



# TOUCAN RESCUE RANCH RELEASE SITE – ANIMAL SPECIALIST INTERN DESCRIPTION

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## DURATION OF INTERNSHIP

6 to 12-months, a longer duration is preferred. Starting April/May 2018.

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## LOCATION OF INTERNSHIP

The Toucan Rescue Ranch (TRR) – Release Site  
Sarapiquí, Costa Rica

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## THE TOUCAN RESCUE RANCH (TRR)

Toucan Rescue Ranch (TRR) focuses on the care, rehabilitation and study of Costa Rican toucans and other wildlife. We receive and care for confiscated, sick and injured wildlife from government agencies. TRR gives them a loving home with the goal of providing appropriate medical treatment, rehabilitation and then, when possible, returning them to its natural environment. The Toucan Rescue Ranch is a licensed Costa Rican wildlife rescue facility and a 501(c)3 charitable organization in the United States (EIN: 80-0516453).

Our Release Site is located in Sarapiquí, about 1 ½ hours from the Ranch. We are implementing both bird and sloth release programs and need dedicated individuals to care for the animals in their final stages of preparing for release.

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## PRIMARY ACTIVITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Animal Specialist Intern will work under the direction of the Release Site Coordinator and Leslie. The Animal Specialist Intern will have an opportunity to participate in the following activities:

### **Animal Husbandry**

- Feed and monitor animals at the Release Site
- Clean enclosures and general maintenance
- Triage animals received at the Release Site. Triage will determine if the animal can be treated at the Release Site, needs to be sent to the Ranch for clinic care, or is an emergency requiring immediate direction from Leslie or Janet, our Vet.
- Assist in exams and treatments
- Animal enrichment
- Backup to other Release Site Interns
- Night time animal monitoring

### **Administrative Work**

- Manage cleanliness and ordering of animal care supplies
- Evaluate and perfect quality of rehab animals' diets
- Complete thorough record keeping, and detail observations as needed

### **Animal Specialist Focuses**



- Initiate approved care plans related to treatments, procedures, medications and continuing care requirements for rescues received at the Release Site
- Identify and communicate abnormal animal conditions by alerting supervisory personnel
- Monitor delivery of care of rescues received at the Release Site by completing patient rounds, documenting care, identifying progress toward desired care outcomes
- Review the care plan with wildlife in conjunction with the direct care providers

#### **Other Activities**

- Backup to other Release Site interns
- Assist in the feeding and care of birds in the pre-release and breeding enclosures
- Assist in the mapping of the plants and trees on the release site
- Assist in the monitoring of wild animals and identification of what they eat
- General facility maintenance (yard work, cleaning)

*We are always open to suggestions. Let us know if you have a special skill you think will be useful.*

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#### **REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS**

All applicants must have experience in a veterinary setting, have excellent communication skills, a strong interest in animal welfare and conservation. Coursework in veterinary studies, primatology, zoology, environmental education, wildlife ecology or a related field is required. Experience traveling to a tropical country, living in remote conditions are preferred.

Must complete required vaccinations and a tetanus vaccination. Must purchase current international health insurance while in Costa Rica.

#### **Basic Requirements:**

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Provide proof of health insurance and current tetanus vaccination
- Basic Spanish proficiency
- Moderate degree of fitness
- The ability to follow directions with attention to detail
- A positive “can-do” attitude and the ability to work well in a team environment
- Experience working with wildlife or animals is a plus

#### **Ensuring *Best Practice* Implementation:**

- Fostering practices that support and improve the Ranch’s philosophy, goals, and standards of care.
- Maintaining quality care by establishing and enforcing organization standards.
- Maintaining and sharing professional and technical knowledge by reviewing professional publications, establishing personal networks, benchmarking state-of-the-art practices and participating in professional societies.

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#### **WORK SCHEDULE**



All Release Site interns work 11 days on and then have 3 days off. Work hours will vary with assigned activities and will include night monitoring responsibilities. Expect long days and split shifts.

There are always at least two interns working. There must be at least one intern onsite at all times.



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## INTERNSHIP PROGRAM BENEFITS AND COSTS

**Internships are voluntary self-funded positions. You will be responsible for all travel expenses/flights and immigration expenses.**

**Housing:** Provided by TRR. Includes utilities.

**Meals:** Provided by TRR.

**Other:** All other costs are to be paid for by the intern. This includes travel expenses, medical insurance, entertainment expenses, and a 3-day trip out of the country every three months to renew your visa.

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## I'D LIKE TO APPLY

If you would like to be a part of the TRR team, please send the following documents to

[info@toucanrescueranch.org](mailto:info@toucanrescueranch.org)

- One-page cover letter of interest – specify which internship(s) you are interested in and when you are available to start
- CV or resume
- 3-5-minute video explaining why you feel you're the right candidate for the position (MOV file)
- Contact information for three professional references

We will promptly contact you to schedule a Skype interview after reviewing your application. If you have any questions we are always available via email to answer any questions.

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## CONTACT

Toucan Rescue Ranch

[www.toucanrescueranch.org](http://www.toucanrescueranch.org)

[info@toucanrescueranch.org](mailto:info@toucanrescueranch.org)

Carol Friesen

Business Administrator & Volunteer Coordinator

[carol@toucanrescueranch.org](mailto:carol@toucanrescueranch.org)