

Giant panda volunteer reference

Basic information of China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda

◆ In 1980, in order to do our wild giant panda protection and scientific research work well, the Chinese government decided to set up a giant panda conservation and research center in Wolong National Nature Reserve--- China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda (CCRCGP), by now, it is the largest giant panda research center in the world. The center were made up of three main parts: wuyipeng wild giant panda zoology observation station, hetaoping captive giant panda breeding base (wolong base) and scientific research department of center.

◆ Since the center was founded, Its main tasks are doing the applied researches about the giant panda breeding and multiply, as well as the researches on the field of the giant panda's behavior, ecology, breeding, propagate, nursery, biochemical physiology, incretion, inheritance, protection of disease, manual rejuvenescence, population monitoring, and so forth. After many years of research, the giant panda experts solved the three problems in the giant pandas mating, ingravidation and the survival of the cubs. By the end of 2010, the captive panda number grew from 10 to 165 now, 60% of the total number of the world captive numbers, forms the biggest captive giant panda group on the earth.

◆ In 2001, For the safety and development of captive population of the Giant Panda, the Forestry Administration in Beijing decided to construct the Ya'an Bi Fengxia Panda Base and opened it on December 28, 2003. The Ya'an Bi Fengxia Panda Base is subordinate to the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda (CCRCGP). The base covers an area of 71.6 hectares , 300km away from Wolong base. There are six functional areas work on panda feeding, reproduction, rescue, scientific research, tourism and other functions all together. There are three exhibition areas for visitors: Bai Xiongping(White bear ground), Panda Kindergarten, Oversea-born panda paradise.

◆ In 2008, wolong giant panda base was destroyed in the Wenchuan earthquake on May 12th, about 60 pandas were transferred to Bi Fengxia Panda Base. Now there are more than 80 pandas living here.

◆ The destroyed Wolong base is under construction now. At the same time, we are building the third branch base---Dujiangyan Giant Panda Rescue and Disease Control Center. In 2013, a new research center will found. Wolong, Ya'an, Dujiangyan the three bases shape a triangle, lies in the middle of china's giant panda distribution areas of west, southwest and northwest. That will be more effective and convenient for wild and captive giant pandas' protection, breeding, rescue and scientific research.

Panda volunteer working procedures

1. About volunteer

◆ Panda volunteers are fans of giant panda who support wildlife protection, they come to CCRCGP to experience panda feeding and management work, to show their love for giant pandas.

◆ Normally, according to the time, we have three kinds of panda volunteers: short term(1-7days), middle term(8-15days), long term(more than 15days). All the cost(traffic, food, hotel, tour guide etc.) need to be paid by volunteers themselves.

◆The number of volunteers should not be more than 30 at one time. According to our rules, before coming to our panda base the volunteer should send us their health certificates and application forms. Considering from the hard work, normally The student volunteers should be an junior middle school students at least; In the common situation, the primary school students are not supposed to take part in this program.

◆The contract and management department is Wolong Panda Volunteer Service Center, volunteers' working places are: Animal Management Department of CCRCGP, Scientific Research Department of CCRCGP, Animal Hospital Department of CCRCGP.

2. How to Apply to be Volunteer?

◆If you want to be a Panda volunteer, please visit the following websites:

www.pandaclub.cn www.pandaclub.net www.pandaclub.org.cn

www.pandaclub.com.cn →Panda Club →Do you want to be a volunteer?

◆Fill in the following forms: “The Application for the Volunteer work at the CCRCGP” and “Physical Examination Record for Foreigner ”.

◆Send all the materials to us by E-mail (pandavolunteers@gmail.com) or fax (0835-2318145).

◆Wait for the answer.

3. Registration Process

◆After all the information has been checked, we will contact you and arrange your volunteer days. Then please come to Ya'an Bi Fengxia Panda base. All the work will be arranged there as follows:

◆Sign the security agreement at the Panda Club (first office on the right of base's entrance)

◆You need to pay for the volunteer management fee, then get your uniform, volunteer's card, locker's key and gloves at Wolong Giant Panda Volunteer Service Centre (next to panda kindergarten) as agreed,

◆Then follow the staff to meet the master (keeper) for a short training before starting to work.

4. Fees and Charges

◆Management fee: 100 RMB per day per person

◆Uniform renting: 150 RMB per person for renting one cloth (can be used for seven days) for your working

◆Gate ticket: 118 RMB per person (You need an gate ticket to get into the Panda Garden for the first day, once becoming the volunteer, you can entry the base in working clothes and with volunteer card in the following days.)

◆Golf bus ticket(Optional extras): 10 RMB per person (because of the large size of the base, it's a long walk among different working places, you can walk to your working place or take golf bus, volunteer who buys the golf bus ticket can use the ticket four times a day (commute), this ticket is not available the next day and you need to buy a new one)

◆Meal (Optional extras) Breakfast: 5RMB/person, Lunch 20RMB/person

5. Training

◆ Before starting to work for the organization, staff at the volunteer service center will give you a short training about the security, the knowledge of panda and about the volunteer work here. Please listen carefully and make sure that you understand all of them. If you are not sure about something, you can ask the staff for more information.

