

Travellers are insured to pat a tiger but not to read a book!

One in five travellers is uninsured, according to a recent ABTA survey (<http://www.abta.com/resources/news/view/316>).

This figure is even worse for travellers who volunteer whilst they are abroad.

Many volunteers are unaware that the vast majority of travel insurance policies provide no cover for their time “at work” - even when that work is unpaid and may be as simple as reading stories to children!

Award-winning volunteer recruitment organisation [people and places](#) has worked closely with travel insurance specialists – Travel Insurance Facilities plc (TIF) – to offer specifically tailored volunteer travel insurance.

“We’ve been offering this cover to our volunteers for the last two years”, says Sallie Grayson of *people and places*. “This Wednesday, November 10th, WTM World Responsible Tourism Day, we will be launching www.volunteerinsure.com and this insurance will become available to all volunteers - whether they travel with *people and places* or any other provider. Many people don’t know the right questions to ask to verify that they are in fact insured. This launch will mark the beginning of our latest awareness campaign, advising every potential volunteer on the questions they should ask of every insurance provider. We hope to encourage companies that are selling insurance to volunteers to take responsibility for the quality of the cover they are providing and to be transparent about what is and is not covered. Volunteers need to know that they may well be insured for bungee-jumping but not for tripping over on the sports field when they are playing soccer with the kids,” says Sallie.

Darryl Helliwell of TIF adds “Organisations offering volunteer travel as part of their trips have a responsibility to at least draw this danger to customers’ attention and better yet, ensure that any insurer they do recommend offers adequate cover.”

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