



 **oasis**
for people & community

Global Teams

Prospectus 2008-2009

Global Teams: Overview

What?

An Oasis Global Team offers you the chance of a lifetime – A chance to get out of the UK and immerse yourself in another culture, broaden your life experience and offer yourself in service alongside some amazing churches and projects. It's a chance to help transform communities in some of the poorest areas of the world and find yourself transformed in the process!

Global Teams come in a variety of different shapes and sizes:

Classic: The blueprint for global mission – three, five or six months in your chosen country, no nonsense serving.

Variations: Mission opportunities with a twist, including our Back2Back team that allows you to visit two contrasting countries!

Summer teams: 2 to 6 week summer mission teams. If you can't get away for several months, then these teams are a fantastic taster.

Made2Serve: Perfect for a youth group, Christian Union, church cell or school group, Oasis can custom-build a mission trip for you!

Where?

Global Teams operate in 7 countries worldwide across 4 continents - Africa, Asia, North America and South America.



When?

Your leaving date and in-country time can change depending on which team you've chosen - check the different options in the info pack for more details. In general, though, our Gap year teams depart in April and October, and Summer teams at the end of July.

Who?

There's no question that any Global team is an incredible experience, and at Oasis we promise we'll pull out all the stops to make your mission trip as perfect for you as you'd like it to be. However, overseas mission can be tough – when you're in another country things don't always go smoothly, and you'll only benefit if you go with the right attitude.



The Team member loves to serve. They love to get their hands dirty and put aside their own interests for the sake of their mission. They're not perfect (by any means) but they're keen to learn, and are willing to soak up every experience (good and bad) as a chance to develop their faith and character.

Please note - most teams have an age restriction of 18. Some summer teams are open to 16+ and for Made2Serve teams there is no restriction (as long as people under 18 are accompanied by an adult).

If this is sounding good to you then you need to read on. But remember, if you're thinking of a Global Team, you need to be prepared to learn loads about yourself, have some of those rough edges chipped away and give all you have to your placement and your team.

Oasis UK is a keen supporter of the Fairtrade movement, and use Fairtrade products at all our events. In joining a Global Team, we ask you to commit yourself similarly to making ethical choices about your purchases and lifestyle.

If you're up for the adventure, then we have some great opportunities for you...

Global Action Teams

If you're looking for no nonsense global mission that'll give you good training and a nice chunk of time in your chosen country, then the Classic is for you. Operating in nearly all of our country placements (see other info), the processes and procedures of the Global Classic serve as the blueprint for all our global missions. Below is a rundown of the steps you'll take to take part in the Global Classic, but pay attention even if you're thinking of doing another team – the process is very similar!

You have two departure options for your Global Classic:

Autumn Departures – With Training in September, this option will give you three or six months in your chosen country, departing the 1st week of October.

Spring Departures – Perfect for you if you want to travel in the second half of your gap year, you'll train in March, departing the 1st week of April. You will spend 3 or 5 months in your chosen country, meaning you'll be back in time for the start of the new academic year.



Application

Select which departure date you'd prefer, then you can download and fill out the application form at www.oasisuk.org. You'll then be invited to visit our Global Teams staff at our London office for a Selection Day. During the day you'll be interviewed and have a chance to hear about the different placements. The Selection Day is an opportunity for Oasis and you to explore together the options for your experience and decide whether a Global Team is the right thing for you.

Your offer of a place on a Global Team is subject to your church recommending you for the placement, a satisfactory reference from a mature Christian friend, health clearance from Interhealth, and a police check.

Training

Once accepted, you'll join the other Teams on a comprehensive training residential (depending on which team you've selected this can range from 2 to 5 days). Living and studying with your team, you'll be trained by staff from Oasis, as well as special guest trainers from other internationally recognised organisations, all experts in their field.

The subjects you'll cover range from theology of mission and cultural studies (tailored to your particular country placement) to team and leadership building sessions and practical sessions on Travel Health, Children's/youth work and other skills you'll need such as communication and developing character. Global training prepares your heart and mind for the experience you'll have overseas – and after a brief visit home to pack and say a big goodbye to your loved ones, its off to your placement country for some serious global action!

Which is where the adventure truly begins...

Wherever and whenever you go on your team, the idea is for you to serve the mission of the local church or project that you're working with. You won't be asked to establish a new project, but you will be asked to bring your ideas, skills, enthusiasm and passion to projects that are already active in their locality.

Because Global Teams work in this way, across a number of countries worldwide (please see page 7) and with a number of projects or churches, every team is a unique experience and each placement is slightly different from that which has gone before.

Placements

Although each placement is slightly different, we can tell you from previous years, that the kind of things you could be involved in include:

- preaching
- social action projects
- renovations
- informal education projects
- play schemes
- residential camps,
- I.T. training
- work with people living with the effects of HIV & AIDS
- sports
- drama
- vocational training
- work with the homeless



- youth work
- developing communities
- children's work
- schools work
- English language teaching
- administration
- caring for disabled children
- discipleship
- work with vulnerable children (including street children in some cases)
- church activities
- running seminars and workshops

Debrief

The best teacher is not our experience, but the evaluation of our experience. On return from your placement you'll take part in a review of your time away. This integral part of your team experience allows you to talk through the things you've seen in a supportive and encouraging environment, but is designed to help you take what you've learnt and build on it as you take your next step. You will have the opportunity to learn about other ways you can get involved with Oasis and how to get plugged in to other networks and campaigns as well as allowing you to spend time with other teams and learn how they got on in their countries. You haven't had the full Global experience without your debrief.



