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UNESCO

World Heritage Volunteers











At 7 AM the volunteers rolled out of bed to begin day one of the Bahrain World Heritage Volunteer Program, some were tired after having to make the long journey to Bahrain from their home countries. Everyone was treated to a breakfast of juice, bread and dates before making their way over to the Bahrain Fort site. Opening ceremonies started with CCIVS and the GWS giving a speech and presenting trophies to honor the program sponsors. After taking a group photo everyone got a few minutes to relax and talk during a short coffee break. An informative presentation followed which explained Bahrain's archeology along with a video about the Bahrain Fort. After the presentation the group was taken out to the desert where they enjoyed «icebreaker» games in a tent and got a taste if the Bahraini camping experience. Lunch of chicken, rice and beef was served before the volunteers were taken to see the Tree of Life. After the trip, they returned back to the camp site where they helped around the camp and prepared for a barbecue. An enjoyable evening was spent in the desert where everyone got to talk and share stories while eating some delicious food.



















The volunteers were taken on an informative tour of the Bahrain Fort, the Fort's museum as well as the forts workshop. After the tour, everyone got to experience a lunch hosted by a Bahraini family. The volunteers relaxed after enjoying some chicken & rice along with sweets for dessert. Everyone was then taken to the Bahrain National Museum where a tour was given about the history and culture of Bahrain. Afterwards, the volunteers were taken to a local supermarket to purchase food for dinner. Everyone was divided into three groups, each of which were assigned to fix a meal to share with everyone. After dinner was cooked a lecture and questionnaire were given by a CCIVS representative.





















The first day of work started for the volunteers on the Bahrain Fort site. They split off into two groups and worked on dusting off the fort walls in preparation for an arial photo. After a few hours everyone took a short break to talk and relax before they finished up the remainder of the days work and cleaned up. Everyone then went into the Fort's Café to eat some snacks. Then the group visited the Arab Regional Center for World Heritage where they showed a presentation explaining their services and missions. The volunteers were then taken to explore the Souq Al Manama and sit down for some coffee. Everyone was given an hour to explore the souq and make a quick visit to the Khalaf House and Bab Al Bahrain. The group then departed and headed back to the hotel to cook dinner.



















Work continues on the fort with the volunteers spending another day dusting the fort in preparation for photos. A tent was set up for the volunteers to take a well needed break in after working for a few hours. After some rest and snacks, the volunteers continued to work for a couple more hours until it was time for lunch. They got to sit outside with a clear view of the ocean for lunch before heading over to a bowling alley to play a few games. The volunteers enjoyed bowling for a few hours, even the ones that had never bowled before. Afterwards, the group made a quick trip to the supermarket then prepared dinner.







The fifth day started with the volunteers moving from their hostel to a four star hotel! With everyones bags loaded onto the van, the volunteers headed back to the fort to complete the days work. To-days task was to uncover the ruins of a mosque on the Bahrain Fort site. The volunteers got to work uncovering the foundation and wheelbarrowing away piles of sand. The group took a short break before continuing to work for another hour and then stopping for lunch. The volunteers were treated to some dessert made by one of the local volunteers. Afterwards, everyone loaded onto the van and headed to the Al Fateh Fort (Riffa Fort). The group took their time walking around the fort then sat down at a restaurant connected to the site that overlooked a valley and gave a spectacular view as the sun stared to set. Everyone then went to the new hotel to cook dinner and celebrate a volunteers birthday.

















The volunteers set back to work on the mosque ruins after eating a nice breakfast at the new hotel. Within a few minutes of work the volunteers discovered a buried wall of the mosque and spent most of the day uncovering it. For lunch everyone was treated to pizza and soft drinks, plus some cake that was left over from the previous night. The volunteers were then allowed a few hours break before boarding the bus again to visit the Sh. Isa Bin Ali House, Amarat Bin Matar House and the Sh. Mohammed Bin Ibrahim House. Afterwards, the volunteers were given an hour to explore the Souq Al Qesira before heading to dinner at Shawarma Xpress. To end the day, volunteers were treated to a concert of traditional music at the Sh. Mohammed bin Faris House.



























After a long week of working, the volunteers were given a rest and allowed free time in the morning to sleep and travel as they pleased. Everyone loaded up on the bus by lunch and went to Al Areen, Bahrain's national wildlife reserve. After touring there, the group made a short stop by Bahrain's racetrack before heading back to the hotel. Everyone ate a light dinner then some of the volunteers went to a mall to spend the evening.







The volunteers gather at the work site to be interviewed about their experience at the camp. Afterwards, everyone walked behind the fort into a nice wooded area and then walked to the oceanside. Everyone took photos, relaxed and talked for a little while before heading to a water bottling plant near the fort. The volunteers were given a tour of the facility and presented with gifts of flavored water from the plant. The group then headed back to the fort for lunch before leaving to visit the Bahrain National Theater were a tour was given. Then group then loaded onto a boat and headed to visit the Bu Maher Fort. The day ended with a tour of the Al Fateh Grand Mosque and a barbecue provided by a restaurant in Manama.











Today is the last day of the WHV Bahrain Fort Camp. The volunteers started the day by picking litter up off of a beach near the fort. Each volunteer filled several trash bags before everyone headed to one of the camp sponsors homes for lunch. The volunteers were then presented with their program certificates. After lunch the group made visits to Barbar and the A>ali pottery workshop. Some of the volunteers bought a few pottery pieces before heading to the City Center Mall. Everyone was given two hours to explore the mall before meeting up in the foodcourt for dinner. The volunteers returned to the hotel to pack and say their goodbyes.







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