



AnimalsAsia

Kindness in action

ABOUT US

Animals Asia is devoted to improving the welfare of animals across Asia. We promote compassion and respect for all animals and work to bring about long-term change.

Founded in 1998, Animals Asia has been rescuing bears since 2000. We operate award-winning bear sanctuaries in China and Vietnam, and we're the only organisation with a bear sanctuary in China. Our founder and CEO, Jill Robinson MBE, is widely acknowledged as the world's leading authority on the cruel bear bile industry, having campaigned against it since 1993.

Our work focuses on three major programs:

BEAR BILE FARMING

More than 10,000 bears – mainly moon bears, but also sun bears and brown bears – are kept on bile farms across Asia. To date, Animals Asia has rescued over 670 bears from the industry and brought them to our sanctuaries in China and Vietnam.

Bile bears are kept on farms their entire lives, in some cases in cages so small that they're unable to turn around or stand on all fours. Some bears are put into cages as cubs and are never released.

To boost bile production, some bears are starved. Many suffer from multiple diseases and malignant cancers. Despite the harsh conditions, bears can survive like this for up to 30 years.

The sanctuaries provide direct employment for hundreds of local people in areas such as veterinary and daily bear care, horticulture, food preparation and security. Hundreds more locals are employed indirectly through services and construction.

After years of cooperation, Animals Asia has signed an agreement with the government of Vietnam to completely end bear bile farming there. This includes rescuing around 300 bears that remain on farms – the country's very last bile bears. In 2022, we started building a second sanctuary that will be home to these bears.



CAT AND DOG WELFARE

Cats and dogs are often abandoned and left to subsist on the streets, with many dying due to illness or accidents. Stray dogs and cats are also snatched from the streets and taken to horrific meat markets, where they're bludgeoned to death and sold for human consumption.

Animals Asia works to protect dogs and cats in a number of ways. We campaign to end the trade in companion animals for food, we work with governments and local animal protection groups to improve their welfare, and we promote humane population management.





CAPTIVE ANIMAL WELFARE

Wild animals in captivity across Asia face a range of abuses.

Elephants are forced to carry tourists in the searing heat. Terrified chickens are fed to lions and tigers as live prey for entertainment. Bears are forced to perform demeaning tricks for jeering circus crowds. Frightened baby orangutans are stolen from their mothers and used as props for social media. And tens of thousands of songbirds are caught and trafficked for the lucrative pet trade.

Animals Asia's works in China, Vietnam and Indonesia to improve the welfare of animals in captivity, and to free those that we can. We visit facilities, and work with them to improve the animals' welfare.

We oversee the care of 11 former working elephants in Vietnam. And we run a pioneering ethical tourism venture where visitors observe the elephants from a respectful distance.



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