



ACRES

International Volunteering Programme

ACRES WILDLIFE RESCUE CENTRE

SINGAPORE

 www.acres.org.sg

 [@eyesofacres](https://www.instagram.com/eyesofacres)

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About ACRES



ACRES is a Singapore-based charity founded by Singaporeans in 2001 with the aim of advocating for an end to animal cruelty in Asia. Our mission is to create a caring and socially responsible society where animals are treated as sentient beings.

Our 5 key Focus Areas are:

1. Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation
2. Tackling Wildlife Crime
3. Humane Education
4. Community Outreach
5. Promoting Cruelty-Free Living



International **Volunteering** Programme

**Those who can, do.
Those who can do more, volunteer.**

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"I was greeted by Gretchen, the Volunteer Coordinator. We dropped my luggage off in the International Volunteers bedroom (. This was followed by a show around - the sanctuary where I would be helping out with the tortoises and turtles, the Education Centre where there is loads of information on how animals are abused whether it's for so-called entertainment, products being tested on them, cruel farming practices etc. The Education Centre is for all ages groups from young children to senior people. We all have our part to play in changing animal abuse. The food was vegetarian/vegan which makes sense in an animal welfare facility! Overall, it was great to be part of a dedicated, friendly team of people with the animals best interests at heart. Apart from my financial contribution I felt that the work I did was appreciated."

Gill Webb, UK



About the ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre



The ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre (AWRC) provides a unique opportunity for volunteers to get directly involved with caring for and rehabilitating reptiles rescued from the illegal wildlife trade.

Volunteers can assist with:

- ▶ Food preparation and distribution
- ▶ Cleaning and maintenance of enclosures
- ▶ Designing and providing behavioural enrichment

In some cases, volunteers may be able to assist with rescue operations.

The work environment is in the open outdoors or sheltered outdoors and will require some physical labour (which involves walking, squatting and carrying moderate loads).



About the ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre



Volunteers will also have the chance to play a role in tackling the wildlife trade at the very root of the problem, by assisting with our educational outreach programmes and raising public awareness about the illegal wildlife trade. This involvement can range from assisting with public roadshows/fundraising events, to helping with educational programmes for children.

Volunteering with ACRES will give you a unique insight into the local animal protection movement, and enable you to play a hands-on role in tackling the illegal wildlife trade. You will leave with a greater understanding about animal protection and animal welfare, as well as knowledge about the amazing reptiles at the wildlife rescue centre, and a whole new set of skills!





"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."

If we can show kindness to people who had been cruel to animals; maybe then, we can end this battling fieldwork of 'war' for humanity and being truly animal conscious someday!

Accommodation



Accommodation

Onsite accommodation at the AWRC and 3 vegetarian meals per day are provided for international volunteers. You may also prepare your own meals on our stovetop. In keeping with our policy of promoting Cruelty-Free Living, please note that **only vegetarian food is permitted** on the ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre premises.

At the Volunteer House, there are two common washrooms (male and female), a kitchen with cooking appliances, a refrigerator, a washing machine, a common locker, and a communal living area.

There are 3 dormitory rooms with 4 beds in each room, which can accommodate up to 12 persons in total. Each room includes a fan, a wardrobe, shelves, a ceiling ventilator, one electrical power point (Type G plug and socket), and two USB charging points.



Accommodation



Getting to the AWRC:

The ACRES Wildlife Rescue centre is located in western Singapore. Our address is ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre, 91 Jalan Lekar, Singapore 698917. The nearest MRT station is Choa Chu Kang.

By Taxi:

Take a taxi from the airport (estimated cost around SGD \$45 - \$55).

