



# Papua New Guinea National's Package

SUBSIDISED CONSERVATION & EDUCATION SUPPORT

Conflict Islands Conservation Initiative  
Shark and Ray | Coral Reef and Fish | Turtle Monitoring

## PNG & Grass Roots Conservation in Milne Bay with Conflict Islands Conservation Initiative

To encourage the conservation, preservation and enhancement of the natural environment through community-based efforts from the ground up, CICI recognizes that opportunities for students and communities from Papua New Guinea to gain meaningful field experience is limited. In order to assist and help further education and awareness for students and communities we are offering a limited number of placements for Papua New Guinea students and conservation minded community members this opportunity to join any of our programs for a heavily subsidized cost, by the owner of the Conflict Islands Mr Ian Gowrie-Smith.

CICI wishes to encourage the participation of people from all walks of life and wants to be as inclusive as possible without bias of age, gender, culture, nationality or economic background.

The fee for PNG Nationals wishing to attend is 1000 kina per fortnight

### INCLUSIONS

- Airport transfer between Alotau airport and our boat
- Travel between Alotau and the Conflict Islands
- Travel to research sites
- All food
- All accommodation on the Island
- Laundry facilities (once a week)
- Research Equipment
- All activities (except diving)
- In-country orientation and training
- Boat travel between islands and to neighboring Islands groups Use of kayaks, SUP's, snorkeling equipment End of trip bonfire
- Certificate of completion

### NOT INCLUDED

- Return flights to Alotau
- Accommodation in Port Moresby or Alotau (if you have a long layover)
- Travel Insurance
- Soft drinks
- Scuba Diving and Courses
- Additional tours
- Souvenirs
- Any additional food, for dietary requirements

## Rules and Selection Process

### RULES

- Strictly no alcohol or illicit drugs permitted on the islands. You are not permitted to bring your own alcohol. Anyone found to have brought their own alcohol or to be in possession of illicit drugs will have their internship position cancelled immediately.
- Any costs incurred due to the cancelation of the trip will be charged back to the participant.
- Fees are to be paid up front prior to the commencement of the placement
- Fees are refundable if you are not able to attend for any reason

### SELECTION

To be selected to participate in one of CICI's programs, you must have a valid Police Clearance, submit a CV for review, and have at least one reference who can vouch for your good character. This will need to be submitted with a Cover letter outlining "Why you wish to participate in a CICI Volunteer Program?" No more than 700 words.

## Initiative's Available for participation

### TURTLE MONITORING



This project is to monitor the sea turtle populations at the Conflict Islands, through the development of a long-term tagging program. This project will study the population of nesting female green and hawksbill turtles to create a baseline dataset and to assess the effectiveness of ongoing conservation efforts in the area.

You will be assisting our Turtle Rangers, in conducting nighttime beach patrols, tagging both green and hawksbill turtles that nest on the islands. You will also participate in nest relocations of turtles. Another part of the program is to conduct nest success studies and assisting with the collection of eggs for the Conflict Islands Turtle Hatchery and Nursery. The program also involves

data entry and learning about sea turtle husbandry at the Conflict Islands Turtle Nursery.

## SHARK AND RAY MONITORING

This project is going to be used to assess shark and ray population and diversity at the Conflict Islands, through the development of a long-term survey program. This project will study the populations of different species of shark and rays to create a baseline dataset and to assess the effectiveness of our ongoing conservation and education efforts in the area.



You will be assisting our team in deploying BRUV's (Baited Remote Underwater Video systems) and analysing the data collected. By counting the number of sharks that swim into the field of view, we can estimate shark abundance and compare the results between sites and across years. There have been sightings of hammerhead sharks as well as whale sharks, and we regularly see juvenile black tip reef sharks around our jetty which would indicate there is a pupping area somewhere in the vicinity which we are hoping to be to identify. Manta's and white-tailed mangrove rays are some of the larger species of rays that we see on a regular basis as well as the lagoon or blue spotted ray.

## CORAL REEF STUDIES AND FISH MONITORING



As climate change is creating a huge shift in coral abundance and diversity, the need to assess the health of our reef is paramount to conservation here at CICI. Without the reef-building coral, there will be a dramatic shift in coral reef inhabitants and functional groups, which will impact food chains (including humans!) within the Milne Bay province, PNG. Hence, gaining more knowledge of these animals is all part of your program! This project is

going to assess the reef-building coral and reef fishes around the Conflict Islands through the development of a long-term survey program. Participants will record the health and persistence of the reef building coral and fish inhabitants around key islands, including recording species, coral growth and reproductive output within habitats. Participants will learn skills in

scientific methodology, including:

- surveys on reef fishes and functional groups,
- coral health and disease,
- recording lateral growth in coral,
- recruitment of coral and fishes within habitat and
- coral gardening and fragmenting techniques.

This program is a great opportunity to gain experience in marine conservation.

## Scuba Diving Training

PADI Scuba diving training is also available at an additional cost. There is an online fee paid direct to PADI for the online e-Learning and a fee paid to CICI for the practical. For Open water scuba diver training it is 1,200Kina fee. If you need to complete your theory and practical at the Conflict Islands the fee is an additional 580kina.

If you have had any surgeries, ear, heart, lung or blood health issues a full dive medical at your own cost will need to be undertake prior to coming for the scuba diving course.

All our courses are through PADI and you can find out more where at [www.padi.com/](http://www.padi.com/)

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL ON [VOLUNTEERS@CONFLICTISLANDS.COM](mailto:VOLUNTEERS@CONFLICTISLANDS.COM)