



UNIVERSITY OF READING PROJECT PRESENTATION



KwaZulu-Natal Conservation Research

AFRICA

GLOBAL reach. **ADVENTURE** for all. **PROJECTS** to inspire.



AFRICA

KWAZULU-NATAL PROJECT OVERVIEW

Overview and location
of the project



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Your Conservation Field Trip Explained

- A unique academic conservation experience based in South Africa
- Live and work in the wild of Africa
- The opportunity to experience hands on wildlife conservation
- Bespoke, tailor made projects to suit research requirements
- Project Activities include:
 - Pioneering Conservation Research
 - Conservation Activities
 - Cultural Enrichment
 - Wildlife, Livestock and Domestic Community Work
- Full 13 nights in South Africa
- The most incredible wildlife experience you will ever have

ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife & Veterinary Project

Our academic team and qualified rangers at the KwaZulu-Natal Conservation Research Project offer a bespoke course to each institution dependent on their own personal objectives and learning needs.

We set out the basis of the trip, comprising of a 12-day academic module split between the two conservation reserves.

This is not a Safari Holiday!

A full day will be planned but will vary from day to day depending on the days task and research goals.

The project split and duration are as follows:

13 Night Itinerary

7 Nights

Nambiti Big 5 Conservation Research

6 Nights

Zingela Wilderness Conservation



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

KwaZulu-Natal Conservation Research – Location



PROJECT OVERVIEW

AFRICA

KwaZulu-Natal Conservation Research Project- Location

- South Africa a world leader in conservation
- Malaria free KwaZulu Natal





AFRICA

7 Nights at Nambiti Game Reserve

A Big Five Game Reserve

ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Nambiti Game Reserve

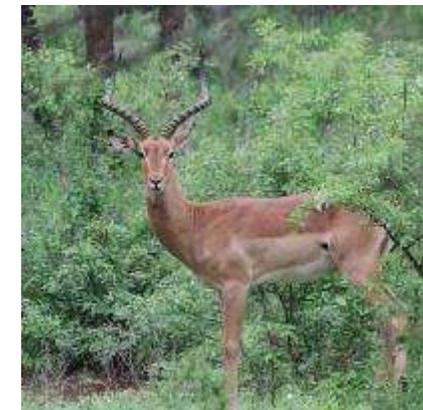
Nambiti Game Reserve is a magnificent 23,000 acres of unspoiled wilderness boasting the Big 5 and incredible biodiversity (grasslands, riverine bush, savannah and thornveld) offering unprecedented diversity of wildlife.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Home to over 40 Species of Mammal



ANY QUESTIONS?

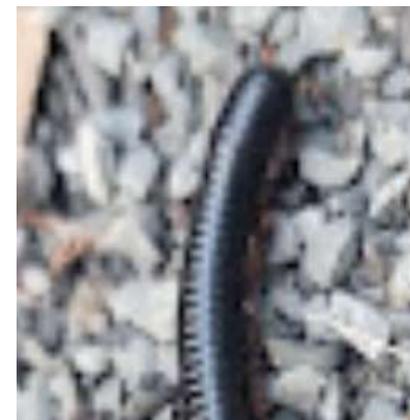
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ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Many Reptile, Insect and Bird Species



ANY QUESTIONS?

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YOUR PROJECT

AFRICA

Your Conservation Programme – Nambiti

Students will be taught and work alongside the field guides and conservation team. The following examples depict the day-to-day activities that may be undertaken as part of the project at Nambiti.

- Alien Vegetation Control & Reserve Maintenance
- Use of Telemetry Tracking
- Elephant Monitoring / Population Study
- Rhino Monitoring – Awareness
- Anti-poaching talk and fence walk
- Camera Trapping
- Night Drive
- Big Five Bush Walk
- Habitat and Prey Selection of Predators
- Tracks, Signs and Spoor
- Community Development



NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

AFRICA

Nambiti Research Team



ANY QUESTIONS?

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NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

AFRICA

Use of Telemetry Tracking



ANY QUESTIONS?

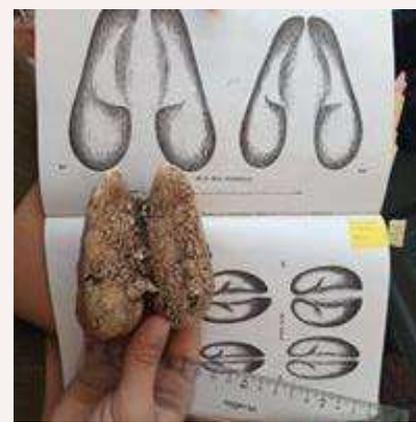
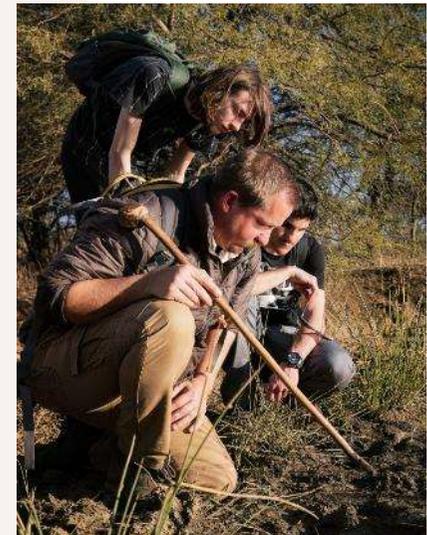
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NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

