

Blue World Institute of Marine Research and Conservation

# ADRIATIC DOLPHIN PROJECT – LOŠINJ

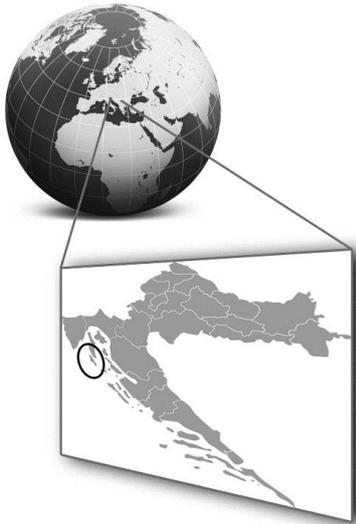
## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

2015



## ADRIATIC DOLPHIN PROJECT – ISLAND OF LOŠINJ, CROATIA

The Adriatic Dolphin Project (ADP) is the longest ongoing study of a resident population of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the Mediterranean Sea. It is run by the Blue World Institute of Marine Research and Conservation (Blue World), a Non Governmental Organisation, formed to carry out science, conservation and education of the marine environment with particular emphasis on the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas.



Blue World's research is conducted under permission from the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, and under licence issued by the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection. The aim of the project is to provide an overall picture of the population status and dynamics of the bottlenose dolphins around the islands of Lošinj and Cres. Our research focuses on dolphin population dynamics, photo – identification, behavioural sampling, acoustic monitoring, and the collection of stranding data for genetic, forage ecology and toxicological analysis. Data is used to produce a regular report on the status and ecology of the population and to offer solutions for their effective conservation. These actions are in accordance with the National Strategy for Conservation of Biodiversity, the Law for Nature Conservation and the international agreements for conservation of endangered fauna and habitats.

### RESEARCH PROCEDURES

From the research station at Veli Lošinj we monitor the daily behaviour of the bottlenose dolphins of the region. It is now possible to identify around 580 individual dolphins with the help of *photo-identification*.

Photographs of the permanent marks, such as scars and notches on the dorsal fin, are crucial in recognition of an individual on a long-term basis. By consulting a catalogue of the dolphins we monitor the range of their movements, the composition of groups and their social behaviour. A statistical mark and recapture method is used to define population size and to determine the status of the population. Dolphin sighting data are imported into a GIS (Geographic Information System) to link bottlenose dolphin presence with natural and anthropogenic variables. Habitat preference or avoidance is also analysed. The spatial distribution of dolphins and habitat use are based on the GPS (Geographic Position System) data obtained in each dolphin encounter.



Other research includes:

- ✧ Behavioural sampling that includes estimation of behaviour budget of the population in general, changes in behaviour and behaviour responses to the vessel traffic;
- ✧ Bio-acoustic research that allows us to study the influence of the noise pollution on the bottlenose dolphin distribution in the study area;
- ✧ Analysis of stomach contents tells us the species of fish the dolphins eat. Comparing those to the fisherman's catch gives us a better understanding of the impact of humans on the dolphins. We combine this data with knowledge of water currents and submarine topology and input it into a GIS. This enables us to pinpoint areas of particular importance to the dolphins, such as feeding and refuge areas.



Additionally, Blue World seeks to promote conservation of all threatened marine organisms and the entire marine environment through public awareness, education, capacity building and the sustainable development of the coastal and insular areas of the Mediterranean.

#### **ADRIATIC DOLPHIN PROJECT – CREW:**

Nikolina Rako Gospić (Croatia), BWI Scientific program director

- Ph.D. University of Split, Croatia
- M.Sc. University of Trieste, Italy

Peter Mackelworth

- Ph.D. University College of London, BWI Conservation program director
- Assistant Professor at University of Primorsko, Slovenia

Tihana Vučur (Croatia), *ADP researcher*

- M.Sc. University of Zagreb, Croatia

Marko Radulović (Croatia), *ADP researcher*

- B.Sc. University of Düsseldorf, Germany

Within the project framework, short-term assistants may be present at the field base, helping in fieldwork and data analysis. The team may vary in composition during the research season.

