

SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION IN INDONESIA

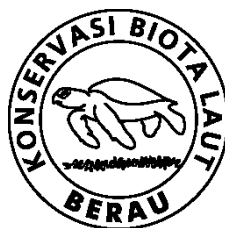
Sea turtles are at risk of extinction. Nowadays, six of seven known species of sea turtle are present in Indonesia (four are nesting in Indonesia). Two of them are critically endangered. The population size of these reptiles has been decreasing; in fact there are places where the decrease has reached 90 % during the last 70 years (East Kalimantan, Sumatra)! Behind this are human activities: collecting of turtle eggs for market where it is sold as a special delicacy to tourists, destruction of turtle beaches by hotels, sale of tortoiseshell souvenir on local markets and the water pollution. Turtles have been also suffering by destructive fishing practices as they die caught in trawl nets. A protection of sea turtles declared by both international conventions or by Indonesian law is ineffective. Let's join those who help!



The Konservasi Biota Laut Berau is an Indonesian organization which protect sea turtles in Berau (Indonesia). The Czech organization Chráníme mořské želvy z.s. lead by biologist Hana Svobodová helps to run this project.

Our vision: A future where sea turtles and their habitats are sustainably protected, healthy, and safe from threat of extinction and destruction.

Our mission: To contribute to sea turtle conservation at our own project sites by cooperating with local communities to create a future where both sea turtles and people can survive.



DO YOU WANT TO BECOME VOLUNTEER?

To apply for volunteer position, please write a motivation letter and send your CV.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

Please read carefully and make sure you understand everything

Volunteers will assist rangers in different aspects of conservation of sea turtles on islands and also in the villages of Maratua / Derawan / Balikpapan / Lenggong / Tanjung Redeb. Please note that the duties vary depending on where you are staying. Volunteers should expect to work up to 30h per week.

Volunteer will have meeting with the director of Konservasi Biota Laut Berau upon arrival in the office of the organization: Jalan Mangga II, Gang Anunta 03, Tanjung Redeb.

Duration and schedule

We prepared recommend schedule but we wish you enjoy your experience in our project so schedule can be changed.

1. day	transportation from Berau airport
2. day	Tanjung Redeb, transportation to Lenggong
3. day	transportation to island Bilang – bilangan
4. day	island Bilang – bilangan
5. day	island Bilang – bilangan
6. day	island Bilang – bilangan
7. day	transportation to island Mataha
8. day	island Mataha
9. day	island Mataha
10. day	transportation to Lenggong, village of Lenggong
11. day	transportation to Tanjung Redeb
12. day	transportation to Berau airport



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THE VOLUNTEER WILL HAVE TO CARRY ON DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES:

On the islands (Bilang-bilangan, Mataha):

Your duties will include monitoring the nesting beaches either during the night or early in the morning. In the afternoon, other activities such as collecting waste on the beach, collecting data on the beach helping rangers with making coconut souvenirs or Ranger's house maintenance etc. will be carried out.

Duties:

General duties for program participants will include:

- 1) Beach patrols for nesting turtles - patrols are undertaken each night at varying hours and in the early morning. The patrols serve several functions and may last between 4 - 6 hours. You can help rangers with:
 - searching for nesting activity and nesting turtles;
 - searching for any evidence of nests hatching;
 - collecting data on nesting turtles and nesting events;
 - checking nests already laid;
 - searching for any turtle stranding, whether sick or dead;
 - looking out for illegal poachers on the beach and report them to the rangers.
 - Occasionally turtles lay their eggs in unsuitable places. In such cases, rangers relocated the nest to a new site and the eggs are carefully moved and re-buried. After the nest has hatched we do a survey of the hatching success rate, which involves nest excavation and analysis of the shells left.
- 2) Collecting waste on the beach
- 3) Helping rangers in Ranger's house (repairing the house, cleaning, cooking, making turtle souvenirs, teaching the local rangers English - a group of people, adults and beginners)



Normal day on islands:

6 am – beach monitoring

7-9 am – collecting waste on the beach

10 am - food

11am – 4pm – have a rest – you can explore island, snorkel

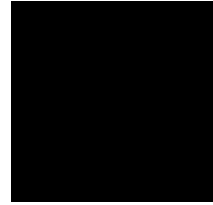
4 pm – beach monitoring, collecting waste on the beach