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Ecology Trails: Tracks, signs and spoor



ANY QUESTIONS?

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NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

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Big Five Bush Walk



ANY QUESTIONS?

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Research – Habitat and Prey Selection: Predators

Focus on Lion and Cheetah populations:

GPS coordinates from tracking collars

Can be used for movement/spatial/home range analysis



Wildlife Monitoring – Elephant Impact Assessment

Research into impact of elephant on the eco system:

Matriarch collared so GPS range data available

Herd population data

Elephant impact assessments from February '23

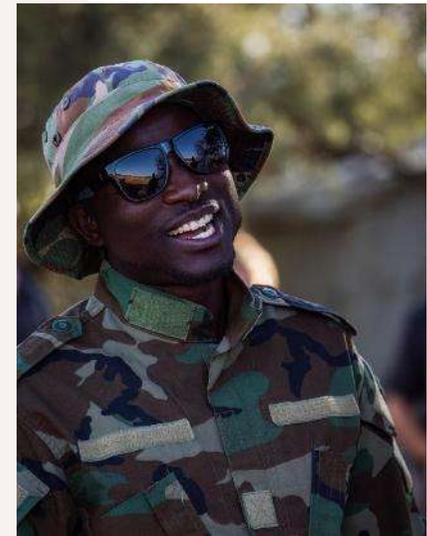
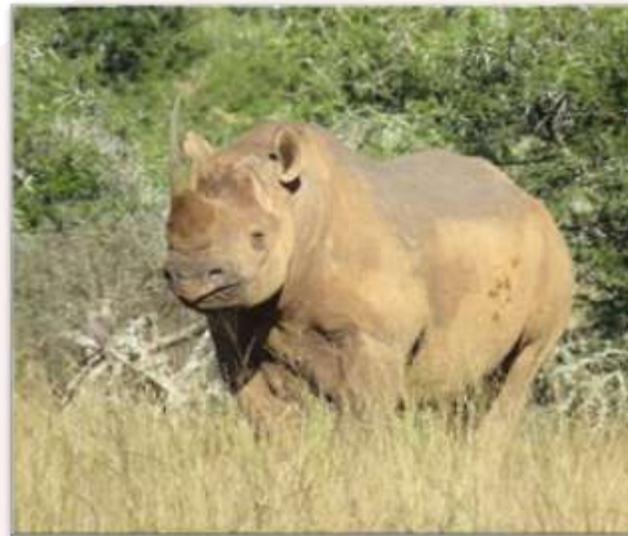
Long term ongoing project looking at elephant impact on vegetation



NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

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Rhino Monitoring – Awareness and Anti-Poaching



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Camera Trap – Research and Study

Set out own camera traps

Learn about correct placement, best location etc

Never know what we'll find!



NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

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Night Game Drives



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NAMBITI GAME RESERVE

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Community Projects & Zulu Culture

Learn about traditional Zulu culture

Community engagement essential for longterm conservation

Positive impact supporting not for profit initiatives

Projects: Move Africa, Jabong Hats & Rhino Art



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Community – GAP Donation Bags



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6 Nights at Zingela Nature Reserve

River Research and Adventure



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Zingela River Safari

Zingela Wildlife Reserve covers 12,500 acres of predator free, pristine African bushveld. You will have the opportunity to be involved with the research that takes place at the property;. You will also have the chance to participate in a host of activities during your stay.



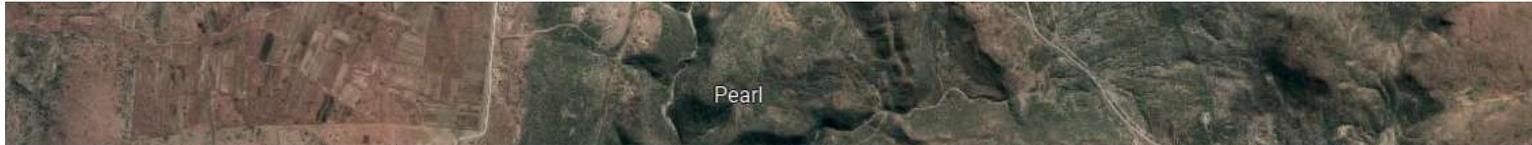
ANY QUESTIONS?