## ECO VOLUNTEERS

Eco-volunteers are highly motivated individuals who come to join our research and provide great help throughout the season. During the course period eco-volunteers are educated in cetacean biology, marine conservation and scientific research techniques by the resident researchers. In addition eco-volunteers live with the researchers; they help in everyday tasks such as the preparation of meals and field base maintenance. The motivation of the people involved in the program is of great importance for the project as a whole. The funding received from volunteers is important to the survival of the project and the continued research in this region.

### THE DAY OF A VOLUNTEER

**There is no typical day..... Much of what we do is based on sea conditions.**

On the day of the arrival no boat surveys are conducted. On this day researchers pick up the volunteers usually at the bus station of Veli Lošinj. Volunteers can use this day to relax after their trip, get familiar with the house, beaches and the village of Veli Lošinj. In the evening, research team prepares the dinner during which a short introduction of the volunteers and researchers will be done and basic information on the general research schedule will be given.



**The following days are devoted to the research.** If the sea is calm and the weather is fine you then board the boat to search for dolphins. Sometimes the dolphins are located within a few minutes; however it could take several hours, so you must be patient. Even when dolphins are not seen, the boat ride offers you an excellent opportunity to study the coastline, enjoy the sight of seabirds and, if you like, question the researchers. When

a group of dolphins is located, the animals are followed at close quarters for as long as it is necessary to take data. The moment the dolphins are sighted, everyone on board has a specific task to fulfil. A researcher will take photos for the photo-identification. Your task as project participant is to record data; the time, the number and breakdown of animals, their behavioural activity and their names as the researcher calls them out. After returning to the base researchers will inform the volunteers on the rest of the schedule for the day. You must have a positive attitude towards living and working in a small international group of enthusiastic people. Participants in the project are encouraged to show their interest towards all the research activities and to take part in them.

**If the sea is not calm,** the team remains at the base (LMEC) entering and analysing data and preparing papers and reports, as well as doing everyday duties. A daily lecture is offered on aspects of cetacean biology or the marine environment. The team members are happy to answer any of your questions concerning dolphins or the marine environment and the station is equipped with a comprehensive scientific literature, which you are free to consult. Volunteers are also invited to help with computer data entering. In free time volunteers may visit the island,



enjoy the beauty of discovering new paths and beaches for swimming and snorkelling in the crystal clean sea.

Volunteers are also expected to assist in educational activities of the Lošinj marine educational centre (LMEC). Duties will include helping out the staff and students, taking visitors around the centre and explaining exhibits.

**Sunday is designated as a free day for both volunteers and researchers.**

**It is important that you realise that the ADP is not a professional tourist organisation. The atmosphere at the project is informal and relaxed and by mutual arrangement many things are possible.**

**YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THIS IS NO ORDINARY HOLIDAY AND THAT THE RESEARCHERS ARE NOT TOUR LEADERS!**

People participating to this project have to match the following requirements:

- In good physical condition, to be steady on the legs and able to swim;
- Able to tolerate hot weather and long periods on the boat under the sun;
- No sea sickness;
- Speak English;
- Over 18 years old;
- Read the application form, accept the conditions and sign the declaration;
- Be aware that the project director or project manager has the right of expelling you from the field base, in case your behaviour and attitude may obstruct the normal research activities.

Not all your colleagues will speak English fluently and you are expected to be patient. Furthermore, you should be committed to nature conservation and animal protection and have a positive attitude towards working with people from different countries.

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

We remind you to bring along the following personal equipment:

- Sunscreen SFP+50, Sunglasses & Hat
- Light windproof jacket

You may also find useful the following things:

- An English dictionary
- Swimsuit, snorkel, mask & beach towel
- At least 2 Recipes for the cooking rota

We ask that you bring no more than you need, space is limited at the base and washing facilities are available. You do not need special equipment in order to participate.

## THE BOAT

The small (6 m), low noise craft, allows the easy approach of the wild dolphins and follow them for a long time without the animals being disturbed by our presence. The craft is equipped with all safety and scientific gear.



## WHY YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SWIM WITH DOLPHINS

Some people are disappointed when they hear that this project doesn't allow them to swim with the dolphins. There are some good reasons that explain this:

It is illegal to swim with dolphins in Croatia. It is seen as physical harassment and person may be punished by a large fine.

