



# South Eastern Regional College PROJECT INFORMATION PACK



## Sibuya Conservation Experience

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# TRIP OVERVIEW

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## South Eastern Regional College – Reference 4510

### Trip Dates:

26<sup>th</sup> May – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### Flight details:

Flight No	Flight Date	Dept.	Dept. Time	Arr.	Arr. Time
BA1413	26/05/2024	Belfast (BHD)	13:30	London Heathrow (LHR)	14:55
BA55	26/05/2024	London Heathrow (LHR)	19:05	Johannesburg (JNB)	07:05 + 1 Day
TBC	27/05/2024	Johannesburg (JNB)	TBC	Port Elizabeth (PLZ)	TBC
TBC	10/06/2024	Port Elizabeth (PLZ)	TBC	Johannesburg (JNB)	TBC
BA56	10/06/2024	Johannesburg (JNB)	19:20	London Heathrow (LHR)	05:30 + 1 Day
BA1420	11/06/2024	London Heathrow (LHR)	09:25	Belfast (BHD)	10:50

### Project:

Sibuya Conservation Experience

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# **ABOUT THE PROJECT**

Our conservation work  
in more detail

# ABOUT SIBUYA GAME RESERVE

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## Sibuya Game Reserve

Sibuya is a Malaria-free Eco destination, on the Eastern Cape's Sunshine Coast, between Port Elizabeth and East London.

Sibuya Game Reserve incorporates the unique East Cape Valley Bushveld, Grasslands and Coastal Forests. Antelope abound, including the rare Bontebok and Oribi. Elephants, giraffe and plains zebra silhouetted against an Indian Ocean backdrop complete a truly memorable picture.

The ancient floodplains and pristine coastal forest host an abundance of wildlife: nearly 400 bird species and 45 species of recorded wildlife including the "Big Five". The lush vegetation ensures a high density of animals and special game-viewing experiences are guaranteed.



# YOUR PROJECT

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The **Sibuya Wilderness Experience** offers students and participants the unique and exciting opportunity to get hands-on experience in the conservation efforts of Sibuya Game Reserve.

The team of passionate conservationists work tirelessly to save endangered and threatened terrestrial and marine wildlife from extinction.

Students will take part in short and long-term projects which are intended to create sustainability for generations to come. Tasks may vary from physical work to interesting and interactive lecture-based content.

The newly launched Programme focuses on an impactful rescue and anti-poaching scope for wildlife and a strong marine conservation aim. By exposing participants to the conservation work and nurturing in them a hands-on mentality, the team believe they can make a difference.

Conservation does not stop at conserving nature alone but includes a responsibility to uplift local and impoverished communities. This responsibility includes environmental education of the community as to its role in and the benefits of conserving biodiversity and further stresses the importance of conserving natural resources.



## Your Conservation Programme

- **Lion monitoring**
- **Elephant monitoring**
- **Rhino monitoring**
- **Ocean Research Institute fish tagging**
- **Fencing and Alien Plant clearing**
- **Community Outreach**
- **Coastal Dunes and Rocky Shores**
- **Kayak Expedition 15km**
- **Pitfall trap insect collection and Identification**
- **Starry Night Constellation Observation**
- **SANCOBB visit**

## Presentations and Talks on:

- **Lion Conservation**
- **Elephant Ecology**
- **Rhino Conservation**
- **Ornithology (Birds)**

## Conservation Programme – The Bush

There is so much opportunity in this newly established and expanding reserve. They are in the process of incorporating more land, and 'rewilding' needs to take place, so students are exposed to unique hands-on conservation and monitoring.

**Key species monitoring:** This involves locating the ecologically significant terrestrial species (**elephant, white rhino, lion**), identifying individuals using identikits and then monitoring their behaviour.

**Reserve maintenance:** fence and road maintenance as well as alien plant removal are important tasks on the reserve where students will have a chance to be physical and get their hands dirty.

**Insect surveys:** Pitfall traps are wonderful tools to collect data on insects, reptiles and anything else crawling along the ground. From digging the holes to finding the specimens and identifying them – students will be part of this exciting research.