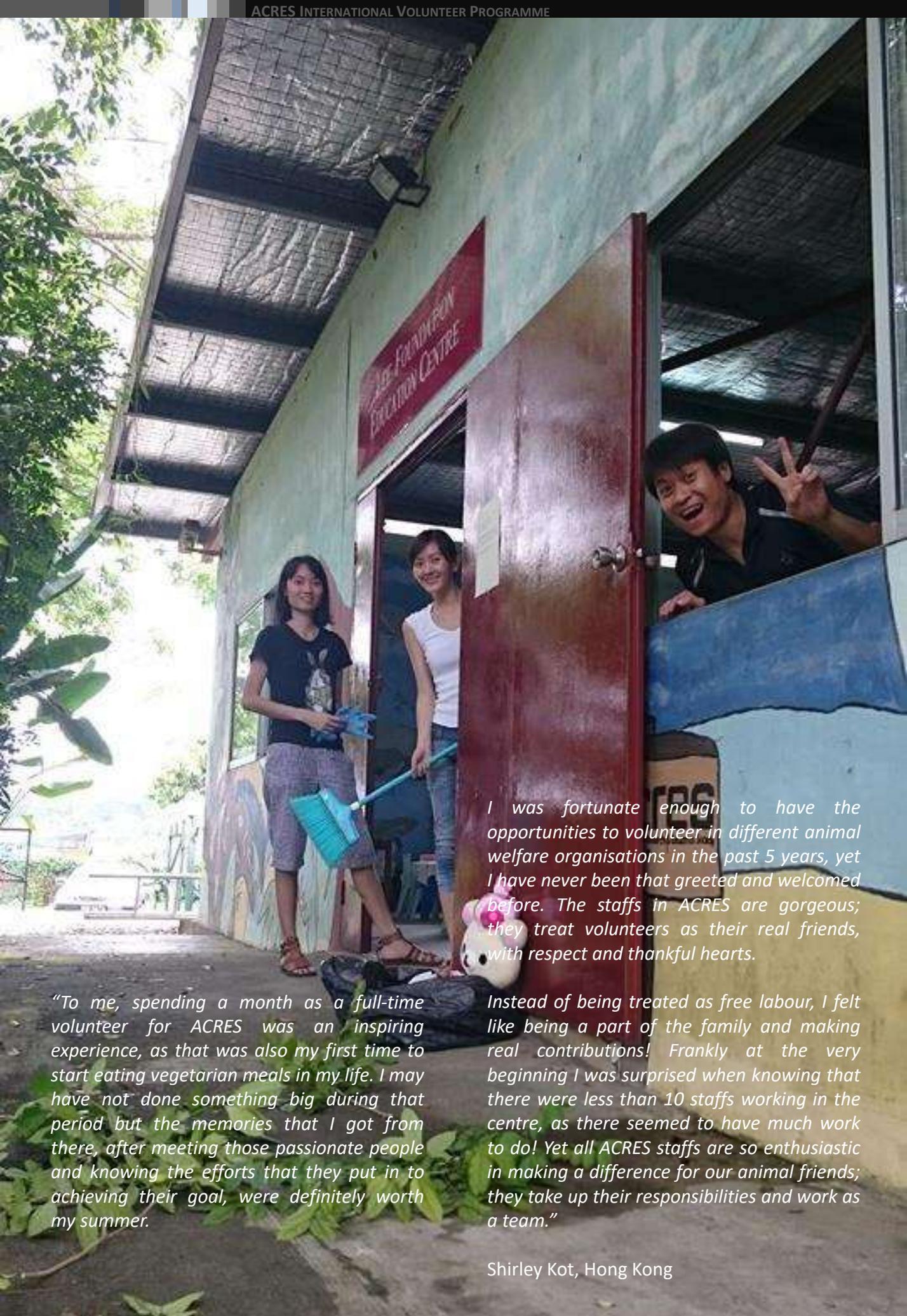
For a cheaper option, you can take the MRT train then taxi:

1. Buy an "[EZ-Link Card](#)" from Changi Airport MRT train station, which costs around SGD \$10 - \$12.
2. Take the MRT train from Changi Airport (green line) to Tanah Merah (green line).
3. At Tanah Merah station, change trains and take the train to Jurong East (green line).
4. At Jurong East station, change trains and take the train to Choa Chu Kang.
5. Exit at Choa Chu Kang MRT train station and head towards the Lot One Shopping Mall taxi stand.
6. At Choa Chu Kang station, alight from the train and then take a taxi to 91 Jalan Lekar, Singapore 698917 (estimated cost around SGD \$8 - \$12, depending on peak hour surcharge).

Checking In and Out of the ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre:

Daily, between 9.30am to 5pm (GMT+8).





"To me, spending a month as a full-time volunteer for ACRES was an inspiring experience, as that was also my first time to start eating vegetarian meals in my life. I may have not done something big during that period but the memories that I got from there, after meeting those passionate people and knowing the efforts that they put in to achieving their goal, were definitely worth my summer.

I was fortunate enough to have the opportunities to volunteer in different animal welfare organisations in the past 5 years, yet I have never been that greeted and welcomed before. The staffs in ACRES are gorgeous; they treat volunteers as their real friends, with respect and thankful hearts.

Instead of being treated as free labour, I felt like being a part of the family and making real contributions! Frankly at the very beginning I was surprised when knowing that there were less than 10 staffs working in the centre, as there seemed to have much work to do! Yet all ACRES staffs are so enthusiastic in making a difference for our animal friends; they take up their responsibilities and work as a team."

Shirley Kot, Hong Kong

Programme Fee



Volunteer Programme Fee

The cost of the volunteering experience at the AWRC:

Duration of stay	Fee (non-refundable)
1 week	SGD \$300
2 weeks	SGD \$550
3 weeks	SGD \$800
4 weeks	SGD \$1050
Above 4 weeks (per extra week)	SGD \$250
Per day/ Per extra day	SGD \$50

The volunteer programme cost above covers your training, accommodation, and three meals a day. You will need to cover the costs of flights, travel visa, (if any) insurance, vaccinations, snacks, toiletries, transportation fees, sightseeing activities etc. separately.

Funds raised from the volunteer programme are non-refundable and will go towards our animal protection programmes. The money also allows us to provide specialised veterinary care, as well as create the best possible environment for the rescued animals and give them a second chance at life.

