

Extensive information:

Project birds of prey
Indonesia



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Note: Annually the text of this extensive information will be developed and will be kept up with regularly in cooperation with this project. Because there can be made some changes or because there will be some changes be necessary because of certain and unexpected results, etc., it could be that this text not every time will compare in practise at this project.

Join the project with an open mind, and a flexible attitude and you will leave Indonesia with unique, special and unforgettable memories!



1. Introduction

There are 69 species of raptors recorded in Indonesia, one of the most widespread is the Brahminy kite (*Haliastur Indus*) and the White Bellied Sea Eagle (*Haliaetus Leucogaster*), but in some areas, like Java island, these birds have become almost extinct, mainly due to the illegal pet trade. Both birds live in coastal areas.

In Indonesia all raptor species are protected and listed Appendix II of the Convention in International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and it has been illegal to take a gibbon from the wild in Indonesia since 1990. Unfortunately still the illegal wildlife trade is flourishing. The Brahminy kite is the symbol of the capital of Indonesia, Jakarta, but ironically this bird can't be found in the area of Jakarta anymore. Indonesia counts 6 of the worlds 7 known sea turtle species. In the Thousand Island area where the project is based, the critically endangered hawksbill turtles nest. Hawksbill turtles are especially often poached for their beautiful shells that end up in souvenirs.

1.1 Anatomy and locomotion

The Brahminy Kite is one of the medium-sized raptors (birds of prey), with a white head and breast. The rest of its body is a striking chestnut brown. The very tip of its tail is white. The wings are broad, with dark 'fingered' wing tips and the tail is short. The legs are short and not feathered, the eye is dark and the lemon yellow coloured bill is strongly hooked. The average weight is 600 Grams (Male) to 850 Grams (Female). Brahminy kites often can seen in groups while the white bellied sea eagle is monogamous and life as pair for life. White bellied sea eagles are one of the biggest raptors, with a wing span sometimes exceeding 2 meters and a average weight of 3 Kilo. Their estimated lifespan is 30 years. The plumage of adult birds is predominantly white and grey. The head, breast and belly, and the feathering on the legs, are white. The back and upper surfaces of the wings are grey, although the wings have black tips. The undersides of the wings are grayish-black around the distal edges, with a smaller area of white along the leading edge. The tail is grey at the base, and has a white tip.

1.2 Diet

The Brahminy Kite feeds on carrion (dead animals), insects and fish. They forage both over water and land, soaring 20-50m above the surface. White bellied sea eagles are skilled hunters and the White-bellied Sea-Eagle feeds opportunistically on a variety of fish, birds, reptiles, mammals and crustaceans, and on carrion.

1.3 Territory and vocalization

While Brahminy kites often live in family groups and are seen hunting together, white bellied sea eagles have strict territories and won't accept other individuals enter their area; doing so will result in bloody fights.

Brahminy Kite utters mewing calls "keeyew" usually while soaring, often in groups but also in pairs or individually. White bellied sea eagles live in pairs that inhabit territories throughout the year and in pairs they made loud calls to warn other individuals.

1.4 Endangered species

In Indonesia huge tracks of forest are disappearing at an alarming rate, destroying the habitats of many species of flora and fauna.

Since 1990 it also has been illegal to acquire a raptor as pet. But poachers still continue to poach them for the pet trade.

The chicks are stolen from the nest. Normally the male of female stay nearby the nest after the chicks have hatched to guard. Male and female take turns with this important task. A poacher will chase them away or even kill them to get the chick.

Often there is only one chick, sometimes two.

In some cases the poacher will take down the whole tree to grap the chick.

The chicks end up on black animal markets and are purchased to be kept as pet. The life in the small cages is not just a big attack to their general welfare condition but often they get diseased and die.

Various diseases as a side effect from living in captivity are known, such as 'Bumble foot'.

And in captivity these birds will also often be fed the wrong diet.