Secondly, dolphins are wild animals that live in an environment unfamiliar to humans. In other places direct human-dolphin interactions has created dangerous situations for humans. While socialising, it is common for a dolphin to push or pull an object underwater, where the dolphin spends most of its time; bear in mind an adult bottlenose dolphin can weigh 300kg.

Moreover, since dolphins are wild animals, it is better that they don't become used to human contact. If dolphins become used to the presence of somebody in the water, they may become more vulnerable to any hostile action or physical abuse.

Dolphins are mammals similar to humans and as such there is a possibility of the transmission of disease, either from the dolphin to humans or vice versa. Diseases include herpes and pneumonia.

Finally, one of the main objectives of this project is the study of the dolphins' behaviour under natural conditions. It should also be understood that, because the objective of this project is to understand the ecology and sociology of dolphins in relation to their natural environment, **no dolphin assisted therapy studies or direct human-dolphin interactions are allowed.**

Wild animals will co-exist with humans but familiarity becomes a danger to both animals and humans. Wild animals are not pets, please respect their wildness. Just looking at the beauty and elegance of the dolphins, observing the variety of their behaviour without imposing on them, is a unique experience. Let the wild stay wild!

## ACCOMODATION

You will be hosted in Veli Lošinj. The house provides bedrooms for researchers, one for interns and one for volunteers, two bathrooms, kitchen, lounge, and a terrace. **A single room is not available.** Beds, sheets and blankets are provided. The daily household duties include shopping, cooking, dish washing and general housekeeping. Everybody at the project is expected to do his or her share in the household. Two persons a day in turn will be in charge of the cooking, cleaning and washing dishes. Both participants and researchers alternate in housekeeping and cooking shifts. The project is also advertised in other countries, so it is very possible that your colleagues are from different European countries or even further.



## LOŠINJ MARINE EDUCATION CENTRE

In August 2003 Blue World opened the Lošinj Marine Education Centre (LMEC). The centre aims to provide educational facilities for local people and visitors. It provides a link between a scientific research and general public by presenting information and educational materials to explain biology, ecology and different marine research. Encouraging the general understanding of environmental issues represents the base of efficient nature protection which is the final aim of the Blue World. A part from the interactive displays, educational panels and lecture facilities, LMEC also includes the Blue World offices, conference room, laboratory and library. All lectures for volunteers will be given in this facility.



## PUBLIC AWARENESS

Dolphins are the symbol of a healthy marine ecology. They play an important role in promoting the general public's concern towards the conservation of the coastal environment as a whole. For this reason a Public Awareness Program was incorporated into the principals of the ADP. Knowledge obtained through our research and expertise is explained to the general public through articles in journals and newspapers, appearances on radio and TV shows. Public lectures and "Dolphin Day" are organised as part of our education commitment. There maybe times that television crews or journalists will accompany us on the sea, we ask you to be patient at these times.

### LMEC – CREW:

Jelena Basta (Croatia), BWI Education program director

- Ph.D. Candidate University of Split, Croatia
- BSc in Biology, University of Zagreb, Croatia

Andrea Borić, (Croatia), LMEC manager

- Tourism specialist

Mateja Zekan (Croatia), BWI educator

- M.Sc. University of Trieste, Italy

## ISLAND LOŠINJ

The coastline of Lošinj is extremely diverse; it consists of many large and small bays and underwater caves. The field-base is located in the old village of Veli Lošinj (3 km distant from Mali Lošinj – the biggest island town in Croatia) on the sheltered east coast of the island. The water falls to a depth of around seventy metres; the seafloor is mainly mud, with areas of sea-grass and limestone reefs. There are more than 95 species of fish found in these waters, and other top predators such as loggerhead turtles, tuna, sharks and swordfish regularly visit this area. The marine environment around Lošinj is the cleanest part of the Northern Adriatic Sea, with underwater visibility of consistently over twenty metres. We encourage you to explore the island and take advantage of the untouched natural environment that surrounds you.



*Town of Mali Lošinj*



Town of Veli Lošinj - our location

### Useful information

-average daily temperature in summer is 24,5 °C; in average there are more than 10 hours of sun daily during summer

-timezone: +1 UTC; +2UTC in summer

-power standard: 220V, 50Hz, round/two-pin

-official language is croatian, however almost everybody can speak at least basic english and many also speak german

-croatian currency is Kuna (Kn); 1EUR is roughly 7,5 Kn and 1USD is roughly 5,7Kn. You can check current exchange rate on <http://www.hnb.hr/tecajn/evazeca.htm>

Modern Veli Lošinj boasts a postal office and several tourist service bureaus, small hotels, shops and an ATM! Major credit cards are accepted in many shops. There are two small harbours, one in the centre of Veli itself, the other in Rovenska.

