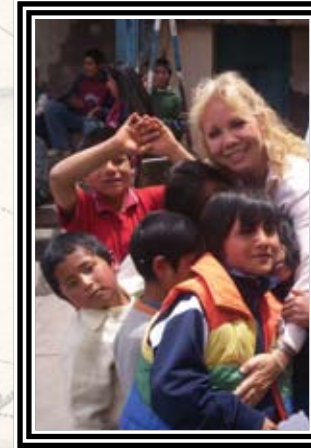


# Have fun. Help People.



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## Immerse yourself in a new culture

## Make lifelong friendships

## Experience the reward of helping

## on meaningful community projects

You need no special skills, nor do you need to speak a foreign language



[www.globeaware.org](http://www.globeaware.org)



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# volunteering

## WHAT IS GLOBE AWARE?

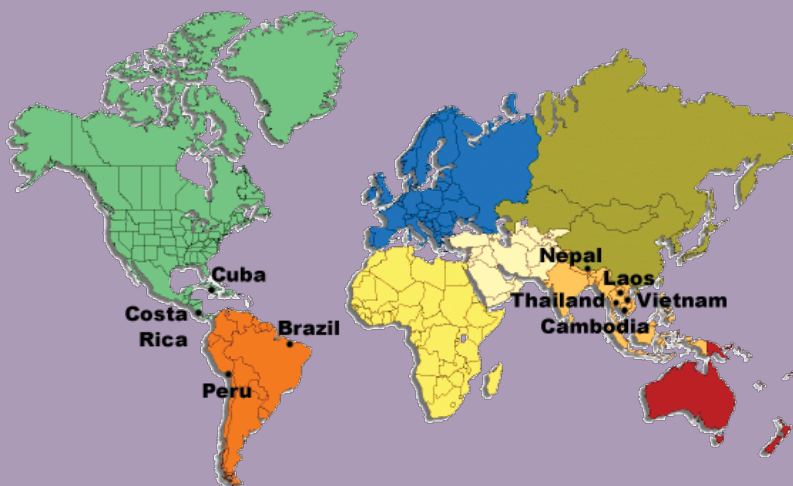
Globe Aware is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) a charity that develops short-term volunteer programs in international environments that encourage people to immerse themselves in a unique way of giving back.

## GOALS

Every project in which we engage accomplishes one of two things: promoting cultural awareness and/or promoting sustainability. The goal of cultural awareness means to recognize and appreciate the real beauties and challenges of a culture without changing it. The goal of sustainability is to help others stand on their own two feet, and to teach skills rather than reliance.

## PROJECTS

Globe Aware projects meet several key criteria. They must be: safe, culturally mind expanding, genuinely beneficial to a needy community, and involve significant interaction with the host community.



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## WHY VOLUNTEER?

One of the obvious reasons to participate in an adventure in service is the satisfaction you get by helping needy people who are trying to build a better life for themselves. By traveling with Globe Aware, you will also interact with local community members, getting a chance to understand the culture on a much deeper level. You may learn local cooking styles, local songs, traditions and the like, but more importantly, you will understand what unique challenges the locals face, and be involved in how they chose to address these issues. You will be an active participant in one or more community projects. The new environment can be challenging, but it will present you with a wondrous new world view.

Unlike a regular vacation, during which you may spend significant amount of time on a tourist bus or in lines at museums, our trips allows you to immerse yourself in the real culture--to live at a different pace, sing with local school children, to make a difference outside of the often competitive hustle and bustle of the volunteer's life at home. Few experiences provide a way to connect with cultures so deeply in such a short space of time.

# press & media



Globe Aware has been featured and profiled in numerous news outlets, among them: CNN, The New York Times, Business Week, NBC Today Show, NPR, Newsweek, Budget Travel, Travel&Leisure Magazine, and many others. Globe Aware has been the subject of several documentaries, among them a 10 part series titled "Journeys of the Heart," chronicling a group's adventures in our Care for Cusco program.

