



Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary

Volunteer Programme - 2017

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Tacugama's Evolution

Since its inception in 1995, Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary (TCS) has evolved from a chimpanzee sanctuary to include several critical components of environmental conservation and community development such as reforestation campaigns, alternative livelihood solutions, habitat conservation and education programmes. As a result, TCS has emerged as a globally recognized conservation model, combining sustainable eco-tourism, wildlife and rural community preservation throughout Sierra Leone.

Volunteer Programme Overview

Our success is built upon the dedication and commitment of individuals keen on making a difference.

We are seeking specialists and enthusiasts who are passionate to:

- Learn about Wildlife Conservation
- Contribute to Environmental Sustainability
- Advance Community Development Projects
- Play a Meaningful Role in Helping Endangered Chimps and Wildlife

Work will be demanding at times, however the overall experience we can provide you with an experience that would definitely outweigh your sacrifices. Join us and help grow Tacugama to new heights!

Available Activities

All activities marked with an asterisk are only available to volunteers staying at least 6 weeks.

If you specialize any other category not listed below, please send us your inquiries and we will do our best to enrich your experience.

Marketing

- Staff Training
- Artistry & Photography
- Social Media & Advertising
- Event Management & Promotion
- Blogging & Content Development
- Networking, PR & Communications
- Visitor & Guest Experience Optimization

Volunteers can also provide services off-site, such as hosting or planning fundraising or outreach events. We welcome the creative and innovative spirit of volunteers!

General Office Work

- Data Input
- Staff Training
- Library Maintenance
- Fundraising & Crowdfunding
- Grants & Sponsorship Coordination

Outreach & Community Development

- Sensitization
- Forest Demarcation
- Waste Management
- Livelihood Monitoring
- Sustainable Farming & Agriculture Development

Building & Maintenance

- Painting
- Carpentry
- Electrical Work
- Fence Building
- Cleaning & Maintenance

Research

- GPS Downloads
- Data Collection & Entry
- Data Mapping & Analysis
- Census & Biodiversity Surveys
- Camera Trap Setup & Retrieval
- Behavioral Observations & Monitoring
- Species Identification (vegetation, birds, mammals, reptiles)

Animal Welfare

- Food Preparation
- Animal Husbandry
- Vet Care
- Behavior Enrichment

Education & Sensitization

- Workshops, Community & School Visits
- Radio & Newsletter Content Development
- Environmental Education & Awareness Building

Conservation

- * Manatee Programme Conceptualization & Implementation
- * Forest Protection (running the patrol data collection in the communities)

Ecotourism Development

- Tree Nursery Development
- Natural Trail Development & Maintenance
- Local & International Partnership Development
- * Bamboo Eco Lodge Construction on Jaibui Island
- Hospitality, Housekeeping, Beautification & Landscaping Training

Tasks and Schedules

Upon arrival, weekly schedules would be provided to volunteers by Tacugama’s Programme Manager. Schedules will be tailored to each volunteer’s background to provide a unique and meaningful experience.

Sample Schedule for Marketing Activities

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:30 - 8:45	Staff Meeting	Staff Meeting	Staff Meeting	Staff Meeting	Staff Meeting	Staff Meeting	D A Y O F F
8:45 - 9:00	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
9:00 - 10:30	Orientation Session	Social Media Content Creation	Social Media Content Creation	Social Media Content Creation	Social Media Content Creation	Social Media Content Creation	
10:30 - 12:00	Sanctuary Tour	Adoption Campaigns	Event Promo	Meeting Facilitation	Outreach Campaigns	General Office Work	
12:00 - 13:00	Intro to TCS Marketing Plan	Strategy & Planning	Ecotourism Marketing	Market Research	Ecotourism Marketing	Event Prep	
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
14:00 - 15:00	Event Promo	Workshop	Staff Training	Workshop	Event Promo	Staff Training	
15:00 - 16:00	Networking	Reporting	PR	Networking	Ideation	Blogging	
16:00 - 17:00	Blogging	Newsletter Creation	Website Mgmt	Corporate Relations	Media Relations	Weekly Review	
17:00 - ...	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	Free Time	

