

Valentina Giombini

Via dei SS. Quattro 25a
00184, Rome, Italy

E-mail: valentina.giombini.14@aberdeen.ac.uk
Mobile: +44(0)75 18259037 or +39 342 7209052

Education

- 2017** **Professor Ian Alexander Prize, University of Aberdeen**
Recipient of the 2017 Ian Alexander Prize awarded for outstanding performance in Conservation Biology.
- 2014- 2017** **First Class Classification in BSc Conservation Biology (Hons), University of Aberdeen.**
Modules included Population Ecology, Animal Evolution, Conservation Biology, Wildlife management, Environmental modelling, Statistical Analysis of Biological Data.
Dissertation supervised by prof. Xavier Lambin on the habitat use and metapopulation dynamics of endangered water voles.
- 2013-2014** **Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna, Italy**
Successfully completed the first year of BSc Natural Sciences prior to transferring to the University of Aberdeen. Modules included Biology, Geography, Chemistry, Mathematics.
- 2008-2013** **Maturità Classica "Brocca" Diploma, Virgilio High School, Rome, Italy**
Graduated with 90/100 in an experimentation program with Latin, ancient Greek, Philosophy, enhanced Sciences, Law and Economics, history of Art.
- 2010, 2011** **Windhoek International School, Namibia**
I have attended some semesters of the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs.

Key skills

- Languages** **Italian:** Native Speaker **English:** Fluent (C2)
 French: Fluent (B2) **Spanish:** Basic (A2)
- Driving** European Driving License "B". Experience in driving dirt mountain roads.
- IT** European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL). Use of QGIS and R and other statistical software such as Minitab, MARK, PRESENCE, ULM.
- Teamwork** Growing up in Asian and African countries, I learned to live in multicultural environments and to respect different perspectives. Working within LIFE WolfAlps improved my ability to communicate and overcome problems as part of a team.
- Organization** Living abroad during high school studying Italian classes by myself required a lot of self-discipline. Volunteering as the French Society Secretary at university and working for LIFE WolfAlps archiving wolf scat samples and coordinating its population monitoring further developed my organization.
- Communication** Drama practice and growing up interacting with different cultures enabled me to achieve the confidence required to speak clearly, lucidly, and thoughtfully. Working at a marine turtle visitor center I learned to interact with tourists explaining the ecology and threats faced by the species.

Volunteering and Working Experience

October 2017 **LIFE WOLFALPS Project, Maritime Alps, Italy**

February 2018 Monitoring Coordinator. Winter monitoring of the wolf population in the western Italian Alps. Data and wolf scat samples archiving, production of GIS maps, coordination, wolf snow tracking, wolf-howling.

July-August 2017 **LIFE WOLFALPS Project, Maritime Alps, Italy**

Field work technician. Testing livestock protection measures against wolf attacks in the Maritime Alps: scan and focal sampling on GPS collared guard dogs, ethograms, observations on the use of fences and monitoring of livestock management in alpine pastures.

August 2016 **LIFE WOLFALPS Project, Maritime Alps, Italy**

Field work volunteer. Independent work testing the accuracy of wolf GSM and GPS radio-collars in the Maritime Alps Park.

2013-2015 **Italian Alpine Club, Rome, Italy**

Mountain guide volunteer in the 'Youth Mountaineering' section for children.

August 2015 **Baby-sitting, Luxembourg**

Baby sitter in a French-speaking family with kids aged 8, 10 and 12 years old.

August 2014 **American Museum of Natural History, South-Western Research Station, Arizona.**

Field work volunteer at the station. Tadpoles and caterpillars data collection.

August 2013 **The Katelios Group, Cephalonia, Greece**

Volunteer. Guide at the Visitor Center, monitoring marine turtles nesting and hatchling, education.

September 2012 **Africat Foundation, Okonjima, Namibia**

AfriCat PAWS Volunteer. Radio tracking, game counting, enclosures management in a wildlife and big cats reserve. I was already living in the country at the time.

August 2012 **Elix, Athens, Greece**

"Summer in the City" volunteer. Recreational and educational activities for crisis-stricken children.

Interests

Travelling

Having travelled and lived in Africa and Asia in my childhood, exploring countries and new environments is now a need. In summer 2015, I have walked a month across Spain on The Way of St. James. Travelling made me become open-minded and keen to work alongside different people.

Outdoor Sport I have been part of the Italian Alpine Club since I was young, and I volunteered in the society as a guide once I grew up. During university I was an active member of the Hiking Society. I do hill walking, winter and ski mountaineering, climbing, sailing and horse-riding. Mountaineering and physical exercise developed my mental toughness, body strength and stress management.

Nature

The natural world has always fascinated me. I have volunteered and worked for nature conservation. I was a member of the Zoology and Marine Biology societies and a shore watcher for Whale and Dolphin Conservation during my time at the University of Aberdeen.

References on request