

Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TUDAV) Internship-Volunteering Program

TUDAV is a non-governmental organization conducting studies in marine sciences and awareness activities since 1997. It is also an ACCOBAMS partner. This spring and summer, an internship-volunteering program is being organized as a great opportunity for those working in marine sciences, aspiring to enter the field, or passionate about marine studies.

The details of the program are listed below.

- ◆ The program will take place between **April** through **June**.
- ◆ Duration of the program has been set to a minimum of **3** weeks and a maximum of **12** weeks.
- ◆ A maximum of **4** participants will be accepted at a time.
- ◆ Participants will stay aboard TUDAV's research vessel, **TUDAV MARU**.
- ◆ The participation fee is **€300 per week**. The participation fee covers the administrative, accommodation, and food expenses of the program, including electricity, water, equipment, fuel, and other operational costs. Participants must arrange their own transportation to the vessel.
- ◆ Participants are required to have health insurance.
- ◆ Participants are expected to use or bring their own internet.

Activities

- ◆ Research surveys will be conducted aboard TUDAV's research vessel, **TUDAV MARU**, in the Istanbul Strait **2** to **3** times per week.
- ◆ During surveys, photo-identification studies will be carried out on the three dolphin species inhabiting the Istanbul Strait: bottlenose dolphin, common dolphin, and harbor porpoise.
- ◆ Environmental sampling will be conducted at selected stations using an underwater drone for visual assessments, a CTD profiler for hydrographic measurements, and a Bongo net for plankton collection.
- ◆ For the past 20 years, passive acoustic monitoring studies have been conducted in the Istanbul Strait at various locations. These hydrophones record underwater sounds, providing long-term data on dolphin vocalizations and habitat use. This research continues to contribute to our understanding of dolphin populations in the strait.
- ◆ Participants will have the opportunity to take part in these research activities.
- ◆ Participants will receive training on photo-identification techniques, passive acoustic studies, and laboratory analyses of dolphin stomach contents. Additionally, they will have the opportunity to engage with our archive of dolphin and whale skeletal specimens.
- ◆ TUDAV conducts scientific research in the Marmara, Black Sea and Aegean Sea. If the internship period coincides with these research expeditions, participants will have the opportunity to take part in them as well.

Requirements for Participants

- ◆ Applicants must be **18 or older**.
- ◆ The ability to communicate effectively in English.
- ◆ Ability to work long hours in marine conditions.
- ◆ While not mandatory, priority may be given to candidates with education or experience in marine or environmental sciences.
- ◆ Candidates should be adaptable to flexible working hours, possess strong teamwork skills, and demonstrate a high level of motivation for research activities.
- ◆ Ability to swim.
- ◆ Basic skill for computers (text editing, data input, presentation, etc)

Application Process

- ◆ Applicants are required to submit their CVs and a letter of interest (Why do you apply to this program?) to our email address at tudav@tudav.org
- ◆ The application process will continue until **End of March**.
- ◆ You can also send your question to our email.