

INFO PACK

ARTISA

ART IS ARUBA

2027

WHO WE ARE - ARTISA

ArtisA is a cultural foundation based in San Nicolas, Aruba, dedicated to strengthening the local arts ecosystem through community-centered, accessible, and socially engaged art.

Founded in 2016, ArtisA played a key role in shaping San Nicolas into the **Street Art Capital of the Caribbean**, supporting murals, exhibitions, creative education, and cultural events. Today, ArtisA operates year-round through its two spaces: **ArtisA Gallery**, focused on contemporary art, and **Space21.art**, dedicated to artisanship, cultural heritage, and sustainable design.

OUR VISION

ArtisA envisions a future where art is part of everyday life, empowering local communities, strengthening cultural identity, and positioning San Nicolas as a creative hub with international relevance.

OUR MISSION

ArtisA creates and sustains platforms for artistic expression, education, and cultural exchange by supporting local artists and artisans, activating public space, organizing events such as Art Week Aruba, and building bridges between local and international creative communities.

Volunteers are a vital part of this ecosystem — helping transform ideas into lived experiences



WHAT WE DO

ARTISA
TOURS | GALLERY | SHOP | EVENTS
ART IS ARUBA

ArtisA organizes solo and group exhibitions several times per year through its gallery spaces in San Nicolas. These exhibitions showcase contemporary art by local artists, creating professional platforms for artistic visibility, dialogue, and exchange.

ARTWEEK
ARUBA

ArtWeek Aruba is ArtisA's flagship cultural week, bringing together art, fashion, public space, and community engagement across San Nicolas.

ArtWeek highlights include:

- ArtTable — a collective art experience where participants create together under the guidance of professional artists.
- ArtFashion Aruba — an interdisciplinary event merging fashion, art, and performance.
- Aruba Art Fair — a contemporary art fair activating empty buildings as pop-up galleries.
- Mural Festival — large-scale murals and guided tours connecting art, place, and storytelling.

WHAT WE DO

Art Expression is a long-term youth art education program developed in collaboration with secondary schools in San Nicolas, using art as a tool for creative development and self-expression.

> *In-school canvas projects*
Each participating school collectively paints one large canvas under the guidance of their art teacher. The works respond to the annual ArtWeek theme, and this year explore Nature × Mankind, encouraging reflection on the relationship between people, environment, and society.

> *After-school workshops*
Students can participate in after-school workshops, developing skills across disciplines such as graphic design, dance, music production, fashion, and painting.

Guided walking tours through San Nicolas exploring more than 95 murals created by local and international artists. The tours combine public art, local history, and community stories, connecting creativity to place and lived experience.

MISO is a social and educational project developed in collaboration with women in prison, focused on learning craft skills and creative production. The project supports participants in developing work that can eventually be sold outside the prison, creating pathways toward income generation, empowerment, and reintegration after release.

WHERE ARE WE?

The event/project will take place in San Nicolas, Aruba

Known as the most local part of Aruba, San Nicolas was considered dangerous and disreputable for the tourists. Nowadays, thanks to ArtisA's interventions, this area is one of the most interesting and visited part of the island, for sure the most authentic!

In 2019, Forbes acknowledged San Nicolas as **the Street Art Capital of the Caribbean**







LOCATION & MOBILITY



Most ArtisA activities take place in and around the main street of San Nicolas, making the area highly walkable for volunteers.

WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE

> ArtisA Gallery, Space21, and Cas Arena are all located close to one another.

> Mural Tours take place throughout the main street area.

> Art Expression after-school activities are hosted at Filomena College, approximately 5 minutes walking.

> ArtWeek Aruba events are centered on the main street of San Nicolas.

> A cinema is located directly across from Cas Arena.

FOOD & DAILY AMENITIES

> Nearby restaurants include Kulture Cafe, O'Neil Caribbean Kitchen, Mauchi Smoothies, Gallo Rojo, and KFC.