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NAMBITI TO ZINGELA

AFRICA



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Your Conservation Programme – Zingela

Students will be taught and work alongside the field guides and scientific team. The following examples depict the day-to-day activities that may be undertaken as part of the project at Zingela Reserve.

- Spatial Distribution and Habitat use of species
- Use of Telemetry Tracking
- Giraffe migration and Conservation Project
- Reptile pit fall traps
- Freshwater Ecology
- Mini SASS
- Fish Tagging
- Educational Bush Walks – Ecology & Botany
- Tracks, Signs and Spoor
- Community Development
- Camera Trapping and data processing



Potjie Cooking Competition

A traditional South African experience, the Potjie competition involves cooking a stew in three-legged pots over an open fire..

The winning dish, judged by our expert cooks, will be served for dinner, allowing everyone to enjoy the fruits of their labor.



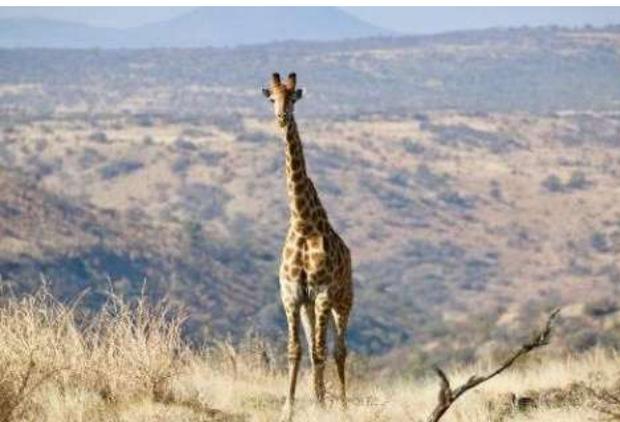
Giraffe Migration and Research Project

Population data and database for individuals

Migration and range data through unfenced territories

Diet and vegetation impact assessment

Genetic diversity



River Assessments –

Fresh water eel project –
understanding life cycle using GPS
data

Fish tagging and release

Collecting biometric data

SASS – South African Scoring System



Reptile Research and Trapping

Data collection started in 2022 with annual projects planned

Species frequency

Herpetofauna succession during vegetation rehabilitation

Comparing herpetological diversity



ZINGELA WILDERNESS RESERVE

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Educational Bush Walks – Ecology and Botany



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Animal Welfare Outreach Program

Participants will join the camp's in-house veterinarian to assist local Zulu farmers in caring for their livestock, primarily goats, but also including dogs, cats, sheep, and cattle, depending on the participants' qualifications and experience.

Vaccinating and Caring for Local Farmers' Goats

Working with Various Animals at the Homestead

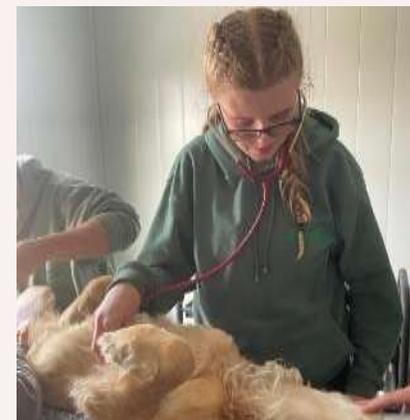
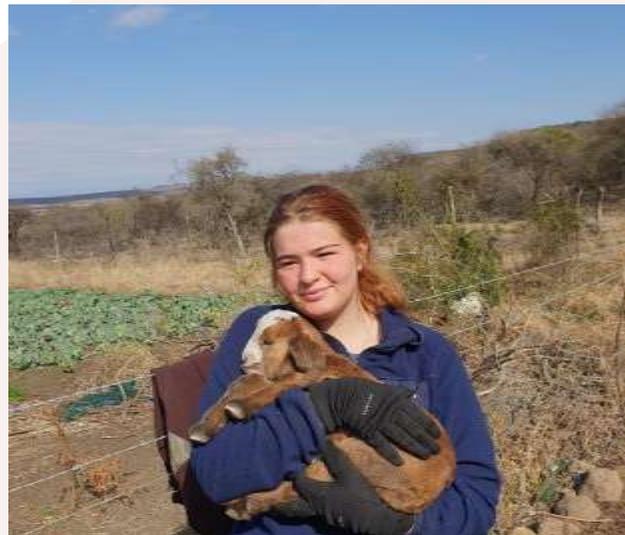
Animal Welfare Education at Local Schools



YOUR PROJECT

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Animal Welfare Outreach Program



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Presentation 33

ZINGELA WILDERNESS RESERVE

AFRICA

River Safari – Rafting and Kayaking



ANY QUESTIONS?