## Conservation Programme – Ocean and Estuary

The unique aspect of this reserve is that it is accessible by boat along the Kariega River and incorporates the river, estuary and ocean – all important contributions to Sibuya’s biodiversity and for which the team have a great responsibility to conserve.

**Fish Tagging** – Students have the wonderful opportunity to contribute to a National fish tagging project. They will learn how to safely catch, tag, record data, and release the sensitive estuarine fish species.

**Rocky shores and coastal dunes** – Learn about and monitor the coastal marine environment’s biodiversity which includes the largest dunes in the southern hemisphere!

**Outreach Project** – This takes place with the coastal village’s community and an important aspect is the beach and riverside clean-up.



# ABOUT THE PROJECT

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## Ocean Research Institute Fish Tagging



ANY QUESTIONS?

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# ABOUT THE PROJECT

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## Community Engagement Days



ANY QUESTIONS?

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# ABOUT THE PROJECT

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## River Activities



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# YOUR PROJECT

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## Sample Itinerary

### Week 1

Day 1: Arrival and settling into accommodation

Day 2: Welcome presentation, elephant monitoring, elephant conservation talk, camera trap set up

Day 3: Rhino conservation talk, rhino monitoring

Day 4: Fence management, alien plant removal

Day 5: Bird count, ornithology presentation

Day 6: Community outreach (delivering dog food), town trip

Day 7-8: Leisure time/adventure activities

### Week 2:

Day 9: Lion conservation presentation, lion monitoring, buffalo management

Day 10-11: Alexandria Dune Trail, rocky shore practical

Day 12: Fish Tagging, Boat cruise

Day 13: Wildlife monitoring drive and picnic

Day 14: Camera trap collections and farewell dinner

Day 15: Team breakfast and depart





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# **ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE**

Life in the African Bush

# ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

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## Sibuya – River Camp

Together with the team, the group will be accommodated and hosted at the beautiful River Camp.

Participants will share comfortable four bedded safari tents with en-suite bathrooms, including full board (3 meals a day).



ANY QUESTIONS?

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# ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE



## Life on the Reserve



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# **USEFUL INFORMATION**

Inclusions/Exclusions &  
Recommended Kit List

# WHAT'S INCLUDED

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## 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 & lunch during transfer to St. Lucia
- Any activities not specified as part of the project
- Visa's/travel documents
- Tips

\* We recommend that you take out personal travel insurance as soon as your booking is confirmed.



## 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

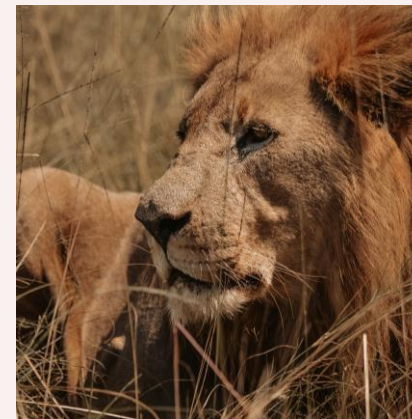
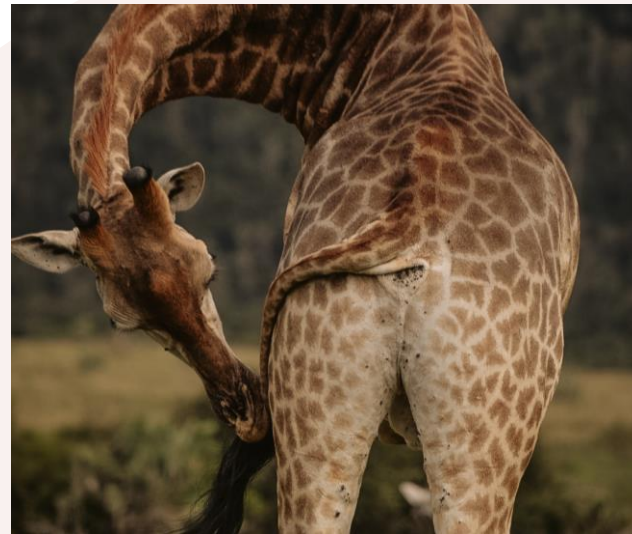
### Other useful items:

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

# PHOTO GALLERY



## Sibuya Wilderness Experience



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