7 pm - food

10 pm – 2 am – night patrol

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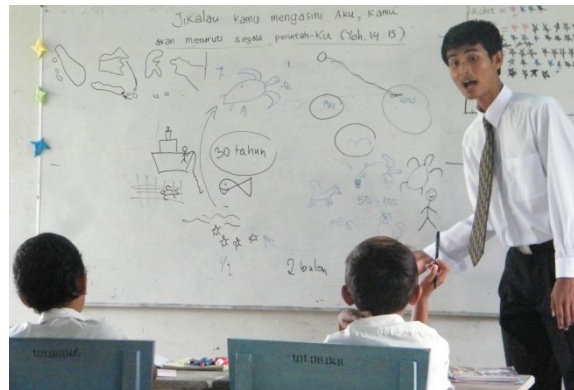


If you want help us in the villages of Maratua, Derawan, Balikpapan, Lenggong and Tanjung Redeb:

Your duties will focus on local population: mainly education activities for local children, playing with them, teaching English, collecting waste on beaches with local people.

Duties:

- Help in designing school and community education activities (e.g. using drama, arts, songs and games) concerning marine environment and turtle conservation; Participating and helping at school - teaching English;
- Participate in marine conservation awareness events and assist in carrying out educational workshops and activities.



REQUIREMENTS

Volunteers are expected to fulfil certain requirements in order to participate in our program. Work is extremely demanding, both at a physical and mental level, and these requirements are just to ensure that volunteers bring the requirements and enjoy their experience in our project.

- Need to be fit and motivated and enjoy working outdoors
- Volunteers must be good swimmers, physically fit to walk long distances on soft, sandy beaches and nature trails, working in all weather conditions, and keep smiling!
- A background in biology, wildlife conservation or similar fields is preferred
- Previous experience in other sea turtle conservation projects is an advantage
- Able to converse, receive and understand instructions in English. Indonesian is an advantage but not necessary
- Minimum age of 18
- Travel insurance (but be careful because a lot of travel insurance don't run in isolated places)
- Social visa (since islands of Mataha and Bilang – bilangan are part of protected area, volunteers are ask to use social visa. Tourist = people with tourist visa are not allowed to entry protected islands)
- Being able to work in remote areas under extreme conditions
- Flexibility to adapt to changing schedules as required and ability to adapt to work at nights and sleep at days
- No alcohol consumption is allowed.
- Illegal drugs are not tolerated and any use will result in immediate expulsion from the project.

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TRAINING

No special qualifications and experience are necessary except that all volunteers should have high motivation and must be willing to work hard in warm and humid conditions. Be sure that you can stay and work hard in warm and humid conditions before your coming. You also need to be friendly, initiative and communicative, be able to work in a group with local Indonesian rangers and live on the islands with only a few people, mainly locals. **English and Indonesian are only accepted languages.**

LIVING CONDITIONS

Accommodation depends on where you are stay. On islands volunteers will stay in tents or in the Ranger's houses which are equipped with very basics kitchen and WC (Asian style WC – using of toilet paper is prohibited). You can have an Asian style shower in the toilet too. Electricity is working only a few hours a day. Be sure that you can live in simple conditions like this). In the villages of Balikukup, Lenggo or Tanjung Redeb volunteers will stay in homestay. The accommodation will be simple and clean, but be prepared to live a simple lifestyle during your stay. You will be on very remote beaches and communities, and need to be prepared to live without night life, shops, television, etc. and with limited variations of food. There are cash machines with limited daily withdrawal but no exchange office in Tanjung Redeb so change your money in Jakarta. There is no internet and mobile phone signal on islands. You will have enough free time during the day to walk and explore the beauty of the islands or to read a book. Volunteers are expected to take an active part on islands maintenance and cleaning, as well as cooking.



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FOOD:

In islands the Konservasi Biota Laut Berau provides the ingredients for lunch and dinner. Filtered water is always available for drinking purposes. Meals are prepared by the rangers but please help them. Rice, pasta and fish are the basic ingredients (for breakfast also so take your own ingredients breakfast if you need). "Goodies" such as proper coffee/tea, biscuits, sodas, cereals, and fresh fruit (on the daily basis) are not provided, so you should bring some with you if you believe they are essential. In this case please buy all what you need in Tanjung Redeb (please think about what you will buy because there is only one fridge in the island and it is working only when electricity is on = 4 hour a day).

