



Raleigh
International

RALEIGH VENTURER MANAGER EXPEDITION GUIDE

Become a Venturer Manager, supporting young people and local communities on sustainable development projects.



CONTENTS

About Raleigh International	02
About Raleigh Expedition	03
What Do Venturer Managers Do?	04
Venturer Manager Roles	05-06
How does Expedition Work?	07
Timeline	08
Fieldbase Life	09
Community Phase	10
Environmental Phase	11
Adventure Challenge Phase	12
Changeover and Debrief	13
Where Can You Go?	14

South Africa	15
Costa Rica	16
Borneo	17
Kenya	18
Safety	19
Life on Expedition	20
Feeling Inspired?	21



ABOUT RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL

Watch our video



Transformational. Impactful. The beginning of the rest of your life. This is how Raleigh volunteers describe Raleigh Expeditions.

At Raleigh International we create life-enhancing journeys and transformational experiences for young people aged 17-24 through Raleigh Expeditions.

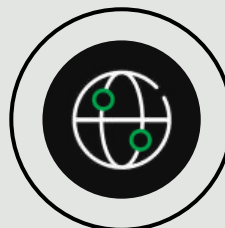
Venturer Managers work at the heart of the volunteer experience, supporting Venturers to make change, both on their projects and within themselves.

On our programmes all Venturers are supported to gain new experiences which will enhance their lives.



“Raleigh friends for life! From all walks of life, coming together to overcome challenges and to accomplish their shared goals together. Absolutely life changing.”

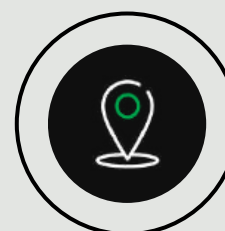
Alison, Raleigh Venturer



Venturers have contributed to over 100 million volunteering hours on 600+ Expeditions.



Raleigh is a global community of over 55,000 alumni and has supporters from over 100 countries.



Joining a community of like-minded people, Venturers live a world of adventure and purpose in Costa Rica, South Africa, Borneo and Kenya.



ABOUT RALEIGH EXPEDITION

Find out more



Raleigh Expedition is an immersive, adventurous, one-of-a-kind volunteer abroad experience.

Venturers can take part in up to three phases:

COMMUNITY

ENVIRONMENT

**ADVENTURE
CHALLENGE**

Whether you are on a career/study break or are retired, you can support young Venturers to build skills for the future while living a world of adventure.

Volunteer in the heart of wildlife havens and rural communities, contributing to supporting people and nature. Venture across spectacular landscapes and immerse into new cultures and embrace challenges.



“It was the most amazing experience of my life.”

**Amy,
Raleigh Venturer**

WHY RALEIGH?

For over 40 years, hundreds of Venturer Managers have played their part in helping to transform the lives of young Venturers on Raleigh. Leading teams around the world, our VMs help create a sustainable difference while guiding our next generation to build skills and find the direction for their future lives.



Over 40 years experiences running expeditions



Real adventure in a safe environment



Develop your leadership and confidence



Contribute to different projects



Build experience in people management



Join projects contributing to the UN Global Goals

WHAT DOES A VENTURER MANAGER DO?

Find out more



Venturer Managers are the driving force behind Raleigh Expeditions and come with a wealth of valued skills and experience. Venturer Managers support our young Venturers and the programme in a variety of different ways.

- ✓ You will work alongside and support our full-time staff on the ground in delivering the Expedition and our projects.
- ✓ You will facilitate groups of Venturers and guide young people through this incredible journey
- ✓ Manage group dynamics and support Venturers in personal development, including through one-to-one sessions.
- ✓ You will motivate and inspire young Venturers to deliver impactful and effective projects

“

“I took three months out of my communications career in the UK National Health Service, to nurture my love of communications in a challenging new environment. Jaded with the impact I was making in my job back home, my biggest motivation was that, I wanted to feel that I was spending my days really making a difference.”