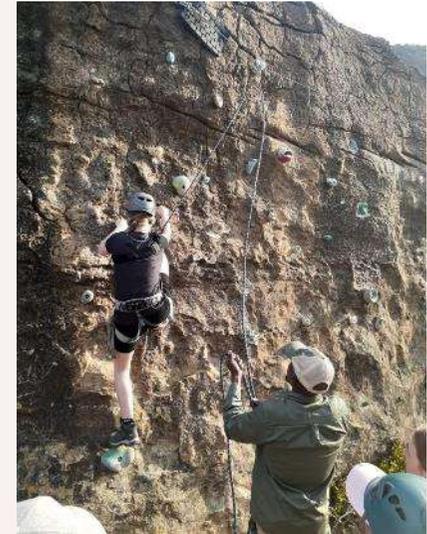
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ZINGELA WILDERNESS RESERVE

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Abseiling and Rock Climbing



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ONLINE NATURE GUIDE COURSE

Bushwise

ONLINE NATURE GUIDE COURSE

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Exclusive Bushwise Nature Guide Course

Bushwise is a leading nature guide training provider, and we've partnered with them to offer an exclusive 6-week 'Explore Nature' online course – giving you a real-life insight into the training of a South African Nature Guide.

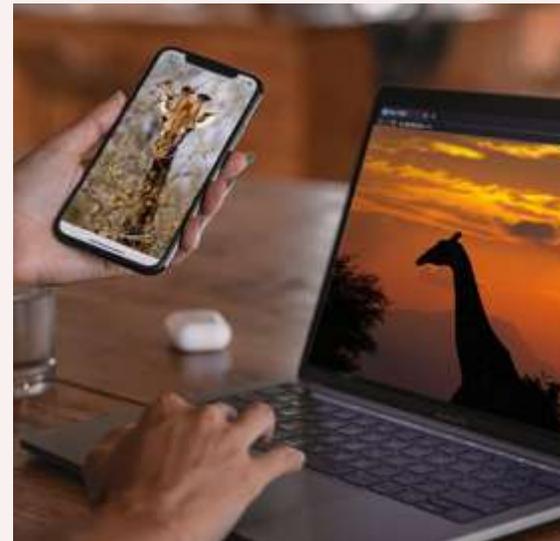
Connect with the South African bush before you even travel!

Modules include Introduction, Geology, Weather & climate, Astronomy, Ecology, Biomes, Taxonomy, Plants, Arthropods, Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals, Ethology, Conservation management, Historical human habitation.

Your wildlife journey starts here! Build a strong foundation in field guiding, wildlife, and ecology, so that you're fully prepared for the hands-on experience in South Africa.



Course Start Dates:
5 January 2026
30 March 2026
22 June 2026
14 September 2026





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ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

Life in the African Bush

ACCOMMODATION

AFRICA

Game Reserve Camps - Nambiti

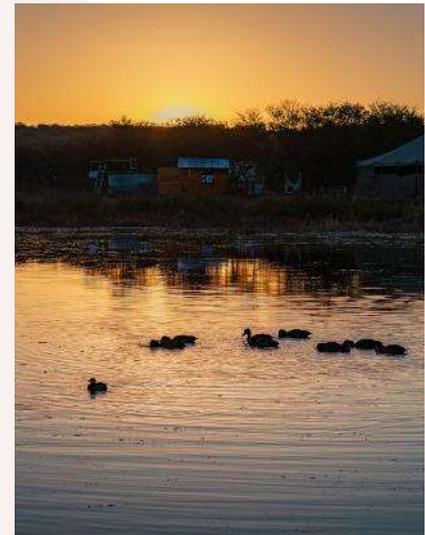
In keeping with the Safari Adventure theme, groups are accommodated on the reserve in comfortable safari tents, with communal hot and cold showers and regular flushing toilets. All meals are provided in a communal dining room.



ACCOMMODATION

AFRICA

Game Reserve Camps - Nambiti



ANY QUESTIONS?

