



Dive Officer

Next vacancy: August 2014

ReefDoctor requires two enthusiastic and energetic PADI Instructors to join its active coral reef research, education and conservation team 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 the 3rd largest coral reef system in the world.

The successful applicants for this position will be mainly responsible for providing dive training and PADI certifications and running diving operations for our small team of International and Malagasy scientists, support staff, external researchers, students from the Marine Institute (IHSM) and 4-12 volunteer research assistants and 6-8 DiveMaster Interns.

This position is a minimum 12 month contract with the chosen candidates to be out in Madagascar by the end of August 2014.

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

- To ensure all of ReefDoctor's diving operations are carried out according our 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 it, along with regular dive reports, to the UK
- To supervise and log equipment maintenance – dive equipment, compressors, boats, generators
- To conduct PADI courses for Malagasy students and international staff and volunteer research assistants when requested by Reef Doctor.Org Ltd
- To conduct refresher dives for all Malagasy students and international staff and voluntary research assistants
- 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 staff and volunteer research assistants
- 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
- To provide First Aid, as per your qualifications, to all staff and volunteers
- To be responsible for the logging of all medical incidents and ensure the medical store is properly stocked and looked after
- To undertake, when required, scientific surveys (using the pre-designed survey methodologies) of the coral reefs encompassing the interior and exterior of the Bay of Ranobe, Ifaty, Madagascar

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- To conduct general project activities (e.g. reef surveys, littoral surveys, fisheries surveys, education and community development projects etc..) to your job description.

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
- 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 six 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

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- Additional diving and/or other qualifications relating to marine work such as VHF radio certification, mechanical expertises 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 and food in Ifaty and Toliara
- Free internal transport
- Salary of £85 per month – paid in local currency = 300,000MGA
- Internet access
- Four weeks paid holiday
- Possible (unguaranteed) reimbursement (50-100%) of the candidates' international flight costs to Madagascar which is solely dependent on funding received by the company during the candidates employment.

What you will gain from the work

We hope that by working on our project you will gain work experience in:

- Team building skills
- Knowledge and experience in marine survey work and data collection
- Knowledge of coral reef fish and invertebrate identification
- 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 hands on marine conservation educational and management projects
- Skills and experience in conducting hands on social development project work
- 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

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

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