> Supermarkets and grocery stores are approximately 5 minutes away by car.

NEARBY LEISURE & CULTURE

> Cultural and community spots such as the Museum of Industry, Theresita Church, and the community pool are close by.

> Baby Beach and Rodgers Beach are approximately 10 minutes away by car.

ACCOMMODATION

ArtisA volunteers are housed at **Cas Arena**, a shared volunteer house located on the main street of San Nicolas, within walking distance of ArtisA's project spaces and activities.

The house accommodates up to four volunteers and is fully equipped for daily living. ArtisA provides:

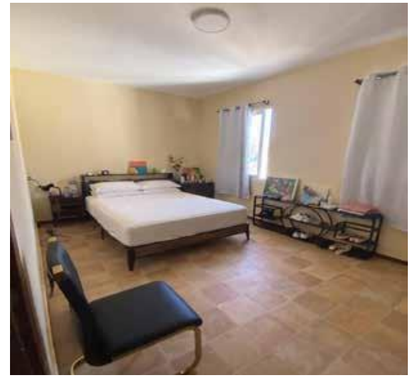
- Pillows, bedding, and towels
- Kitchen utensils and basic cookware
- A diving mask for use during the stay

Cas Arena is designed to offer a comfortable, practical, and communal living environment for volunteers during their time with ArtisA

HOUSE RULES

- The house is a shared space; all volunteers are responsible for keeping it clean and tidy.
- Common areas (kitchen, fridge, bathroom, living spaces) must be **cleaned after use**.
- Respect each other's **privacy, rest, and personal boundaries**.
- **No illegal drugs are allowed under any circumstances**, in the house or during ArtisA activities.
- Smoking is only permitted **outdoors**; alcohol must be consumed responsibly.
- Guests are allowed only with prior approval.
- Treat the house, furniture, and keys with care and report any issues promptly.



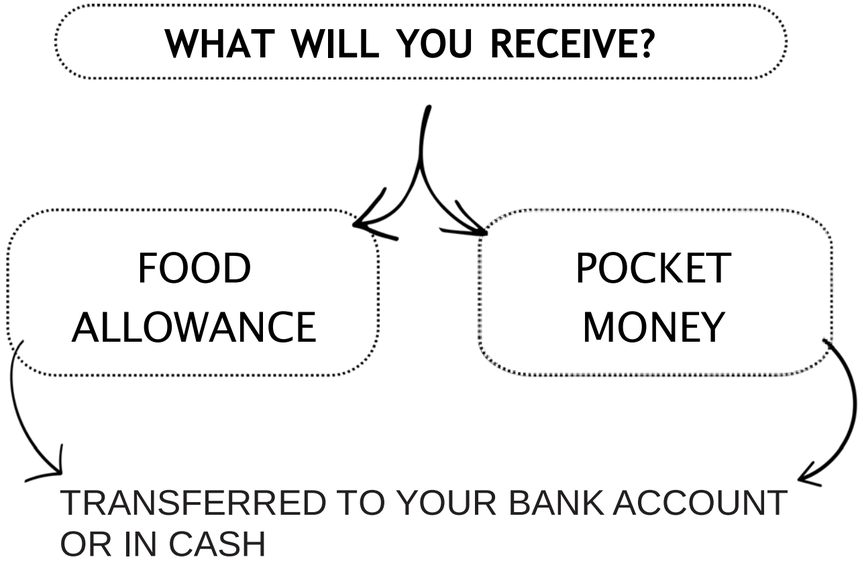


FOOD AND POCKET ALLOWANCE

Volunteers receive both a food allowance and pocket money allowance.

