



Tropical Ecology Research Internship

[Fundación Para La Tierra](#)

Pilar, Ñeembucú Department, Paraguay

About Para La Tierra

Fundación Para La Tierra is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of fragile habitats in Paraguay. We achieve this mission through three primary programs: Scientific Research, Community Engagement, and Environmental Education.

Based in Paraguay, the ‘heart of South America,’ Para La Tierra is the country’s only year-round research station. Over the past 12 years, we have published over 130 peer-reviewed articles and discovered more than 10 new species. Along the way, over 500 interns have helped contribute to the better understanding of Paraguay’s understudied habitats. Many interns make their way onto the author line for the first time in their early careers through their work with Para La Tierra and continue their career into further education or employment in their discipline.

Our research base is located in Pilar, the ‘City of Birds’. This beautiful town in the south of Paraguay is the gateway to the Ñeembucú Wetland Complex (NWC), composed of a mosaic of habitats, including grasslands, marches, and humid Chaco. Deep forests lining the rivers and streams running through the area are bursting with wildlife, while river monsters the size of small cars lurk in the murky waters.

About the Internship Position

Para La Tierra is searching for enthusiastic and motivated research interns to join our team in Paraguay for 3 to 6 months. Our internship program provides young biologists an opportunity to step out of the classroom and into the field, gaining hands-on experience running a research project of their own design. Before arriving, our interns are challenged to come up with a research topic, review the relevant literature, and create a methodology with the support of our intern-supervisor.

Once in-country, interns are trained in the field techniques required for their project. Whether its mist-netting for birds in the early hours of the morning, fishing at mid-day or staying out late hunting for frogs, PLT will make sure that our interns are confident in the methodology needed to move their research forward.

Available topics include:

- Primatology
- Herpetology
- Entomology
- Ornithology
- Mammalogy
- Museum Studies
- Freshwater Ecology
- Habitat Monitoring

The internship program is designed to give young scientists the opportunity to take control of every step of a scientific project. From conception to completion, our interns are in the driver seat.

Design your own wildlife project and contribute to long-term research in Paraguay!

Requirements:

Applicants must be over 18 years old and have or be working towards a degree in a biology related subject. They must be prepared to stay for a minimum of three months. Conversational English is required.

Conditions:

Para La Tierra charges interns to cover costs of room and board. The price includes three meals a day, a bed in shared accommodation with hot showers and access to WiFi. The fee also covers the use of PLT's scientific equipment, administrative costs associated with the stay, and a small contribution to Para La Tierra's conservation and education projects.

Costs – \$1,195 per month for the first 2 months and \$995 for each subsequent month.

How to Apply

The application period is rolling and there are no start or end dates, so the trip can be organized to suit the project and the person. To apply please email your CV to olivia@paralatierra.org or fill out our application form at www.paralatierra.org/internships.

