Reference

Contribute and Stripe

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The Contribute page on gurbanisoul.com: Stripe-hosted Payment Links, the off/test/live build switch, how the amounts are set, its history and a runbook for changing mode or an amount.

https://docs.gurbanisoul.com/website/contribute/

The Contribute page (`/en/contribute`, and its Punjabi and French versions) lets a reader support Gurbani Soul with a one-time or monthly contribution. It has been live in production since 1.4.4. It is built from two files: `frontend/src/contribute.ts`, the single source of the links and the mode, and `frontend/src/pages/[lang]/contribute.astro`, the page.

The rules it keeps

- **Stripe-hosted Payment Links only.** Every amount is a plain `<a>` to a Stripe-hosted page. No Stripe.js and no script from Stripe ever loads on our pages; the reader leaves for Stripe only when they click, and the site never sees card details.
- **Contributions, never donations.** Algorythmos Pty Ltd is a company, not a charity: a contribution is not tax-deductible, and the page says so, with the company's ABN. Contributing unlocks nothing; every feature stays free.
- **Never from the app.** The page is not linked from the iOS app (App Store guideline 3.1.1). It is separate from `/support`, the App Store help page, whose path is frozen.
- **No script on the page.** The thank-you note is the page's `#thank-you` section, revealed by CSS `:target` when Stripe returns the reader to `/contribute#thank-you`, which redirects to the English page with the fragment kept.

The mode switch: `PUBLIC_CONTRIBUTE_MODE`

The mode is a build-time variable, set in the Vercel project's environment:

Mode	Where	What the page shows
`off`	the default, and any unknown value: CI and local builds	an "opening soon" note and **no payment link**; the nav, footer and home band do not link to it, and the privacy policy has no Contributions section
`test`	Preview (staging)	Stripe test-mode links only, from the sandbox account (no real money), with a note saying so
`live`	Production	live links only

`assertLinks()` runs when `contribute.ts` is imported, so **a link that does not match the mode fails the build**: a test link can never reach production, nor a live link staging. In `live` every tier, the custom amount and the customer-portal link must be present; in `test` a link not yet created may be `null`, and the page shows that tier as not connected.

How the amounts work

Kind	Amounts
Your own amount	from A$0.50 (Stripe's AUD floor), shown first
One time	A$5, A$11, A$21, A$51
Monthly	A$5, A$11, A$21

The **price lives in Stripe**, on each Payment Link. In `contribute.ts` a tier is a key (`once-21`, `monthly-11`), a display amount and its link. The page reads the number from the key and formats it for the page's language (`fmtAud`), and each tier's note comes from the message catalog (`contributeTiers.notes.<key>`), so a new tier needs its note translated and reviewed in every enabled language (translation workflow). Monthly contributions are cancelled or updated by the reader in Stripe's customer portal, linked from the page; refunds are by email to support. The live and test sets are kept side by side in `contribute.ts`, one link per tier.

History

Release	Change
1.4.4	The page, the mode switch and the privacy policy's Contributions section. One-time A$11/21/51/101, monthly A$5/11/21, your own amount from A$5.
1.4.5	Your own amount from A$0.50, with new live and test links (the old A$5 link retired after deploy); the ABN in the tax answer.
1.4.6	One-time tiers A$5, A$11, A$21 and A$51 (new A$5 links), with your own amount above the cards; larger gifts go through the custom amount.
1.6.0–1.6.2	The page moves under the language prefix (`/en/contribute`) and gains Punjabi and French versions, signed off with the legal review of Privacy and Contribute (gate G4). Checkout stays in English.

Runbook: change the mode

The mode is read at build time, so changing it is an environment change plus a redeploy of the **same** commit; it is not a release.

1. In Vercel, open the website's project → Settings → Environment Variables, and set `PUBLIC_CONTRIBUTE_MODE` for the environment you are changing: **Production** (`live` or `off`) or **Preview** (`test` or `off`). Never `test` on Production.
2. Rehearse on staging first: set Preview, then `gh workflow run deploy-staging --ref integration --repo Algorythmos-AI/sggs-platform`.

3. For production: `gh workflow run deploy-production --ref main --repo Algorythmos-AI/sggs-platform`. The same commit redeploys through every gate, and the build pulls the new variable (**deploy runbook**).
4. Check the page in a browser: in `live` every tier links to a Stripe page whose path has no `test_`; in `off` the page says contributions are opening soon and has no tier links. The privacy policy's Contributions section follows the same state.

Runbook: change an amount or a link

1. Create the Payment Link in Stripe: in the sandbox for `test`, in the live account for `live`. Its after-payment redirect is `https://gurbanisoul.com/contribute#thank-you` (staging: `https://sggs-staging.vercel.app/contribute#thank-you`).
2. In `frontend/src/contribute.ts`, change the tier's key and link in both sets. A new amount is a new key.
3. Add or rename the tier's note under `contributeTiers.notes` in `en.json`, then translate it and have it reviewed in every enabled language; `i18n-status.mjs` fails CI until it is.
4. Build with each mode (`PUBLIC_CONTRIBUTE_MODE=test npm run build`, then `live`) to let `assertLinks()` prove the links, and run `npx playwright test contribute` from `frontend/`.
5. Ship it as an ordinary pull request into `integration`. Deactivate the old link in Stripe only after the deploy that stops using it.

What protects it

- **`assertLinks()`**: the mode and the links must agree, or the build fails.
- **`frontend/e2e/contribute.spec.ts`**: the page renders in the marketing shell, never says "donation" or "is tax-deductible", links only to Stripe-hosted pages, loads nothing from Stripe before a click, shows the thank-you note only after the redirect, fits a 320px screen, and is linked from the nav, footer, home band, Support page and Knowledge Base footer only when it is on.
- **`BrandDisciplineInSource`**: the small heart on the Contribute link is the one allowed use of brand red on the website, through a single `--contribute-heart` token.
- **Privacy**: what the policy says about contributions is on **security and privacy**.

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