



Upcycling Volunteer Program in Lisbon



Join our Circular Economy program to help turn single-use plastic into sports items like skateboards and beach tennis rackets!

Our upcycling project aims to combat plastic pollution by converting hard plastics, mostly bottle caps collected from local restaurants and schools, into sports items like skateboards, ping pong paddles, and beach tennis rackets. Located in a social neighbourhood skatepark, this project gives kids access to sports and fosters positive interactions with international volunteers. This initiative not only tackles environmental issues but also creates a positive social impact.

What to Expect:

- **Plastic Transformation:** Volunteers help in separating, shredding, and transforming plastic waste into valuable sports items.
- **Community Engagement:** The project is based in a social neighborhood, operating out of a skatepark. This ensures that local children have access to skateboarding and other sports anytime they wish.

- **Educational Impact:** Raise awareness about the issues of single-use plastic and the benefits of upcycling within the local community!

Daily Tasks:

- Plastic Separation and Shredding
- Production Assistance: Help in the creation of skateboards and paddles from recycled plastic.
- Support at the Skatepark: Assist and engage with children using the skatepark facilities.
- Awareness Campaigns.

Why Join?

- **Combat Plastic Pollution:** Play a crucial role in turning plastic waste into valuable resources.
- **Social Impact:** Help integrate local children into sports and recreational activities.
- **Learn and Innovate:** Gain insights into sustainability, social justice, and the innovative use of materials.

Ready to Transform Plastic and Lives?

- Join us in Portugal for a meaningful experience that combines environmental action with social impact!

Location: Lisbon

Duration: 2 to 12 weeks

Requirements: Criminal background check

Your accommodation

Accommodations are provided by local partners and not by Freepackers. The descriptions are there to give you an idea of the type of accommodation, as it is very likely that the conditions may vary on-site depending on the number of volunteers, weather conditions, availability, etc. Each volunteer will be accommodated according to the stated conditions, but it is possible that the accommodation may not match exactly the description or images displayed on this site, for example, in cases of annex housing, renovation, relocation, etc.

The volunteer house is located in Cascais, a small fishing village 45 minutes away from Lisbon. Accommodation is provided in the volunteer house, in shared rooms with a maximum of 8 people. There are two types of dormitories in the house: mixed dorms and female dorms. The common areas are shared but with separate bathrooms/toilets. Volunteers will have access to the common room, outdoor spaces including the garden

and pool for relaxation. WiFi is available throughout the house and is free of charge. The marine conservation project can accommodate 16 volunteers, and during the summer, the house can reach a maximum capacity of 60 volunteers. They all have different programs (cat shelter, marine conservation, etc.).

The house does not have air conditioning, but it is a beach house with large windows that are opened and closed daily by the housekeeping team.

There are lockers under each bunk bed for volunteers, who only need a padlock to secure them.

Minors have a curfew if they do not have permission from their guardian to leave the house, which is at 10 PM.

Meals are prepared every day, consisting of local cuisine, but it is possible to accommodate specific dietary requirements upon request (vegetarian, vegan, lactose-free, gluten-free, etc.).

For the family projects: available for ages 10 and up

Duration: Starting from 2 weeks

What is included

- Airport pick-up on Sunday, directly to your accommodation
- Stay in a hostel with social or environmental impact — female, male, or mixed dormitories
- Three meals a day — vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, and lactose-free options available upon request
- Orientation upon arrival: culture, volunteering, program details, and safety
- We connect you with an impactful nonprofit project and handle the coordination
- Guided city tour with our best tips for exploring
- Ongoing support throughout your stay
- 24/7 emergency assistance, just in case

What is not included

- Airplane
- Airport pick-up on other dates
- Drop-off at the airport
- Personal expenses
- Transport from the hostel to the project site
- Insurance
- Private room