

VOLUNTEERING AT MAQUIPUCUNA

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A VOLUNTEER AT MAQUIPUCUNA

Volunteers are people who are willing to give and receive.

- They must be eager to learn about a periled environment while being immersed in a new culture.
- They must want to preserve this unique habitat within the world's biodiversity hotspots.
- They must be able to work individually or collaborate in groups and invest themselves in community development.
- They must have certain qualities including honesty, flexibility, initiative, creativity, responsibility, kindness, and love for nature.

HOW TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER

You'll need to fill out an application form to be emailed or faxed to the Maquipucuna office.

- volunteers@maquipucuna.org (+593 2) 2 507 201

With your acceptance letter, you will receive a **release of liability form** which will need to be signed and returned to us before you can start your volunteer work. We will establish a line of communication with you to discuss your project and potential things you will need to bring.

RIGHTS AND BENEFITS AS A VOLUNTEER

- Participate in educational workshops for volunteers, communities, and staff
- Free access to the trails with guided tours
- Access to free internet
- Accessibility to reference and resource materials.
- Live and learn in a unique atmosphere
- Learn and practice a foreign language

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER

All volunteers are representatives of the Fundación Maquipucuna and your actions should reflect your position.

- Accomplish assigned tasks in a timely fashion
- Be kind and respectful to all of Maquipucuna's visitors
- Respect other's space and time
- Establish a friendly but professional relationship with the staff members and community
- Follow house rules
 - Keeping noise levels low when there are tourists
 - Smoke only in designated areas
 - No drug or alcohol abuse
 - Keeping your personal space tidy

FINANCING

We rely on external funds and donations to enable conservation work to continue. Because of this and our obligation to cover room and board, we are forced to charge a nominal fee for volunteers who work at the Reserve or stay within the communities.

We will arrange low cost housing and high standard meals at your location. The prices vary depending on the length of your visit. This price includes accommodation and three meals a day. You may have your own bedroom, but it's best to assume you'll have to share a bedroom.

- \$25 application fee
- \$450/month (duration of stay is **less** than three months)
- \$360/month (Duration of stay is **longer** than three months)

TRAVELING AND LENGTH OF STAY

If your length of stay is **less than thirty days** you **do not** need a visa.

Other travel accommodations are your responsibility including the possession of a current passport.

Your length of stay will depend on your project. Generally a stay of at least 30 days is required. The length of your stay will be negotiated upon your acceptance as a volunteer.

LODGING AND FOOD

In all cases lodging and food will be provided to you.

We provide a room, sheets, blankets, and towels.

We provide three meals a day and accommodate various diets. You will need to notify us before your arrival as to your dietary restrictions.

Rooms are normally shared between up to four people in bunk beds.

Some projects will require you to stay at a community hostel or homestay. This will be determined based on the nature of your project.

TRANSPORTATION

Maquipucuna provides transportation for our volunteers to and from the reserve however there may be some circumstances where you will be required to provide transportation.

Unscheduled transportation will cost \$50