**Ursula, Content Creator
Venturer Manager**



VENTURER MANAGER ROLES

Find out more



PROJECT COORDINATOR

(Project based)

You and at least one other Project Coordinator will be managing a group of international young people, aged 17- 24, in a cross-cultural environment out on the project sites. You will be supporting the team to deliver Raleigh International's project aims as well as monitoring and coaching them to help with their personal development.

Find out more



LOGISTICS OFFICER

(Office based)

As the Logistics Officer, you will be essential to the smooth running of the programme. Work alongside full-time staff in ensuring all food, equipment and materials are coordinated and supplied for volunteer teams at their project sites. You will be key to supporting the day to day running of projects, and will get the chance to visit project sites for any additional support required.

Find out more



CONTENT CREATOR

(Part office based,
part project based)

You will capture the moments which make our Expeditions special. You will use skills in social media production to curate content for our channels, posting photos, creating videos, sharing reels and stories from your Expedition. You will support on blog writing and on gathering case studies from projects.

Find out more





PHOTOGRAPHER

(Part office based,
part project based)

Bring Expedition to life for Raleigh's audiences through powerful photography and film which you will gather while on Expedition. From spectacular views on trek to special moments of team moment, you will play a vital role in creating memories from Expedition and inspiring others to get involved.

Find out more



EXPEDITION MEDIC

(Office based)

Use your skills as a doctor, nurse or paramedic to support young people on Expedition. This role is for a qualified doctor, nurse or paramedic. You will learn about incident management and medical support in remote environments and will be responsible for completing incident report, delivering first aid advice, following up on reporting procedures and ensuring volunteer safety is at the top of the agenda.

Find out more



PROJECT COORDINATOR (WELLBEING LEAD)

(Project based)

Support young people with their mental and physical health through Expedition ensuring they feel safe and secure in an environment outside of their comfort zone as the Wellbeing Coordinator.

Find out more



DEPUTY OPERATIONS COORDINATOR

(Office based)

Providing operational support, DOCs are a key part of the duty manager system and the daily running of Expedition. You support the delivery of training for volunteers, and providing them crucial support during Expedition. This role is for Raleigh alumni.

Find out more





HOW DOES EXPEDITION WORK?

Find out more



1

Choose where you go

12 Weeks

All office and project based roles will join Expedition prior to the arrival of our young Venturers for Venturer Manager Induction. This will provide time for Venturer Managers to team bond, learning about the upcoming projects and prepare for the rest of the Expedition.

Opportunities to take part in a shorter Expedition length may be available. Chat to the Raleigh team for more information.



Our Expeditions bring together people from all over the world, of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities. They are adventurous, impactful, exciting and challenging.

On every Expedition, Venturers have the chance to take part in three different phases. These are Community Project, Environment Project and Adventure Challenge.

2

Choose when you go

We run three cycles every year during the following times.

Cycle 1 - February – April

South Africa, Costa Rica, Borneo

Cycle 2 - June – August

Costa Rica, Kenya

Cycle 3 - October – December

Costa Rica, Kenya, Borneo

TIMELINE

Training and induction

On arrival you will be greeted by the in-country team, and transferred to Fieldbase which will be your home for the next few months.

After some time to settle in and a chance to get to know each other and the staff team, you will be thrown straight into a series of sessions about your country, your upcoming projects and Raleigh. There will be lots to learn, but you will also get the opportunity to relax, get to know fellow Venturer Managers and the local area.

You will then head out to some of the project sites on a project planning visit (PPV) for 2-3 days to build relationships with community leaders, gain a better understanding of where you'll be working, and ensure it is a safe, fun and rewarding project site for the Venturers. You will also likely get the opportunity to try out some of the trek routes on a practice trek!



SAMPLE TIMELINE



Venturer Manager Induction

2+ Weeks of Induction, Training and Project Planning.



Venturer(17-24) Induction

2-3 days - Young Venturers prepare for their first project supported by their Project Coordinators.



Project Phase x3

19-21 days – Project Coordinators take their teams to their Project sites. Fieldbase staff support project teams and maintain Fieldbase.



Changeover

2-3 days – After each phase all Project teams return to Fieldbase for debrief and to mixed up into their next project groups.



