

Guideline for students

Students internship / semester abroad

The Dog Care Clinic

The Dog Care Clinic in Mihiripenna in the south of Sri Lanka was founded by Marina Möbius in 2007. Our main focuses are area-wide spaying and neutering of strays as well as owned dogs, treatment of ill and injured animals, feeding and care-taking of strays and pets of needy owners as well as the rehoming of puppies and adult dogs. Furthermore, our spacious and lovingly landscaped property is home to up to 200 dogs sadly nobody wants to adopt because of their gender, age or disability. Some of them rely on their daily medication, too.

Not only the animals are close to our hearts but also Sri Lanka's poor people and so we conduct several programs in which we combine animal welfare with the help for people in need in a unique and innovative way. Since still a lot of awareness has to be raised in a country like Sri Lanka good relations to our neighbours and the village community is of great importance to us.

In order to conduct the various projects of the clinic in a sustainable and professional way the DCC employs 45 staff members and is in action on 365 days of the year.



Your student internship

Arrival and departure

Airport pick-up and drop will be arranged by us and is already included in the booking price. The transfer is done by an authorized driver who will take you directly to your accommodation.

Daily routine and tasks

Please note: we deal with emergency and intensive cases almost on a daily basis and therefore your daily routine may vary.

Work starts: 8 am

Work ends: 4 pm

Every student has a one hour lunch break and two off-days a week, to be agreed upon at site.

Training content (may vary):

- Castrations (techniques with very small incisions)
- Treatment of tropical and travel diseases
- Parasitology
- OP assistance (general surgery / orthopaedics)
- Microscopic examination and analysis of blood, feces, and skin scrapings
- Intensive care



Support at site

During your entire stay there will always be an employee who will help you and guide you.

You will also receive a phone with a local SIM card and credit in case of any emergencies. The phone has all important contact numbers saved. Please don't forget to return the phone to us on the last day of your stay!

Accommodation

Accommodation is available in our lovely **volunteer house** near the clinic. This is a beautifully furnished apartment with fully equipped kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, garden, Wifi, washing machine, etc. Towels and linen are provided. The volunteer house consists of two apartments and is the home to a small pack of dogs on each side.



If there is no vacancy at the time of your stay you will be accommodated in an alternative apartment, e.g.:

The Luxury Apartment:



This apartment is located next to the Volunteerhouse. It has a beautiful open kitchen and living area, a bedroom with a queensize bed and a modern bathroom.

The DCC Villa:



Our DCC Villa is located about 2km from the clinic and has a huge palm garden. The bedroom is very spacious. There is also a bathroom and an equipped kitchenette.

All apartments are non-smoking!

In all apartments A/C can be booked for an additional 20 Euro/week.

Please leave the apartment as you would like to find it. This also includes to prepare the garbage for pick-up and to NOT keep left-overs in the kitchen or the fridge. You can give them to one of the other volunteers before departure.

Catering

On your working days you will be provided a Sri Lankan lunch. The typical meal is rice with different curries. The food in Sri Lanka is very spicy but we can find an alternative for you if you prefer mild food. We also have a kitchen for our employees with a fridge, water heater and a micro-wave. You can also bring or prepare your own food. Fresh drinking water is available all times.

In your accommodation you have a fully equipped kitchen and can prepare your own meals. A small supermarket which also offers western items (e.g. cereals) is only a short walk. Opposite the supermarket is a fruit stand selling treats of Sri Lanka's nature.

A bakery tuktuk visits the village daily selling filled buns and other items.

Mihiripenna and the neighbouring touristic Unawatuna also have a great variety of restaurants serving Sri Lankan as well as western food.

What is expected from you

Our clinic is equipped according and managed to European standards and our vets receive regular training to be able to do qualified work.

Who has ever been to Sri Lanka knows about the horrific treatment of animals and how many dogs live miserably on the streets.

For many dogs, but also other animals, the DCC is too often the last chance to be rescued, or at least to die in dignity. We are very well equipped and thus may ensure the best possible care, even for intensive cases. Puppies are lovingly raised, treated and socialized. The DCC is managed for nearly 10 years with passion for animal welfare by our founder Marina Möbius. Hence, we are looking for dedicated, attentive, team-oriented and responsible students who wish to gain a lot of experience and knowledge for their future working with animals.

The animals are our main priority so responsibility and reliability are a MUST – if you are seeking a big party adventure the DCC is not the right place for you.

Others

Clothing

Sri Lanka has tropical climate and we have temperatures around 30 degrees with high humidity on some days. Most of the time you will be working outdoors. Please make sure to bring enough sun protection with you. You will also need a light rain jacket and a (small) umbrella for rainy days.

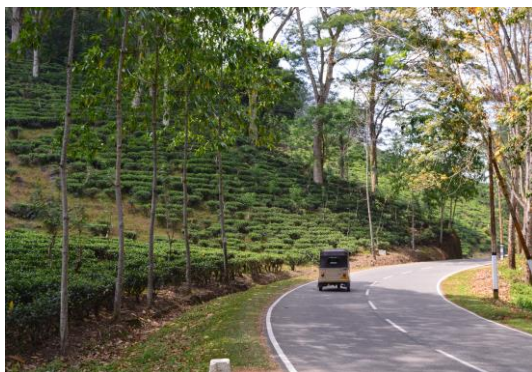
Since Sri Lanka is a Buddhist country you should wear appropriate clothing. Most of our staff wear shorts (with a length approx. to the knees) and crocs or sandals. It is important that your foot wear's sole has a good pattern as some of the floors become quite slippery when wet. We provide Dog Care t-shirts which you can keep after completion of your volunteer work.

Off time

Mihiripenna is an idyllic village surrounded by lush paddy fields on one side and a nice beach on the other side. With a little bit of luck you can also spot great wild life such as peacocks and monkeys.

Thanks to its very convenient location you can reach Unawatuna within a few minutes by tuktuk. The beach is awesome and you have a great variety of restaurants. A few kilometers further up the coast lies Galle where the historic Fort is worth a visit. Several temples, tea plantations and more make for a great day-trip in your free time, too.

If you want to rent a scooter please note that an international driving license alone is not sufficient! You need to get a Sri Lankan driving permit from the authorities in Colombo.



Booking and expenses

The allowance for a four-week internship is **€ 1,590.00**.

Extensions of the internship in two-week steps for € 490.00 are possible if we have vacancies.

If you have a friend who will share the accommodation with you but does NOT participate in our volunteer program we charge an additional € 80.00 per week.

The groups are limited to a maximum of 3 students at a time ensuring an intensive training and the most optimal training result possible.

The fee includes:

- comprehensive guidance before and during your internship
- airport pick-up and drop
- accommodation (costs for the tuk-tuk ride to the clinic if accommodated at the DCC Villa)
- lunch on your workdays
- access to veterinary literature
- four weeks of work experience under guidance of our veterinary team
- original DCC t-shirts

Because of the limited number of participants, we recommend an early booking - the booking form can be downloaded on our homepage – please note: a booking is binding and a (non-refundable) down-payment of 25 % is obligatory.

The remaining fee and a **deposit of € 250.00** have to be transferred by at least two weeks prior to departure.

If you have questions or require further information, you may reach us by

Phone +49 (0) 7720 99 767 -37 / -26 (Mon-Fri 07:30 - 16:30)

or

eMail info@dogcare-clinic.com.

**Please also visit our homepage
www.dogcare-clinic.com
to find out more about the Dog Care Clinic Project
and our daily work**