



WAVES for Development Community Surf Project Information

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1. Introduction - Information Pack

Thank you for showing interest in participating in a WAVES project. This recruitment pack is intended to answer as many questions as possible regarding our current programs, project history, location, volunteer activities, living conditions, travel, food and other logistics, health and safety, how you can contribute, dates, costs etc.

Other documents available include: "We are WAVES for Development", which gives a summary of who we are as an organization, and an "Application Form" which you need to fill out and return to us to register your interest in attending one of our programs.

The information in this pack is meant to expand on the information on the WAVES for Development website www.WAVESfordevelopment.org. Please ensure you have read the information on the website as a starting point.



Youth participants in WAVES' Educational Surf Programming



2. Project Overview

The following information provides a summary of the WAVES for Development Community Development Surf Project in Lobitos, Peru. Lobitos is the first location for WAVES in Peru. WAVES launched its first pilot project in Lobitos in February of 2008. The pilot project included Educational Surf programming for local youth and Adventure Voluntourism programming for visiting travelers.



The success of the pilot project and positive response from the community led to ongoing programming organized by local youth leaders and a second group of Adventure Voluntourists participating in 2-weeks of intensive Educational Surf programming in July. WAVES teamed up with the local school in Lobitos to begin offering ongoing educational and volunteer opportunities in October 2008 and currently have new volunteer opportunities the first weekend of each month. Additional communities are currently being considered for new projects scheduled to begin in 2009.

3. Project Location - Lobitos

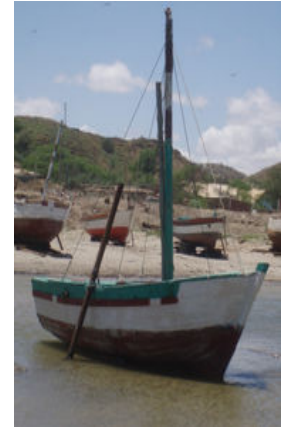
Lobitos is a remote fishing community in Northern Peru, 65KM (40 miles) south of the well-known resort town of Mancora, and half an hour drive along a dusty road from the oil-industry city of Talara. It is a very unique place; the town's approximately 1500 residents live among an army base, active oil extraction, the presence of Peruvian and international surfers and the remnants of a booming oil economy from the 1950's. Dozens of abandoned buildings, such as the old town hall right on the beach, are evidence of these days when Lobitos had both a large military population and the oil company had a large workforce living there. Today, Lobitos is most famous for its classic surf spots, with four quality breaks (some world class) within a 20-minute walk along the beach.





4. The Need for Assistance

With limited economic opportunity, the youth from the Lobitos tend to follow their families into fishing. A fleet of small boats is active in the community. These boats cast off at 3:00am daily. They return mid morning after fishing familiar waters offshore among the dozens of oil rigs that dot the view to the horizon. A recent survey estimated that 90% of the Lobitos population of 140 families derive some income from the fishing industry, with the average income well below the poverty line.



Additionally, education is not given priority. National statistics (www.inei.gob.pe) report that less than half of the youth graduate high school.

The limited opportunities impact on other members of the community also. Maria Luisa Saavedrah, President of the government funded food programme in Lobitos, "Comedores Populares," mentioned that there were 24 single mothers identified living in Lobitos who were 'struggling' to meet the needs of their children. "Single mothers in Lobitos have a difficult time managing child care responsibilities, doing whatever work becomes available, usually food preparation or weaving. They often have to be taken in as 'charity' by families."

The Lobitos Municipality in 2006 released their 'Plan De Desarrollo 2006-2018' (Plan for Development). In the report, surf tourism is recognized as a key area of development and its promotion repeatedly endorsed throughout the document. Tourism in Lobitos is based almost entirely around surfing and kite-boarding, is concentrated in small areas closest to the beach, and does not stretch to the inland parts of Lobitos where the majority of the local population reside.

