



Volunteer at The Tekanda Foundation in Ahangama, Sri Lanka



The Tekanda Foundation

The Tekanda Foundation was established by Richard and Charlie Pembroke, the owners of Tekanda Lodge, a boutique hotel located near Kathaluwa. They and three other founding donors decided to set-up an empowerment centre to provide educational and vocational courses for children and women from rural communities. The Tekanda Foundation works in partnership with the well-established Sri Lankan Charity, Foundation of Goodness who assist with the operation and delivery of the centre. The Foundation of Goodness have been establishing and running other empowerment centres across Sri Lanka over the last 20 years. The community named the empowerment centre 'Gamata Athak' which means 'a hand to the village'.



Location

The empowerment centre is located in the village of Kathaluwa, yards from the Indian Ocean on Sri Lanka's beautiful south coast. Kathaluwa sits mid-way between the cities of Galle to the West and Matara to the East and is approximately a 2 hour drive from Colombo International Airport.





What will you be doing

You will be assisting our course leaders to deliver their programs in one or more of the following areas depending on your skills and experience:

- English language speaking and discussion
- Cricket coaching at our Girls Cricket Academy
- Assisting with our ICT, Maths and Science provision
- Assisting with our primary school, dance and arts programs
- General support and assistance to our centre's manager and assistant manager.
- Cooking and Dress-making



Volunteer Accommodation

Volunteers stay on site where we have two very comfortable volunteer bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, AC and Fans. Each room has a maximum of three occupants. The centre also has a large kitchen, dining room, an acre of attractive garden and 24-hour security. Malika our lovely housekeeper will look after you and you will be provided three meals a day.



A Typical Day

(Tuesday-Saturday)

8.00am: Help yourself to a breakfast of fresh tropical fruit, bread and jams and tea or coffee.

8.30am: Assist our head co-ordinator Chathu to set-up for the day ahead

9.30am: Help out at a local school or a free morning where you can enjoy a surf lesson, swim or walk on the beach and explore

1pm: Enjoy a cooked lunch back at Gamata Athak

1.30-5.30pm: Support our tutors and teachers with coaches and classes

5.30-6.30pm: Assist in closing up for the day

7pm: Dinner and Free time

Activities and Experiences in and around Ahangama

The nearest beach is less than a five minute walk and the bustling surf town of Ahangama with its beachside cafes, bars and restaurants only a couple of minutes tuk-tuk drive along the coast road. The beautiful city of Galle is within 25 minutes.

Beaches

Surfing Lessons

Fishing

Koggala Lake Boat tour

Temples and Culture

Paddy Field Bike Tours

Shopping and Galle

Bars and Restaurants

Playing or watching cricket

Yoga classes

Golf

Whale-watching

Udawalawe National Park



Expectations

We are not a GAP year organisation or provider. We are a working charity delivering important services to communities for whom day to day living can be very hard. Any volunteers are expected to be mature, responsible and independently minded. While Richard and Charlie will, of course, always be available for advice or assistance, you will not be chaperoned from dawn until dusk. No alcohol is allowed on site and volunteers are required to be back at the centre no later than 11pm during the working week and 1.30am on Saturday and Sundays. We expect volunteers to *always* return in good order.

Costs

We ask volunteers for a contribution of £35 per night which covers all your accommodation and three meals a day. This fee makes a significant contribution to the ongoing funding of the Foundation and its work.

Contact us

If you think you might like to spend some time contributing to the work of the Tekanda Foundation please email Richard Pembroke:
welcome@tekandalodge.com

The Tekanda Foundation
Registered No. 817