Most people come home from vacation with a nice tan and a suitcase full of souvenirs. [This volunteer] returned from a trip she took with her 17-year-old daughter, Julia, with a new outlook on life – and a renewed bond with her child. "It was life changing," she said. "It's an amazing way to grow yourself and develop bonds with others. You become part of the country, instead of just looking at it out a window."

**THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**

Kate McNamara, a 16-year-old New Yorker, went on a Globe Aware vacation with her family, volunteering to teach children English and build wheelchairs for land mine victims. "It wasn't that long and it was a small group of people ... but it made just such a huge difference," she says. "It was one of the most rewarding things that I think that I've ever done." Her mother, Elizabeth McNamara adds, "In a world that needs so much, just to a little bit to make a difference in someone's life is a very positive experience."



Tanya Villanueva Tepper included a week of volunteer work with Globe Aware at the end of a trip to Peru . . . There, she taught English, painted houses and helped build fuel-efficient stoves out of donkey dung, earth and agave syrup. For her, 38, the trip fulfilled a passion to explore both the region's ancient past and present . . . her experiences in the village, where there was no running water and the biggest wish among the children there was having a bathroom, did much to soothe Ms. Villanueva Tepper's own loss. During 9/11, her fiancé, a firefighter in New York, died. "When you're confronted with such a loss, you seek anything that can bring you comfort," she said. "One of the best ways is seeing someone who has it worse than you."

**The New York Times**

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# programs

## Care for Cusco: Heart of the Inca Empire

Cusco is known the world over as the enchanting “belly-button” of the Inca civilization, and is the principle doorway to one of the great wonders of the world: Machu Picchu. With its narrow, cobble stone streets, Inca stonework, and women in ancient dress, you will forget you are living in the 21st century. But the real charm comes from the needy children with whom you will be working. Volunteers are needed to help care for children in the orphanage, to take them on cultural outings, give them desperately needed one-on-one time, and make a variety of improvements to their home and school. Activities include Machu Picchu, visits to surrounding ancient sites, and free time to explore the charming town of Cusco.

## Sustaining Thailand's Treasures

A rare opportunity to live the beauty of Thailand beyond the media stereotype. Participate in how Thais really live and help solve the problems they have identified. You will find yourself in unique environments, possibly interpreting English songs for Buddhist monks on one day and cooking Pad Thai with your Thai family in the evenings. Your proximity to Bangkok and the surrounding treasures in Ayuthaya provide a wealth of opportunity for your free time. This program has a wide range of outreach activities available to you, including, but not limited to: working with Buddhist monks teaching English, helping at a nursery & orphanage, training, and working on a Rehabilitation Shelter. Life moves at a delightful, slower pace here near Wang Noi, where you will have ample time to discover things such as temple ruins, learn Thai cooking, get a Thai massage, and go to floating markets.

## The Road Less Traveled: Andean Village Experience

Perched high in Peru's mountains, only a short drive from Lima, nestles a traditional secluded village, San Pedro. Residents make their communal living by farming the terraced land of the surrounding mountains, as their ancestors did before them. Volunteers will help build adobe stoves (which greatly reduces fuel consumption and increases health of the home's inhabitants by reducing smoke), with additional community projects and repair projects that arise. Due to its remote location, the villagers feel their children have limited access and knowledge to choose future life paths. The villagers would like their children to have additional options in life, by offering them some instruction in English, computers, hospitality skills, first aid, etc. Leisure activities include hiking to Markawasi (or horseback), visits to fortresses and temples, or the capital city of Lima, cooking lessons, star gazing, and medicinal nature hikes, and other activities.

## Cambodia Rediscovered

Following years of war and genocide, Cambodia is now a safe place to visit, and most importantly, extremely needy. Millions have been maimed by landmines. Globe Aware volunteers assemble wheelchairs and distribute to victims injured by landmines still found in rural areas. There is ample time to visit many of the famed temples of Angkor Wat, the floating village, and to explore the town of Siem Reap.