2. The project

This Raptor Rehabilitation Project was set up in 2004 in Jakarta. The project's goal is to save raptors and their habitat, including the protection of the marine life and nature in the area of the Thousand islands. Therefore beach clean ups are also part of the project, such as recycling plastics obtained through the beach clean ups. The protection of sea turtles is also part of the project.

2.1 Education

The project aims to protect the natural resources in the Thousand Islands marine Park and end the poaching of raptors and sea turtle eggs. Also they educate about the dangers of waste in the sea and especially plastics in the environment.

The project attempts to educate locals, schools, tourists and the media in order to reduce the problem in the future.

1. Locals:

Because the local people can have directly affect on this matter, the project hopes to cease the destruction of the forest and the killing and capturing of its animals, by informing and educating them.

2. Schools:

The project is also involved in community education on conservation and protection. The staff regularly visits primary-, and high schools, colleges and universities. The project hopes to give the next generation of local people a better understanding of the natural environment.

3. Tourists:

The project is open for locals and tourists to visit and learn about the purposes, but access is limited as some raptors that are undergoing rehabilitation are not to be exposed to people.

4. The media:

The project also participates in exhibitions and seminars. Additionally the project has had a steady interest from the media, both local and international, which enables the project to spread out its message over a wider field.



2.2 Rehabilitation

All raptors have come from captivity. This rehabilitation project aims to repopulate the birds in an area where they lived before they were poached to extinction. They observe the birds daily and prepare them for release. Released birds are also observed and data is collected to help understand how these birds cope once they are back in the wild. The birds have to follow several steps to decide whether or not they can be released.

1. Quarantine section:

When a raptor is brought to the project it, is initially placed in the clinic where it then under goes a full medical check-up, to make sure they are disease-free before relocation to the island. All new birds are kept in the isolation cage for a period of at least 30 days.

2. Rehabilitation section:

After the isolation period during which the behaviour is observed and (parasitic) treatments are provided the bird is moved to a socialization cage. Here, the behaviour amongst other birds is closely monitored and the way the bird obtains its food from the middle deep pond. If the bird manages to capture the fish provided in a natural way from the water, the pond is made deeper to make it harder for the bird to get the fish. When it's concluded that the bird is 'releasable' it will be moved to the sea-cage. This is a big aviary built on top of the sea. Here, the birds can catch the fish in flight and if they succeed, they are ready for release.



3. Re-introduction site:

- Training: The birds learn all the last major survival skills in the sea cage (35 meters long, 8 meters high, 12 meters wide) after which they are relocated to temporary holding cages in the field at the release site.



The release site always varies; first a survey is made to make sure we don't enter the territory of another same – species raptor family. For example, if we release a pair of white bellied sea eagles we make sure there is no pair living in that same area. With Brahminy kites is not that complicated, as they are aggressive only when its breeding season and they will then guard their territory else they accept other individuals. Also when the program started Brahminy kites were declared extinct in the area. White bellied sea eagles though are still common and therefore also release efforts are harder for the captive ones.

- Follow-up: The birds will be followed for another two weeks intensively to make sure they can survive and capture prey once free. The birds have a microchip, a colored wing-marker to enable to team to identify them.



2.3 Sanctuary

The birds that are too imprinted (used to humans) or are 'handicapped for life' as their wings were clipped by the traders, will stay in the sanctuary cages at the project and be cared forever for.

3. Volunteers

The project is in need of almost everything, such as equipment, personnel and finances.

By being a volunteer on this project you will support this project's work in two ways:

1. With your donation, this contributes to meeting the costs of the day-to-day running of the project. This includes food, healthcare and the provision of new and updated housing and its enrichment for the raptors. Funds are also needed for directly related external expenses that arise.
2. By participating in the work, you help care for the birds undergoing rehabilitation

Note: The projects number one priority is the welfare and care of the animals.

3.1 Period / duration

Volunteers are welcome at the project all year around.

You are free to choose your own arrival date.

The duration of your stay must be 1 week or longer.

Shorter stays are possible but always in consultation.

3.2 Requirements

To participate at the project there are no skills or there is no experience required in animal care and welfare.

