

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Lanta Animal Welfare. This document provides a basic outline of our general volunteer program. Further details will be addressed upon application.



Lanta Animal Welfare (LAW)

Lanta Animal Welfare Center opened in January 2010, complete with a surgery room and recovery shelter. Our primary objective is to control the population of stray animals on Koh Lanta in a humane way through sterilization programmes, but we also provide medical attention to sick and injured animals within the center's capacity. We also aim to provide education and promote awareness of animal care and respect to the local community.

The center itself holds 32 dogs and 15 cats who are looked after daily by staff and vets. We organize adoption of all animals to both local islanders and overseas residents.

LAW is not yet a registered charity and thus is cut off from major funding and support from outside organizations. Application has been filed and we expect another year before status in America, and another three in Thailand. In the meantime we rely on profits from Time for Lime (the restaurant and cooking school run by our founder Junie) and individual donations to keep the center running.





Koh Lanta

Koh Lanta is located on the west coast of southern Thailand. As many of the resorts, bars and restaurants have only recently arrived on the island, the atmosphere remains relaxed and tranquil compared to other more developed destinations. The island itself is comprised of several stunning beaches, a large protected national park, a historic Chinese fishing village, mangroves, caves, etc... Opportunity for exploration will not be lacking!

Eating on Koh Lanta is relatively affordable and there are options for every culinary appetite. Nightlife varies from relaxed bars on the beach to occasional dance parties and live reggae music concerts. For exploration beyond the island there are plenty of tour operators who can provide you with easy and affordable island-hopping or diving/snorkelling trips.

Travel

Koh Lanta is located just two hours from Krabi International airport and seven hours from Phuket International airport. Flights can be arranged directly to these airports but restrictions may apply during low season. Alternatively, flights and trains from Bangkok are cheap and very convenient. Minivans can be hired to drop passengers at their destination on Koh Lanta.





Volunteer Schedule

Our volunteers work six days a week on the following shifts:

Morning:	7am-1pm
Afternoon:	1pm-7pm
Daytime:	10am-4pm

There is also one nightshift which involves sleeping in the centre near the kennels in order to keep the dogs quiet through the night.

Daily volunteer tasks include: taking dogs out into running areas; spending play time with animals; cleaning cages; cleaning up poo; cooking food; feeding animals; giving medication and care when needed; assisting the vet; washing towels and linen; cleaning cat houses and recovery cages; tidying the store room; taking dogs for walks outside; maintaining the outside areas; cleaning the centre.

Accommodation

We provide free shared accommodation to all volunteers staying a minimum of one month. Rooms are basic and located onsite with an en-suite bathroom (cold water), fan and electricity points. For those wishing to live off site we can recommend several affordable options. The monthly price range is 6,000 to 12,000 baht.





Challenges and benefits

The full-time staff will do their best to inform you on what's going on and what is expected of you, however there will be times when you have to use your own initiative to organise activities and locate resources or information. Things may be organised differently from back home and things might not always make sense. You should be open-minded, patient, willing to accept new ideas and be prepared to get stuck in.

You will need to be in good physical condition due to the nature of the work in a hot and humid environment. No specific skills are required other than enthusiasm and a strong stomach! It can also be very emotional work so you should try to be prepared for this.

By volunteering at the centre you will make a major contribution to the welfare of dogs, cats and other animals on Koh Lanta.

On a personal level you will have the satisfaction of helping to make a positive difference to the lives of these animals and, in the process, gain new skills and knowledge, working with an enthusiastic team.



Come and join our team!