For additional information on Lošinj, we suggest you to visit the web page: [www.island-losinj.com](http://www.island-losinj.com); [www.veli-losinj-croatia.com](http://www.veli-losinj-croatia.com)

### COMMENTS FROM PREVIOUS VOLUNTEERS

*„As our time here comes to an end I find myself wishing that the time didn't go by so quickly. I wish that I could stay longer and learn more about all of the work and research that occurs at the ADP...  
...Seeing the dolphins was a great pleasure, yet a greater pleasure was helping with the research, I truly hope that we were of some assistance. The main goal for our time here was to enjoy learning something new, this objective was surely completed, thank you very much for this opportunity“*

from Sam and Sarah McDeid, July 2009.

*„Thank you so much for the wonderful experience here in Veli. It will always be a place I remember fondly... from watching the world cup at Beny's to searching for the mythical Sun Fish to being on Croatian TV. Veli has been a relaxing paradise after all the hustle of travelling. I've been able to see about 70 dolphins in their natural habitat and help with some scientific research, which has been thrilling. But I think the best thing about Veli is the incredible people I have met since I have been here. Thank you everyone and I hope to hear from all of you soon.“*

from Steven Mattice, San Francisco. July 2010.

*„This volunteering trip is literally the best one I've ever had. The days I spent on the island were indelible. I got to get close with dolphins in a natural habitat scenario on a speedboat for the first time when they came close to the boat. Before getting to the sea for field observations, I was educated about the research project and the guidelines regarding field observations. As a science student, I found this field-research exposure very rewarding for my future studies. The accommodation's brilliant! It's clean and tidy (with excellent view). It's an awesome experience to live with scientists and interns from different countries. The staff was very friendly and helpful. I've made some really great friends there. Personally, as a youngster from Hong Kong, which is a crowded and busy city filled with skyscrapers, the trip was a perfect opportunity for me to relax a bit and get away from the hustle and bustle for some days on that relaxing and gorgeous island. I wish I could stay longer... The awesomeness of the trip is simply beyond description! I can't wait to take part in the program again!“*

from Matthew Tung, Hong Kong. June 2012.

*In early summer 2014 I had the special opportunity to join in both volunteer-programs of ADP Losinj and North Dalmatia within just two weeks.*

*There you are – maybe after a long journey – on this northern croatian island arriving at the picturesque harbour town Veli Losinj, being picked up by delightful team members of Blue World. They, of course, are not your personal tour guides for a leisurely all-inclusive vacation, but part of the scientific staff taking care of about everything from research, general maintenance etc. to supervising volunteers and interns during their stage with the project.*

*About how and where you get involved as a volunteer you find detailed descriptions on their informative homepage, but I lack a proper way to convey the over-all experience: e.g. the educational introduction into the project (especially on fieldwork and collecting & evaluating data), memorable terrace-talks at the station after sundown, and most of all being out on the water (weather permitting) surrounded by beautiful natural scenery in search of dolphins – hopefully with numerous (always carefully proceeded) encounters, which vary widely but are just breathtaking each time !!*

*Whereas what can be easily said is that everybody at Blue World – from management to the education desk team – is doing an exceptional job with immense personal effort, highly professional and motivated and yet decidedly friendly and helpful – which is especially true for our volunteer mentors at the time, Tihana and Jure. Thank you so much!*

from Jens Ruggaber, Schömberg. June 2014

## TRAVEL TO AND FROM VELI LOŠINJ

The information given here was correct at time of publishing; please confirm timetables, connections and routes personally before undertaking travel. Volunteers will have to make their own travel-arrangements to Lošinj. Here is some information. Further information can be found at [www.island-losinj.com](http://www.island-losinj.com).

### By bus

#### Trieste -Rijeka

Check SAF (+39 040 425001) and Autotrans (+39 40 360300, + 385 51 211222 or <http://www.autotrans.hr>). Trip takes approximately 2 hours.

