

**Internship: Assistant Naturalist Guide
in Marine Ecology and Outdoor Recreation
with The Coastal Expeditions Foundation**

Location: Charleston, South Carolina

Dates: September 1 to mid-December

Time commitment: 15-20 hrs/week, flexible depending on applicant's availability. Weekend work - Saturday availability strongly preferred.

Academic credit: Please consult with your Academic Program (major or minor) about the opportunities for earning academic credit at the College of Charleston.

Compensation: \$15/hr

Description

The Coastal Expeditions Foundation is seeking an Intern/Assistant Naturalist Guide to help facilitate access to local coastal ecosystems through educational instruction, nature interpretation, and operational support, primarily at our headquarters along Shem Creek in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Additional locations may include Kiawah River, Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, and Francis Marion National Forest.

The Assistant Naturalist Guide will work with a variety of outdoor professionals on the Coastal Expeditions team, including seasoned guides, educators, captains, and the Foundation's leadership team. Throughout the program season, you will be assigned to a variety of guiding shifts that align with current and aspirational skills, to gain experience as a naturalist educator and small boat guide. As you further develop your skills, through the program, more advanced opportunities may also become available, including the opportunity to be the primary guide on local expeditions.

Individuals who thrive at Coastal Expeditions are outgoing, intellectually curious, and able to complete physically demanding work outdoors for extended periods of time, while maintaining a positive and respectful attitude in a team setting and when interacting with the public.

General responsibilities include:

- Engage and share environmental interpretation with guests and students in a friendly, informative, and professional manner while on the water, and before and after the trip
- Prepare guests and students for their outdoor adventure, including:
 - Safety guidelines
 - Paddle instruction

- Intro to gear/equipment
- Assist with group management and client safety on the water
- Assist with boating operations under the direction of the vessel's captain
- Launch kayak rentals and tours from floating dock, including storage
- Clean and maintain gear and equipment
- Assist administrative staff in the main office
 - Greet guests and visitors
 - Complete sales transactions for retail purchases
 - Answer general inquiries, including phone calls
 - Other tasks assigned by Office Manager

Learning Outcomes

The internship in marine ecology and outdoor recreation is designed to introduce you to the variety of ways in which outdoor experiences can be a vessel for community service, environmental awareness and conservation. The program provides advanced kayak training and hands-on experience in naturalist exploration and field observation.

How to Apply

Please submit a cover letter (1-2 pages), resume, and contact information for three references to Annie Owen (annie@coastalexpeditions.com). Additional supporting documents to demonstrate your skills and qualifications are also encouraged.