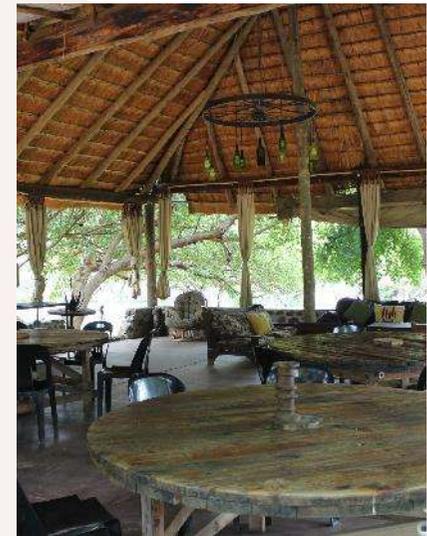
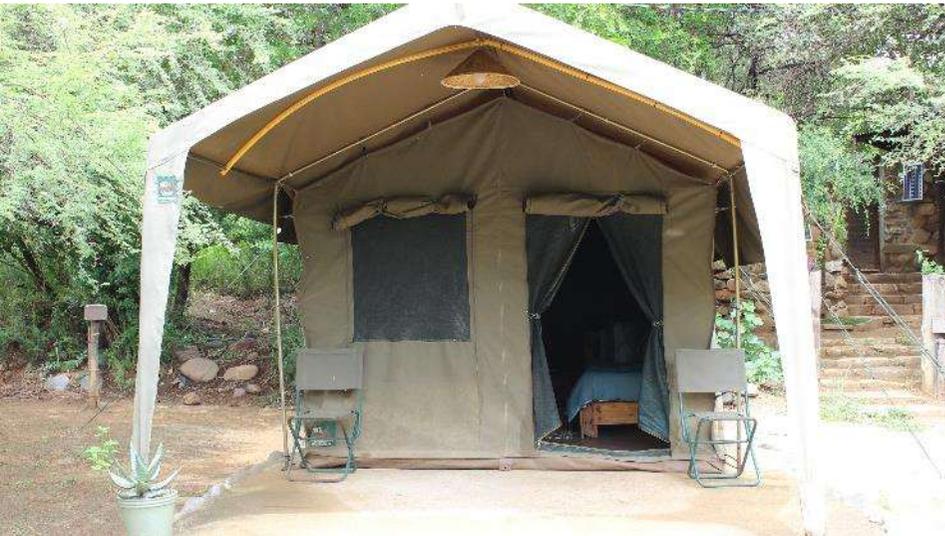
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ACCOMMODATION

AFRICA

Game Reserve Camps - Zingela



ANY QUESTIONS?

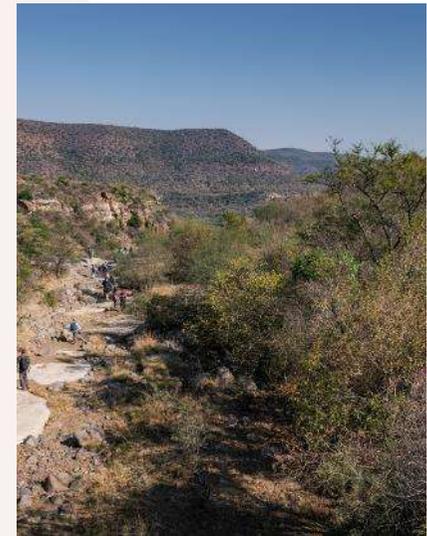
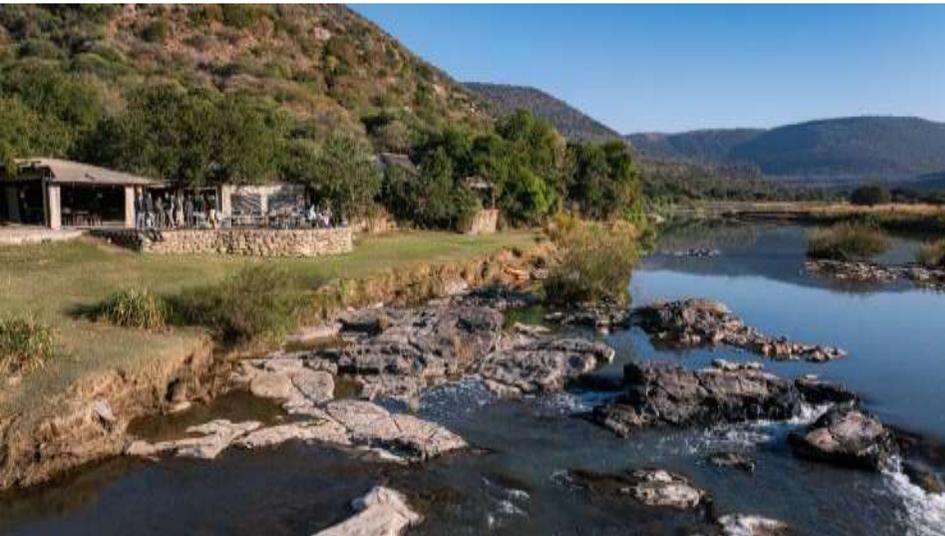
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ACCOMMODATION

AFRICA

Game Reserve Camps - Zingela



ANY QUESTIONS?

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ACCOMMODATION

AFRICA

Food at the Project

Three meals are provided a day prepared by the kitchen staff.

Breakfasts will consist of toast and cereals; lunch may include pasta, wraps, burgers, stir fry; dinners include meat, fish and vegetables with rice, potatoes or pasta.

On weekends a braai (BBQ) is often organised.

