



**The trip will be running:
From 25th July to 7th August 2021**

Due to the remote location and flight schedules, students should be prepared to leave a couple of days either side to allow them to reach site and return home again

Total approximate cost £3,200 includes:

- Food
- Accommodation
- Insurance
- Dive training
- Diving
- Participation in research programs
- Travel to and from site
- Travel cost for accompanying teachers
- Park fees
- PADI Pack

Useful Links:

Indonesia Information:

<https://bit.ly/2WKGYAw>

Video: <https://bit.ly/2CjwQ8t>

Payment schedule:

Deposit*	£150	ASAP
2 nd	£762.50	1 st April 2020
3 rd	£762.50	1 st Sept2020
4 th	£762.50	1 st Nov 2020
Final	£762.50	1 st Feb 2021

*final cost will be adjusted once the final group size is known and flights are confirmed. Please be aware that this is the cost to Opwall only, the school may need to charge extra to cover airport travel and contingency. Please see your group organiser for more details.

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are running a biodiversity research expedition to Indonesia in summer 2021 organised by Operation Wallacea. There are 16 places available for this expedition. On 12th February there are presentations about the biodiversity research expedition the students would be joining in 2021 across the school day and I hope your child will be interested in joining this expedition.

For the first week of their expedition students will be based in the endemic-rich rainforests of Buton Island in South-East Sulawesi. They will complete jungle survival skills training and help take part in various surveys such as forest measurement, butterfly surveys, bird point count surveys, herpetofauna surveys, large mammal and bird surveys, and bat surveys, alongside a course on the Ecology of the Wallacea Forests.

During their second week the group will be based in either Bau Bau or Hoga. This is at the centre of the Coral Triangle – the most diverse reef systems in the world. Here they will learn to dive to PADI Open Water level, or if they are already dive-trained or just wish to snorkel, complete an Indo Pacific reef ecology course. The reef ecology course will cover the importance of the marine environment, along with underwater survey techniques.

I hope that your child is interested in hearing about this exciting opportunity which has numerous educational benefits as well.

Miss Meera Lawrence
Trip Leader, OpWall2021

Expression of Interest Link

If you are interested in hearing more about this research expedition, please register using the link (below) or QR code (right) and let us know whether you will be able to attend the evening presentation.

Expression of interest link can be found here:
<https://www.opwall.com/school-booking-form/12792/interest>



Booking Link

If you want to be considered for this expedition but can't make the evening presentation, then you can sign up by following the booking link (below) or QR code (right) and paying your £150 deposit.

The booking link can be found here: <https://www.opwall.com/school-booking-form/12792/details>

NOTE – The deposit is fully refundable until your teacher finalises the group and returns the signed booking form. After this point the terms and conditions, which can be found at the sign-up link, will apply. Once the group has formed then Opwall will organise training from a professional fundraiser to help the students raise some of the funds needed.



Additional Information

Educational Benefits

- gives real life examples of species, habitats and issues learned about in biology, environmental science and geography courses
- students can do individual research projects suitable for Extended Essays, Internal Assessments and EPQ's or other similar projects
- 3 university course credits available at \$32.50 for US universities which is a large saving on the costs of those credits at university
- gives the students something to include on their personal statement or interviews for university entry

Fundraising

- most students raise a percentage of the funds needed and some raise all of it
- students are joining international research teams helping to protect threatened species, which is in line with public interest at the moment, making fundraising easier
- training given by professional fundraisers based on the experiences of thousands of students in successful fundraising

Teacher Testimonials

Sevenoaks School has found Operation Wallacea expeditions to be truly inspirational educational trips for high school students, providing them with the unique opportunity to work with ecological experts and assist with hands-on data collection in spectacular environments; both marine and terrestrial. The experience brings Science to life for the students, especially as the scientists they work with have enthusiasm in abundance and are keen to impart their knowledge to all who are helping them. Not only do students develop their understanding of Biology, they are also immersed in new cultures and gain an appreciation of lifestyles that are radically different to their own, whether this be an expedition to Romania or Madagascar. About to embark on at least our tenth Opwall expedition, this time to Mexico, experience tells us that we are in safe hands. The staff are highly organised, receptive to the needs to those not used to travelling far from home and always ready to help. When students come back home saying "I had the best two weeks of my life!", we know there is no need to look anywhere else for an organisation to really make a difference to the lives of students, as well as ecological environments they work in.

-Hélène Bonsall, Teacher of Sevenoaks School

School Student Testimonials

All in all this trip will be one of the most memorable experiences I may ever have in my life. The immense expanse of never-ending jungle. The beautifully varied and diverse wildlife. As well as some of the nicest scientists, students and guides made this trip into a truly incredible and awe-inspiring adventure which I will never forget.

-George Clowes, Student of Shrewsbury School

A truly inspirational experience that has opened my eyes to the beautiful world of the reef - if I could, I would stay forever.

-Eira Bassett, Student of Bishop of Llandaff School

Life is not complete until you step outside your comfort zone and experience new things

-Ella Hallet, Hurstpierpoint College