#### Rijeka – Veli Lošinj

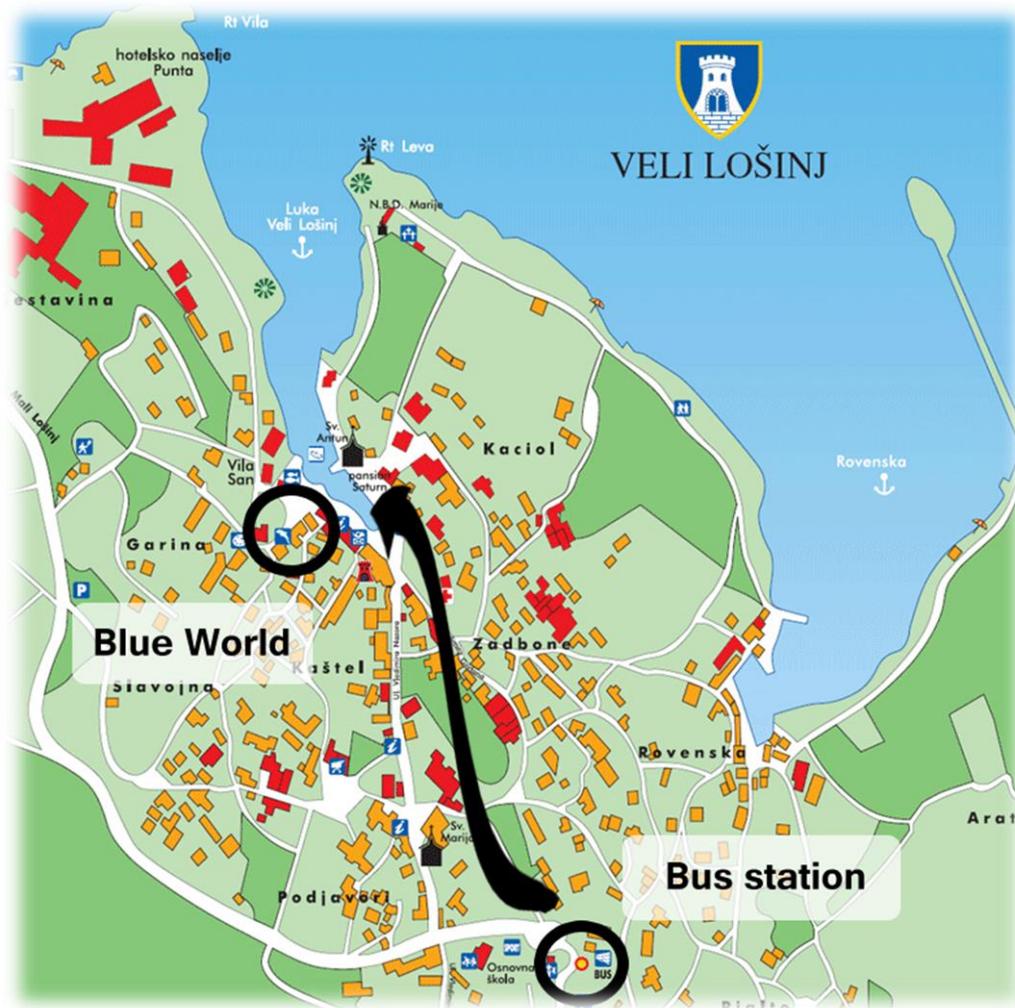
There are buses from Rijeka to Veli Lošinj several times a day. Trip takes approximately 3 hours. Check the bus schedule at <http://www.autotrans.hr> for more information.

#### Zagreb – Veli Lošinj

Two buses per day from Zagreb to Veli Lošinj; at 9:00 and at 14:15. Trip takes 7 hours. This shedule might change in summer season or on weekends and holidays, so please check: Autotrans +385 51 231110 or <http://www.autotrans.hr> or Zagreb bus station <http://www.akz.hr>

#### Germany, Netherlands, France, UK, Switzerland, Italy, Slovakia – Rijeka

For more on bus lines that connect Rijeka with other European countries check on Autotrans web pages <http://www.autotrans.hr> (under international travel)