CULTURE

In the villages of Maratua, Derawan, Balikpapan, Lenggong, Tanjung Redeb and on islands you will be based in a small community of rangers on the islands or in a small village, and you should be open and prepared to live respecting local Indonesian culture and habits. The villagers are not used to having foreigners in the village living with them. You might find the local's daily habits different from yours (you can hear Islamic prayer several times a day in villages), but please consider that we are all different and should respect the culture of the country where we are. The exchange of culture and different way of seeing things enriches ourselves and brings positive effects. Women are kindly asked to respect the local community culture and dress discreetly and conservatively at all times. Despite the warm climate, most locals wear long clothing as opposed to shorts and t-shirts. We recommend long pants, 3/4 trousers and long skirts rather than shorts or short skirts. We also advise to keep your shoulders covered (please wear T-shirts with sleeves. No tank tops or shorts). Women will receive more unwanted attention if they do not dress conservatively. Going nude at beaches is illegal in Indonesia. No alcohol consumption is allowed. Volunteers represent our organization by their behaviour so please do not put the conservation program under risk.

BENEFITS/COSTS

Since there is no external funding to support the expenses of volunteers, volunteers are expected to pay a participation fee. Fee is 250 000 IDR per day starting by journey from Tanjung Redeb to port and to islands until you left us back in Tanjung Redeb. Part of the fee is going to government for your permit. It is because Bilang-bilangan and Mataha islands are part of protected area. That is also why you need to have social visa – it is not allowed to entry island as a tourist (with tourist visa).

Rest of fee covers the costs of:

- transportation from Tanjung Redeb to Lenggong (4 hours journey by car)
- food in Lenggong
- transportation from Lenggong to islands (Bilang-bilangan, Mataha) and back (one way 3 hours journey to islands by boat) - out of schedule transportation will be charged with 300 Euro
- Food and drinking water (2 meals a day – during the stay on islands)
- accommodation is provided during the stay on islands
- Training in conservation duties
- On-site support by local team of rangers.

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The participation fee does not cover the costs of:

- Airfare
- Airport pick-up and transportation from Berau airport to Tanjung Redeb and back
- Travel/medical insurance
- Personal expenses
- Accommodation in the villages of Balikpapan, Lenggong or Tanjung Redeb - volunteers will stay in homestay. (we can recommend the homestay where volunteers can stay here and help volunteers to book in).
- Food in Tanjung Redeb.

Payment of participation fees is done at the office in Tanjung Redeb only on arrival, in cash. Payment should be made in local currency and we will not refund you the money if you decide to leave project sooner than you planned.

You should bring cash (Euro, Dollars) from your country and exchange it into local currency as soon as possible after your arriving to Indonesia. Exchange it into local currency will not be possible in project area. We recommend bringing the whole amount needed for the entire stay in cash (daily participation fee + pocket - money for personal expenses and leisure time).

THINGS TO BRING

Besides personal belongings (music, books, games, camera, sun glasses, etc.) we recommend to think of the following (please note that those items in **red** are MANDATORY):

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

- **Passport** (needs to be valid at least 6 months from the time of entry).
- **Social visa**
- **Travel/Health insurance** is OBLIGATORY for all volunteers and must cover medical emergencies abroad.

YOU MUST SUBMIT THE DETAILS OF PASSPORT, VISA, TRAVEL/HEALTH INSURANCE DOCUMENTS AND EMERGENCY CONTACT TO KONSERVASI BIOTA LAUT BERAU AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE DATE!

VISA

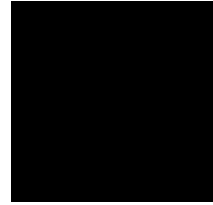
Check out yourself how to get a social visa to Indonesia with the closest embassy or consulate. We can provide invitation letter to you. Since islands of Mataha and Bilang – bilangan are part of protected area, volunteers are asked to use social visa. Tourist = people with tourist visa are not allowed to enter protected islands.

INSURANCE

- Health services in project area are very basic and doctor and pharmacy is far away from islands where you will probably mostly stay. We recommend insurances with good medical covering and please bring your own first-aid kit box. If you bring expensive things (photography or video cameras, etc) we also recommend additional insurance against theft.

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VACCINES

At time of writing there are no specific vaccines required to enter Indonesia, and it's not necessary to present your vaccination card. But we do advise you to have yours updated, so please check with your private physician, in health insurance company and in foreign office.

CLOTHING

- Summer clothing, sweater for windy nights at the beach;
- Long-sleeved tops and trousers.
- Sandals as well as closed shoes, which will be needed to walk on rocky areas during beach patrols. These will be needed as no volunteers will be allowed to walk barefoot at night at the beach.
- Rain jacket/windbreaker;
- Hat and sunglasses (it is very sunny in Berau, and there is little shade/shelter).