Dietary Requirements

Provision can be made for Vegetarian & Vegan diets and for those who have a medical condition such as Coeliac disease that requires a Gluten Free Diet and for those with severe allergies to dairy, eggs or nuts.



ACCOMMODATION

AFRICA

Food at the project



ANY QUESTIONS?

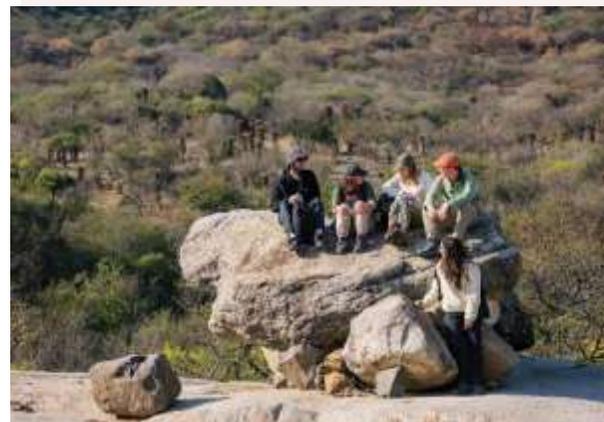
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ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

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Life on project – Life long memories



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Presentation 45

ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

AFRICA

Life on project – Life long memories



ANY QUESTIONS?

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Presentation 46

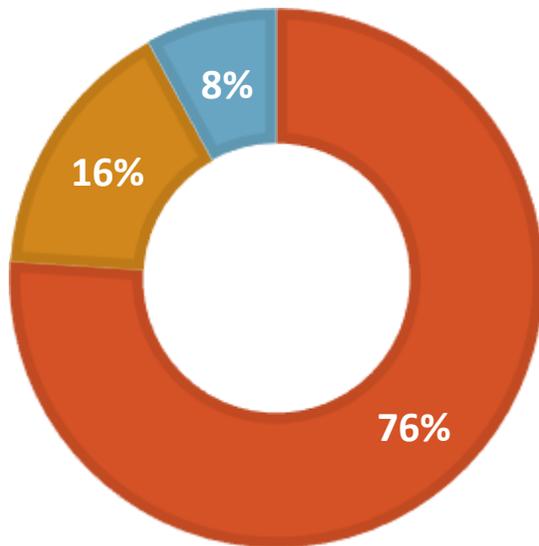
WHY SHOULD I TRAVEL?

AFRICA

Personal Development

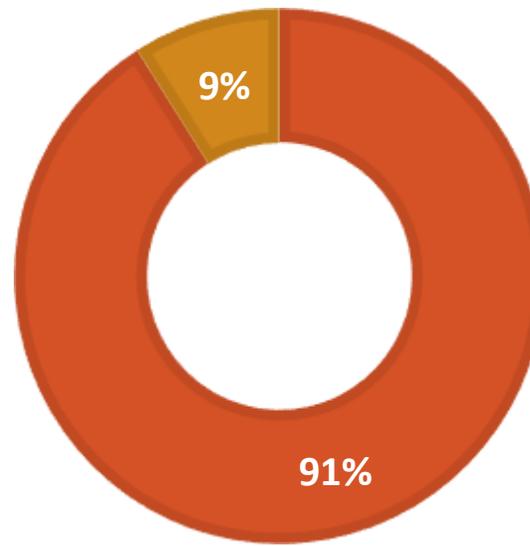
MENTAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