Debrief at Fieldbase

3-6 Days – Young Venturers prepare to leave the Expedition, say their final goodbye. Venturers Managers complete Project reports; tidy up Fieldbase, deliver Expedition presentations and celebrate everything that has been achieved.

This is a sample timeline and may be subject to change depending on where and when you volunteer.

ADVENTURE
WITH
PURPOSE

FLDDBASE LIFE

“It’s given me a lot more confidence about what to do next, just because you’re retired doesn’t mean you haven’t got those skills and experience. That experience does count for quite a bit, so that has been validating.”

Kathy, Logistics Coordinator

The Raleigh Expedition experience begins at Fieldbase. It is the heart of Raleigh operations and is home for office-based Venturer Managers. Venturer Induction takes place here.



Costa Rica

- Fieldbase is in Turrialba 2hrs from the airport.
- Situated on a farm, there are cows in neighbouring land and there is a view of Turrialba Volcano.
- Fieldbase is an office and house that serves as accommodation for office- based VMs.
- Shared bedrooms with bunkbeds and common living areas.
- Working toilets and cold showers.



Borneo

- Fieldbase is in Turrialba 2hrs from the airport.
- Situated on a farm, there are cows in neighbouring land with a view of the volcano.
- Fieldbase is an office and house that serves as accommodation for office- based VMs.
- Shared bedrooms with bunkbeds and common living areas.
- Working toilets and cold showers.



South Africa

- Located in the town of Hoedspruit.
- In an area with many lemon trees, you cross the Blyde River to reach Fieldbase.
- Located outside of the Kruger National Park, much wildlife roam around the area.
- Shared bedrooms with bunkbeds and common living areas.
- Limited WIFI may be available.
- You can visit the town during down time.



Kenya

- Located in Muhaka, over 2 hours from Mombasa Airport.
- Is based in the heart of a community, you will interact with locals daily.
- You will sleep in dorms with bunk beds.
- Modern toilets and showers, the water will be cold.
- Limited WIFI may be available.



COMMUNITY PHASE

Find out more



Imagine a world where everyone has access to education and community facilities, so that they can build the skills they need to prosper in future life. Where everyone, no matter their background or where they live, have access to learning. Play your part in making this a reality.

Through a series of grassroots, community-led initiatives we aim to establish what works for the communities we work in. All projects are needed, impactful and ultimately make a long-term sustainable impact.

- ✔ Work on sustainable solutions to issues such as poverty, low levels of education, food insecurity, and unemployment.
- ✔ Building projects, such as community schools, are based on a community-specific needs assessment and relationship building between Raleigh, the local community and local authorities.
- ✔ Live and work alongside local people, immersing into their culture and gaining insight into a different way of life.

SARAH'S STORY



“A highlight of my Expedition was when we were high in the Chirripo, in the rainforest. On our project there we had built a hall and events room for a new school. I was with the headmaster of the school and head of the indigenous community, cutting the ribbon at the opening ceremony of this new classroom. It was such a privilege to be there on behalf of Raleigh and with the Venturers. We danced, sang, read poetry. It was a privilege to be part of that.”

Sarah, Venturer Manager in Costa Rica



Build educational facilities and a school garden in South Africa

ENVIRONMENTAL PHASE

Find out more



Our natural world is under threat, from climate change and human interaction. Our projects support conservation efforts to protect natural landscapes and precious wildlife. Support young volunteers to make real impact on their projects.

- ✔ Support Venturers to take an active role in protecting natural resources and vulnerable environments, such as through alien plant removal, reforestation, snare sweeps, road clearing.
- ✔ Support conservation work highly biodiverse areas by contributing to the work of park rangers and local environment experts.
- ✔ Guide your team to plan awareness raising activities on the importance in preserving ecosystems.
- ✔ Learn more about the local environment and gain knowledge in nature conservation.

TIANA'S STORY



“For my environmental phase we worked on fence line removal and erosion control work. We also helped remove snares that pose a threat to the animals. Removing fences actually allow the animals to have a bigger living area so they can walk freely and safely, it's so they won't get trapped and get caught on metal. I have learnt so much from our guide, gaining knowledge on things like tracking, identifying different animals and footprints.”

