heart and the desire to help. You do need to be fluent in the English language however – Ghana's main language is English, however you will hear other languages in Ghana, such as Twi, Ewé and Ga (and maybe you will pick up a few useful words that will impress the locals!).

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.

### 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.

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.



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**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:

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

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!

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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.

## WHY GO WITH TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

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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:

*"The first time we arrived it was quite daunting; all these new names and faces, and the thought that I was to be responsible for part of their education. I was taken aback by the fact that I was teaching Art (a subject in which I show about as much talent as I do at speaking Greek) as well as English, French, PE and Music, but it really wasn't a problem at all, and now I enjoy the school very much. The headmaster and teachers are all very nice."*

*"My host family - Lizzie and Prince are lovely. The children are very sweet, and I feel extremely lucky to have been placed with them. The house is of a Western standard in most ways, and Lizzie's cooking is excellent. I feel a part of their family already."*

## 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!

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**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, 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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