Surfers, by the nature of their sport, wish to reside and eat meals in close proximity to the ocean so as to reduce travel to and from the surf breaks. This concentration of tourism has resulted in a small number of individuals benefiting from tourist spending in Lobitos, but it has had little impact on improving employment opportunities or living standards of the majority of the local Lobitos population. Unfortunately for Lobitos, most tourism services are run by wealthy Peruvians from Lima who offer few employment opportunities for locals or reinvest their money back into the community. The theme of 'foreign' or non-local control over tourism in Lobitos was continually mentioned by the Lobitos Municipality and local residents as being a primary concern for the town's development. This 'Plan de Desarrollo Local Concertado' mentions the issues, but unfortunately fails to outline any plan for how to achieve a more equal distribution of tourist spending.



5. Project Background - WAVES for Development in Lobitos

The idea for the NGO (non-governmental organizations) grew from a group of traveling surfers who wanted to offer local Lobitos youth the chance to surf perfect waves at their beach, waves which travelers enjoy everyday. With no surfboards, wetsuits, nor the ability to swim, the challenges seemed great. However, following emails to a number of surf companies around the world, Global Surf Industries made a generous donation of 400 new surfboards to be shipped to Peru for the WAVES projects. Working feverishly from many countries around the world and within Peru, the original group of surfers were joined by dozens of supporters resulting in two successful 'Pilot' projects in Lobitos in February and July 2008.

The projects to date have been run according to WAVES' Mission. Groups of volunteers have helped deliver Healthy Living (Swimming, surfing, physical education, and health education), Life Skills (Language learning, arts and life planning), Earth Connection (Environmental awareness and conservation) and Social Entrepreneurship programs (Business skills practice with a social focus) classes and activities.

Currently WAVES staff and volunteers offer Swimming, Surfing, and Environmental Educational classes and activities afternoons Tuesday through Friday and on Saturday. Volunteers have also helped build the capacity of the English and Physical Education teachers at the local school and assisted them in teaching their classes. WAVES makes English and Social Entrepreneurship instruction available to interested community members.

WAVES Adventure Voluntourism programs have introduced an innovative form of tourism to Lobitos that directly addresses educational and economic needs of the community. Not only do voluntourists contribute to educational activities that empower local youth, they also create direct economic activity for businesses and families while living and serving in Lobitos. In addition to these impacts, the cultural exchange, friendship, and understanding created between voluntourists and the community members of Lobitos enriches the lives of all involved.

WAVES Mission

WAVES for Development uses surfing to make the world a better place through Educational Surf programs that develop youth into healthy & empowered adults and Adventure Voluntourism programs that engage travelers and transform their world views. Our community-based educational programs promote:

- Life Skills & Healthy Living
- Environmental Conservation
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Sustainable Tourism



6. Project Dates

Programs Begin the First Weekend of Each Month – Get Involved!

WAVES is currently offering volunteer opportunities for Adventure Voluntourists beginning the first weekend of each month. Volunteers arrive in Talara / Lobitos for a weekend orientation before beginning their service as instructors and assistants in WAVES Educational Surf programs with local youth.



The minimum commitment is 2 weeks. Volunteers can extend their involvement by increments of 1 week. See below for information about costs, food and housing.

7. Program Activities

Based on your skills, experience and interest, there are opportunities to contribute to the Educational Surf program in the following ways:

- Teaching or assisting in Swimming and Surfing classes for Lobitos youth (ages 8 – 25).
- As an instructor or assistant in English classes during and after school hours.
- As an instructor or assistant in Environmental Education classes and activities.
- Helping plan lessons in relevant areas.
- Taking and compiling photos and video for use in the media and presentations (we often show slideshows from the project in the school yard using a projector).
- Help to co-ordinate sports activities for the kids during and after school hours.
- Work with the 'social entrepreneurship' team to help youth use feasibility studies to research, evaluate and ultimately implement business ideas in Lobitos.

WAVES is interested in other personal skills and experience that you can bring to the program and utilizing these skills for individual programs can be a valuable experience for the community in Lobitos. Past participants have developed personal projects including dancing, video production, editing, yoga, singing and trust building programs.



8. Project Cost

All WAVES Volunteers pay a **Volunteer Contribution** that supports the project in the community where they work and pay a **Program Fee** that covers expenses related to their involvement.

