

Marine research internship, Thailand

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This summer I spent 4 weeks on the island of Koh Phangan taking part in the research and conservation of the coral reef surrounding the northern part of the island. The internship took place at the Coresea (<https://coresea.com>) marine research centre in Chaloklum Bay. Coresea is an NGO (non-governmental organisation) that has designed and completed a number of projects in both marine conservation and research, one project I helped with while in Thailand was restoration of damaged coral following storms. This entailed exploring the reef and replanting coral that had been broken up or dislodged from its original position.



A standard day during my internship consisted of around 2 hours of scuba diving over the coral reef then back to the lab for analysis of underwater photography and data entry. The trip has aided me in development of my personal career by providing an opportunity to network with real scientists in my field of study as well as get a first-hand insight into how data is collected for both research papers and wider use by government agencies like the department of national parks, wildlife and plant conservation (Thailand). I would recommend taking part in an overseas study opportunity to anyone who wants to experience what it's like working on current research with the added excitement of living in a culture quite different to the UK.

