



About Us

Skiathos Dog Shelter was created in 1995.

The first years were very difficult with numbers soaring to 170+ dogs in the shelter. It became a case of 'out of sight out of mind' and the only visitors to the shelter were people dumping dogs (and cats). Over the years contacts were made with international animal organisations and individuals who helped with veterinary care, building projects and food.

Visitors discovered the shelter while exploring the island and began offering homes to the dogs and cats. We began a dog-walking programme and opened the shelter to the public which brought more people.

Some of these visitors were so touched by our situation that they went back to their own countries and formed groups. These groups now find wonderful homes for our dogs and cats and more.

We do not home dogs to families who will chain them up or keep them outside. We believe that a dog is for life and that every dog deserves a happy, secure future within a home.

It's a struggle sometimes to keep going. The shelter has no electricity or mains running water, but it is a happy place where many dogs are loved for the first time in their lives – and a stepping-stone to their new lives with a home and a family.

This is why volunteering with us is such a rewarding experience for you and something where you will genuinely be helping to save a life !

For all volunteering queries or questions, Please email Emma directly on emmahopparry@gmail.com

For all other correspondence, please use the normal email address info@skiathosdogshelter.com

Is Volunteering right for you?

Whilst there is no salary provided, the rewards you will reap from helping the loveable dogs will far out way anything financial. So if you would like more details and an informal chat then please get in touch.

You don't need any qualifications or experience just a willingness to learn, work hard and love our furry friends, naturally.

Volunteering is a very rewarding experience and thank you for even considering volunteering for this charity. You will have one of the best experiences of your life and like previous volunteers will wish to volunteer again. You don't need experience for most of the duties, all we ask is that you are caring and hardworking, but some of the work is physical and may not suit those with limited capacity. We are always willing to share our skills with you. If you are a single traveller, then this could be the perfect chance to do something to help the dog shelter and enjoy the beauty of Skiathos in your free time.

We are also happy to work alongside individual internships programs



Duties

Duties can be varied but in general and not limited to:

- Cleaning up dog waste within outdoor pens
- On site dog feeding and off site cat feeding
- Cleaning the main living areas of the dogs
 - Changing and washing dog bedding
- Washing and filling water bowls which may be many times a day in the height of summer
 - Emptying the rubbish
 - Administering medication as required
 - De-worming and de-flea treatment
 - Brushing long haired dogs
 - Walking and exercising the dogs
- Running dogs or cats to the local town vets as needed
- Socialising with the dogs and introducing new dogs together
 - Giving the dogs and cats lots of love and strokes
- Distributing dogs to the lovely tourist who come up to walk them in the summer months
 - Manning the tourist shop at the dog shelter

Hours of Work

Volunteers will be required to work 6 hours a day, usually beginning between 8- 9am.

We try and accommodate 2 days off in every 7 , so you will have 2 full days off in your week holiday, however any flexibility is appreciated.

Transport

The charity's Shelter is located about 10 minutes from Troulos by car (20 minutes from Skiathos town). We will always try to collect you each day, either from town or closer to the shelter. There is a bus which runs from Skiathos Town regularly that passes the Troulos junction where we can collect you from.

You may wish to hire a scooter or car to see more of the Island in your free time and we can negotiate a reasonable rate for you with the hire company.

Food

Tea/Coffee and water is available during your working day. You may wish to bring with you something for your lunch. We try to organise an evening meal out with volunteers, at a reduced cost to yourself, so you can choose to join in if you wish. As a charity organisation we are unable to fund any other food costs

Flights

Unfortunately, we are unable to help with the funding of flights to Skiathos but we will cover the transfer to and from the airport. There is various ways to get to Skiathos depending on the time of year. There are direct flights from many countries from May-October and at other times would be via Athens or Volos.

Accommodation

We may be able to provide you with free accommodation during your stay but this on a first come first served basis. Out of season volunteers will usually be able to receive accommodation free of charge.