

All about a PWB tour

The Headlines

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Please read all of the following information carefully.

The Money:

Volunteer Contribution to PWB for India tour £750

Volunteer contribution to PWB for Kenya tour £1000

Volunteer Contribution to PWB for Nicaragua tour £900

You will also need funds for your own flights, insurance, vaccinations and spending money for time off (2-3 weeks) Please check flights to Goa (India), Managua (Nicaragua) and Nairobi (Kenya) for an idea of this cost.

Where the money goes:

PWB projects run on a tight budget and we don't ask you for any more than we need to be able to run the tours. We fundraise ourselves to help cover the costs of the tour coordinator who has to work before, during and after the tour. We take minimal admin costs, everything else is run by volunteers. PWB look for the most cost effective, convenient and reasonable ways to run projects and try to keep everyone happy. The money you pay as a contribution to PWB covers the following things **WHILST WORKING ON PROJECTS** (you will need to fund your time off separately to this):

EQUIPMENT – A small portion of your contribution may be put towards to the amount of equipment we need to make the tour happen. This could include things such as equipment for the children's workshops or bags to carry PWB kit in and running repairs on technical equipment for the tour.

FOOD – This will be a combination of meals out so you can try the local dishes and shared home cooking within the team. Where we have the option, this will be 2 out of 3 meals a day 'at home', cooking for yourselves as a team or individually, using what is available locally at markets etc. If you have specific dietary requirements, please note this on your application and talk to PWB about the local food and how you may be affected -it's not ever been a problem so far, don't worry – but do be prepared to be flexible, adaptable, and eat the same thing every day as the nationals do - such as rice and beans (Nicaragua), rice and dhal/curry (India), rice and meat or beans/lentils (Kenya). Being vegetarian/vegan in India is pretty easy, in Nicaragua less so with veganism (limited diet), and Kenya is also ok, although eating out will more often than

not involve meat - or rice and beans!

ACCOMMODATION –Whilst on tour with PWB we do our best to source and provide comfortable accommodation, with cooking/cleaning/bathing and sleeping facilities and a practice space available, although sometimes this last part may not be possible. Sometimes you may be in a hostel with other travelers and sometimes you may be in a house or guesthouse, with or without other travelers/locals sharing the space. Sometimes, the local group/area we are working in may only have the most basic facilities. You may be required to share a room/bathroom with some of your teammates, male or female - you may be required to share a room/bathroom with all of your team-mates! PWB volunteers have to be adaptable and ready to leave their home comforts behind.

TRAVEL – this includes travel to and from the project you are working with, which may be: walking, bicycles, trains, taxi's, rickshaws – people powered and motorized, trucks, buses, minibuses (public or private) or a combination of the above, whatever is most cost effective and convenient. It also includes all travel between projects if you travel as part of the PWB team or are carrying PWB equipment. Travels can be long, tiring, dusty, hot, bumpy etc. but sometimes the views are awesome 😊

How the tours work:

PWB teams are made of between 4 and 9 intrepid volunteers with a variety of experience– this usually includes a tour coordinator, who organises the tour in conjunction with PWB and our partner organisations. Your tour coordinator will be in charge of logistics and organisation throughout the tour; they will also delegate to the team as is appropriate. The whole team is responsible for various other roles whilst on tour - it is a TEAM EFFORT! GET INVOLVED!

A PWB tour can be broken down into several parts, below is a brief outline of what to expect.

Tour outline:

Bootcamp – You will all meet in-country and have up to 2 weeks to prepare a show, get to know each other, team build and plan how your projects will run, assign roles and exchange ideas and information about teaching.

The projects will then be made up of the following elements:

India: 1x 2 week project, 2-3 x month long projects in Varanasi and Darjeeling and maybe Calcutta, broken up by at least 1 x 10 day/2 week break TOTAL= 3.5-4.5 months

Nicaragua: 2 x 3 week-month long projects in Leon and San Marcos, 1 x shorter project in Granada/Managua, 1 x 1 week break between the two longer projects. TOTAL= 3 months

Kenya: 1-2 weeks working in Nairobi alongside national artists and teachers. 2 x projects each lasting 3 weeks with a small break in the middle. TOTAL = 10 weeks

Projects will generally all follow a similar pattern but as a team and with guidance from your tour coordinator and PWB, you will decide the finer details when you arrive at each location.

Please note that the locations and order of the projects may change, this is just a guide to how your tour might look. Also note that Nicaragua and Kenya are shorter tours and also smaller

countries, so there is less time off between projects as distances travelled are less.

Project outline

The first thing you do on the month long projects is usually to perform your teams' show for the children and staff at our main partner organisation. After this, you can expect to be teaching 4-6 days per week at our main partner organisations, for approximately between 1.5 and 4hrs, and to between 20 and 120 children (aged 4-20) – this depends on location and organisation. How you organise the children and teach them will be up to your team to discuss and decide, although PWB do offer ideas and guidance with this. At the end of the project you will organise and help the children to perform their own show with their new skills. There will also be outreach work - community shows and workshops at other local organisations over the course of the month, this can lead to a fully packed day one minute and an almost empty day the next. You can expect to be working up to 6 full days a week – it is a full time job being a PWB volunteer and tours can be tiring! Outside of teaching you will have roles to take on and duties to fulfill - see below for details.

What to expect:

Whilst on tour each member of the team will be expected to take on roles and tasks within the team. You will have the opportunity to choose your role and change it for each project. These roles include tasks such as making a video about the project, writing blogs or doing regular social media updates, taking, collecting and posting photos, being 'team mum', or being in-charge of finances for the team. You will have weekly team meetings and time to share your experiences and review your work. Sometimes you may need to repair kit, help others with their role or take on extra tasks, like food shopping for the team, cooking dinner or finding bike tires to use to make kit. You will have time to practice, train and learn from each other too! You will be cooking, cleaning, living, travelling and working together. You will be sharing rooms, food, chores and even body odors – these tours are not for the faint hearted, they can be a life changing and unique experience!

PWB work with a variety of organisations. Some of the children we work with are orphans; some have been rescued from dangerous or vulnerable family situations or from the street; some live with their families in slum areas, others live within the organisation. PWB try to return to work with the same organisations every year -our longest running partnership is with Asha Deep in Varanasi, India, where we have completed 10 projects so far! So the children you teach will already have some skills – but others may be completely new to it all. Be prepared to teach a wide range of ages, skills and abilities and to adapt to a variety of situations and locations ☺ Likewise, you can expect to perform in a wide variety of locations, from small rooms, courtyards or halls in slum projects to dusty playing fields, busy bus stations, building sites, in the street - and often in full sun as shade can be hard to come by.

Please understand that by considering becoming a PWB team member you may sometimes be: frustrated, confused, upset, uncomfortable, hot (too hot!), tired, dusty, sick, stared at, lost, hungry, dirty and smelly.

BUT

You will most likely also be: ecstatic, enlightened, euphoric, joyful, exuberant, challenged and changed, work with some awesome and amazing kids and organisations, see fantastic things, feel great, experience things you have never experienced before and learn new things about life, yourself, what you can do and all sorts of other excitement!

We hope this has given you a good idea of what to expect and that you are still interested in applying for one of our tours— please do watch some of [our videos](#), read [our blogs](#) and have a good browse through [our website](#) for more information, if you still have any questions, you can email us: volunteer@performerswithoutborders.org.uk We look forward to receiving your application!