BRINGING SANCTUARY TO LIFE

Sanctuary for elephants is transformative, life altering and desperately needed to provide captive elephants with the healing life they need and richly deserve. With more than 6000 captive elephants around the globe, fewer than 150 have been offered sanctuary. Through decades of experience, we know that we can help change the fate of ailing elephants who are waiting for something better.

That is why in 2013, experts in elephant welfare came together to create Global Sanctuary for Elephants. Our first step is Elephant Sanctuary Brazil, the first sanctuary for elephants in South America. ESB will offer African and Asian elephants of both genders an expansive, natural habitat, where they are attended to by compassionate and experienced caregivers implementing a holistic approach to health and well-being.

The sanctuary will be built on a stunning 2,800-acre property in Chapada dos Guimarães, Brazil, a small town that has welcomed us with open arms. The property offers a life that will stimulate elephants both physically and mentally.

Small gently sloping hills with lush pastures, cooling shade trees, and abundant fresh water will cater to older or unhealthy individuals. Steep hills, large boulders, dense forest and many hidden trails will challenge the big boys and those physically driven to explore. The surrounding hills and cliff faces make the land very protected; it is a secure, secluded piece of paradise nestled amongst the beautiful backdrop of central Brazil.

Chapada offers stunning year round spring-like temperatures, along with a constant refreshing breeze that blows throughout the hills and valleys. The dry season is short enough that the fields will remain green, allowing for elephants to forage throughout the year. These two things mean elephants can spend day and night, 365 days a year, enjoying life outside.

Without the need to build an elaborate and expensive barn, we can accept our first residents soon, possibly within 4 months.

Reduced development and operational costs mean more funding going directly towards the care and rescue of elephants. But most importantly, all of these things mean a more complete life for the elephants that will consider ESB home.

Sanctuary is a simple concept; expansive space, integrative care and a more natural life, but in reality it is highly complex, dynamic and profound. It is a constant balance of addressing an elephant’s inherent needs, while taking into consideration the immense physical and psychological impact that a sterile and dominant captive life has had on each being as an individual. It is extremely nuanced, but we owe it to every elephant that has shared a piece of themselves with us, to take the lessons they have offered, and do our part to provide captive elephants globally with a life they can call their own.

“EVERY ELEPHANT, NO MATTER WHERE IN THE WORLD THEY LIVE, DESERVES A LIFE OF SANCTUARY”

WHAT’S INSIDE

- WHY BRAZIL? The immense need many don’t know about
- MAIA AND GUIDA 2 elephants just waiting for somewhere to go
- GIVING GROUND TO ELEPHANTS Help provide captive elephants in need with a life of sanctuary
- WHAT IS IT ABOUT SANCTUARY? It takes more than just space for elephants to recover
Yesterday, Kat and I spent the day exploring a little more of the incredible property that will soon become Elephant Sanctuary Brazil, collecting GPS points, finding hidden valleys and plotting the first phase of development. As we walked, we found ourselves repeatedly sharing how amazing it will be when the footfalls of elephants bless this already sacred land.

It’s been a long road to get to this point, a lot of hurdles and changed directions and on more than one occasion a few doubts. But all it takes is a short step back to gain perspective. To see the diverse journeys that have culminated to bring our incredible board of directors together and to find this perfect property, owned by one of the kindest souls that we’ve met in Brazil, quickly reminds us that we are right where we are supposed to be.

Maia is in much better condition. She needs support as well, as her sedentary life has caused her to lose muscle mass, which causes increased pressure on her joints along with compromising her cardiopulmonary health. She is bored and a little closed off emotionally, but not as much of a substantial concern since these issues are easily remedied within Sanctuary life. While not all elephants automatically heal upon arrival at sanctuary, it does have a ‘special power’; it’s called nature.

One of the most fundamental and basic elements of healing is allowing an opportunity for elephants to return to a more natural state of being. Physically, emotionally and psychologically they become more balanced. This, combined with nuanced and intricate care, can literally save lives.

It was hard to walk away at the end of the day, knowing we could help, but regretting that we aren’t ready for them yet. We are edging closer, but we need to rally support quickly. Maia, Guida and other elephants here need sanctuary now. Your support goes directly to the development of our pilot project, Elephant Sanctuary Brazil, and a brighter future for Maia and Guida.
India, a country known for worshipping elephants while keeping them in terrible conditions, is having a culture shift. There is legislation being presented to the Supreme Court to outlaw the use of elephants for parades and ceremonies, due to abuse and the danger involved.