Volunteer Contribution: \$400/person minimum. WAVES encourages volunteers to organize campaigns and activities to raise the money while spreading the word about WAVES. WAVES is registered as not-for-profits in Peru, the USA and Switzerland. All donations made from the US will be tax deductible once 501(c)3 status is determined by the IRS.



Program Fee: \$250/week for the first 2 weeks. \$150/week for each additional week. The Program Fee covers the following:

- Pre-project preparation and briefings, email and phone support.
- Transportation to Lobitos from the Northern Peruvian city of Talara.
- Accommodation in the house of a local family with WAVES staff and volunteers.
- Health and safety management (risk assessments, emergency contacts, first-aid trained staff and first aid kit).
- Financial support of the project to ensure its ongoing success.
- Project management from local and international staff.
- Access to WAVES' wide selection of surfboards during your project.
- The employment and training of local staff to run the projects.
- 24 hour emergency support.

9. Project Logistics

Accommodation

Following the initial projects in Lobitos, WAVES has built relationships with local families who provide lodging in their houses. One such house has become the WAVES House. The family appreciates our efforts in the community and supports the WAVES programs (their grandchildren participate). Located directly opposite the school, and a five-minute walk to the beach and primary surf break, it's ideally situated for the project. The relationship is a win-win situation, with the family receiving the financial benefit of housing volunteers and WAVES having a great set-up in a prime location.



"The WAVES house"

The facilities include:

- Running water (council dependant, but quite reliable)
- Flushing toilets (see above)
- Shared dorm rooms of 2, 3, 4 and 5 beds (14 in total), one "suite"
- Bedding
- Four toilets, three showers
- Designated kitchen and common area
- Fully secure lockable rooms and house
- Restaurant

Food

Three meals per day are included in the program fee. Emphasis is placed on making meals nutritious, balanced, and delicious. Meals range from local specialties to volunteers' favorite foods from around the world. Vegetarian options are prepared for any volunteer upon request.

As a volunteer, you will be part of a team that rotates shopping and cooking responsibilities. The majority of ingredients are purchased in Talara, while some foods, such as fresh seafood, are available in Lobitos.



Additionally, some meals will be prepared by a restaurant run by the host family.



Transport

The program begins and ends in Talara, a 30 minute drive from Lobitos. To get to Talara, it's possible to take an overnight bus from Lima (17 hrs) or from Ecuador in the North. Internal flights are also available to Talara from Lima on a limited basis. Additionally, flights are available from Lima to Piura, an hour and a half from Lobitos, and cost around US \$100.

Volunteers will be met at the bus station at pre-arranged times. Buses travel regularly between the main cities and are safe, inexpensive and reliable, with many offering "cama" (bed-like) seats.

"Combi" taxis travel to and from Talara half a dozen times a day for the equivalent of \$1.00. This provides volunteers with access to shops, banks and other facilities including internet. There is no internet in Lobitos at the moment.



If you have time and the funds, a good option is to join the WAVES project before or after completing a 'Surfari' with Olas Peru Surf Travel out of Lima. WAVES has done a trip with them and can arrange for you to be well looked after, including surfing remote uncrowded waves from Lima to Lobitos. Ask for more details.

10. Health and Safety (H&S) Management

WAVES has extensive H&S procedures in place. We have undertaken thorough risk assessments which we will share with you before you commence your travel to Peru - thereby reducing the risk of travel on your way to the project meeting point. We also have extensive risk management procedures in Lobitos, including Emergency Action Plans, First Aid trained staff, emergency communications equipment, a complete first aid kit, access to 24 hour medical services in Talara, and emergency vehicles available in the unlikely event of a severe medical incident.





11. Project Scheduling

Free Surf Time

With such perfect waves in Lobitos, we recognize the importance of providing plenty of free surfing time to enjoy the surf and the surrounding area. As a result, we ensure every morning is free surfing time, and most afternoons. The program is designed to provide an effective balance between work and play.