WORKING EQUIPMENT

- Headlamp and flash light (red filter) + batteries (rechargeable ones are better, as we cannot recycle batteries);
- Day backpack;
- Water bottle;
- Watch;
- Alarm clock (travel clock/mobile phone);
- Working glove for collecting waste on the beach
- Plastic for collecting waste

CAMPING GEAR

- We can borrow you personal tent but if you prefer your private please bring it.
- You will also maybe need pillow and comfortable camping mat;
- Summer sleeping bag or thin blanket;

SANITARY ARTICLES/PERSONAL MEDICATION

- Sun lotion: can be purchased in Indonesia, but it is expensive. Consider a high factor especially if you have fair skin. You'll spend A LOT of time in the sun.
- Mosquito repellent;
- Bio-degradable shampoo and soap if possible, but otherwise usual brands may be purchased in project area.
- Tampons and pads are difficult to find and of low quality, consider bringing these.
- Hand sanitizer gel may be useful, especially during your stay on islands.
- Towels;
- Personal medication (include diarrhea tablets, allergies pills, eye drops, contact lenses liquid if needed). Note that project area is extremely dusty, volunteers with asthma, allergies and wearing contact lenses WILL have problems, and should bring own medication/prevention).
- Dietary supplements if needed. Please note that there is no refrigeration on islands.

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OTHER

- Luggage may not arrive with the plane due to airline failure. We recommend that you bring with you a carry-on bag with a change of clothes, along with your cards, documents and personal medicines.
- There is no waste disposal system in project area that works. That's why everybody is responsible for taking back home all toxic waste (as e.g. batteries, empty shampoo bottles, etc.) that has accumulated during his/her stay, for proper disposal.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What kind of healthy care we should take before traveling? Do we need any vaccines?

Each one should have their vaccines updated. If you have dental problems, you should visit a dentist before travel. Volunteers with asthma or allergies problems should look for medical advice and the necessary medication.

Two daily meals will be provided in islands of Bilang-bilangan and Mataha. What kind of food is served?

Meals are prepared by rangers of Konservasi Biota Laut Berau. Rice, pasta and fish are the basic ingredients. Vegetable is limited due to the fact that electricity is working only 4 hour a day.

How is the water quality?

Water used on islands is bought from the mainland or overdone rain water. (In both cases it is drinking water). In the villages of Maratua, Derawan, Balikpapan, Lenggo or Tanjung Redeb we recommend you to buy drinking water.

Are the accommodation on islands and 2 daily meals on islands covered by the participation fee?

YES, food is provided on islands. In the village of Balikpapan and Tanjung Redeb volunteers cover their own expenses.

How basic is the accommodation on islands?

Ranger's houses on islands are equipped with very basics kitchen and WC. Drinking water is provided, but of course water supply for showering and washing will be limited, main reasons is that islands are hard to access and they do not count with an own source of water. Each ranger's house has a small fridge and a small electric power generator which will work during 2-4 hours/day. It is not necessary to bring your own cup, plate, fork and spoon.

Are the islands safe?

Our islands are very safe due to the fact that only rangers and volunteers stay on the islands during both day and night.

Is the garbage recycled?

No, all garbage of the island is incinerated. That's why we ask volunteers to take back home their toxic waste on a proper disposal.

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How to get to project area, Indonesia?

Flights can be inexpensive, depending on which airline you book with. Your cheapest option might be to purchase a flight from your home country to Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur or Singapore and then continue by connecting flight with a low-cost airline to Balikpapan and then to Tanjung Redeb (Berau). Check www.uticket.com, www.traveloka.com/ or <https://www.tiket.com/>. Use taxi from the Berau Airport to Tanjung Redeb. Address of Konservasi Biota Laut Berau office is: Jalan Mangga II, Gang Anunta 03, Tanjung Redeb. Transportation from Tanjung Redeb to islands (Bilang-bilangan, Mataha, Balikukup) and back is provide by the Konservasi Biota Laut Berau if it is in schedule of delivery days. You will go 4 hours from Tanjung Redeb to Lenggo by car and then 3 hours to islands by boat) - out of schedule transportation will be charged with 300 Euro.



ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION

You may find further information on:

our website www.morskezelvy.cz, www.saveturtle.net

The successful applicants will be notified no later than 2 weeks after application. The project staff will do their best to attend your preferences in terms of participation periods. We will notify you if these are not available, to discuss alternatives.

Each volunteer must provide the Konservasi Biota Laut Berau staff with an emergency contact from home, before their arrival to Indonesia.

The main contacts in Indonesia are:

E-mail: hanka.sauria@seznam.cz

HAVE A GOOD TRIP!!!