*The last full day at Mammie's house . . . this week has been surreal and unbelievably enriching. This last day was more relaxed and made for much playtime and laughter, perhaps to balance the emotionally trying departure. The monks exposed their palette to some western flair and challenged the volunteers to test their teamwork and skills. Laughter was irresistibly uncontrollable. Apparently the "krathongs" I worked on will bring me luck in acquiring a companion. . . we'll see. The day ended with a goodbye ceremony and tears. I am filled with gratitude for the gift I've been given through this volunteering endeavor. I hope to litter my future with many more.*  
-- Scott Baker, Colorado

## Expedition: Vietnam

Decades after the war, community-based initiatives for self-reliance are still in short supply. Our volunteers are based in lovely seaside Hoi An, a short drive from Danang in Central Vietnam, working on building homes, refurbishment of buildings for use as schools, as well as village markets and other infrastructure to help raise the standards of living throughout rural Vietnam. Disadvantaged youths living in rural areas outside of town are allowed to attend the schools we work on at no cost. Volunteers also teach Basic English and play games with the children. Volunteers can use free time to discover the charming bridges in colonial old town Hoi An, China Beach, Champa ruins at My Son, Hue, Marble Mountain, and other sites.

## The Path Less Taken: Laos

Bombed heavier than any other nation in history, Laos' gentle citizens are still recovering from the massive bombing attacks they suffered in secret during the Vietnam War. Globe Aware volunteers will be working in the Unesco World Heritage site of peaceful Luang Prabang helping improve the lives of orphans. Projects involve providing nutrition, clothing, better living conditions, job skills, and healthcare. Free time options include boating on the Mekong River to the Pak Ou caves, a visit to Kuong Sy waterfalls, night market, royal palace, and well preserved Buddhist temples.

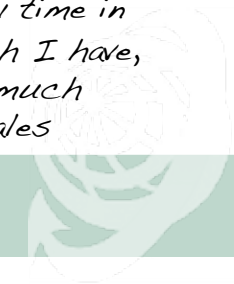
## The Road Less Traveled Village Experience: Costa Rica

Costa Rica is a cultural and natural paradise, but most travelers see only the large tourist resorts. Our program, however, offers a unique opportunity in the middle of a secluded natural rainforest to help an untouched community create a sustainable future. While helping the community to help themselves, volunteers will be treated to enormous cultural learning and spectacular contact with the lush rainforest. A decade ago, the government set aside a national forest reserve for the spectacular Carara Rainforest, which borders the village. The villagers love their nature paradise and appreciated the designation. However, since then, the tiny village has struggled for sources of income, as their crops are being eaten by protected wildlife. As a first step toward creating sustainable eco-tourism, the community needs help clearing paths, marking trails, learning English, etc. Leisure Activities include nature hikes (to waterfalls, etc), horse-back riding, canopy tours, cooking lessons, fishing, bird-watching, surfing, bat-watching, seeing crocodiles, incredible star gazing, and many other activities.



New Programs in Africa, China, and elsewhere available soon. Check [www.globeaware.com](http://www.globeaware.com) for the latest information.

*"It took me a trip to Peru to step outside in order to see inside. My time in Peru gave me a renewed perspective, a thankful sense for the wealth I have, and clarity to follow my life's path here forth. In giving, I received much more than I ever expected or imagined."*  
-Carlos Gonzales



# learn more

## YOUR TIME

Globe Aware offers one-week programs. The programs run Saturday through Saturday. Volunteers spend roughly 35 hours per week on volunteer work, 2-3 hours per day unstructured free time, 3-5 planned, but optional cultural activities.

## YOU ARE NOT ALONE

There is a bilingual GlobeAware volunteer coordinator who leads you through the week and is available to you 24 hours a day. You are typically in a group of 3-10 fellow volunteers.

## YOUR LEISURE

Globe Aware organizes several optional cultural excursions throughout every program, designed to highlight local culture in a way the typical tourist can rarely experience. The organization has no political or religious affiliation.

