Volunteering at IAR Costa Rica

A truly life changing experience helping us rehabilitate and release injured and orphaned wildlife in exotic Costa Rica!

Learn about the wildlife of Costa Rica

The most biodiverse country in the world, Costa Rica is home to an abundant amount of flora and fauna. At IAR Costa Rica, we rescue many different species of wildlife, such as: mantled howler monkeys, coatis, porcupines, parrots, parakeets, turtles, iguanas and much more. Join our team of staff and volunteers to learn why these animals need our help and what you can do to assist in their rehabilitation and release.

Meet new people & explore new places

Come and experience the authentic local lifestyle, food and culture that makes Costa Rica a unique and special place to visit. Meet like-minded people from different parts of the world that share your enthusiasm for wildlife conservation. Learn about the unique characteristics of our resident animals and what makes them different from other species. Learn about our electrocution prevention work through our Stop the Shocks program and the work that our partners, International Animal Rescue, do in Costa Rica and other countries around the world. Expand your knowledge about wildlife and other interesting topics with our weekly educational presentations designed especially for volunteers. Enjoy a typical Costa Rican welcome dinner with our volunteer coordinators. Experience the “arribada” of thousands of olive ridley sea turtles at Ostional Beach - we will be glad to take you to see this unforgettable sight.

Nosara, Costa Rica

IAR Costa Rica is located in Playa Guiones de Nosara; a beautiful paradise on the northwest pacific coast of Costa Rica. Found in the middle of the dry forest, Playa Guiones is surrounded by a diverse amount of wildlife and plant life. Playa Guiones is world-renowned for its beautiful beaches, amazing surf, exceptional yoga centres and exotic wildlife.

Things to do in Nosara

- Learn how to surf
- Yoga and fitness classes
- Sea turtle nesting at Ostional beach
- Jungle and beach walks
- Horseback riding
- Bicycle and quad tours
- Kayak and SUP
- Zipline
About IAR Costa Rica

Although IAR Costa Rica specializes in the rescue, rehabilitation and release of mantled howler monkeys (Alouatta palliata), we also rescue many different species of birds, mammals and reptiles that need our help. Most of our rescues were orphaned or injured due to human impact, such as domestic pet attacks, car strikes and electrocutions. Become an essential part of our team by volunteering! Only with your help are we able to rehabilitate injured and orphaned animals in need.

Help us with the conservation of injured and orphaned wildlife

Volunteer Tasks & Duties

Volunteers are an important part of our team. You will be helping our local staff with the care of our wildlife residents by:

- Cleaning enclosures
- Preparing food for the animals
- Doing animal laundry
- Providing environmental enrichment activities
- Building enclosures and items that we need
- Feeding non-primate infant wildlife*, such as birds, squirrels, opossums, porcupines and many more

*Unfortunately, because primates are easily stressed, volunteers are not able to feed infant howler monkeys

Monthly Schedule

The volunteer program lasts 28 days with the option of adding on additional days, in 15 day increments, if you’d like to stay longer. Start days occur every two weeks on Sundays! You will have your Introduction and tour of the center on Sunday and start working on Tuesday.

Day 1: Arrive in Nosara (Sunday)
Day 2: Introduction Presentation (Monday)
Day 3: Work Begins (Tuesday)
Day 27: Last day of work (Friday)
Day 28: Departure (Saturday)

Accommodation

#1 Volunteer Dorm (4 people)
- Double bunkbeds
- Living room
- Shared bathroom
- TV and Wifi
- Airconditioning
- Shared kitchen
- Swimming pool access
$180/week per person

#2 Volunteer Private Suite (1-2 people)
- Private bathroom
- Fridge
- Private balcony
- Queen bed and single bed
- TV and Wifi
- Airconditioning
- Shared kitchen
- Swimming pool access
$230/week for singles or $220/week per person for couples

Contact Us

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