

## Whale and dolphin conservation, Tenerife

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This summer I spent three weeks on board tourist whale and dolphin watching boats collecting data on the populations of resident pilot whales and bottlenose dolphins. This work involved filling out work sheets to record the behaviour of the mammals, their locations, whether other boats/jet skis/tourists were detrimentally interacting with them, how the animals were interacting with each other and how long they stayed near our boats. Additionally, I carried out weekly beach cleans, coastal surveys-to monitor the dolphins from the coast and helped raise public awareness of issues relating to marine conservation by engaging with the public.

I undertook this work with the company Frontier who organise many work placements in a range of countries and covering a range of fields of work, not just exclusively surrounding animal conservation. They have different points of contact depending on the project chosen but their range of available projects can be found at [frontier.ac.uk](http://frontier.ac.uk).

This trip provided me with a range of contacts who I spent time speaking with both on a professional level and on a friendly basis, this hugely helped develop both my academic and professional portfolio as I now have a greater range of people available to help with job searches and who have noted me down for any vacancies they may have in my goal field of work. Additionally, the placement helped me to narrow down what I am and am not interested in so I can start to focus on career paths with a greater field work as this trip help prove to me that this is the kind of work I am keen to pursue.