### By boat

Everyday there is ferry from Rijeka to Mali Lošinj at around 14:30 pm, please contact [www.island-losinj.com](http://www.island-losinj.com), <http://www.jadrolinija.hr/default.aspx?lang=2> or <http://www.krilo.hr/en/index.html> for further information. There are also possibilities of ferries to and from Mali Lošinj to Ancona, Venice or Trieste during summer season, please contact the following websites for information [www.jadrolinija.hr](http://www.jadrolinija.hr) or [www.sem.hr](http://www.sem.hr). There are also connections from Ancona, Civitanova and Venice, please check the following websites: <http://www.venezialines.com>, <http://www.snav.it/>. In the summer season there may also be a catamaran running between Pula-Mali Lošinj-Zadar, check [www.lnp.hr](http://www.lnp.hr).

All ferries and catamarans arrive in Mali Lošinj. If you are arriving with boat or catamaran, let us know and we will organize that somebody picks you up.

### By car

If you prefer to travel by car, you can drive to Brestova (close to Opatija) if coming from Italy/Slovenia directions or to Valbiska (Krk Island) if coming from Zagreb direction, where you can get a small ferry that will bring you on the island of Cres and Lošinj. Please contact us through email for the ferry schedules or check yourself on [www.jadrolinija.hr](http://www.jadrolinija.hr) under District of Rijeka.

## By train

There are trains from most of the major cities of continental Europe to Zagreb, Rijeka or Trieste. Please enquire at your departure point. The train station in Rijeka is 200m west of the bus station.

## By plane

There are cheap flights to Pula, Rijeka, Split, and Zagreb in Croatia, and Venice and Trieste in Italy. For timetables of flights you can check Croatia Airlines ([www.croatiaairlines.hr](http://www.croatiaairlines.hr)), Ryanair ([www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com)), GO ([www.go-fly.com](http://www.go-fly.com)), Wizz Air ([www.wizzair.com](http://www.wizzair.com)). There are also airlines flying from Germany, including [www.airberlin.com](http://www.airberlin.com) and [www.germanwings.com](http://www.germanwings.com). There is also a possibility of flights through Air Adriatic ([www.airadriatic.hr](http://www.airadriatic.hr)) or Hidden Croatia ([www.hiddencroatia.co.uk](http://www.hiddencroatia.co.uk)). There are also possibilities of other links through Ancona then by ferry, however timetables and prices change yearly please contact the relevant flight and websites for further information.

In case you need further information, you may contact the field base directly (+385 51 604666).

## DATES AND PRICES

Following are available stages with corresponding prices in 2015. There are 5 places available in each stage. Stages last 12 days arrival on Monday, departure on Friday).

Stage	Arrival date		-	Departure date		Price (EUR)	Discount price (EUR)
	(Mondays)			(Fridays)			
1	4	May	-	15	May	870	790
2	18	May	-	29	May	870	790
3	1	June	-	12	June	870	790
4	15	June	-	26	June	900	820
5	29	June	-	10	July	900	820
6	13	July	-	24	July	930	850
7	27	July	-	7	August	930	850
8	10	August	-	21	August	930	850
9	24	August	-	4	September	900	820
10	7	September	-	18	September	900	820

## Arrival and departure

It is not possible to arrive at the research station earlier than the start date of the period or stay longer. In case you travel to Lošinj earlier you are requested to arrange for your own accommodation.

**Please contact the field base the day or two before you are due to arrive to confirm your mode of transport and time of arrival, so that a member of the crew can meet you.**

### **Insurance**

All participants are insured (in case of injury or death) by Blue World when booking. There is no health insurance! The cost for the insurance, which covers a 12-day period, is covered in the booking price.

**We recommend that participants also provide themselves with other additional personal insurance.**

### **Included in the price:**

- ✧ In house food and beverages (breakfast, lunch and dinner) for the duration of the stage **except for the evening dinner on last thursday** (usually pizza or pasta) at the restaurant in town
- ✧ Accommodation
- ✧ House expenses
- ✧ Boat fuel
- ✧ Lectures by researchers
- ✧ Scientific supervision during the research
- ✧ Internet access at LMEC
- ✧ Certificate of attendance to the Adriatic Dolphin Project
- ✧ Basic Insurance

### **Not included in the price:**

- ✧ Extra food and beverages consumed in restaurants and bars
- ✧ Travel expenses
- ✧ Alcoholic drinks
- ✧ Personal expenses (e.g. telephone)
- ✧ Tourist Tax (about €14) to be paid to the Tourist Agency in Veli Lošinj

### **WHO CAN HAVE DISCOUNT PRICE?**

**Students** - The project recognises the need to look to the future, and offers discount prices on all stages for university students, regardless of nationality and field. Proof of enrolment will be required.