Orientation Session: Tour of Facilities | Tacugama Rules | Overview of Operations

Sample Workshop Curriculum

- Negative Impact of Bush meat Consumption
- Intro of Local Ecosystem (Species, Identification)

Costs

Fixed Fees

	3 Weeks	4 Weeks	5 Weeks	6 Weeks
Total	\$950	\$1,100	\$1,350	\$1,500

In order to maximize the quality of your time spent at Tacugama, we have set a minimum stay of 3 weeks. Concurrently, this will allow you to witness the fruits of your labour as well as observe some of the results from your direct contributions. A longer stay with us would also present opportunities to get acquainted with some of the local communities and visit the endless beaches of Sierra Leone. If you wish to extend your stay beyond 6 weeks, kindly advise us of your desired duration and we will provide pricing accordingly. Alternatively, we can also accommodate requests for 1-2 weeks in of our eco lodges.

We have six eco lodges available, and prices are as follows:

- Bruno Lodge: 1 double bed (\$ 90 USD/night)
- Julie Lodge: 2 single beds (\$ 90 USD/night)
- Augusta Lodge: 1 double bed (\$ 140/night)
- Mama Lucy Lodge: 1 double bed (\$ 150/night)
- Phillip Lodge: 2 single beds (\$ 150/night)
- Christo Lodge: 1 double bed and 2 single beds (\$ 180/night)

Bookings and Payments

Since we have limited places available, please note that Tacugama will require a 25% deposit to be paid to secure your booking. We would also require confirmation of full payment at least 4 weeks prior to your arrival. The deposit is non-refundable. To ensure that there are no issues with booking flights and getting the proper documents arranged, we ask that volunteers confirm their bookings 2 months prior to their arrival date.

You will share the house with 3 other volunteers.

Inclusions:

- Propane Gas
- 2 Separate Shared Bathrooms
- Private Room in a Shared Unit (4 units)
- Transport from Freetown to Tacugama
- Daily Lunch (prepared by Tacugama staff)
- Daily Continental Breakfast (bread, jam, fruits)

Exclusions:

- Airfare
- Items of Personal Nature
- Medical and Travel Insurance
- Local Excursions and Activities
- Landing Costs & Visa Extension Costs
- Ferry pass from Lungi airport to Freetown
- Laundry service is available for a small fee (otherwise hand washing is possible)

Note: In addition to your Visa fee, Tacugama can secure your landing permit for a \$50 fee. This will save you time, risk of losing your passport, courier service charges and grant you peace of mind.

Free Time

We're only 30 minutes away from Freetown and about a 45 minutes' drive from the most beautiful beaches in Africa.

Depending of project timelines, volunteers are given 1 day off/week. Plenty of places to explore while volunteering in Sierra Leone, here's some of our suggestions:

Popular Destinations:

- Lumley Beach
- Bureh Beach (Surf Club)
- River Number Two Beach
- Arts & Crafts "Big Market"
- Gola Forest National Reserve
- Banana Island (Scuba Diving, Snorkeling)
- Bunce Island (Historic 18th Century Slave Trading Post)

Medical and Vaccination Requirements

We will ask you to supply proof of good medical insurance for the period you are a volunteer with Tacugama. We also require the results of a tuberculosis screening (within 1 year) as well as yellow fever vaccination.

Safety

Sierra Leone is a safe country to travel and very stable. Although Sierra Leone is a high risk Malaria area, Tacugama itself has low risk due it's altitude. The people are friendly and helpful. You will be treated as a welcome guest by the whole country.

Extra Options

- Adopt a Chimp (\$80 USD)
- Donate to Local Communities
- Donate equipment to Tacugama

With your participation you will be forever part of the Tacugama family.

Thank you!
Tacugama Team