■ Yes ■ No ■ NA



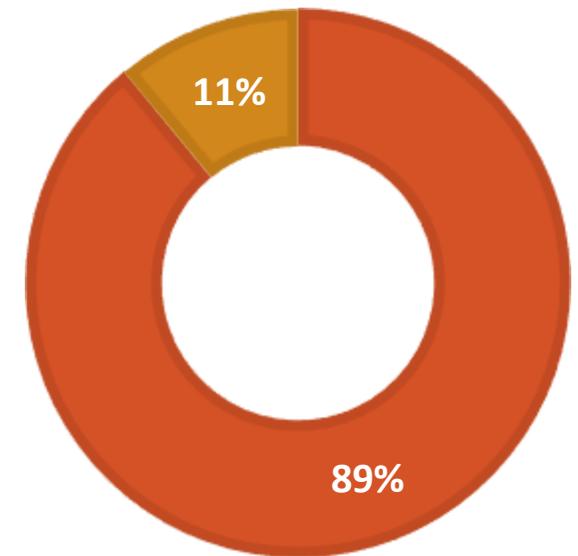
CONFIDENCE IMPROVEMENT

■ Yes ■ No



RESILIENCE IMPROVEMENT

■ Yes ■ No

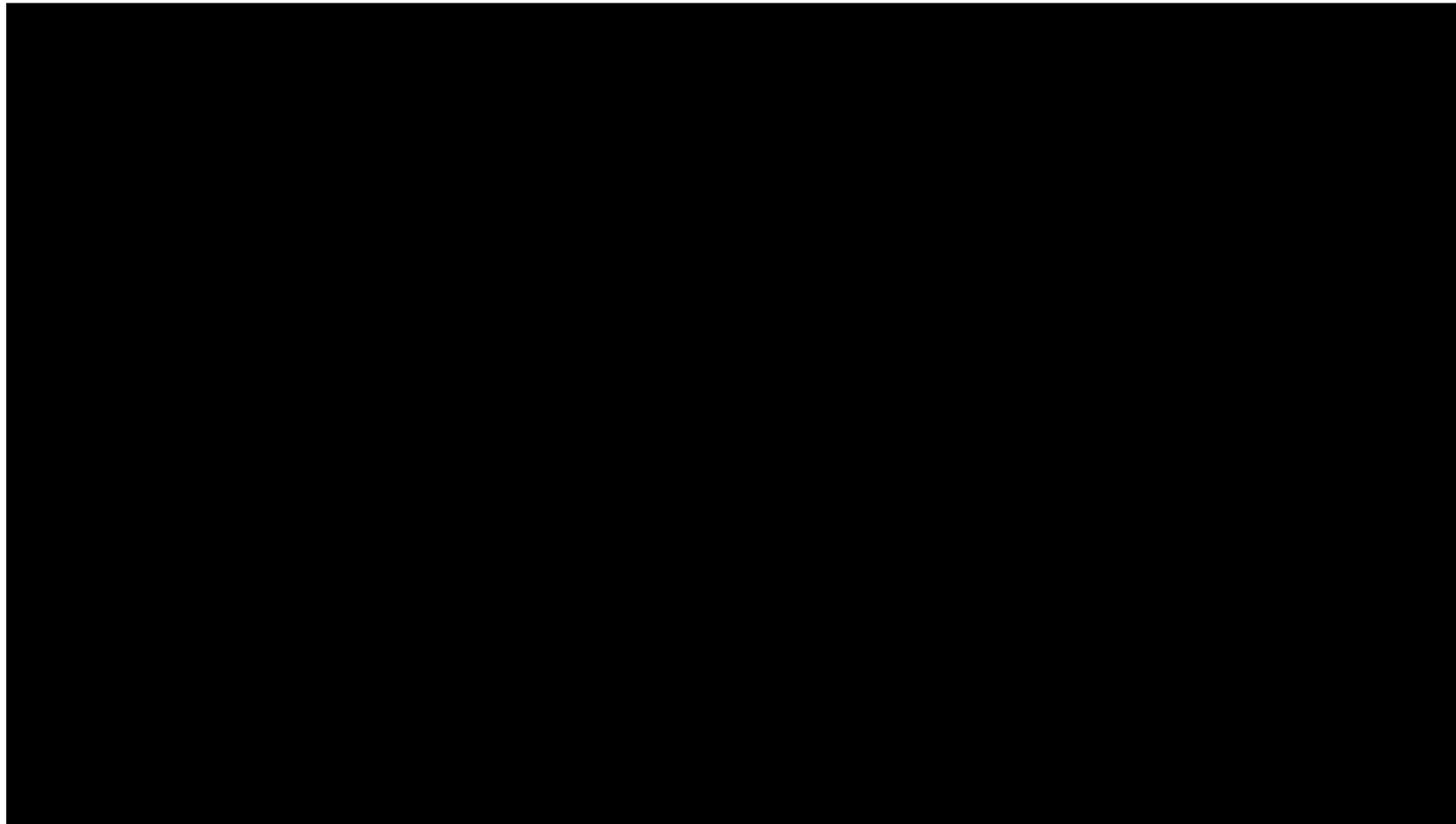


Reference: GAP Africa Projects Post Project Trip Questionnaire 23/24

ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

KwaZulu-Natal Conservation Research Video





AFRICA

THE NEXT STEPS TO YOUR FIELD TRIP

The next steps to the trip of a
lifetime!



THE NEXT STEPS

AFRICA



Project dates & key deadlines

Confirmed trip dates:

Depart UK: 14th June 2026 | Arrive SA: 15th June 2026

Depart SA: 28th June 2026 | Arrive UK: 29th June 2026

Trip cost:

Estimated £2,569.00 Based on a minimum group of 18 (confirmed once flights have been held)

Key deadlines are:

- Deposit payment, £300.00
- 50% instalment payment to be paid 16 weeks before
- Balance payment to be paid by 8 weeks before
- 2 weeks before departure e-Tickets & final documents will be issued

WHAT'S INCLUDED

AFRICA

What is included?