**Tiana, Venturer in
South Africa**



Support reforestation in Borneo



ADVENTURE CHALLENGE PHASE

Find out more



Our Adventure Challenge phase take teams on challenging treks through rainforest, jungle or mountain landscapes on a variety of stunning routes that tourists don't get access to.

You will support your Venturer team to build leadership skills while having the adventure of a lifetime.

- ✔ Guide your team to embrace the challenge of trek, develop leadership skills and learn about the power of team effort.
- ✔ Motivate volunteers to build core skills, resilience and determination to drive change.
- ✔ Wild camp and sleep under the stars or set up camp in community buildings and schools.
- ✔ Learn survival, camp craft and map reading skills; navigate your group through incredible landscapes.
- ✔ Go back to basics and become self-sufficient.

NICK'S TREK

“I feel I've gained loads of new skills. Trek pushed me to the limit and let me know what I'm capable of. I feel like it's given me the tools to face life and just take on anything. I don't think that there's much that I wouldn't be able to do now. You could put anything in front of me and I'd say, OK, let's have a go. I learned that I'm able to motivate people, when were struggling up mountains, I learned I could lift morale and boost the team's spirits.”

Nick, Venturer Manager and Photographer in South Africa



Experience stunning landscapes

CHANGEOVER AND DEBRIEF

Changeover

Changeover is a busy three-day period where all the Project teams return to Fieldbase, where teams are debriefed, kit and equipment is exchanged by Logistics teams and any necessary admin or medical needs are completed in preparation for the next phase. It is a time to celebrate achievements made in the last phase, but also for new teams to be formed for the phase ahead. Project Coordinators and Venturers will have time to bond with their new team, and will also have a well earned chance to rest, recuperate and freshen up before the next stage of their Expedition.



DEBRIEF

At the end of the final phase everyone returns to Fieldbase to complete the Final Review or Endex. This will involve returning all kit, equipment and left-over food to the logistics team, complete Project reports that will aid future Project Coordinators, and finally a period of celebration where everyone gets together to enjoy one final party before it is time to go home.

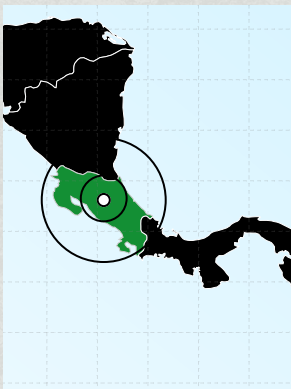


WHERE YOU CAN GO

Find out more

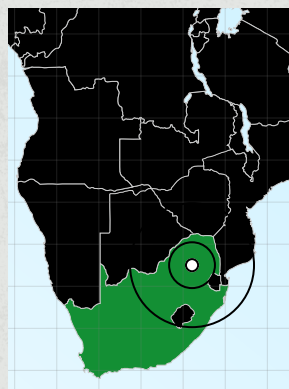


VOLUNTEER IN COSTA RICA



Be culturally immersed in an indigenous community while on projects supporting access to education, and conquer a whopping 250km trek across beautiful rainforest and mountain areas.

VOLUNTEER IN SOUTH AFRICA



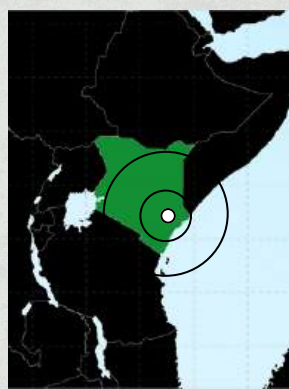
Live in a local community and the African bush on community and environment projects, and experience South Africa's highest mountains whilst trekking the incredible Drakensbergs.

VOLUNTEER IN BORNEO



Experience life in Borneo's indigenous areas while working on a community project in rural Sabah, and embrace the magic of the jungle on your environment project and adventure challenge.

VOLUNTEER IN KENYA



Embrace Kenya's rich and diverse culture and wildlife while living in working in rural and coastal areas. Explore rugged terrains whilst trekking the Kasigau Circuit and Shimba Hills on your adventure challenge.

