

GHFS Volunteer FAQ

Why do you ask for volunteers to stay at least 3 months? I have a shorter vacation and would like to come and help.

Since GHFS has been highlighted in the media recently, we have received many requests from people who are interested in coming to Suriname to volunteer. We require volunteers to come and stay for at least three months to ensure adequate progress can be made on the projects assigned in order to increase our effectiveness as an organization.

I want to come and volunteer. What should I do?

First, fill out this form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GK4dIDGdVmPIKAC63f1sNsfS3gkhNoNORN_DBB6539I/viewform

At the top of the form you'll find a link to a volunteer waiver. Sign the waiver, complete the form, and email the waiver to info@greenfundsuriname.org

You can expect to hear back from our team within 3 business weeks.

I love sloths and want to spend as much time with them as possible. Can I just hang out with sloths during my time at GHFS?

We can not guarantee that you will have the opportunity to directly work with sloths if you volunteer with GHFS, but chances are you will definitely see a few. Not only do volunteers feed, care for and rescue sloths, but they also work on education projects, dolphin work, citizen science, and much more. We do our best to match volunteers skills and experience with projects underway with the most immediate need.

Do I need any vaccines?

GHFS requires all volunteers to have an up-to-date tetanus shot. We also request that all volunteers consider CDC guidelines suggested for travel to Suriname. This document can be found at: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/suriname> We also recommend that all volunteers who come have health insurance that covers them while traveling to Suriname.

Do you have any flight recommendations?

From Amsterdam you can get the daily KLM flight. Surinam Airways also offers flights from Amsterdam and various caribbean destinations.

From the United States, airline service is available via Surinam Airways and Caribbean Airlines, with a stopover in Trinidad. Besides the daily connection to the Netherlands, there are weekly direct flights to Suriname from Trinidad, Brazil, Belem, and Curacao.

Where should I stay? Does GHFS provide housing?

Volunteers come at their own cost and we currently have two housing recommendations to provide. Volunteers are responsible for securing their own accommodation arrangements as well as transportation to, from and within Suriname.

Here are two options for accommodation:

Cynthia Rent-a-House (low cost fully-equipped apartment-call for rates)

[+597 462261](tel:+597462261) / [8630605](tel:+5978630605)

bendtcynthia@gmail.com

Kekemba Resort (mid-range fully-equipped apartments with pool)

<http://www.kekemba.info/index.php?>

[getoondeprijzenjaar=2016&apartmentid=&aanroep=&taal=engels](http://www.kekemba.info/index.php?getoondeprijzenjaar=2016&apartmentid=&aanroep=&taal=engels)

Call and speak with John or Lloyd

Are meals included for volunteers?

Volunteers are responsible for providing their own meals. Paramaribo has small grocery shops on almost every corner and a variety of restaurants in all price ranges.

Once I'm in Suriname how do I get to your location? What's the best option for transportation?

Many volunteers choose to bike around Paramaribo. There is a quite a bit of traffic in Paramaribo and we remind all volunteers to bike with caution. There are also public buses, but it's important to know that schedules do not always run on time. Taxi cabs are another option and one should expect to pay around \$2-4 euros per ride depending on distance.

What is the cost of living in Suriname?

In general, air on the safe side and do not assume that the cost of living in Suriname will be any less than where you come from. The cost of living really depends most on your lifestyle preferences. Over the past year, the value of the Surinamese dollar has fluctuated frequently which influences the costs of goods and services.

Do I need a visa for my stay?

Depending on where you come from, you will need to purchase a tourist card at the airport upon arrival in Suriname for stays of up to 90 days. For longer stays, you may

have to apply for a visa in your home country. More information can be found on this page: <http://www.visitsurinameonline.com/en/entry-requirements>

Can I photograph the animals while I volunteer?

Since our current rehabilitation center is located in a private home, we are cautious about photos being taken of the animals as the context may be misconstrued. While you may be permitted to take some photos during your stay, we ask that you do not share them via social media. You may show them to friends or family but also warn them that the pictures are not to be circulated.