**Returning Volunteers** - For those of you coming back to work with us, we offer a loyalty discount. We know who you are so no proof required.

**Croatian Citizens** - Blue World Institute is a Croatian NGO and we would like to give some opportunities for Croatian people to work with us, we therefore also offer a discount. Croatian identity card and residence will be required.

**Block Bookings** - if you and 4 friends decide to book together one whole period we will charge only 4 places instead of 5

**Two stages Bookings** – If you decide to spend 4 weeks with us, you'll get the discount price

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

**First, read carefully this Volunteering information!** Once you decide to join the volunteering program proceed as follows:

### 1. BOOK A PLACE:

For cetacean course information, availability and bookings please contact us directly at [volunteer@blue-world.org](mailto:volunteer@blue-world.org). If there is a place available in the stage you are interested in, we will keep it for you for two weeks. **During these two weeks minimum of 50% of the cost should be paid and your application forms sent to us.** Otherwise, your place becomes available to others.

### 2. PAYMENT:

You can pay through an electronic bank transfer (Swift) payable to Blue World. Please do not send checks or cash by mail. Note that **bank expenses should be covered by the participant.**

The **payment of minimum 50% of the stage cost must be received before the booking can be confirmed**; otherwise your place will be offered to other applicants. You can also decide to pay all at once.

**The rest of the payment should be done two weeks before the start date of the course**

In case of late booking, payment can be negotiated directly with volunteering coordinator ([volunteer@blue-world.org](mailto:volunteer@blue-world.org)).

Bank account: Zagrebačka banka  
Ilica 241  
10000 Zagreb  
SWIFT CODE: ZBAHR2X  
IBAN: HR0923600001101307847  
ACC: 0923600001101307847

**TRAVEL COSTS:** *Travel costs to and from the course location are not included the price of the course.*

**TOURIST TAX:** Tourist tax is not included in the price. It should be paid in the tourist office in Veli Lošinj, once you arrive (cca. 14EUR)

**INSURANCE:** *Is included in the price of the course.* Insurance is for the 12-day period of the course and covers: 50,000 Kn (Croatian Kuna) in case of death and 100,000 Kn for permanent disability; a daily coverage of 75 Kn for hospitalisation. Hospital expenses, medical insurance and liability to third persons are not included. Details will be provided upon request. **We recommend that participants provide themselves with extra insurance (most important could be medical) in addition to ours.**

**MEMBERSHIP:** The membership fee is for a calendar year and is renewable on an annual basis. *The membership fee for 2014 is included in the price of the course*, but if you would like to renew for following years please contact us.

### 3. APPLICATION FORMS:

Fill out and sign application form, membership request and disclaimer declaration (find it below). Send these forms together with the confirmation of payment and a photocopy of ID-card or passport via fax (+385 51 604668) or scanned via e-mail ([volunteer@blue-world.org](mailto:volunteer@blue-world.org)). If you are a student, don't forget to enclose the photocopy of your student card to get the discount price.

### 4. ARRANGE ARRIVAL:

Upon receiving your application forms and payment confirmation, we will contact you to confirm the booking. Also, once you know your arrival details, contact the volunteer coordinator ([volunteer@blue-world.org](mailto:volunteer@blue-world.org)). We will organize that someone meets you upon arrival in Veli Lošinj.

## FAQ

Q: Can I arrive earlier or stay longer because of travelling?

A: No, this is not possible. The days between the volunteering stages are dedicated to boat servicing, house cleaning and generally preparations for the next stage. Therefore we cannot provide accommodation during the weekend between the two volunteering stages.

Q: Can I wash my clothes in the house?

A: Yes, there is a washing machine in the house and you can use it.

Q: Is there internet connection available in the house?

A: No. The Wi-Fi is available in LMEC which is 100m from the house. You can use it any time during the opening hours. Also, some bars and restaurants in Veli Lošinj offer Wi-Fi access for their guests

Q: Is there anything particular I should bring with me?