Volunteers help to empower the host communities in creating renewable, sustainable programs. While Globe Aware's financial assistance benefits the community economically, it is the involvement and collaboration between the volunteers and community that is the greatest mutual benefit. Globe Aware is not a foundation that focuses on giving out charity, but rather an organization which focuses on creating self-reliance.



# use of funds

Your program fee covers the cost of your meals, accommodation, on-site travel (but not airfare), donations to the various community projects, your orientation package, volunteer coordination, program development, country manager expenses, community team recruitment, logistical support, medical emergency evacuation, medical insurance and project consultants. By spreading the costs across a number of our programs, Globe Aware is able to assist in projects that would otherwise not be able to exist. No funds are collected from any religious or political organization. Less than 12% of your program fee goes toward overhead and administration. The program fee and (the independently-purchased) cost of airfare are 100% tax deductible expenses for U.S. citizens. The Following Diagram demonstrates the breakdown:

Administrative Costs  
(Less than 12%)



Direct Program Costs

# programs

## The Road Less Traveled: Bahian Brazilian Experience

Palm trees, sand, sunshine, surf. Laughter, poverty, beauty, pain--its all part of the Bahian reality. It is affectionately said that when Bahians are not actually participating in a festival they are rehearsing for one. The people of Bahia, a fusion of Africans, Native Americans and Europeans, are carefree and upbeat, always looking for a good time. However, when you get outside of the Brazilian tourist complexes, you'll have a chance to expand your mind and see the beauty and challenges of the region. The program is in a village with approximately 500 inhabitants. Bahia faces a number of challenges: poverty; alcoholism; unemployment; local school maintenance and lack of medical and dental assistance. Projects include teaching first aid, basic computer & english lessons; and community development projects. Activities include visits to the main attractions of Porto de Sauipe, wood carving, making ice cream with Brazil's indigenous fruit, Capoeira lessons, beach time, surfing, and dancing.

## Nepal's Treasure

Kathmandu is the fabled capital city of Nepal, a historic city displaying a dramatic juxtaposition of Hindu and Buddhist influence. The specific objective of Globe Aware's program here is to provide residential care, food, education and nutrition for orphans and destitute children without family support. Volunteers will help admit new children, assist in recreational activities, make improvements and repairs to the facility's living conditions, teach English pronunciation and colloquialisms, among other projects that arise. In your free-time, volunteers can explore the time-worn temples and shrines on Durbar Square, Thamel, nearby UNESCO World Heritage sites, Buddhist stupas, etc.

## Redeeming Romania

Romania embodies the European spirit of past, present, and future. Picturesque castles and quaint farming villages contrast with cosmopolitan cities and ski resorts as the country strives to develop its economy after the fall of communism and its admission to the European Union. The Transylvania region in central Romania is home to the town of Brasov, where our program is located. The Roma people (often referred to as "gypsies") are often unable to utilize Romania's new economic opportunities due to a lack of education. They are largely marginalized in society, blamed for almost any social problem. Our projects strive to change these conditions by enabling Roma children to receive formal education. We work with a school in Brasov to teach basic hygiene lessons, English, computer skills, and other life skills. Volunteers spend free time at Bram Castle, exploring medieval fortresses, churches and the charming Saxon town of Brasov itself.

## Jamaica Undiscovered

See a different side of Jamaica. Long associated with sun, sand, sea and all-inclusive resorts, there is much more to this Caribbean paradise. In the interior of the island, you will find Jamaica's last remaining wilderness. This area is a global treasure due to its many endemic species and unique karst geography. A lack of economic options and poor land use practices threaten to destroy this important environment. Volunteers will assist the community by cleaning up local rivers, caves, and sinkholes; marking trails, building wash stations, teaching environmental education, and implementing anti-erosion measures. A series of cross-cultural learning activities, such as cooking demonstrations, nature hike and cave tour, dominoes matches, and patois lessons.