However there are some other requirements to participate at this project which are:

- Minimum age for participation is 18 years old
- Volunteers must be in good physical condition and be able to communicate in English
- Vaccinations (see medical advice)

3.3 Costs

The costs per person to participate at this project are as specified in the Global Spirits' website.

These costs include:

- Boat from Jakarta harbour to the project site
- Accommodation at the project site during the contracted stay period
- 3 meals a day and drinking water
- A donation to the project
- T-shirt, training and supervision
- Administration costs

These costs not include:

- (International) Flight to and from Indonesia including airport taxes
- Indonesia has stopped charging an arrival and departure tax. It is uncertain if this is temporary or permanent. Depending on which airport you enter and exit through you may have to pay a small fee in Indonesian Rupiah.

CITY	AIRPORT	AIRPORT TAX DOMESTIK	AIRPORT TAX INTERNATIONAL
Jakarta	Soekarno-Hatta (CGK)	Rp 40.000,-	Rp 150.000,-
Yogyakarta	Adisucipto (JOG)	Rp 35.000,-	Rp 100.000,-
Denpasar (Bali)	I Gusti Ngurah Rai (DPS)	Rp 75.000,-	Rp 200.000,-

Surabaya	Juanda (SUB)	Rp 75.000,-	Rp 200.000,-
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Note: payment only received in **Rupiah** or **US Dollar**

- Passport / visa
- Transport from Soekarno Hatta Airport and/or hotel to the Jakarta harbour (about € 20,00)
- Hotel cost while in Jakarta
- Travel insurance, which is compulsory for all participants and a cancellation insurance
- Personal expenses like: snacks, telephone bills, internet, souvenirs, excursions, etc.

3.4 Accommodation

The project has accommodation available for about 6-8 volunteers and consists of a basic bungalow.

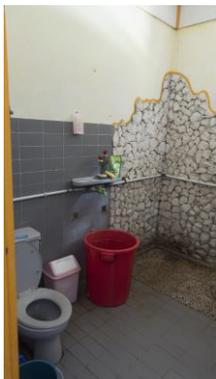
Each bedroom has space for 2-3 volunteers and you will often have to share this room with another volunteer. But this depends on the situation and the number of volunteers who are present at that time. The rooms have basic furnishing and are provided with a fan (no air-conditioning). Bedding is provided and laundered by the project for each volunteer. Volunteers are expected to keep their own room clean and tidy.

Each bungalow has its own bathroom, which is also very basic and will be shared by all occupants of the bungalow. It has a normal western toilet (no flush) and a shower and an Indonesian 'Mandi'. There is no hot water available. But because it usually will be warm weather, the water will not be very cold. (This water is drawn from a well by pumps and pipes, which bring the water to all the bathrooms and the kitchen).

The communal kitchen is basic, there is no fridge as the island is solar powered. Each volunteer is responsible for cleaning up their own things.

At the social house communal television area (where the project staff stays) it's also possible to watch some video movies on demand (we hardly use the television). There is no internet available on the island and electricity is also limited, as solar panels are used. Phone connection is usually possible.

Volunteers must have a positive attitude towards working and living in a group and will have to accept all responsibilities this way of living entails. Volunteers are also responsible for housekeeping duties.



3.5 The work

Normally on arrival at Jakarta International Airport Soekarno Hatta you will stay overnight at the nearby airport hotel or close to the harbour. The following morning you can take a taxi to the harbour, from where the speedboat will bring you to the island which will take about an hour.

After arrival the staff will give you a tour around the island and explain about the project and surroundings, then you will have the whole day to adjust to the beautiful surroundings and the peace and quiet of island living.

