



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships
and Cultural Courses Abroad

SOUTH AFRICA



VETERINARY, WILDLIFE GAME CAPTURE AND CONSERVATION IN LIMPOPO IN SOUTH AFRICA

You'll learn a great deal about African wildlife and work with the local community in a variety of opportunities, including some veterinary experience, participation in some game captures and some community work.

You may also get involved in other conservation, including wildlife monitoring. The amount of time you spend in the different areas will vary depending on the length of time you are there and what type of work is taking place or required at that time.

Thank you for your interest in this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!

WHAT DO YOU GET?

SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- The opportunity to gain practical, hands-on experience with wild animals in a Game Reserve setting.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe. We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Africa and the many diverse cultures in South Africa! And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**

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SUMMARY

Prices: From **£1,295** excluding flights.

Please see Full [Price List Online](#).

Duration: From 4 weeks to 12 weeks or longer, subject to visa requirements

Start Dates: Available from beginning March to the end October. Arrival and departure days are on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month.

Requirements: No qualifications required, but if you are studying a related subject, or you are qualified, your work involvement will be much more in-depth. Minimum age 17

What's Included:

- ▶ Arranging your Programme,
- ▶ Payment Protection insurance
- ▶ Food
- ▶ Meeting you at Polokwane airport
- ▶ 24-hr emergency support.
- ▶ Certificate of Completion
- ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance,
- ▶ Accommodation
- ▶ Transfer to your accommodation
- ▶ Local in-country team support and backup
- ▶ Transport to and from your project
- ▶ Return transfer to Polokwane airport.

What Not Included: Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WORK CONTENT AND DESCRIPTION

Work on this project will give you experience across many areas, including some veterinary experience, participation in some game captures and some community work. You may also get involved in other conservation-related fields, including wildlife monitoring. The amount of time you will have in the different areas will vary depending on the length of time you are there and what type of work is taking place or is required at that time.

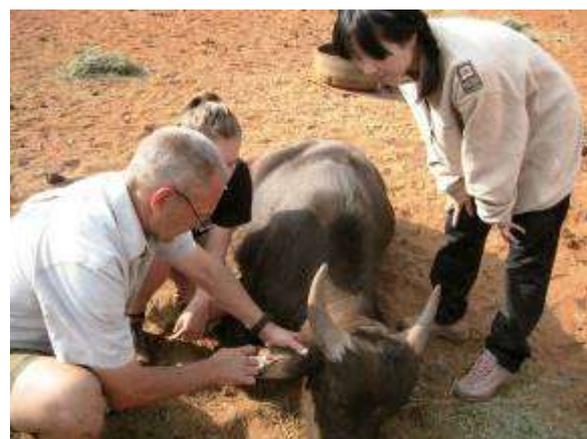
Some examples of what you may be able to participate in:

VETERINARY EXPERIENCE:

The Project works with a number of veterinarians, all of whom are very well established. This part of the programme will give you a taste of assisting a wildlife vet and conservation experts in their day-to-day activities. You'll

accompany the vet and help them on their wide range of different duties.

- You might assist a vet with the diagnosis and treatment of various injuries, conditions and diseases of animals, monitoring the animal's health and providing support to the vet. However, this will depend on the wildlife vet you join and what is happening at the time you are there.
- Veterinary procedures can range from operations in the field with wildlife, to working on livestock or within specific wildlife breeding facilities and, due to the isolated environment, you may also be involved in assisting domesticated animals in certain cases. This



could entail treating domesticated animals either belonging to the reserves, farms or people living in the local communities. These domesticated animals are often at risk to the dangers associated in the rural South African environment, such as attacks by wild species including snake bites.

- Farming is a major part of the South African economy and, depending on the vet you are placed with, you may also find yourself assisting with management, vaccinations and diseases controls. Some of the vets are working with pioneering technology like ultrasounds and other procedures and, therefore, this is a unique learning opportunity.
- Many vets work alongside the **game capture**, providing the essential experience required when darting animals because of the specialised drugs used. Normally you'll assist with the immobilisation and ensuring that the animals being treated are comfortable. You also assist in monitoring their condition before the animal is transported.
- Other opportunities can include going out on emergency call-outs to assist in many different situations. The call-outs do happen often, but obviously cannot be guaranteed as they are unplanned events and can be very exciting.



