



Residential Volunteering at the Orkney Native Wildlife Project (ONWP)



Protecting our native wildlife together:



The RSPB is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207070, Scotland no. SC037654

Volunteer Opportunity Address: Orkney Native Wildlife Project,
H24 Garrison Road,
Hatston Industrial Estate,
Kirkwall,
KW15 1GN

Telephone/Email: 01856 881451/info@onwp.org

Community Liaison Officer: Tom Hadley

Community Liaison Officer Phone: 01856 881449

Orkney:

Orkney is located approximately 10 miles off the northern coast of Scotland and is an archipelago network of about 70 islands, of which 20 are inhabited. The mainland is the largest of the islands and is where the majority of the 22,000 inhabitants live; the two main towns are Stromness and Kirkwall. These two towns have most of the amenities that you would see in a small town including gyms, cinema, supermarkets and other smaller stores. Orkney is a key breeding ground for many ground nesting and seabirds which is why the project is so important. It also has some other amazing wildlife such as dolphins, orca, seals and harbour porpoises, all of which are seen regularly throughout the year.

Accommodation:

The volunteer accommodation is on the Orkney mainland and it is only a short distance to the office, supermarkets and leisure centre. You will potentially be sharing the property with other volunteers although you will have your own bedroom. We cannot guarantee that there will be anyone else volunteering during your stay. There is no smoking in any ONWP building or vehicle. We do not accept pets in our accommodation or our buildings. The Project does shut down

operations over Christmas and the New Year. Following confirmation of your place please let the community liaison officer know the approximate time of your arrival so that they can meet you and ensure you're settled into the accommodation. Please provide this information at least 48hrs before arrival.

Household Equipment:

Some basic household equipment will be provided for you whilst you are with us such as cutlery, plates, pots and pans as well as towels. A full and comprehensive list will be sent to you prior to your arrival. It is expected that you will care for the property that will be your home for your time with us as if it is your own, and that volunteers will leave items in a state that they would want to find it in on their first day with us.

Food and Entertainment:

You will be self-catering. There are supermarkets and pubs/restaurants within a short car journey of the volunteer accommodation. There is also a leisure centre with pool, gym and cinema on the mainland.

Duties:

Throughout the spring and the summer, you will be taking part in the Project's monitoring programme, which may include visiting some of the other islands. Other duties during spring and summer may be data input as well as assisting with the checking of the Project's trap network, which will include handling of bait and dead animals. Training will be provided on all aspects of these tasks as will appropriate PPE. All monitoring equipment will be provided but you are of course welcome to use your own binoculars if you wish. During autumn and winter there will be a larger emphasis on supporting the trapping effort with wildlife monitoring only taking place in September. During the autumn and winter months there may also be the need for you to undertake some office work to help

support us. As there will be a requirement to complete manual work, a level of general fitness is required.

Clothing and Equipment:

Bedding will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own. You will need to bring warm and waterproof outdoor clothing for field work. Wellies will be provided but please bring walking boots as well.

PLEASE NOTE: ONLY ECO-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS ARE TO BE USED IN THE WASHING MACHINE.

Other useful items to bring with you may include reading/writing materials, laptop, flask, torch and binoculars (provided for monitoring work but you will need your own for personal use).

Medical Details:

Please ensure that you have a valid tetanus inoculation. Please inform the Community Liaison Officer if you suffer from any medical condition, and specify any medication taken, and where it will be kept, during your stay. This information will be kept strictly confidential. Further guidance surrounding COVID-19 procedures will be given upon successful application.

Health and Safety:

The ONWP operates under strict health and safety guidelines, set out in the codes of practice we will provide and through the production of risk assessments. You will be expected to carefully read all health and safety literature presented to you on arrival, and you must agree to work within these guidelines. Please note it may be possible on some networks to make 999 or 112 emergency calls even if you have no network signal (O2 gets the best signal). You will be provided with the ONWP's lone working protocols which you will need to read, sign and follow.

Helpful Links:

orkneynativewildlife.org.uk

northlinkferries.co.uk

pentlandferries.co.uk

orkney.com

pickaquoy.co.uk

facebook.com/OrkneySubAquaClub

facebook.com/groups/orkneycetaceansightings

facebook.com/groups/133013273445588