Overseas payment may be made via PayPal or Postal Orders (made out to ACRES). Cash is accepted upon check-in. For more details, please email to info@acres.org.sg





"I've had a great time and experience volunteering at ACRES. It was my first time volunteering and I had decided to volunteer for animal welfare organization, so I chose ACRES which I found in the internet. One unforgettable choice in my life that I will never regret. It wasn't really surprising to know that the food they served there was non-meat. They deeply dedicate their life for animals, which is very amazing. For two weeks, I have become a vegetarian and now I wish to adapt their lifestyle. Fake meats and vegetables aren't bad at all. In fact, they're tasty, honestly. Staying at ACRES wasn't bad at all. Well, I had to adapt to a few things, but

overall I think both the room and the toiley were nice and comfortable, although there were lots of mosquitos. The staffs were super friendly and very welcoming. They treated every volunteer like a family. I felt homesick in the first night, but I missed ACRES already in Changi Airport. Surely, I will get back to ACRES someday. The reason why I only stayed for two weeks is I hadn't made a student VISA for my overseas study. I would have stayed a bit longer if all things were ready. My deepest gratitude for ACRES! Keep fighting for animal welfare. Los quiero a todos :D"

Nike Novandi, Indonesia

Things to Consider



I Better start heading down to the ACRES Wildlife Rescue Centre NOW!



Visa / Work Permit:

You don't need a work permit to volunteer at ACRES; your Disembarkation and Embarkation Card (completed by all visitors to Singapore) will be sufficient.

However, do visit the [Singapore ICA](#) to find out if you are required to apply for a Visa to visit Singapore.



Things to Consider



Health & Safety:

We implement a strict no-contact policy with the animals. This is because our goal is to rescue animals from their lives as “pets” and as far as possible allow them to live as wild animals once again. Whilst ACRES implements a strict no-contact policy and every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of our volunteers, there is still a small risk of coming into direct physical contact with the animals. All volunteers must be vaccinated against Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B and Tetanus and provide documentation for proof. You may also want to consult your doctor for advice about other relevant vaccinations/medication.

Room & Housing Regulations:

For everyone’s safety and peace of mind, here are some basic house rules that each resident must comply to:

1. No open flames in your room.
2. No smoking in the rooms.
3. Do not overload the electric outlets.
4. Do not block windows and doors of your room.
5. Your guests visiting for the day must be signed in with an ACRES staff member a day in advance.
6. Your guests are not permitted to stay overnight unless they are registered as a volunteer with ACRES and paid his or her respective fees.



Things to Consider



Money:

The Singapore Dollar (SGD) is the currency used in Singapore. You may exchange currency for Singapore Dollars at the airport, or from any money changers around Singapore. We recommend that you bring money for expenses such as drinks, outside meals, transportation and entertainment.

Checking In and Out:

Please take note of your arrival and departure times as our check in time is between 9.30am to 5pm (GMT+8).

Prohibited Items in Singapore:

You may view the list of controlled goods [here](#).

- Buprenorphine
- Cannabis
- Cocaine
- Ecstasy
- Heroin
- Ketamine
- Lysergide LSD
- Methamphetamine
- Nimetazepam
- BZP and TFMPP
- Mephedrone
- Inhalants (solvent inhalants)
- New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)
- Chewing gum
- Arms and explosives
- Weapons, kris, spears and swords
- Endangered species of wildlife and their by-products
- Firecrackers



Things to Consider



Food:

Simple meals provided by ACRES are vegan (no meat, seafood and dairy like eggs). The meals mostly consists of bread, rice and/or noodles as staples for breakfast, lunch and dinners, along with sides like tofu, vegetables and vegetarian mock meat.

Singapore is a paradise for vegetarians/vegans, with vegetarian options widely available island-wide! Do visit www.hungryangmo.com for tips to make sure you have an unforgettable food experience in Singapore!



Things to Consider



Schedule:

Working hours are from 9:30am to 5pm, with a lunch break from 1pm to 2pm. However, this is flexible depending on the projects being worked on and what tasks need completing that day. You are expected to work a 5-day week and your day off is arranged weekly. Do inform us at least 2 days in advance if you need a few days away from the project.

Attire:

Lightweight, short-sleeved or long-sleeved cotton tops and long trousers with covered shoes during working hours. Bring along a pair of rubber wellington boots if you have them.





"I feel incredibly lucky to have been included openly in what ACRES does -particularly in the aspects of animal care. I can only speak for myself, but I look forward to coming back in the future. Thanks ACRES!"

Yulanji, Australia

Things to Consider



Essentials to bring:

Valid passport (expiring at least 6 months after dates of travel), sunglasses, hat or cap, sunscreen, working gloves, insect repellent, first-aid kit, toiletries, torch light, water bottle.

Useful to bring:

Rubber wellington boots, vegetarian snacks, jacket, umbrella/raincoat, electrical adaptor if needed for your appliances.

Internet:

WIFI is available at the AWRC. You may request the WIFI password from ACRES staff. Alternatively, you may purchase a local SIM card from a phone shop.

After work hours:

Singapore is a tourism hub and a food haven, with lots to see, do and eat! There are many attractions to visit and there's plenty of vegetarian and vegan food to try. You may like to enjoy sightseeing during your days off. However, please remember to inform a staff member of your plans, for safety reasons.





**Thank you for giving the
animals a second chance!**

For more information, please contact us at
info@acres.org.sg

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