A: We recommend that you bring one light windproof jacket for on the boat.

Q: Is there a free day during the course?

A: Yes, if the weather is fine and we do several boat surveys during the first week, then the Sunday is free. Sometimes, if the weather does not allow for enough surveys during the week, then we also go out on the boat on Sunday.

Q: What are the working hours for volunteers?

A: Usually from 10AM till 4PM. Sometimes we go out searching for dolphins early in the morning or later in the afternoon. In that case the plan is discussed and announced one day ahead.

Q: Is it possible to combine Volunteering at ADP Lošinj and volunteering at ADP North Dalmatia?

A: It is possible to do one week volunteering in Lošinj field base and one week in North Dalmatia boat base, but to do so you have to inform us at least month in advance so we can coordinate the exchange, and it is not possible to change it.

**APPLICATION FORM 2015**  
(PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY IN CAPITALS OR TYPE)

I wish to participate in the:       **Adriatic Dolphin Project, Lošinj, Croatia.**

The stage I would like to book for is:

\_\_\_\_\_

The course starts \_\_\_\_\_ ends on \_\_\_\_\_ (dates)

\_\_\_\_\_

Payment Details

\_\_\_\_\_

The total fee is

\_\_\_\_\_

Family Name

First Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Address

Postcode

\_\_\_\_\_

City

State

\_\_\_\_\_

Country

Tel/Fax

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_

Job / University

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth

\_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose ID card photocopy

Do you have any disabilities, preferences, allergies that we should know about (eg. Back problems, vegetarian, food allergies).

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Do you have any particular interests or skills you think that may be utilised whilst you are at the project? (eg. Data management, GIS knowledge, Graphic design, Construction)

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**Conditions:**

Bookings will be held for a period of two weeks, at which point a deposit should be made. **Full payment must be received by Blue World two weeks prior to the start of the stage, or negotiated directly with the volunteer coordinator. Otherwise your place will be made available to other waiting applicants.**

I accept that 20% of the course participation fee is non-refundable. In case of cancellation from my side I understand I am expected to give a minimum 30-day notice in order to be entitled to a reimbursement equal to 80% of the course participation fee. **I understand and accept that I will not be refunded if I fail to give notice of cancellation a minimum of 30 days before the course.** In case of a cancellation originating from any technical/logistical cause, Blue World will fully reimburse the applicants. Blue World cannot be held responsible for any damages other than cancellation reimbursements.

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

# MEMBERSHIP REQUEST

(PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS AND WRITE LEGIBLY)

I the undersigned....., request membership of Blue World (Plavi svijet) to the Executive Board. As a member I agree to read, respect and observe the statute. The Membership fee is included in the price and lasts for one year.

Signature (readable)..... Date.....

**DISCLAIMER DECLARATION:**  
(PLEASE USE CAPITAL LETTERS AND WRITE LEGIBLY)

I the undersigned

\_\_\_\_\_

Born in (town and country)

/

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth

/

/

\_\_\_\_\_

Resident of (full address)

\_\_\_\_\_

State

Postcode

\_\_\_\_\_

have decided to participate in the Adriatic Dolphin Project, in Lošinj, Croatia from.....2015, to.....2015, of my own free will.

I also declare that I recognise the type of activities to be undertaken during the course, and that I have the opportunity to reject to participate in any or all of these activities or abandon the research location if I believe that the activities represent a threat to my safety. I also have the same opportunity in case I am not satisfied with the quality of the research vessel or the field base. **However in this instance I accept that I will not be entitled for reimbursement.**

I accept upon signing this application that Blue World (Plavi Svijet), Kaštel 24, Veli Lošinj, Croatia, 51551, and its legal representatives, its members, and all those responsible or involved in the course logistics cannot be held responsible for any inconvenience, accident or incident, or illness I may suffer during my participation in the course. I understand that basic personal insurance is provided for the 12-day period of the course and that additional personal insurance is recommended and I have been advised of this.

Signature (readable)..... Date.....

I authorise Blue World to utilise my personal data for accounting and statistical analyses.

Signature (readable)..... Date.....

Please tick the box below if you do not want to be on the Blue World mailing list, or to receive more information regarding Blue World or it's work.