**AVAILABLE FOR
FEB-APR 2025
EXPEDITIONS ONLY**

KRUGER

SOUTH AFRICA

Download South Africa Guide



Known as the 'Rainbow Nation' for its cultural diversity, you will experience the beauty of community life and spectacular 'Big 5' wildlife as a volunteer.

What will I be doing?

- ✔ Support work on grassroots, community projects improve education facilities and a community garden.
- ✔ Help restore a healthy habitat on land bordering the world famous Kruger National Park.
- ✔ Explore true wilderness, forest and canyon landscapes on the adventure leadership trek.
- ✔ Learn to cook traditional food and understand local traditions.

“

“Raleigh isn't just 'building a school on a gap year'. It's so much deeper than that.”

Tiana volunteered in South Africa

DID YOU KNOW?

You could learn some of the Xitsonga language - one of the 11 official languages of South Africa!

The Greater Kruger area is a wildlife haven with natural beauty unlike anywhere else.



Protect wildlife removing snares



Work together, make friends for life

COSTA RICA

Download Costa Rica Guide



SAN JOSÉ

Volunteer in one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, home to national parks, volcanoes and stunning wildlife.

What will I be doing?

- ✓ Guide your team to work alongside local people to improve their access to education on the indigenous Community project.
- ✓ Work with rangers to help conserve Costa Rica's biodiversity and improve access to national parks on the Environmental project.
- ✓ Support leadership building while on trek through rainforest and up volcanoes on a variety of stunning routes that tourists don't get access to.



"33 years on from Expedition I still feel the positive impact."

Terry, Raleigh Venturer

DID YOU KNOW?

Costa Rica is leading the international fight against climate change.

Despite making up only 0.03% of the world's landmass, Costa Rica is home to nearly 5% of the planet's biodiversity.



Learn navigation and map reading skills!



Work together on construction projects



SABAH

BORNEO

Download
Borneo Guide



Home to some of the world's most unique wildlife, on Expedition in Borneo you will embrace jungle life while guiding your team to supporting indigenous communities and the growth of rainforest landscapes.

What will I be doing?

- ✓ Work in an indigenous Dusun community, supporting construction of important facilities such as toilets, community halls or drainage systems.
- ✓ Support your team as they work with local experts to rehabilitate precious mangroves, helping to support nature and tackle environmental degradation.
- ✓ Trek with your Venturers across the Salt Trail of the Crocker Range on your trek and support an eco project during your Jungle Adventure.



The time I shared will forever be cherished and I would gladly put myself forward to do it all over again.

Gabrielle, Venturer

DID YOU KNOW?

At 140 million years old, the Borneo rainforest is one of the oldest in the world and the largest in Southeast Asia.

Malaysian Borneo is home to over 100 endemic species, including the Proboscis Monkeys, Sunda Leopard and Pygmy Elephant.



Work as a team to protect Borneo's nature



Explore Borneo's Crocker Range

KENYA

Download
Kenya Guide



MOMBASA

Live and work in the heart of rural communities to improve access to education, and support environmental conservation on projects working to preserve Kenya's coast and forest.

What will I be doing?

- ✓ Support a School Improvement Programme in a rural community, working to improve classroom facilities through construction and painting.
- ✓ Work with local experts to rehabilitate precious mangroves, support indigenous tree planting and reforestation, and conservation of fisheries.
- ✓ Explore the Kasigau Circuit and the beautiful Shimba Hills on an adventure trek covering vast and arid terrains.



I will remember it until the day I die. A truly remarkable experience I will never forget..

Martin, Venturer

DID YOU KNOW?

Kenya is home to over 40 ethnic groups, with 68 different languages being spoken among across tribal communities.

The oldest known human fossil, the Turkana Boy, was found in Kenya. He is estimated to be around 1.5 million years old.



Support tree planting and nature initiatives



Support construction of school facilities

SAFETY

FAQ's



Safety is at the heart of everything.