A Typical Day

6 - 9am	Morning surf and breakfast
9 - 10am	Lesson / activity preparation (group or individual)
10 – 12.30pm	Lessons in class with school – English, Physical Education
12.30 – 2pm	Lunch / free time
2 – 3pm	Social entrepreneurship projects / activity preparation or Free time
3 – 5.30pm	Surfing or Swimming lessons with beginner surfers
5:30 – 7:00pm	Surf with advanced surfers / youth assistant surf instructors Lessons with wider community – English / social entrepreneurship classes
7.00pm	Dinner, debrief, free time

12. Other Activities

Surfing Lessons

For beginner surfers and those who want to improve their surfing, lessons can arrange with qualified WAVES surf instructors. These can be as often as you like – daily or on weekends and will help provide an income for local surfers.

Spanish Lessons

Learning to communicate in the local language is an ideal way to increase your interaction with the local community. WAVES is in the process of coordinating both one-on-one and group Spanish lessons for volunteers, and will be available as part of the program.

Mancora Trips

The opportunity exists for weekend trips to Mancora, one and a half hours to the north of Lobitos. Also hosting a great wave, Mancora is the coastal resort of choice for Limeños escaping the cold of the capital, and for travelers keen for some party action. WAVES recently started a program in Mancora working with a group of surf instructors there.



13. Lobitos - The Surf

With near constant offshore winds and few crowds, northern Peru really is a surfer's paradise. The months from November to February see the peak of the Northern hemisphere swells that line up mechanically on their march through the North Pacific past Central America to Peru. The southern hemisphere winter months of April to October send long period swells lining up from the south to connect with the long left hand points from Lima to Lobitos. Lobitos is uniquely positioned to receive swells from both directions, is rarely flat, and often pumping.

With options to surf heavy barrels at el Hueco, the Point sucking and peeling for hundreds of meters, and additional quality lefts at Muelles and Piscinas, there are uncrowded options for everyone. It is the sort of place where you can get surfed out every day!

For beginners, the protected inside of the Lobitos point has mellow waves offering ideal learning conditions. Peeling waves provide ideal opportunities to improve your surfing.

The water temperature ranges from 16 degrees C, 61 F in July up to a balmy 24C, 75F in February, with your wetsuit needs varying from a full length 3/2 steamer to board shorts.





14. Internships

Volunteers that complete 8 weeks of WAVES programs are eligible to apply for a limited number of competitive internships. WAVES interns support WAVES staff in developing, planning, delivering programs. Internship opportunities are based on WAVES programming needs and may be located in Lobitos where the volunteers served or another community where WAVES is conducting investigative community diagnosis for future programs.



Internships are unpaid, but include housing. WAVES will work with the educational institutions of interns who wish to seek academic credit for their work.

15. What's Next?

- Fill in the attached Application Form.
- You may attach a copy of your current CV.
- Make a \$200 contribution to confirm your interest. The remaining \$200 contribution can be made prior to your arrival in Peru. Details of payment methods are below.
- Where possible, applications should be received at least two months before the commencement of the Project to enable WAVES to effectively co-ordinate your involvement.
- Space is limited; get your application in today!

16. Payment Details

Volunteer Contributions may be made via Credit Card or Paypal on the "Donate" page of the WAVES website:

<http://www.wavesfordevelopment.org/donate.php>

Check may be written out to WAVES for Development and sent to:
WAVES for Development International, Inc.
345 W. 48th St. Ste. 1A
New York, NY 10036

*A thank-you note will be sent for all Volunteer Contributions as a receipt for tax deductibility purposes.



The **Program Fee** should be paid in Peru – either through direct deposit or cash -

Account Details:

Banco receptor: Banco Internacional del Perú

Dirección del Banco: Carlos Villaran 140 - Santa Catalina - La Victoria

Swift/IBAN: BINPPEPL

Beneficiario: WAVES FOR DEVELOPMENT PERU

Dirección del beneficiario: AV LA PAZ 1646 INT 102 – Miraflores

Cuenta del beneficiario: CTA. AHORROS. M/E 057-3016540923 IND NORMAL

