



PRE- DEPARTURE INFORMATION PACK

Sparsholt College



Shamwari

Conservation Field Trip

AFRICA

GLOBAL reach. ADVENTURE for all. PROJECTS to inspire.

Arriving in South Africa

Upon arrival at Johannesburg International Airport (OR Tambo), you must collect your bags and clear immigration and customs.

Make your way to the Domestic Terminal, Terminal B, for your onward flight to East London.

On arrival at East London Airport, you will be met by a representative from Imonti Tours to transfer you to Shamwari Game Reserve, the transfer will take 2.5 – 3 hours.

If for any reason you cannot locate the representative, please call Imonti Tours on +27 (0) 83 487 8975.



CONTACT DETAILS

AFRICA

Address

Shamwari Private Game Reserve
PO Box 93
Paterson, Eastern Cape 6130
South Africa

Shamwari Landline

Telephone: +27 (0) 42 235 1121
Reception: +27 (0) 42 203 1183
Emergency: +27 (0) 42 203 1187/1283
(Out of hours and Weekends)

Mobile

+27(0) 78 1074 1433
Cindy Stadler (Project Manager)

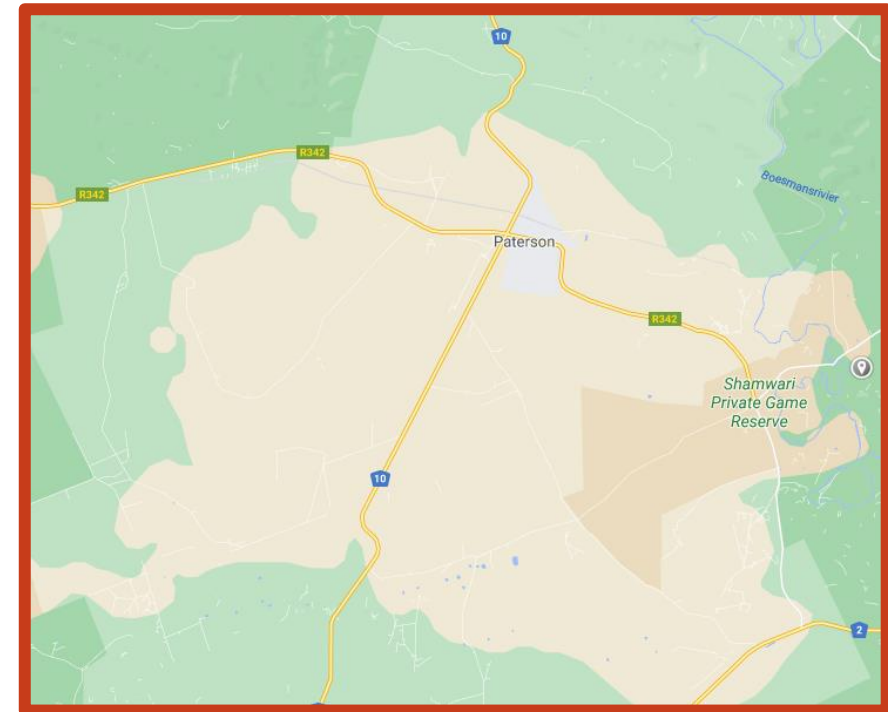
Gap Africa Projects

+44 (0) 797 657 5949

24 Hour Emergency Only

Gap Africa Projects In Country contact:

+27 (0) 79 313 2276 Carmen Warmenhove



Climate

Summer (November – April)

Expect intense heat in the daytime with occasional thunderstorms in the afternoon. Vegetation is dense and lush due to the summer rains and the bush teems with new born animals. A very good time for bird watching.

Autumn

At the end of the summer rains the water holes are full, temperatures begin to drop at night and the vegetations starts to change colour

Winter (May – October)

During winter the temperatures are pleasant during the day but cold at night. Visibility in the bush is very good making winter and excellent time for game viewing.

Spring

The bush changes to lively green vegetation and temperatures are pleasant

Currency, Credit Cards, Phones & Internet

The currency for South Africa is the South African Rand (ZAR). Foreign exchange may be arranged at the airport or in major centres. It is not recommended that travellers carry large sums of cash, keep a reasonable amount on hand and primarily use credit cards.

All major credit cards are widely accepted.

Mobile phone coverage is good at the accommodation, although there may be some areas on the reserve where there isn't any coverage.

WiFi vouchers can be purchased to make use of the wireless network service. Internet speeds are not up to international urban standards but are effective for communication.

Tipping

Whilst there is no obligation, it is a nice gesture to show your appreciation for the rangers and housekeeping staff by leaving a small tip/donation for the staff at the reserve when you leave; any amount is always appreciated.

Health Risks

Immunisation:

When entering South Africa, no international immunisation is required, however, a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers if they enter South Africa within 6 days of leaving an infected country.

Our advice: Visit your local (travel) doctor to get up-to-date information about requirements when travelling.

DTP inoculation (diphtheria, tetanus and polio) is essential.

Please visit the following web page for advice from the UK Foreign Office:

<https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/country/201/south-africa>

Drinking Water:

Drinking water is available at the project (filtered rainwater); always make sure you keep hydrated.