The next day the program will start, meaning for the ‘early birds’;

1. Around 06.00 o’clock circle the island beach to look out for turtle nests (if there are any they need to be protected by fencing, to avoid monitor lizards from eating the eggs). Only in the sea turtle season!
2. Observation of the birds in the morning (07.00 – 09.00). (Please grab a tea or coffee before you sit down and start the observations). Breakfast is served at around 09.00.
3. 10.30 o’clock clean the sanctuary cages and assist with any other tasks like repair of cages, other maintenance work, observation, fishing (for the birds), beach clean-up, etcetera.
4. Around 13.00 lunch
5. Afternoon: Free to go snorkelling/swimming, explore the island, relax, etc.
6. Evening 19.00 Clean the raptor cages that undergo rehabilitation; to avoid these birds become accustomed to people we clean the cages in the night with the use of red torches. This is work for the adventurers only! Please always listen well to the staff. Raptors can be dangerous, they can attack with their large talons, and therefore its vital you follow their instructions.

You will work 6 days a week and have 1 day off each week. This day off could be any day of the week and not necessarily at the weekend. During certain periods, depending on the work that has to be done and the number of volunteers at that moment, it’s possible to take more days off if you want to. But you have to consider this with the project director. You can then visit another island that day if you want, like Pramuka island, where local people live, or Panggang island, one of the most dense populated island in the world.





3.6 The project staff

The project is managed by a Dutch citizen and founder of the organization. Because she is very busy with different projects in Indonesia she is often not present at the island.

The field manager is an Indonesian working at this project since the very beginning.

The rest of the staff consists of a small group of full-time Indonesian employees.

The languages spoken at this project are Indonesian and a English. Not everybody of the local staff speaks English or just a little. Please be patient with this (and perhaps bring along a dictionary).



