



### Important information for volunteers when preparing your trip:

(you might want to print out this for the traveling instructions given below)

#### Health and safety:

- Rabies vaccination is recommendable because you will be working with stray dogs
- For other vaccinations you should check with your doctor.
- This is not malaria area but protection against mosquitoes in the form of long sleeves and mosquito sprays is advisable
- IPAN has no insurance coverage over the health, belongings or life of the volunteers and you should make sure your insurances are up to date.

#### Clothing:

- Weather conditions are variable and you should be prepared to that and have comfortable working clothes and shoes for the field work. In the shelter you can either hand wash your clothes by yourself or give them to the Masinagudi laundry woman, who washes them in the river and charges some Rs. 5 / cloth.

#### Facilities:

- Veterinary volunteers get food and boarding while working with IPAN. Food is vegetarian. Non-veterinary volunteers (incl. vet students without clinical experience and veterinary nurses) arrange their food & accommodation by themselves. The Hill View Cottage at the Hill View Farm Animal Refuge is one possibility of accomodation for non-veterinary volunteers for Rs.500/night, including breakfast.
- As a veterinary volunteer you might need to share the room (with electricity) and the bathroom facilities with others. The bathroom has a seat toilet and bathing is done with the bucket bath system. Tap water is from our own borewell—it is not advised to drink it but you should be OK in brushing your teeth with it.
- The frequent voltage changes might damage any electrical equipment you have plugged in. Be careful with laptops and mobile phones unless you have a stabilizer.

#### Communication:

- While it is not possible to make international phone calls from the shelter, you can always walk to the Mavanalla shop to make a phonecall. You can use the internet connection at the shelter but it does not always connect. You can ask friends and relatives to call our landline number to phone you. The best time for that is usually in the evenings.

#### How to find us:

- Fly to Bangalore or Coimbatore
- From Bangalore (from the airport to the Bangalore city bus station it takes about 2 hours) take a bus towards Ooty and ask to get off at Theppakadu Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. Note that this is not a proper bus stand so you need to be careful and remind the driver to stop there. From Bangalore it takes about 5 hours to reach Theppakadu.
- From Coimbatore take a bus to Ooty and from Ooty ask for a bus/taxi to Masinagudi and get off in the Mavanalla village. It takes 3-4 hours to reach Ooty from Coimbatore and 1-2 hours to come to Mavanalla from Ooty by bus.
- Please let us know the time you are arriving so that we can come and pick you up from Theppakadu. You can phone 0423 2526 158 or 944 36 99 376 / Nigel.. Our address is Hill View Farm Animal Refuge, Mavanalla, Masinagudi.