What we do

International Animal Rescue, US was incorporated on 19 April 2001 and is a federally registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (Tax Id No: 54-2044674). All donations received are therefore tax deductible. International Animal Rescue (IAR) was founded in 1989, with our headquarters located in the UK. Our aim is to come to the aid of wild and domestic animals with hands-on rescue and the provision of short or long term rehabilitation. IAR also specializes in providing comprehensive sterilization and vaccination programs for stray dogs and cats, particularly in developing countries. In all that we do, we aim to provide practical solutions that benefit both animals and people.

“I want to support the work of International Animal Rescue.”

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International Animal Rescue, US
PO Box 137
Shrewsbury
MA 01545, USA
Tel: (508) 826-1083
Email: info@iar-us.org
www.iar-us.org

International Animal Rescue
Lime House, Regency Close
Uckfield, East Sussex
TN22 1DS, UK
Tel: + 44 (0) 1825 767 688
Fax: +44 (0)1825 766 012
Email: info@iar.org.uk
www.iar.org.uk

“Each and every one of us has the ability to look at an animal and see if that animal is in pain. And if an animal is in pain, surely if we are human – if we are caring, thinking people – surely it is our responsibility to try to do whatever we can to stop that suffering.”

John Hicks, Founder of International Animal Rescue
Indonesia

In Indonesia International Animal Rescue works to bring an end to the illegal trade in wildlife and to rescue its victims. We focus on macaque monkeys, slow lorises and Brahminy kites – these raptors are rescued from pet markets and taught to fly and fish before they are released. Macaques live in large social groups, high in the trees and in wide open spaces. In Indonesia many are caught and kept as pets in appalling conditions. IAR rescues and rehabilitates macaques and sets them free on several islands north of Jakarta.

Despite their protected status, high numbers of slow lorises are traded as pets. Many die from trauma within days of being caught. The IAR centre successfully cares for large numbers of these small primates and releases them into a natural environment.

India

International Animal Rescue has been working in India since 1995. Our shelters sterilize and vaccine stray dogs and cats and treat thousands of casualties, from sacred cows and other domestic animals to all forms of wildlife. Our vets and rescue teams respond to disasters such as earthquakes and tsunamis, bringing food, water and medicine to human and animal victims in severely hit or remote areas. This aid can be vital in helping survivors rebuild their lives.

IAR regularly rescues wild animals used for entertainment in India. Snakes, monkeys and bears are cruelly abused to beg money from tourists and elephants are also brutally treated. We rescue and rehabilitate dancing bears in sanctuaries we fund in India.

Free the bears

The trade in dancing bears has been illegal in India since 1972, but kalandar nomads still use bears on the streets to beg money from tourists. Hundreds of bears are beaten and mutilated to force them to 'dance'. A dancing bear is a sloth bear that has been poached from the wild as a tiny cub. The mother bear is killed while trying to protect her young. Any cub that survives this trauma is destined for a life of misery, held captive on a vicious rope through its nose.

IAR has been campaigning to free the bears since 2002 when our first sanctuary opened in Agra, near the Taj Mahal. We are working in partnership with Indian charity Wildlife SOS to end this barbaric practice for good and provide the bears with a safe haven for the rest of their lives.

Malta

International Animal Rescue has been working in Malta since 1990 to improve the welfare of wildlife and domestic animals. We have assisted with the drafting of legislation covering horse-drawn vehicles, pet shops and exotic animals. Every year millions of birds are illegally shot in Malta on their migratory routes between Africa and northern Europe. Species including honey buzzards, kestrels, swifts and short-eared owls are nursed back to health at IAR’s bird hospital.

The Administrative Law Enforcement police department is responsible for wildlife and environmental protection in Malta. IAR has donated vital equipment and patrol vessels to the ALE to help them catch illegal hunters at sea.

Dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of suffering animals worldwide