

# South Africa Wildlife Conservation Volunteer

*Provide a helping hand on an amazing private game reserve in South Africa, tending to the Big 5 and even helping care for rare Bengal tigers!*

Visit South Africa – a "Rainbow Nation" that combines modern culture with an ancient landscape that is simply breathtaking. South Africa has evolved over thousands of years to become the biologically and culturally diverse nation that it is today and attracts thousands of visitors a year to its wide, sandy beaches and cosmopolitan cities, and of course the dramatic natural monument that is Table Mountain.

Rolling hills, flat grasslands, magnificent African bush and historical frontier architecture await you at this exclusive game reserve and wildlife sanctuary. The pristine bushveld and crystal clear blue skies combine to provide a magnificent setting to explore the magnificent Big Five wildlife and the intriguing history of this African paradise.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Help to conserve South Africa's rare & beautiful wildlife
- Discover the Rainbow Nation
- Make lifelong friends and return with incredible memories

## FAST FACTS

<b>Location</b>	South Africa
<b>Activities</b>	Rehabilitation work Fence and anti-poaching patrols Game capture (in season) Eradication of invasive plant species Assist with tourist safaris
<b>Transport</b>	Airport pick-up
<b>Accommodation</b>	Shared volunteer house

## WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

You will be working within the game reserve five days a week from Monday – Friday. The game reserve is home to all of Africa's Big Five (the lion, the African elephant, the cape buffalo, the leopard and the rhinoceros) as well as many others. Your main duties will revolve around the maintenance of

the reserve and you may even get to help out with the reserve's animal rehabilitation work. The reserve's successful breeding and animal rearing programme even produces new born cubs from time to time!

Other work may include checking up on the lions or feeding and cleaning the elephants in the on-site elephant sanctuary. The reserve also runs luxury safaris and in the past some of the more experienced volunteers have been asked to help the professional game rangers run these. Who knows – you could be the next lucky one! Volunteers joining in the month of February may be involved in assisting in the annual game capture.

Your work will be hugely varied and may include such tasks as vegetation rehabilitation and the eradication of invasive plant species, which is important for sustaining the endemic local flora and fauna. Fence patrolling is essential and needs to be carried out to check for wear and tear and ensure the safety of the native wildlife. Please note that all activities will be dependent upon the time of year and the current needs of the reserve.

Within the reserve you can visit an historic English frontier town, noted for its contribution to the development of agriculture in South Africa, where you will find a post office and a modern convenience store.

Excursions to Port Elizabeth, South Africa's second oldest city, are arranged every other weekend. Here you can enjoy sunbathing, surfing and swimming at the beautiful blue flag beaches such as George's and Humewood beach. In the evenings you can explore the exciting bars, clubs and restaurants of this vibrant city.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?**

You will fly into Port Elizabeth airport which is a short, one hour, flight from Cape Town international airport and can cost as little as US\$68-US\$85 if booked locally. Please aim to arrive before 4pm on the Monday. Upon arrival you will be given a warm welcome by one of the project staff and depending on the time of arrival you will be taken to a lovely local lodge where you will wait for the other volunteers to arrive before the scheduled transfer to the project site at 5pm. You can use the time at the lodge to freshen up and recover from your flight, acclimatise and get ideas about what you might like to see during your project weekend excursions or after your project. You will arrive at the project location, 85 km from Port Elizabeth, in time for dinner and to relax after your journey. Depending on the arrival time and number of volunteers you may instead travel directly to the project location.

## **WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?**

The project location is within an exclusive game reserve of 6,000 hectares. You will be living in one of two comfortable and newly built single sex dormitories. The game reserve offers a fantastic range of leisure and recreational facilities including a TV, tennis court, barbecue, kitchen area, internet access and pool tables, so masses to do during your time off. There is mobile phone coverage in the area and you will be able to purchase a pay as you go SIM for a small price in the shops, which you can then top up and use as much as you like. The reserve is also malaria free.

## **WHAT WILL I BE EATING?**

You will enjoy three meals a day during the week, which will be a delicious combination of African and Asian food cooked by the skilled local catering staff. You may also enjoy authentic South African braais in the evening whilst discussing the day's achievements with friends against the backdrop of the night sounds of the countless birds and animals nearby. At the weekend you are taken to Port Elizabeth where you will have to source your own food.

## **COSTS**

2 weeks	US\$ 1,395
Extra week	US\$ 595

## **DEPARTURE DATES**

Starts every Monday, please aim to arrive before 4pm on the Monday. You will be taken back to the airport on the subsequent Sunday and please do not book your return flight for any earlier than 1pm.

## **DURATION**

2 weeks +

This project is available throughout the Christmas period

## **WHAT'S INCLUDED**

### **Before you go**

- Pre-departure support
- Travel & medical advice & documentation
- Equipment advice
- Discounted medical kit
- Free Frontier t-shirt

### **In-country**

- Food (5 days/week)
- Accommodation
- Airport pick-up
- In-country transfers
- Local orientation & training
- In-country emergency support
- 24-hour international HQ back-up

## **AIRPORT INFORMATION**

Nearest airport(s): Port Elizabeth (PLZ)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Call us on 020 7613 2422 (UK) / 1 949 336 8178 (US)

Mail us on [info@frontier.ac.uk](mailto:info@frontier.ac.uk)

Check out our social media here:

*Project details were correct at the time this document was generated. Price, dates and other details are subject to change. Please see our website for current details for this project.*