This starts with selecting the appropriate places to volunteer, all the way to providing comprehensive safety training to all volunteers. Our Safety Management Systems are robust, practical, and effective.

- ✓ All teams are supported by experienced operations staff 24/7, trained in incident management
- ✓ All project sites are risk assessed and have robust emergency incident plans in place.
- ✓ In the event of emergency, professional and skilled operators such as medical air rescue services and medical practitioners are available as part of our support network.



Venturer Managers are vital in driving safety

Members of the Venturer Manager team will support the staff team to deliver safety training. You will play a key role in upholding systems and protocols on project sites.

Experienced in-country staff on every Expedition

Our full-time staff in each country are highly experienced, committed and resourceful individuals selected and trained to ensure they uphold our high safety standards.



“Leading a team of young international Venturers on a summer-long Expedition to one of the most vibrant and awe-inspiring places on earth is without doubt the most worthwhile experience of my life to date. Without putting too fine a point in it, it was probably my only experience of living outside of the bubble we call home and now not a day goes by without me feeling immensely grateful for my place in the world and energised to actively participate in it's improvement.”

**Ross, Raleigh Costa Rica
VM Alumni**

LIFE ON RALEIGH EXPEDITION



“You think not having things like WiFi or TV will bug you, but it makes you really appreciate what you have and the people you care about.”

Sophie, Raleigh Venturer

Raleigh Expedition is culturally immersive volunteer experience. You will be living and working alongside local people so you can learn about their lives.

Food

- Venturers cook their own meals, eat what the locals eat and embrace new foods.
- In Costa Rica expect to eat rice and beans a lot. If you are lucky, some of the community members may cook some local delicacies for you. On the environmental projects and trek, you will be cooking on gas stoves.
- During VM induction, you will have access to the Raleigh kitchen to cook.
- In South Africa meals might involve maize meal (Miele Meal) and Chakalaka supplemented by rice or pasta.
- In Borneo you will be cooking with Southeast Asian staples like rice, noodles, curries and local fruits and vegetables.
- You will also be given a food budget for your team, to buy some extra fruits or veggies to spruce up your Raleigh rations.

Conditions will be more basic than you are used to, but it will soon become normal. Don't expect tourist hotspots, five-star hotels and 24/7 WIFI, expect a memory-making adventure full of fun and rewarding experiences.

Camp life

- Our no phones and no alcohol policy means that team bonding and connecting with fellow Venturers is a priority. VM can access their phones.
- Expect to sit around the fire, play cards and gaze at the stars. Everyone will have responsibilities around camp.

Accommodation

- In Costa Rica, at Fieldbase Volunteer Managers can expect to share a room sleeping in bunkbeds. Once on project accommodation will be either be a shared tent or a classroom. Showers and toilets will likely be basic.
- In South Africa, Fieldbase accommodation is shared rooms and bunkbeds, while accommodation on project will involve sleeping in tents.
- In Borneo, Fieldbase accommodation is in traditional longhouses with basic facilities. Rooms will be shared.
- In Kenya, VMs in Fieldbase will be in bunk beds in shared rooms for VMs only. On project site, it's tents all the way.



FEELING INSPIRED?

APPLY NOW

1

Sign up online

To confirm your place on Expedition.

2

Invited to Online Assessment

Our team will review your application and invite you to attend an online assessment.

3

Offered place on Expedition

Your assessment and application will be reviewed by our team, and if successful you will be offered a place on Expedition and asked to pay your deposit.

4

Predeparture Preparation

Get ready for Expedition – book flights, vaccinations and so on. We are here to support you!

FIND OUT MORE

Book a consultation call

Schedule a one-to-one call to discuss your options and which Expedition is right for you.

[Book a call](#)



Email us with an enquiry

[Enquire](#)



“

“Whatever your background or motivation, if you’re looking for inspiration, challenge, camaraderie, and unique experiences with lifelong friends then this is for you.”

Raleigh VM Alumni



Raleigh
Raleigh
International

If you still have
questions, there are
lots of ways you can
find out more



info@raleighinternational.org



Join an information event at
raleighinternational.org/information-events