- Flights
- Transfers to/from project
- Accommodation
- Three meals per day
- All activities as part of the project
- 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
- Visas/travel documents

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

THE NEXT STEPS

AFRICA

Confirmation Documents

Confirmation documents will be issued and sent directly to you via email.

Please communicate with us with any questions relating to the field trip.



Dear Chloe,

Thank you for agreeing to book with Gap Africa Projects as part of the 6x hotel Chicago trip to Zulu and Conservation Research. Please take the time to look through this document and check that everything is correct.

We have received your deposit payment and your payment is now confirmed upon the details below. The final balance and due date is detailed on your invoice.

Please remember that you can contact me to discuss anything in this document as well as any other aspect of your reservation and I am so glad to be your personal travel advisor for the entirety of your placement.

Warm regards,
The GAP Africa Team

Passengers Travelling
Miss Chloe
Placement(s)
Zulu Land Conservation Research (04/03/23 - 18/03/23)

Inclusions
Flights, shared road transfers to and from Project, accommodation for duration, all meals and all project activities.

Exclusions
Insurance: any activities undertaken that are not included as part of the project.

Your Flight(s)

Flight	Class	Depart	Arrive	From	To
04/03/2023	D	15:00		Manchester (MAN)	
04/1209	A	18:00		London Heathrow (LHR)	
05/03/2023	D	18:20		London Heathrow (LHR)	
0405	A	20:25 + 1 D		Johannesburg (JNB)	
18/03/2023	D	20:15		Johannesburg (JNB)	
0405	A	10:50 + 1 D		London Heathrow (LHR)	
19/03/2023	D	09:35		London Heathrow (LHR)	
041300	A	19:40		Manchester (MAN)	

Your Booking
Travel Advice
Names and spellings
Passport expiry date
Passport Copies
Travel Insurance

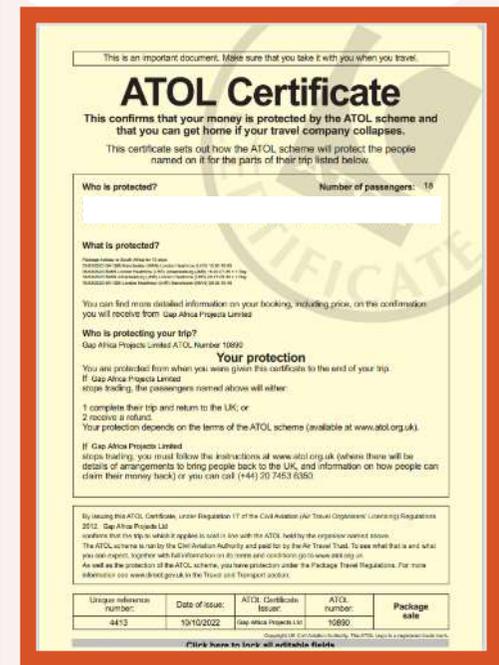
mark.booth@gap-africa-projects.com

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CONFIRMATION INVOICE

Gap Africa Projects
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What is protected?

Who is protecting your trip?
Gap Africa Projects Limited ATOL Number 10890

Your protection
You are protected from when you were given this certificate to the end of your trip.
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1 complete their trip and return to the UK, or
2 receive a refund.
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4413	19/10/2022	Gap Africa Projects Ltd	10890	

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Sustainability & Social, Economic Responsibility

Local employment from rural communities – our project partners employ a high percentage of staff from local communities. They advocate training to advance careers in hospitality, wildlife and conservation.

Low environmental impact camps – our project bush camps are built with minimal impact on the environment. Resources from the surrounding area are utilised for buildings, water is (where possible) pumped from local river sources and green energy supplies, such as solar are championed.

Community donations and support – we encourage all our international study groups to be proactive in donation collections and arrange for excess baggage for said donations to be taken out to South Africa in support of the local communities.

Move Africa, supporting young females – 3 in 10 girls in South Africa miss a week of school every month because they cannot afford basic sanitary products. Our project partners work with Move Africa alongside their partner NGOs, to distribute menstrual cups to the local communities and provide education workshops.

Rhino Art – Project rhino realises the enormous responsibility the youth have to ensure our wildlife is protected for many generations to come. They ensure they can reach and educate as many kids as possible through Rhino Art, using art workshops to teach about conservation. This initiative is supported by our local project partners.

Food/crop education – our project partners encourage food and crop education to rural communities, where cost of living to low income families and distance travelled to obtain basic resources can prove problematic. Projects include community allotments and providing education on best practice for crop rotations, harvest seasons and nutrition.

Recycling workshops – Litter, and in particular plastics, is a major issue and threat to the ecosystem in Southern Africa. Rural communities have limited waste removal available and it is therefore a problem escalating at an alarming rate. Recycling workshops are provided through local schools to help educate children on the importance of correctly disposing of litter and recycling plastics.



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