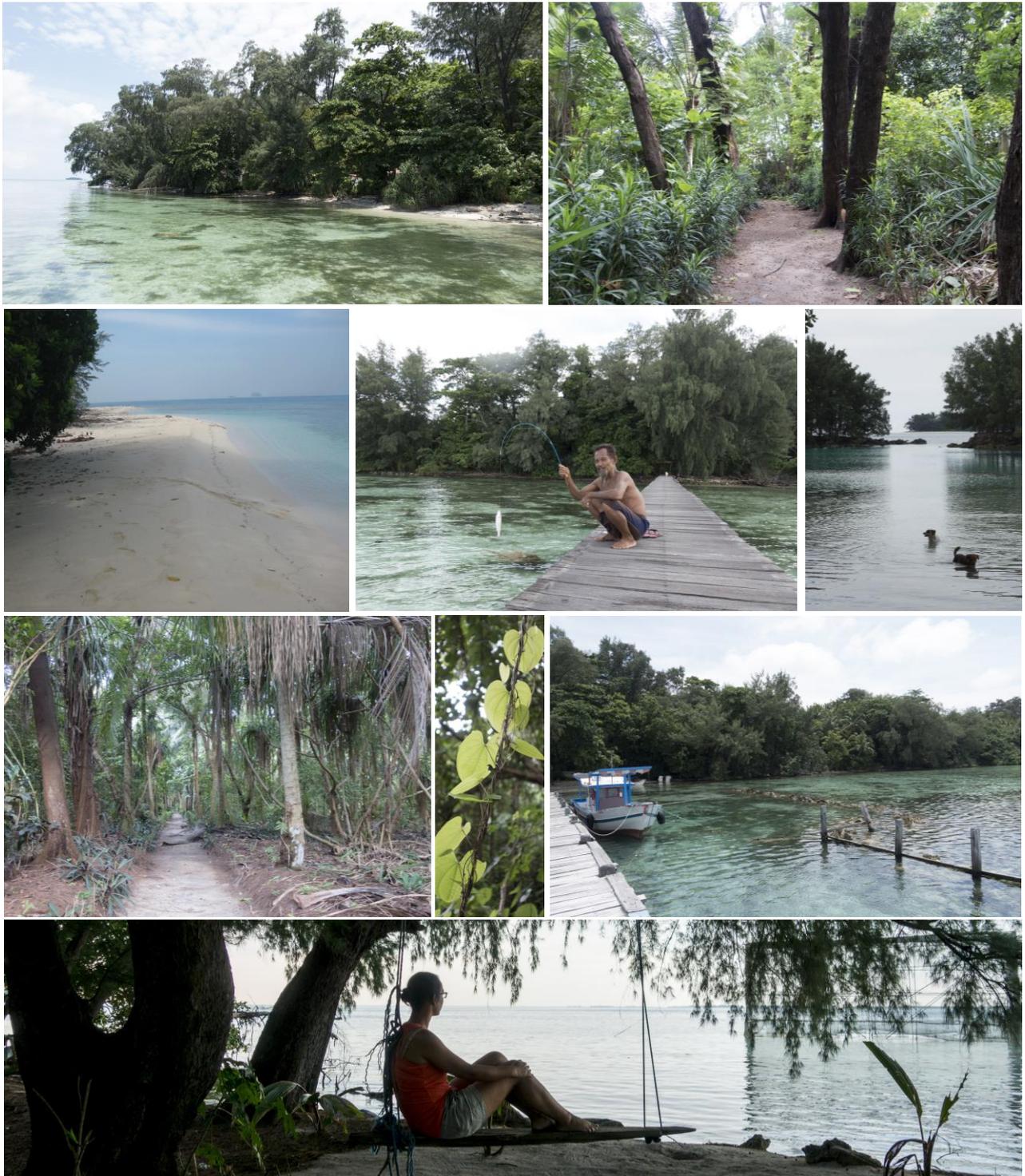
4. Indonesia

4.1 Geography

Indonesia is an archipelagic island country in South East Asia, lying between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean.

4.2 Project Location

The project is located at Kotok island, in the Thousand Islands, Jakarta region. (The head office is located in South Jakarta). It is a beautiful small island.



4.3 Animal welfare

You should be prepared for some awful situations. In Indonesia people treat animals very differently from the way they treat each other. It is possible you will see wild animals kept in captivity. The Jakarta Animal Aid Network strives to end this abuse.

4.4 Culture behaviour

The Indonesian people are very proud of their country and culture, and they expect visitors to show respect to their values and way of life. If you come to participate try to wear modest clothes (covered shoulders and knees, especially for females) while at the islands like Pramuka and Panggang and in town like in Jakarta. The islands have a muslim community therefore you are advised to dress appropriately. On Kotok island at the project site it is fine if you wear shorts and t-shirts and swim in Bikini, but this is not accepted at the nearby populated islands.

To abide by local values and customs it is also important that you refrain from public drinking of alcohol at these locations as well.

Misuse of alcohol and any use of drugs is prohibited on all islands.

Before you enter a house or temple building, take off your shoes. (It is very impolite to show the soles of your shoes and feet, or touch their hands).

4.5 Climate

Indonesia's climate is tropical and is divided into two seasons.

The rain season:

This season, also called monsoon, from October - February, will be the rainy season. It will usually not rain the whole day. Rain falls mostly in the mornings and late evenings. But the sun does shine most of the day and it will be hot and humid.

The temperatures will be around 24 – 35 degrees C.

The warm season:

This season, from February - September, is a long, dry period.

The temperatures will be around 29 – 35 degrees C.

'Western-and Eastern' Season.

Since we work on an island we are also very dependant from the sea-season. During the 'western wind season', often the waves are very big (December until February) and in August with the change of season between Western and Eastern the waves also get very big. This means that sometimes nobody simply can't get off the island as the weather is too bad.



5. Travel information

5.1 Flight arrangements

Volunteers have to make their own flight arrangements. We advise you not to reserve your flight before we have confirmed your participation at the project, unless you will plan your participation at the project as a part of a bigger journey.

If you are unable to arrange your flight yourself for any reason, Global Spirit will be able to help. If you would like us to help you, please fill this in on the booking sheet of this project.

5.2 Passport and visa

Visa laws in Indonesia have changed. Some countries like The Netherlands and Belgium are now eligible for entry to Indonesia for 30 days without a visa (just a passport stamp) at eligible ports. You can arrange a visa on arrival. But you have to show the return flight ticket on arrival.

