

Biosphere Stewardship Program Bali Barat National Park Bali, Indonesia June 26 - July 6, 2013

Program

Biosphere Foundation (BF) invites high school students aged 15-17 to join their Balinese counterparts for an environmental stewardship program set in beautiful Bali Barat National Park, located on the northwest coast of the island. The park is a treasure with an abundance



of wildlife and contains a rare combination of earth's ecosystems: a coral reef, rainforest, monsoon forest, mangrove forest and savannah.

During this ten-day program, students will have the opportunity to participate in a unique approach to learning about our biosphere and how to care for it. They will experience the beauty of nature, study the



park's ecosystems and discover their interconnectedness and interdependence. Students will also learn about critical challenges to these ecosystems such as

climate change, explore sustainable solutions and join together for a series of service projects in stewardship of the park's environment.

Students will be encouraged to build awareness about the need to preserve coral reefs and all the ecosystems of the national park and to take action for their protection. These efforts will be viewed in a global context and students will be offered tools for becoming stewardship leaders as well as concrete ways they can make a difference upon their return home through activities such as blogging, presentations and environmental stewardship projects in their local communities.





Students will engage in team-building exercises and outdoor activities such as hiking, swimming, snorkeling and boating. They will also have the chance to build bridges of cross-cultural communication and understanding and to experience Balinese traditions such as ceremonies, dance and Gamelan music.

Background

Since 2008, BF has been working in collaboration with Bali Barat National Park, NGO's and the local community to preserve and protect the coral reefs around

Menjangan Island, an uninhabited and sacred island with luxuriant coral reefs which are suffering increasingly from dynamite fishing, poorly managed tourism and climate change.



In 2011, BF organized an educational outreach event and environmental stewardship projects for hundreds of local students and co-founded with Yayasan (Foundation) Dwi Asih Sejahtera *Friends of Menjangan*, a community-based association dedicated to the care and protection of Menjangan Island and its coral reefs. In 2012, BF continued to provide environmental education and outreach programs for the local community and successfully pilot tested a ten-day Biosphere Stewardship Program in

the national park for students from Bali, Singapore and the U.S., establishing a demonstration of international cooperation for the benefit of earth's environment. Our local educational partner is Yayasan Anak Pemuteran, who prepares and sends Balinese students to participate in the Biosphere Stewardship Program.



Details



Students will stay in a dormitory style field station in Bali Barat National Park. The fee for the land portion of the program including meals, accommodations and airport transfers to the national park is \$1,975 USD, exclusive of airfare. Students are required to obtain international travel/medical insurance and should arrange to arrive at Denpasar International Airport on June 26th and depart on July 6th. For further information, please contact Cynthia Lazaroff cl@pcrf.org (310) 454-5237.



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What Students Are Saying About the Biosphere Stewardship Program

This program impacted my life so greatly, that I am moved to start a revolution. I, with the help of others, want to change the world for the better. I want to do everything in my power as a humble fifteen year old to make the world a healthier place for my children and generations to follow. I would absolutely recommend this program to anyone and everyone because there is something in it for any kind of person. It was wonderful in every way. I got to know and learn about different cultures and people from around the world and help save the planet alongside some of the best people I will ever meet, that's the best combination if you ask me.

MacKenzie Kugel Los Angeles, California

I am going to use my dancing to bring awareness and share what I have learned in the Biosphere Stewardship Program.

Dhara Kharisma Bali, Indonesia

Spending time in Bali Barat National Park opened my eyes to a different world. The different language, the different lifestyle, and the different foods were all so intriguing, yet so easy to adapt to. The students from Bali were so welcoming and enthusiastic and I made so many friends and memories that have become a part of me. The language barrier didn't restrict any part of the experience, and the image of the beautiful landscape and my first time snorkeling the underwater world of coral reefs and tropical fish will stick with me forever. It was truly a once in a lifetime experience that widely broadened my outlook on the world.

Kazumi Kanagawa Los Angeles, California

The Biosphere Stewardship Program not only gave me the opportunity to voice my environmental concerns and solutions, but also allowed me to interact with a culturally diverse community with whom I have made many friends. It was an honor to take part in such an innovative program.

Charley Hildt Essex, Massachusetts



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