The world is waking up to the cruelty of circus. In Europe, 19 countries have national bans on performing elephants, while 4 others have local bans. Central and South America have 9 countries with national bans and 3 with local. Asia has 4 countries with national bans and Australia has local bans.

Elephants continue to be taken from the wild, destined for a life of confinement and neglect. Zimbabwe recently captured 62 wild baby elephants to be shipped around the globe. Some countries in Asia now have more captive elephants than those left in the wild.

With increased awareness and education of the welfare of captive elephants, the tourist industry is starting to shift away from elephant rides and shows with tricks. These are being replaced with a more passive elephant experience. The voice of the public is creating change.

Ivory remains the main reason for the decimation of the wild elephant population. In one month, 3 shipments of ivory were confiscated. In Mozambique: 1.3 tons, in Laos: over 3 tons, and in Singapore: 3.7 tons. In total this represents the lives of 1,760 elephants lost forever.

Global Sanctuary for Elephants directors, working in Brazil, have located 2800 acres of ideal land. A perfect home for Elephant Sanctuary Brazil.

We need your help to turn this incredible rural farm into Sanctuary by quite literally Give Ground to Elephants. Individuals who participate in Giving Ground to Elephants will receive a certificate, in their name, acknowledging their generous donation that helped to create sanctuary for elephants in South America.

HELP US HELP THEM, BECAUSE EVERY ELEPHANT MATTERS

GIVING GROUND TO ELEPHANTS

Elephants are losing ground, literally and figuratively. Poaching is occurring at an alarming rate, land encroachment on elephant habitats is growing exponentially and captive elephants have spent decades restricted to an area that is 125,000 times smaller than their wild cousins. But there is hope, you can help give back by Giving Ground to Elephants!

HELP US HELP THEM, BECAUSE EVERY ELEPHANT MATTERS

**YOUR GIVING LEVEL** | **WHAT IT WILL PROVIDE**
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“50 strides of Grey”- $1040<br>1 hectare (2.47 acres) | Enough space for an elephant to walk 50 strides in any direction they choose, untethered and unrestrained
“Picnic for 4”- $420<br>1 acre | Enough land for 4 elephants to take a leisurely lunch on open pasture
“Frolicking trio” - $210<br>½ acre | The perfect area for friends to play with reckless abandon-includes space for spinning, running and other kinds of silliness
“Nap time for 2”- $105<br>¼ acre | Best friends nestled under a tree on a sunny day. Quite simply - Bliss
“First Steps”- $50 | For some, this is the first time in decades that they will step out onto green grass. Each new tentative step is a journey towards a new life
“The View” - $25 | Sometimes the elephants just pause, looking out over expansive, lush sanctuary - just a moment to take in their new life
“Caring Kids”- $5 | Space to just be - For kids who care enough to want to make a difference in the life of a captive elephant

WHAT IS IT ABOUT SANCTUARY?

Sanctuary is amazing, but it is still captivity. The elephants need to be managed as many require lifelong, veterinary care and they are still kept within fences. So, what’s the difference? What is the critical factor that allows the rebirths of a new being?

Autonomy. It is not a requirement for life, but it is imperative for intelligent, social, emotional and intentional beings to truly live and thrive. This isn’t profound wisdom. It is fundamental nature.

It is what we as humans desire and often take for granted - to have control of our own lives. Out of all of the wondrous experiences I’ve had with elephants: reunions of old friends, physical and emotional recoveries, and transformations that make the elephants unrecognizable to former keepers, none are as incredible as seeing the moment they find their inner-self, their true identity. When an elephant realizes that they, for the first time in decades, have control over their own life. This is the true definition of Sanctuary and why Sanctuary is so much more than expansive space. It’s a way of being that honors life, who elephants are and who they will become.
BECAUSE EVERY ELEPHANT MATTERS

To begin rescuing elephants, we need to complete the first phase of property development. The budget for Phase I is $450,000; with this funding we can immediately accommodate 4-6 elephants. This budget could be reduced drastically with donations of equipment and materials for the biggest expense - fencing. But, it’s going to take all of us to create Sanctuary.

YOU CAN HELP: DONATE

Online at: www.GlobalElephants.org
Text: “elephants” to 50155
Scan here:

Or mail the enclosed envelope to:
PO Box 2426,
Brentwood, TN 37024

A NEW LIFE FOR CAPTIVE ELEPHANTS FROM SOUTH AMERICA IS JUST A TRUNK’S REACH AWAY. THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING!

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