Whoever wants to stay longer than 30 days has to arrange a visa at the Indonesian embassy in their own country. At the embassy this will usually take a few working days and in more busy periods even longer, pay attention to this. This visa will be valid for 60 days and you are able to renew it by visiting a neighbouring country, like Singapore, for a day.

It's also possible to get a VOA (social cultural via), but this is a more expensive and complicated visa.

If your stay at the project is longer than 60 days, we recommend you to acquire a VOA (Social Cultural Via) at an Indonesian embassy in your home country. The project will provide you the necessary invitation. Make sure you request for this letter at least 6 weeks before your planned arrival in Indonesia. With this visa you will be allowed to stay for 60 days and you are able to extend this visa up to a maximum of six months while you are still in Indonesia. (To make this invitation letter we need a copy of your passport, your flight schedule and home address).

Passport and visa requirements are liable to change at short notice. All volunteers are advised to check their entry requirements with their own embassy or consulate. (The staff advises to always ask for a tourist visa. Any other type of visa will be more expensive and may unnecessarily complicate your visit to Indonesia).

Please note that visas are the responsibility of the volunteer, and that GlobalSpirit will not be held responsible for clients being denied entry, should they not be in the possession of the relevant visas

5.3 Insurances

Every volunteer is required to have a travel (medical) insurance policy and cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Without travel (medical) insurance you will not be permitted to work at this project. Global Spirit can help you arrange travel (medical) and cancellation insurance. Please indicate this on the booking sheet. If you already have insurance please send a copy of the policy to Global Spirit.



5.4 Arrival in Indonesia

The boat goes early in the morning so you will normally stay the night in Jakarta (at your own expense). Early in the morning (around 06.00 am) you can take a taxi (Blue Bird) to the harbour from where the speedboat goes to the island.



6. Medical advice

Because volunteers will work with wildlife in Indonesia and will have direct contact with these animals, they will have to take precautions for their own protection and that of the animals.

6.1 Advise

As Global Spirit is not a professional medical service, we advise you to go to a local clinic or medical authority in your own country for the appropriate medical advice.

This document is provided for information purposes only.

Do not visit your local clinic or medical authority later than six weeks before departure. And don't forget to mention that you will work in a rescue centre for wildlife.

6.2 Required vaccinations

You are required to be vaccinated against:

- D(K)TP
- Hepatitis A

These vaccinations are obligatory for your personal protection.

6.3 Recommended vaccinations

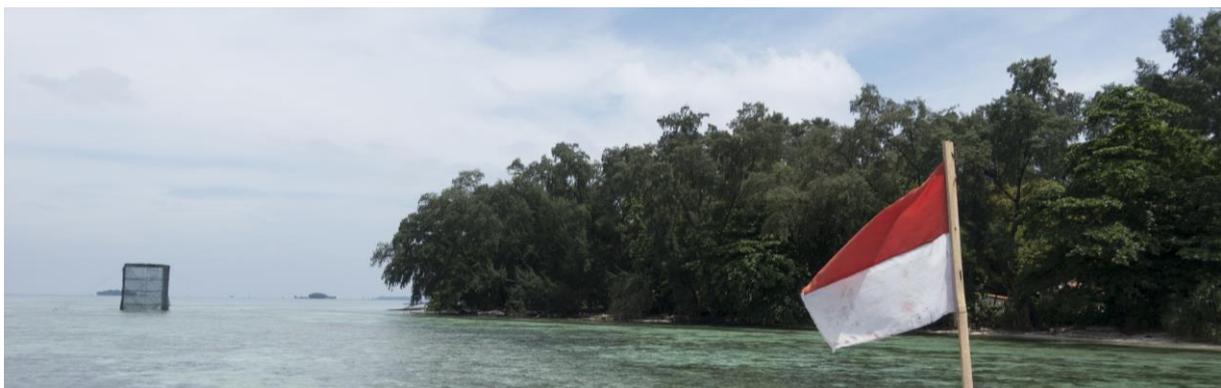
You are really recommended to be vaccinated against:

- Typhoid
- Hepatitis B (if you stay for a longer period)
- Yellow fever
- Malaria

These vaccinations are not required, but are still very important to have. If you don't take them it's on your own responsibility. Global Spirit is not held responsible/liable for any unexpected casualties.