Global: Variations

While the quality and process remain the same, Oasis has some variations on the theme of the Classic Global team – if you're looking for something a little different, why not give one of these a go?

With added 'Joie De Vivre...'

Language Placements

Created especially for people who want to serve communities whilst improving their language skills at the same time.

We can arrange placements of 2 weeks -10 months for students of Portuguese in Mozambique or Brazil, or students of African languages in Uganda or South Africa, or South-East Asian language students in India or Bangladesh.

Back2Back

After taking part in Global training in September, you'll begin an 11-month experience that will let you take part in what God is doing across two countries.

Take part in two different teams in your choice of two countries, and we'll give you around £1600 off the cost of your second trip.

You can either come home for a 3-week break in between, or stay and travel, and make your way to meet the second team at your next placement.

Back2Back is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience mission on a global scale. It is hard work though, so you need to be adaptable! As well as the usual feeling of being away from the familiar that all teams experience, you'll also be working two different cultures, and will have to move on from people and places that you may have felt settled in. It's hardcore, but well worth it.



A Tale of 2 Cities

Oasis gives you the chance to spend five months in the UK with the **threesixty** programme, then fly to a Global placement country to serve in a very different context.

You will spend 5 months at an Oasis UK hub as part of **threesixty** - including great residentials, an excellent pastoral support package and accommodation. **threesixty** seeks to express God's love, primarily to the disadvantaged and excluded. Along the way you could find yourself mentoring excluded young people, visiting the elderly, leading a cell group, helping run a youth club, working in a school, coaching a sports team, leading worship, serving in a drop-in centre, researching a local community, assisting with an afterschool club... the list is almost endless.

Please note that food is not included for the **threesixty** section of this placement – you need to budget for this yourself.

Having completed your training and placement in the UK you will fly to a global Oasis hub to put what you have learned into practice, serving the poor and experiencing a radically different culture. For 2009, the team are going to Johannesburg, South Africa. Are you up for the challenge?



If package touring isn't for you, let us tailor make a mission just the right fit for you...

Made2Serve

If you and your youth group/Christian Union/Cell/small group/whatever are fed up of English festivals spent freezing in tents, then why not break away from the norm and experience global mission together?

You just tell us who you'd like to go (numbers, ages, genders, etc), where you'd like to go (choose from our Global placement countries), and when and how long you'd like to go for, and we'll custom build a mission experience for you!

Made2Serve is usually only available at Easter and during October half term – but do get in touch if you would need alternative dates.



Global: Summer Teams

Not everyone can take a year out to serve God, so Oasis has a range of short-term summer opportunities to give you a taster of global mission.

Summer teams vary from two weeks to six weeks, and take place in a variety of our placement countries. Here are the planned teams for 2009... All teams will need a minimum number of 3 people to run:

Uganda: We're looking for volunteers aged 16+ to form a team that will spend two weeks working with Oasis Uganda. You will contribute towards a number of projects working alongside the Ugandan people and Oasis staff, including running a kids summer camp, and helping practically with building and painting work at Oasis projects in Kampala (building project is dependent on funding). *Cost £1700 including flights*

USA: This team that will spend four weeks working with Oasis USA and partner churches, helping to run 'Summer in the City'. This is a project getting young people from different communities to work together in serving the homeless in downtown LA. *Cost £1700 including flights*

Mozambique: This team that will spend three weeks working with Oasis Mozambique and partner churches, helping with children's clubs and a simple building project. *Cost £2000 including flights*

India: We need volunteers, aged 18 and over, to work on a variety of Oasis India projects for six weeks. The team will be divided up into smaller groups and placed in one of the Oasis city bases – Mumbai, Bangalore or Chennai. In these cities the urban poor and the urban rich exist side-by-side, it will be an adventure you will not forget! Past teams have helped with childrens' work, teaching English and skills training. This team will take place during the monsoon, so bring your wellies and be prepared for lots of rain! *Cost £1600 including flights*

South Africa: We are running a 4 week team to Project Gateway in Pietermaritzburg (1 hour from Durban).

Project Gateway is a former prison which has been converted into an extensive community centre, offering education, healthcare and employment opportunities for the poor. For more information on their work, have a look at www.projectgateway.co.za The summer team will assist projects practically by helping with building and painting work. *Cost £2100 including flights and 3-day safari*

Bangladesh: We need volunteers aged 18 and over, to work on a variety of Oasis Bangladesh projects in Dhaka for 2 or 4 weeks (2 minimum, stay longer if you want to!). There will be opportunities for children's work and teaching English, as well as assisting with skills training for teenage girls, who would otherwise be working in garment factories. Those with business skills will also be able to help at the new fair trade furniture business which is being set up by Oasis. *Cost £1700 including flights*

Training for summer teams is from 22nd – 25th July 2009, and flights will be booked for 25th or 26th July where possible.

Prices

Here's where you find out all the bits that you're burning to know, also known as 'the prices'...

Global 2008/09 Prices

Global Classic leaving in September, you'll expect to pay £4250 for a 6-month team. The 3-month teams will be £2,900

Global Classic leaving in April, you'd pay £4000

Back2Back costs about £5,800

A Tale of 2 Cities £4,500 (not including food costs for UK section of the year)

Summer Teams: Prices vary according to location and duration, but you can expect to pay around £1,700 - £2,100.

Country Placements

Currently we send teams to Uganda, Mozambique, South Africa, India and Bangladesh. We also have new placements in Los Angeles and Thailand.

For more information:

If you have any more questions, including information on placement countries, you can contact us at:

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Oasis is recognised by Global Connections as operating under the Code of Best Practice in Short-Term Mission 2009 and 2010