Summer Placement Blog

The University of Malta hosted my Summer Placement which was researching the efficiency of management for jellyfish blooms. The project involved a generous amount of snorkelling, deploying public perception surveys and office based work performing quality control on citizen science campaigns. It was a rounded opportunity to develop my experience with quantitative and qualitative in situ data collection. The research site was easily accessible by public transport but the project supervisor was extremely supportive and assisted with providing lifts.

I thoroughly enjoyed the research component of my placement and strongly encourage you to consider travelling to Malta for yours. The facilities at the University are excellent and the department staff are welcoming, encouraging and have a good sense of humour. In all, they were a pleasure to share an office with.

During free time you will constantly be discovering the treasures which the islands has to offer. Malta’s capital is called Valletta where you can sample the Maltese food, the history is plentiful and the culture is strongly Roman Catholic which is apparent in the beautiful churches and religious Festa’s throughout the summer. Every week a different town will host a Festa in celebration of their resident Saint; this involves a feast, marching bands and the most awe inspiring fireworks you will probably ever see.

The natural history is equally rich and plentiful. Rugged coastline with panoramic views surround the islands which guarantees a sensational sunrise and sunset all summer. For the keen snorkelers and divers you will be spoilt! The endemic Maltese marine life is rich and diverse, not only is it well worth seeing first hand it is a great way to cool down from the heat of the Mediterranean summertime. The neighbouring islands of Gozo and Comino are a short ferry away both hosting a wealth of magnificent coastline and history. If you are lucky enough to choose Malta for your summer placement I urge you to enjoy and explore, explore, explore!!