HIV/Aids in South Africa:

As in other countries, HIV/Aids is a serious concern in South Africa and one you must be aware of. You should always be careful when dealing with an injured person to avoid the risk of infection. Always take necessary precautions and avoid sexual contact.

Sun:

South Africa has a warm sunny climate, you should wear sunscreen and a hat whenever you are out of doors during the day, particularly between 10am and 4 pm – regardless of whether there is cloud cover or not. Whatever your complexion you can still get sunburned if you are from a cooler climate. Sunglasses are also recommended as the glare of the African sun can be very strong.

Malaria:

The Eastern Cape Province is malaria and bilharzia free.

<http://www.sa-venues.com/malaria-risk-areas.htm>

Insurance

Personal travel insurance is compulsory. Travel insurance does not need to be expensive and there are many good deals available for backpackers etc. Always be sure to check the insurance details to make sure you are covered for Covid 19, theft, loss, illness and injury. Check to see if your medical benefits are paid out as they incur or on your return home.

Please follow this link to our preferred insurer:



<https://www.true traveller.com/backpackers-insurance?tag=4480>

You should select 'Adventure Pack' as this will cover you for the type of activities you will undertake during your trip. For other providers you need to ensure you are covered for 'Light Manual Work'.

Covid 19 Requirements

South Africa does not currently have any Covid 19 requirements in place for entering the country if you would like to check on up to date information, please see the link below:

[South Africa Covid Regulations](#)

For up to date information on returning to the UK after travelling abroad please click on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/uk-border-control>

Passport Requirements

It can take many weeks to obtain a passport – remember to start this process in plenty of time.

Your passport needs to be valid for at least 30 days beyond your intended exit date and have at least two blank pages. You can check requirements by using the IATA Travel Centre site.

www.iatatravelcentre.com

Visa Requirements

A visa is not required for British Passport holders, all other nationalities should check the requirements via the website below, if required a visa can be obtained from the South African High Commission.

<http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries>

Stay safe overseas – KBYG

The better prepared you are when you travel abroad the safer you will be. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office offers 'Know Before You Go' travel advice, including simple precautions you can take before and during your trip.

To find out more, check out their website:

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/travel-abroad>

Suggested kit list

- Short and long sleeve T shirts *
- Long work trousers and shorts *
(Or work trousers with zip-off longs)
- Hiking Boots/comfortable walking shoes to work in every day
- Rain jacket
- Sweatshirt/Fleece (Winter months pack plenty)
- Padded parka jacket/windbreaker - warm
(it can get very cold on an open vehicle - even on a summer evening)
- Daypack rucksack
- Sleeping Bag - for sleep out / camping in summer months
(extra warmth in winter)
- Socks
- Warm Hat (winter only) /Hat for sun protection (all year round)
- Working gloves
- Gloves for warmth (winter only)
- Water bottle (filtered rainwater provided at the lodge)

* All work clothes should be neutral or earth tones for working in the bush. No skimpy or bright coloured clothing to be worn.

- Changes of casual clothes for evenings
- Underwear
- Sandals / comfy shoes to wear after work hours
- Beach towel
- Swimming costume
- Toiletries
- Tick / insect repellent

Other useful items:

- Binoculars
- Good torch
- Camera
- Spare batteries
- Sunglasses
- Personal medical items/First Aid kit
- Cards/music
- Sunscreen
- Mammal/bird book
- Notebook/diary and pen

ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

AFRICA

Shamwari

You will be accommodated in a purpose built lodge located on the reserve. Rooms are shared with ensuite bathrooms.

There is a communal area with lounge, bar and dining area as well as a small lecture room.

The lodge grounds offer a swimming pool, large garden area and boma; enjoy sitting around the fire in the evening.

Internet access is available although speeds are not as good as in the UK.



ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

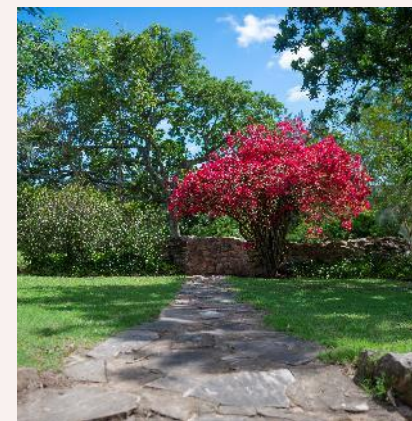
AFRICA

Shamwari

Three meals are provided daily. Meals will either be taken at the accommodation or as a pre-packed serving, depending on planned or as a result of unscheduled activities.

There is a laundry service once a week.

Most evenings and weekends are spent at leisure. There is the opportunity to experience additional activities during the weekends and visit attractions nearby or you can just relax at the reserve and enjoy the sights and sounds of Africa.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

AFRICA

What is included?

- Flights
- Transfers to/from project
- Accommodation
- Three meals per day
- All activities as part of the project
- ATOL protection
- Airport meet/greet
- 24/7 In country support



NOT Included

- Personal Travel Insurance *
- Meals on travel days – before arriving & after departing from project
- Any activities not specified as part of the project
- Weekend activities
- Visa's/travel documents
- Tips

* We recommend you take out as soon as your booking is confirmed



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