

# Answers to questions about group volunteering at our Kanab, UT Sanctuary

We truly appreciate your interest in bringing a group to volunteer at Best Friends Animal Sanctuary. The wonderful work you do is very important and there are many ways to lend a hand and heart to make a difference in the animals' lives. Together we can Save Them All.

- [What group volunteer activities are available?](#)
- [What are the daily group volunteer shifts?](#)
- [How do I schedule group volunteer time?](#)
- [What happens when the group arrives at the Sanctuary?](#)
- [Can we take an animal on an outing or sleepover?](#)
- [What should we wear?](#)
- [What about transportation?](#)
- [Is there a place to eat at the Sanctuary?](#)
- [Can our own pets accompany us in the animal areas?](#)
- [How can we schedule a Sanctuary Tour?](#)
- [Where is Best Friends located and where can we stay?](#)
- [Have more questions?](#)

## **What group volunteer activities are available?**

Groups visit the Sanctuary with an eye towards doing service projects such as trail work, light landscaping, painting and deep cleaning of dog and cat buildings. We keep the group working together and create your schedule based on your input and the current needs of the different areas around the Sanctuary.

We will balance your day(s) between these service projects alongside educational talks and presentations, tours in animal areas, and hands-on activities with our animals (such as walking dogs, brushing cats, and giving our potbellied pigs belly rubs).

For safety considerations, each animal area has its own minimum age requirements:

Cat World = 6+

Bunny House = 8+

Parrot Garden = 8+

Dogtown = 10+

Piggy Paradise = 12+

Horse Haven = 12+

Rescue Village Rabbits = 15+

Wild Friends = 18+

### **What are the daily group volunteer shifts?**

There are two group volunteer shifts every day of the year. Shift times are 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. and 1:15-3:30 p.m. The Sanctuary is on Mountain Time.

### **How do we schedule group volunteer time?**

To get started, contact us at [learningexperience@bestfriends.org](mailto:learningexperience@bestfriends.org) or call 435-644-2001 x4790 and let us know:

1. What dates are you considering?
2. How many people are in your group?
3. Are there any children in your group and, if so, what is the age of the youngest?

### **What happens when we arrive at the sanctuary?**

Your Group Coordinator(s) will meet you at Welcome Center for a quick orientation. They will provide you with name badges for your group, a copy of your pre-determined schedule, and other important information to make your group volunteer experience the best it can be.

### **Can we take an animal on an outing or sleepover?**

Some of our dogs and cats are approved to go with groups on outings and sleepovers which is a real treat for them. To take an animal on a sleepover or outing you'll first need to volunteer at least one shift in that specific animal area. No advance reservations are necessary for outings or sleepovers—those arrangements will be made onsite when you're volunteering.

Please note that if you're traveling with your own pet(s) you will not be able to take one of the Sanctuary animals on a sleepover. Also, any children in your group must be six years old to take a cat and 10 years old to take a dog.

### **What should we wear?**

For your protection, closed-toe shoes are a requirement for volunteering in any of the animal areas. Long pants are strongly recommended for volunteering with horses or pigs—in fact, it's a good idea to wear long pants in all the areas. We advise dressing in layers during the spring, fall and winter months because the mornings can be chilly and the afternoons warm. Wearing a hat is a good idea because the sun is bright year-round.

### **What about transportation?**

Transportation is not provided so you'll need to supply your own vehicle(s) to get around the Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is spread across more than 3,000 acres so you'll need to drive to and from the Welcome Center, animal areas, and other locations. Many of the animal areas are several miles apart so walking is not a viable option and bicycles are not allowed on most Sanctuary roads. RV's longer than 21 feet will have difficulty maneuvering some of our Sanctuary roads and parking areas so it's strongly suggested that you plan for a car if traveling in an RV larger than that.

### **Is there a place to eat at the Sanctuary?**

The café at Angel Village offers a vegetarian/vegan buffet for \$5.00 per person every day from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is a great way to meet Best Friends founders and staff, as well as other volunteers. Every Thursday during lunch there's an informal program of updates and special stories.

### **Can my own pets accompany me in the animal areas?**

For everyone's safety, your own pets are not allowed in any of the animal areas nor are they allowed to remain unattended in your vehicle.

### **How can I schedule a Sanctuary Tour?**

If you are interested in a Sanctuary Tour, please indicate that on the Group Questionnaire which will be emailed to you when you contact us.

*Note: If you are ONLY interested in scheduling a Sanctuary Tour, please call our Welcome Center staff at 435-644-2001, x4537. Tours are offered daily at 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.*

### **Where is Best Friends located and where can I stay?**

Detailed information on traveling to the Sanctuary is available on our web site, [click](#). Please note that Utah is on Mountain Time so if you're flying into Las Vegas and driving to Kanab, remember that Las Vegas is on Pacific Time so there's an hour difference.

If you'd like information about lodging at the Sanctuary (cottages, cabins, RV sites) or accommodations in Kanab (five miles from the Sanctuary), [click here](#).

### **Have more questions?**

Please email us at [learningexperience@bestfriends.org](mailto:learningexperience@bestfriends.org) or call us at 435-644-2001, x4790. We are open every day at 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mountain Time.