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# Teen Travel Camp Counselor/ Instructor

## Overview:

Surf Camp, Inc. is seeking enthusiastic and dedicated Travel Camp Counselors to join our overnight surf and cultural travel programs in California and Costa Rica. This role is ideal for individuals passionate about surfing, ocean conservation, and inspiring youth. As a Travel Camp Counselor, you'll provide surf instruction, facilitate cultural and educational activities, and lead our campers on a life-changing adventure.

You'll work as part of a collaborative team, ensuring that all campers have a safe, educational, and fun experience. While surf instruction experience is not required, you must be a proficient surfer and ready to go through our comprehensive surf instructor training. This position involves working closely with the leadership team to create an enriching program while managing the logistical aspects of the camp, including van driving, equipment maintenance, and camper care. This position reports to the Unit Leader.

## What You'll Do:

### Leadership & Supervision

- ❖ Provide 24-hour supervision of campers, both in accommodations and during activities.
- ❖ Lead a team of counselors, ensuring tasks are delegated effectively and everyone is focused on camper safety and program goals.
- ❖ Serve as a positive role model for campers and staff, exhibiting responsibility, flexibility, and maturity.
- ❖ Mentor staff members and provide constructive feedback to maintain a high-quality, safe experience for everyone.

### Surf Instruction & Program Delivery

- ❖ Lead daily surf lessons and provide instruction on ocean safety, surf etiquette, and surf techniques.
- ❖ Develop and implement engaging educational activities, focusing on marine science, cultural exchange, and environmental stewardship.
- ❖ Supervise all activities and ensure they align with the camp's educational goals of safety, learning, and fun.

### Logistics & Equipment Management

- ❖ Assist with all logistical aspects of camp, including setup and breakdown of activities and camp locations.
- ❖ Maintain and manage equipment inventory, ensuring all gear is in good condition and ready for use.
- ❖ Safely transport campers in 15-passenger vans to activities and excursions.
- ❖ Work closely with vendors and partners to provide an enriching and authentic local cultural experience for campers.

### Camper Care & Safety

- ❖ Manage camper behavior, ensuring a positive and respectful camp environment.
- ❖ Oversee camper safety during all activities and handle any emergency situations that arise.
- ❖ Administer medication and monitor dietary preferences for campers, ensuring individual needs are met.
- ❖ Communicate with parents regarding camper progress, safety, and overall well-being.

### Cultural & Educational Activities

- ❖ Lead cultural activities and excursions in California or Costa Rica, introducing campers to the local culture, environment, and history.
- ❖ Facilitate hands-on activities related to ocean conservation and sustainable living.
- ❖ Provide daily debriefs and reflections with campers to discuss their experiences and learning.

## Responsibilities:

- ❖ Lead and supervise surf lessons, ensuring campers understand and practice ocean safety and surf etiquette.
- ❖ Manage all aspects of daily camp operations, including camper supervision, logistics, and program implementation.
- ❖ Organize and participate in cultural excursions and environmental activities that highlight the local culture and ecosystems.
- ❖ Ensure safety during all activities, including surf lessons, excursions, and evening programs.
- ❖ Safely transport campers to and from activities and assist with camper arrivals and departures.
- ❖ Communicate with campers, parents, and leadership to address concerns and ensure a positive experience.
- ❖ Lead daily staff meetings to discuss camper needs, logistics, and program progress.
- ❖ Maintain equipment and ensure that all supplies are organized and ready for each session.

## Skills and Qualifications:

### Required:

- ❖ At least 25 years of age with a BA/BS in Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Education, Recreation, or a related field (or equivalent experience).
- ❖ Minimum of 3 years of surfing experience and broad knowledge of surfing fundamentals.
- ❖ Ability to pass a 500-yard open-ocean swim test and be in excellent physical condition.
- ❖ Current certifications in Lifeguarding, CPR, and First Aid.
- ❖ Proven ability to manage staff, work collaboratively, and lead by example.
- ❖ Experience in marine science, environmental education, or summer camp counseling.
- ❖ No conflicting summer commitments (travel, work, etc.).
- ❖ Valid passport for international travel and ability to work in the U.S. and abroad.
- ❖ Clean driving record and ability to pass a government background check.

### Preferred:

- ❖ Master's degree in Marine Biology, Environmental Science, Education, or related field.
- ❖ Wilderness First Responder certification.
- ❖ Fluency in Spanish or other foreign languages.
- ❖ Previous experience as a trip leader, in a camp setting, or in an international program.
- ❖ Environmental education certification or teaching credential.
- ❖ Strong communication, organizational, and problem-solving skills.

## Why Join Us?

- ❖ Competitive stipend and pro-deal opportunities for outdoor gear and equipment.
- ❖ Accommodations and meals provided during the program, with travel costs covered.
- ❖ Opportunity to work in California or Costa Rica, experiencing unique local cultures and ecosystems.
- ❖ Life-changing experiences for both campers and counselors in a supportive, mission-driven environment.
- ❖ Lead and inspire youth while working alongside a passionate and dedicated team.

## Position Duration:

Programs run from early June to early August, with mandatory pre-trip training in the beginning of June. Specific dates will be provided during the interview process.

## About Surf Camp, Inc.:

Surf Camp, Inc. is a leader in the world of learn-to-surf and marine science adventure camps. We create transformative experiences that emphasize Safety, Learning, and Fun, helping participants build confidence, develop

character, and inspire a lifelong love of the ocean. Our programs offer a diverse range of summer camps for kids, teens, and adults, focusing on surf education, environmental stewardship, and cultural exchange.

**Mission Statement:**

*"Our mission is to cultivate a love and respect for the ocean by building confidence, developing character, and inspiring stoke through safety, fun, and learning."*