

12 Questions you can ask volunteer organizations

Year:

Project:

Work:

I always suggest individuals considering an international volunteer program to consider the following questions before making their final purchase:

Does the volunteer organization operate as a non-profit, or are they merely a tour operator?

Does the organization respond in a timely and friendly way to your requests for information?

Are they willing to let you speak with past volunteers to get an idea of what their experiences have been like?

What kind of services does the organization have in place in case of an emergency?

Is the organization from the country they are supporting?

What is their refund policy?

Will they customize your volunteer experience so you can get the most out of your time there?

Does the organization accommodate any special needs you have (physically or dietary-related)?

Are they set up to support volunteers of any age?

Are the employees hired from the communities in which they serve, or do they bring people in from other countries?

Do the employees of the organization also participate in the volunteer work?

Are you supported once you arrive, or are you just "dropped off" to fend for yourself?

There is no doubt that those who prepare themselves well before participating have a much better chance of ending up in the program that fits best.

About the Author

[Tropical Adventures](#) is a non-profit volunteer organization offering volunteer and voluntour [packages](#) for everyone interested in exploring the language, culture and natural beauty of Costa Rica.

Source: <http://www.volunteer-guide.com>