

South Africa Safari Field Guide 6 Month Internship

In addition to the FGASA training you will also receive training in advanced rifle handling, hospitality management, 4x4 driving and the principles behind becoming an ethical safari guide.

Help to conserve some of Africa's most precious and fascinating wildlife in the spectacular surroundings of this exclusive game reserve on our South Africa Safari Field Guide Internship. Known as the Rainbow Nation, South Africa is blessed with some of the most dramatic scenery and charismatic wildlife on earth. The country welcomes millions of visitors a year attracted by its wide, sandy beaches, foaming surf, cosmopolitan cities, world famous national parks and game reserves and of course its monumental and dramatic natural landscapes including Cape Town's Table Mountain.

Learn how to survive in the South African wilderness by working with highly trained field staff and participating on bushwalks and game drives to spot elephants, zebra and countless other animals. You'll learn how to track and identify species whilst participating in a range of wilderness activities that will give you a fantastic insight into the world of a safari field guide. After a hard day of work, you can enjoy an evening spent listening to the dulcet sounds of bell frogs whilst relaxing around the camp fire.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Gain your FGASA accredited qualification
- Get acquainted with Africa's Big Five
- Make unforgettable memories and lifelong friends

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum age of 18 years

FAST FACTS

Location	South Africa
Activities	South Africa Safari Field Guide Internship 14 FGASA modules Off road vehicle training First aid training Rifle handling Hospitality Management training

	Ethical safari guide training Animal rehabilitation work Fence patrols Games capture (in season) Eradication of invasive plant species
Transport	Airport pick-up and transfer to the project site
Accommodation	Purpose-built dormitories

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

You will be working within the reserve five days a week from Monday to Friday. The game reserve is home to all of Africa's Big Five animals (the lion, the African elephant, the cape buffalo, the leopard and the rhinoceros) as well as many others, and you may get to help out with the reserve's animal rehabilitation work. Other work may include checking up on the lions and their cubs or feeding and cleaning the elephants in the onsite elephant sanctuary.

During your stay you will follow a fully accredited FGASA field guide training course led by qualified and experienced assessors. The FGASA field guide course is an entry level qualification involving a theoretical and a practical component. Your successful completion of this course will qualify you for a FGASA Level 1 certificate and First Aid Certificate.

The course objective is to train and qualify highly competent and skilled nature guides in all aspects of field guiding and to provide an experience for all participants to develop a greater appreciation of our natural environment and be able effectively to communicate that knowledge.

Your work will be hugely varied and may include such tasks as vegetation rehabilitation and the eradication of invasive plant species – invaluable for maintaining the local flora and fauna. Fence patrolling also needs to be carried out to check for wear and tear and to ensure the safety of the animals. Those joining in the month of February may get to assist with the annual game capture programme.

In addition to the FGASA training you will also receive training in advanced rifle handling, hospitality management, 4x4 driving and the principles involved in being an ethical safari guide. Throughout the duration of this six month internship you will be continually learning from the professionals around you and developing your own skills, preparing you for a career within safari guiding.

Within the reserve you can visit an historic English frontier town, noted for its contribution to the development of agriculture in South Africa and home to the oldest cricket grounds in the country, 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 flight from Cape Town international airport. Please ensure you arrive before 4pm on the project start date. From here, depending on what time you arrive, you will be collected by one of the project staff who will escort you on a tour of Port Elizabeth to help you acclimatise and to give you an idea of the leisure activities available for you to enjoy on your weekend excursions. You will then be transported to the project location, 85km from Port Elizabeth.

WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?

The project operates within an exclusive game reserve of 6,000 hectares. You will be living in one of two newly built, clean and comfortable, single sex, 16 bed dormitories. The reserve offers a fantastic array of leisure facilities including a swimming pool, TV, tennis court, barbecue and kitchen area and internet access. 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.

WHAT WILL I BE EATING?

You will enjoy a delicious combination of African and Asian food cooked by the skilled local catering staff. You may also enjoy authentic South African braais (BBQ's) in the evening whilst discussing the day's events with friends whilst listening to the night sounds made by the countless birds and animals nearby. Please note that food will not be included at weekends when you are not taking part on the course.

COSTS

6 months	US\$ 11,745
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DEPARTURE DATES

2019 start dates:

21 January 2019

25 March 2019

3 June 2019

5 August 2019

7 October 2019

This project is available throughout the Christmas period

DURATION

6 months. Longer placements may be possible, please speak to one of our travel advisors.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Before you go

- Pre-departure support
- Dedicated personal travel adviser
- 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 and project training
- FGASA accredited field guide training
- Course materials
- Registration costs and examination fees
- 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

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.