



## Dive Officer

**Next vacancy: JUNE 2016**

Reef Doctor requires an enthusiastic and energetic PADI Instructor to join its active coral reef research, conservation, and social development team. You will be working alongside local subsistence communities and in collaboration with the Marine Institute of Toliara (IH.SM) at our research base next-door to the fishing village of Ifaty, on the shores of the Bay of Ranobe, part of the coral reef system of Southwest Madagascar and the 3rd largest coral reef system in the world.

The successful applicant for this position will be working alongside the Head Dive Officer and together be responsible for providing dive training and PADI certifications (50/50 split) and running diving operations for our small team of International and Malagasy scientists, support staff, external researchers, students from the Marine Institute (IH.SM), 4–12 volunteer research assistants, and 6–8 DiveMaster Interns.

**This position is a minimum 12-month contract with the chosen candidate to be out in Madagascar by the end of June 2016, ideally earlier.**

The job involves some of the following activities, though this list is not considered exhaustive:

- To ensure all of Reef Doctor's diving operations are carried out according our and PADI International Diving Rules and Regulations in a safe and appropriate manner.
- To supervise all open water diving operations.
- To supervise all land based diving operations.
- To record all diving operations, write up daily dive logs into the templates provided and send, along with regular dive reports, to the UK.
- To supervise and log equipment maintenance - dive equipment, compressors, boats, generators.
- To maintain and service (as per qualifications) all dive equipment.
- To conduct PADI courses for Malagasy students, international staff, volunteers and Interns from open water to DiveMaster.
- To conduct refresher dives for all Malagasy students, international staff, volunteers and interns.
- To update and improve our emergency evacuation plan and procedures for the project site.
- To update and improve our diving Rules and Regulations for all divers.
- To update and improve our dive site documentation - mapping, GPS recording, risk assessments etc.
- To update and improve our procedural documentation.
- To teach first aid procedures to all students and staff.
- Undertake training scenarios on the evacuation plan and medical incidences (diving and none diving) on a monthly basis for all team members.
- To provide First Aid, as per your qualifications, to all staff and volunteers.

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- To be responsible for the logging of all medical incidents and ensure the medical store is properly stocked and looked after.

Additional duties in the field of marine research, marine management and community development projects we undertake;

- To learn our coral reef species ID and research protocols and to be able, when required, to teach this to students, interns and volunteers (land based teaching).
- To use your ID skills to help science officers teach students, interns and volunteers species ID with mixing PADI course dives (e.g. open water, advanced open water) and refresher dives with species point outs etc.
- To learn the underwater survey protocols and to undertake, when required, scientific surveys with students, interns and volunteers of the coral reefs encompassing the interior and exterior of the Bay of Ranobe, Ifaty, Madagascar.
- To write up of survey results and placement of these results into pre-designed data sheets.
- To conduct, help out in, organise, general project activities in the realms of the volunteer programme (e.g. RD Kids Club, PADI AWEARE beach clean-up, littoral/seagrass surveys, coral gardening and restoration, bleaching surveys, volunteer/community interaction initiatives, tourism awareness, community development projects).

### **Applicant Requirements**

Outlined below are the requirements personnel need to have to apply for the voluntary Dive Officer position at our Ifaty site in Madagascar.

- Teaching status PADI OWSI or above (must be PADI).
- Teaching status PADI First aid instructor and O2 administration.
- Your own full set of dive equipment (excluding tanks and weights).
- First aid certificate no older than 12 months.
- Current liability and dive insurance for the term of your contract.
- Current Professional Dive Medical certificate (or equivalent) valid for the term of your contract.
- Experience in certifying students (minimum 20 certifications) from PADI Open Water level or (equivalent) to Dive Master.
- Experience working in small teams in isolated, tropical environments.
- Experience working with compressors.
- Ability to work in basic conditions with limited facilities and diet.

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- Ability to work under pressure to deadlines and within limited budgets.
- General computing skills using Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint and Publisher.
- Adaptable with good practical problem solving abilities.
- Financial ability to pay the cost for your international return flight to Madagascar and one domestic flight to the south of Madagascar.
- Financial ability to cover initial costs of standard travel insurance and professional diving medical insurance and standard dive equipment insurance.

The following additional skills and experience are desired but not necessary, though applicants with any of the below will be considered higher than those without:

- Ability to learn or already able to read and speak French to a basic / moderate level, preference to those that can teach in French.
- Driving licence (International).
- Motor RYA small boat licence.
- Past experience in the field of ecotourism as a staff member.
- Past experience in the field of ecotourism as a volunteer.
- Over 6 months work experience as a dive instructor in a tropical climate.
- Experience in conducting any type of marine survey work, especially if working with Indo-Pacific coral reef species.
- Additional diving and/or other qualifications relating to marine work such as VHF radio certification, mechanical expertise i.e. boat engines, car mechanics etc.
- A degree or higher in a biological science.
- Any service certifications for maintenance of scuba equipment.

### **Applicant Receives**

- Reimbursement of total cost of PADI teaching membership Diving medical and travel insurance and standard equipment insurance on completing the full contract.
- Reimbursement of visa application costs.
- Accommodation (bungalow with bathroom) food, water, electricity etc., at the project site and in city of Toliara when required.
- Free internal transport.
- Salary of £100 per month – paid in local currency = 400,000 MGA.
- Internet access.
- Four weeks paid holiday.
- Bonus payment of £500 on successful completion of the contract period.

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### **What you will gain from the work**

We hope that by becoming a member of our team and getting involved in our projects you will gain work experience in:

- Team building and personnel management skills.
- Knowledge and experience in the scientific fields of;
  - marine research
  - marine and littoral surveys
  - reef restoration and artificial habitat provision and monitoring
  - coral transplantation
  - reef fish and invertebrate ID
  - data collection and documentation
- Hands on experience in community based marine conservation, education, management, and social development projects.
- Liaison skills for interacting with the local fishing community (i.e. working with different cultures) and a basic knowledge of Malagasy.
- Skills and experience in conducting awareness raising projects on conservation issues for local communities and foreign tourists.
- Working alongside like-minded NGOs, staff and scientists.
- Additional student PADI certifications.
- Providing the next generation of Malagasy marine scientists with the skills to dive and monitor their coral reefs.

The job is on a voluntary basis but the applicant will have to sign a standard employment contract on acceptance. Please send your CV and a brief covering letter to Roderick Stein-Rostaing at [staff@reefdoctor.org](mailto:staff@reefdoctor.org)

**Thank you**