- Food allowance: €7 per day, 7 days per week
- Pocket money: €7 per day, 7 days per week

Aruban Florin is the local currency, but US Dollar is accepted island-wide



WORK CLOTHES & EQUIPMENT

Working at ArtisA requires following certain professional procedures. As an art gallery and cultural organization, volunteers are expected to dress appropriately for a creative yet professional environment.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Clothing should be classy, professional, and comfortable.
- A more natural, simple style is perfectly fine.
- No tank tops, no shorts, no short skirts or short dresses.
- Recommended: dresses, shirts/blouses, and long pants.
- Sandals or closed shoes are allowed; flip-flops are not.

GALLERY & EVENT SETTINGS

- When working in the galleries, volunteers are expected to wear more representative clothing.
- ArtisA will provide ArtisA T-shirts for certain activities.

WHAT TO BRING

- A laptop is required.
- 1 pair of black pants and 1 black shirt or blouse (needed for some events).
- One nice outfit or dress for formal or special events.

YOUR SCHEDULE



During your project, you will have a weekly schedule developed collaboratively by you and your mentor, balancing your interests and needs with those of the organizations and projects where you will be involved.

In the initial period, while you explore the different activities and projects, you will create a draft schedule together. This draft will later be refined into a final version. The schedule may still be adjusted over time, depending on factors such as your learning goals, personal requests, short-term projects you wish to join, or other practical considerations.

ON-ARRIVAL TRAINING

At the start of your volunteering period, you will take part in on-arrival training sessions designed to help you settle in and feel prepared.

These sessions include:

- Introduction to ArtisA and the European Solidarity Corps (ESC)
- Cultural orientation and working context
- Roles, responsibilities, and expectations
- Health, safety, and well-being
- Teamwork, non-formal learning, and reflection
- Support systems (mentor & coordinators)

The goal is to support your integration, learning, and confidence throughout your volunteering experience.

INSURANCE OVERVIEW

European Solidarity Corps (ESC) volunteers are provided with comprehensive insurance coverage (Medical and Non-medical) during their volunteering period, which includes:

- Health Insurance: Covers medical costs, including hospital treatment and emergency medical care, for illnesses or accidents that occur while volunteering.
- Accident Insurance: Provides coverage for accidents that happen during volunteering activities or while traveling to and from the volunteering location.
- Liability Insurance: Protects volunteers in case they accidentally cause damage to third parties or property.
- Travel Insurance: Covers travel-related incidents such as delays, cancellations, or loss of personal belongings.
- Personal Injury: Includes compensation for serious injuries or death occurring during volunteering activities.
- Legal Assistance: Offers legal support in case of legal issues.

This insurance is provided free of charge by the European Commission for all ESC volunteers. More details about the coverage will be attached together with the volunteering agreement.

ARRIVAL & IMMIGRATION (ED CARD)

Before flying to Aruba, you must complete the ED Card (Embarkation/Disembarkation Card) online – it’s a mandatory immigration form.

You’ll need to complete this form during the week before your flight. As part of the process, you’ll be asked to pay a $20 visitor entry tax. This small fee is part of Aruba’s sustainability initiative, which helps the island manage the impact of tourism and preserve its natural environment. It’s a contribution we ask you to cover.

INFORMATION NEEDED FOR THE ED CARD:

Purpose of visit: Vacation
Place of stay: Stay at friends and family
Address: PENDING

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Before your travel

Don't forget this in your suitcase!

- Plug adapter (Type A/B)
- Work clothes
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Rock shoes
- International credit card
- ED Card (to complete in the week before the flight to Aruba)



Type A



Type B

We are waiting for you!

In the meantime, here you can find some words in Papiamento, the local language.

Bonbini!	Welcome!
Bon dia	Good Morning
Bon tardi	Good Afternoon
Bon nochi	Good Evening/ Good Night
Con bay?	How are you?
Bon	Good
Hopi bon	Really good/ Fine
Danki	Thank you
Masha Danki	Thank you very much
Ayo	Bye

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

ECHO
SMALL ACTIONS, LASTING IMPACT

ARTISA
TOURS | GALLERY | SHOP | EVENTS
ART IS ARUBA

ARUBA
One happy island