6. Volunteer Work

The volunteer work at the Animal Management department includes:

- ◆ Following your master's instructions all the time on how to carry and handle food for the giant pandas (bamboo, fruits, and others).
- ◆ Following your master's instructions on how to clean and disinfect the giant pandas' enclosures.
- ◆ Watching your master's feeding and training sessions with the giant pandas.
- ◆ Together with your master, observing the behavior of the giant pandas.
- ◆ Joining in other activities together with your master.
- ◆ To make our management much easier, please sign in at your work place when you arrive and sign out when you leave every day. If you have any questions or need (use the computer for example) during the time you work here, you can contact with the staff at the volunteer service center.

7. Working Time

Morning	08:10	Clean pandas' enclosures, both indoors and outdoors. Do first Morning feeding : bamboo and panda cakes. Those together usually take more than one hour depending on weather conditions.
	10:00 11:30	Second and third morning feeding: bamboo, panda cakes and carrots.
Afternoon	13:30	First afternoon feeding: panda cakes and carrots.
	15:30	Second afternoon feeding: bamboo and panda cakes.

- ◆ The time table above is only a rough guide, and the details will depend on the individual keeper
- ◆ Sometimes the volunteer will help the master with weighing pandas or training.
- ◆ You are free to walk around the base at any time, but make sure you have your volunteer's card with you and please let your master know if you are heading out for a walk on your own. Usually there will be free time between two feedings, during the time you can walk around the base or do your own business. You are free to use the computers and watch panda videos at the Volunteer Service Centre if you want to. One thing to keep in mind is that there is a panda babies' feeding show in Panda Kindergarten between 15:00 and 15:30 every day. It's worth seeing at least once during your staying here.
- ◆ If you are going to stay here for a long time, tell the staff at the Volunteer Service Centre for better service.

8. About Ask for Leave

- ◆ The work time will be arranged by volunteer service center, when you have something important (such as to see friends, go back to hotel, sickness) to deal with,

you should ask for leave from your master. If you don't tell anybody and leave the panda base, the volunteer service have the right to discharge you!

9. Emergency Management

◆ Inform your masters or the staff immediately if there are any sudden accidents or incidents or misunderstanding, so that they can handle the situation and help you quickly.

◆ In case you get hurt, you should let your master or the staff at volunteer service center know that, they will try their best to help you. In addition, all opinions and suggestions are welcome.

10. Attention

◆ Before signing the agreement, volunteers should read the security agreement carefully and know the requirements that related to the management of uniform and volunteer's card.

◆ Volunteers should always obey the arrangement of the organization. If a volunteer is not satisfied with the work that he is doing, he should tell the staff at volunteer service center.

◆ Volunteers should defend the honor of our volunteer organization.

◆ Work with passion and dress neatly. What's more, the volunteers should be observant and carry out not only their own jobs but also public activities, for example, together with their masters to prevent tourists and other visitors from trying to get across the bars of the enclosures or feeding pandas. The volunteers should also help tourists and other visitors if they need.

◆ If a volunteer is unable to perform his /her minimum job requirements, the volunteer will be not allowed to work for the organization again.

11. How to Get Your Volunteer Certificate?

◆ When you finish your volunteer work and return the uniform, volunteer's card, locker's key and gloves to the Volunteer Service Centre, you also need to show our staff your volunteer tickets. Then you can get a receipt to give to the staff in the panda club and get your volunteer service certificate there.

Hotel Information

◆ Our base provides neither accommodation nor meals for volunteers. However, there are some hostels outside of panda base which are managed by local people, and they can provide accommodation and meals. The locals can't speak English. If you don't know any Chinese you can get help from the staff of the base, they are glad to help you at any time. For the hostel facilities near our base are poor, the rooms are damp, so we suggest you live in Ya'an city. It's 21km, about 40 minutes by taxi. And the charge for one taxi is about 50 RMB. After 4 o'clock in the afternoon, you can take shuttle bus to Ya'an city, the cost is 5 RMB for one person. The popular hotels in Ya'an are:

Hong zhu hotel, Four stars, Tel: 0835-8555888

Moon star hotel, Four stars, Tel: 0835-2225888

Ya'an hotel, , Three stars, Tel: 0835-2222610

Ibis hotel, business hotel, Tel: 0835-2222610

Family in mountain, hostel, Tel: 0835-2318017

Local Places to visit

◆Bifengxia scenic spot is located around two gorges. The left gorge extends 7km and the right extends 6km. These two gorges form a 'V' shape and an enclosed, cyclic area. Here you can experience adventure, grace, wonder, tranquility, and curiosity within its over 60 scenes, such as the 'Nv-Wa Lake.'

Contact Us

◆Address: Panda Club China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda, Bifengxia Town, Yucheng District, Ya'An Sichuan Province, PRC. Zip Code: 625000

◆If you want to adopt pandas or be a member of panda club or buy some special giant panda souvenirs, Please call +86-0835-2318216 or have a face-to-face consultation at Wolong panda club.

Tel: 0835-2318216 Fax: 0835-2318216 E-mail:pandaclub@vip.163.com

Website: <http://www.pandaclub.cn/> <http://www.pandalclub.org.cn/>

<http://www.pandaclub.com.cn/>

◆If you want to be a volunteer or participate in some special program, please call 0086-835-2318145 or have a face-to-face consultation at Wolong Giant Panda Volunteer Service.

Tel: 0835-2318145 Fax: 0835-2318145 E-mail: pandavolunteers@gmail.com