6.4 Medical service

There are good medical services available in Jakarta but not on the Thousand Islands. In emergency situation a speedboat will be rented (costs average 500 Euro for your own expense).



7. Personal equipment

We advise you to bring as little as possible.
You will especially need light, cotton clothes and good sandals.

7.1 Essential items

Here are some essential items, which you should bring with you:

- Valid passport (and Visa)
- T-shirts for work
- Lightweight trousers
- Shoes for cleaning the raptor cages (we do provide rubber boots)
- Slippers
- A hat or cap
- Sunglasses
- A watch (sometimes you will also need this when observing the birds)
- Insect repellent
- Alarm clock
- A torch and spare batteries
- A Pocket knife
- First-aid kit with for example plasters and disinfectant (there are some first-aid materials present at the project, but it will be handy if you will bring this with you as well)
- A camera (and photographic materials)
- Bathing/swimming suit (and snorkel)
- A towel
- Sunscreen (it's recommended to use for at least SPF 20)

7.2 Optional items

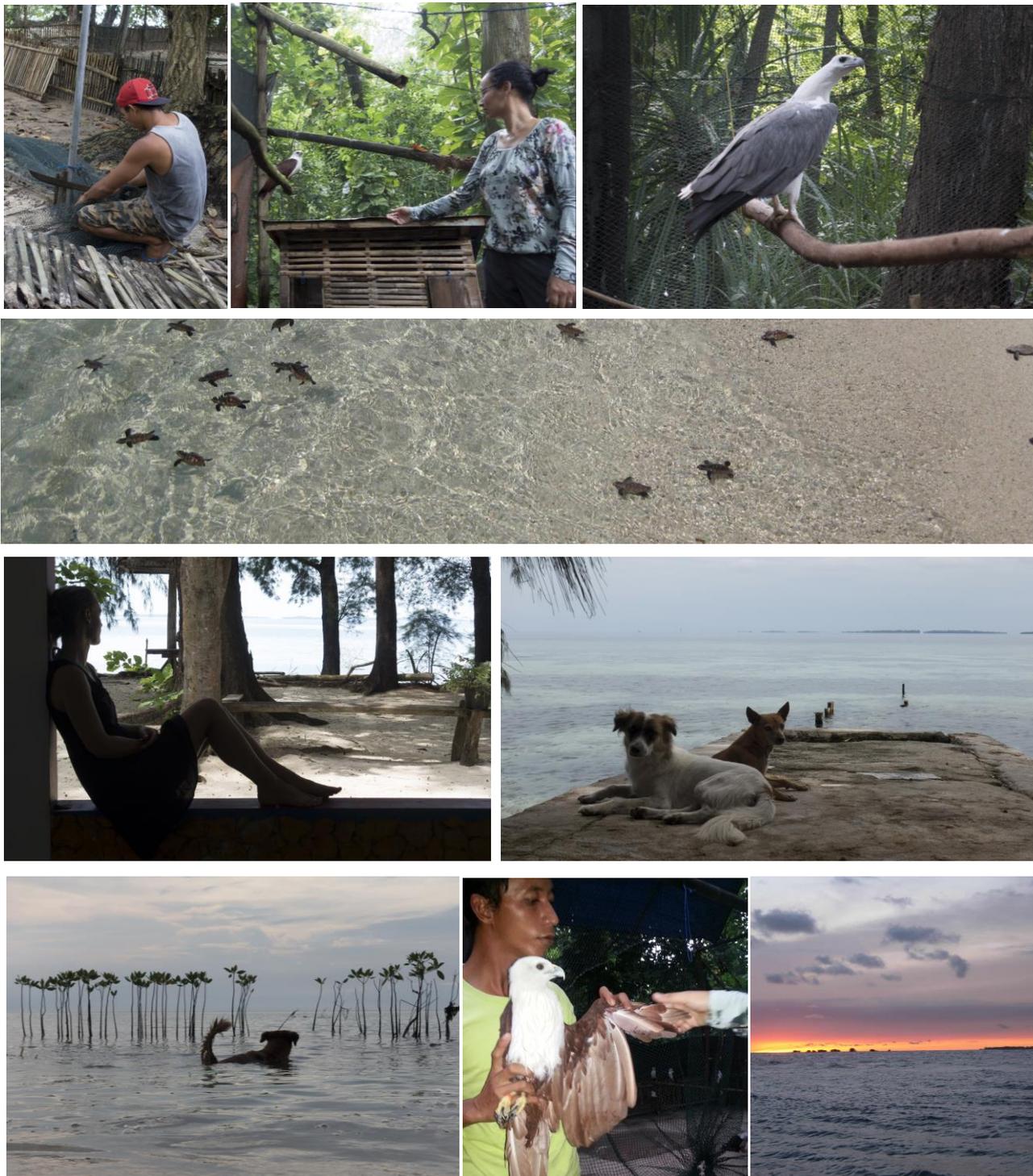
Here are some optional items, which you may choose to bring with you:

- Water bottle
- Binoculars
- A lighter
- A notebook
- A compass
- Mosquito net (recommended)
- Toilet articles
- Vitamin B (it will be anti mosquito)
- Something against dehydration like ORS (we advise you to drink a lot of water)
- Imodium or other ant- diarrhoea medication
- A lightweight waterproof coat
- Leisure clothes
- A sheet bag (if you find this comfortable)
- Some Music (there's usually a CD-player available in the kitchen)
- Books
- Magazines or newspaper (the other volunteers, who are already staying at the project, will mostly appreciate it as well)
- Snacks, etc.
- Etc.

7.3 Monsoons

During the monsoons you are recommended to bring with you:

- A warm jumper for the evenings
- A raincoat or poncho
- Rubber boots
- Thick socks
- Long trousers



8. General information

8.1 Food and refreshments

The dishes are usually quite spicy and consist mainly of fish and vegetables, tempeh and tahu, with rice or noodles. Vegetarian food is easy with the many soybean dishes available.

For breakfast you can choose a pancake or eat the same dish as the Indonesian staff which is most probably rice and vegetables. No meat is used in the projects kitchen.

If you have special requests for food, please notify us.

On the island there is no supermarket or any food store available. If you want to bring snacks, like crisps, etcetera you should buy this in Jakarta prior departure or order it through the manager (at own costs).

Drinking of un-boiled water is not to be recommended. Drink only bottled water!

The project offers drinking water and coffee and tea, for free.

You are asked to respect the local Muslims, by not drinking alcohol in public when in the village like in Pramuka Island.



8.2 Supermarkets and markets

At nearby islands Pramuka and Panggang depending on the season fruit can be purchased like Mango and Oranges, only early mornings. There are small shops with basic local items for sale too.

8.3 Laundry services

You can do your washing by hand.

(Sometimes there is a lady that can help with washing, for about 30,000 rupiah per kilo).

8.4 Telephone

Most mobile phones can be used, but for sure we advise you to contact your phone company or phone service in your country.

8.5 Internet access

There is no internet at the island.

8.6 Electricity

Indonesia has an electricity a voltage of 220 Volt (50 Hertz).

8.7 Transport during your stay

On the island the project has a traditional boat, used for trips between the islands (for example to visit the village). If you want to go somewhere, please ask the project staff and see what the possibilities are. (All trips / excursions are for your own expense).

8.8 Photo and film equipment.

A dry box is recommended for expensive equipment, as the humidity is very high on the island.

8.9 Currency

The monetary unit of Indonesia is the Rupiah.

There are no ATM-machines or banks on the island.

You can bring some money with you from Jakarta prior departure to the project site.