GAME CAPTURES:

This is a particularly exciting element on this programme! Game captures are a regular occurrence from March to October every year.

You'll work with a dedicated local team that specialises in capturing and relocating wildlife. This activity is vital for wildlife conservation and management.

Captures are done for a number of reasons and an essential part of managing the continued existence of wildlife in the region. Some of the objectives include:

1. Restocking animals into new areas;
2. Retaining the population and diversity of the local wildlife through careful handling of general and endangered wildlife
3. Game capturing also has huge economic and employment benefits to the local community.



Game captures will also give you a unique opportunity to the reality of conservation in the region as well as the long term objectives they are working towards to ensure a positive impact to both wildlife and local communities. You'll be able to get much closer to the animals than would normally be possible, as well as being able to observe their behaviour and movements.

Although game captures occur regularly during the dry winter period, they can be subject to the weather, especially the wind, and to the animals themselves, so patience and flexibility is essential.

COMMUNITY WORK:

The Project works closely with the local community to help preserve and protect the local environment and endangered wildlife from major problems in the region, such as illegal hunting. Each week you will be helping on a local community project for a few hours. Work



might include helping at the local school or community centre where many past volunteers have run special workshops and classes about the local environment and wildlife.

Other projects have also included building a football pitch and community centre, both of which have helped create employment as well as social sports and recreational activities. All the community activities have developed stronger relations with the community and have had been of massive benefit to both the people and the wildlife.

WILDLIFE MONITORING:

There will also be occasions when you may be involved in wildlife monitoring and surveillance with a team member. This could include:

- tracking and locating a particular species
- mapping the sightings
- collecting data
- setting up camera traps or
- assisting with ongoing game counts.

These are all essential activities needed to ensure the efficient and smooth management of a game reserve. This part of the programme will give you the opportunity to observe the animals in their natural habitat.



"I am hoping to become a vet and this project gave me an entirely different aspect on vet work. It was so hands on and you never knew where you were going until that morning. I got to work with buffalo, nyala, kudu, sable, eland, zebra, ostrich, wildebeest, cheetah, rhinos and also the local's cats and dogs.

It was such an amazing experience and I only wish I could have stayed longer. I had a blast, met so many unreal people and cannot wait to return to South Africa!"

Caitlin Nyhus

"Since I want to be a vet, working with one for a month was extremely educational. I learned an incredible amount!"

Shaden Batrawi

ACCOMMODATION

You'll live on the Game Reserve in one of their lodges. The lodges are comfortable and have electricity and running water.

On some occasions you might even stay in one of the tents. Each tent has a wooden deck with an en-suite, open-air bathroom. There is no electricity at the camp, but it is lit by firelight and paraffin lamps in the evening, which amplifies the night atmosphere of being in the African bush.

Evening entertainment is usually based around board games, playing cards and socialising around the camp fire. The camp has a rustic



charm which encourages an atmosphere of laid back relaxation....the way Africa was meant to be experienced!

There will be times when you'll travel away from the Reserve and accommodation will vary on those occasions.

FOOD:

While on the Reserve, all food is provided and volunteers prepare their own meals according to a set menu with ingredients and instructions. Sometimes breakfast is prepared at different locations in the bush.

If you are based away from the Game Reserve (i.e. when you are accompanying the Vets around to other reserves, your accommodation will be provided but food will be to your own account and expense.



LOCATION:

This project is based in a rural location, 25km from Alldays, which is the nearest town. The project staff make at least one trip a week into town, which you're welcome to join.

If you wish to arrange extra trips, your Co-ordinator will be happy to help.

TRAVEL: GETTING THERE

The easiest way is for you to book your international flight through any airline of your choice, arriving in Johannesburg (O.R. Tambo International Airport), and then book a connecting domestic flight from Johannesburg to **Polokwane** (our closest airport).

You should arrive in Polokwane on a **Friday**, on or before 14.30 hrs, and your flight should also depart on a Friday, after 10.00 a.m.

Volunteers who find it difficult to get flights that fit this arrival schedule often arrive in Polokwane the night before (Thursday) instead. We can recommend a Bed & Breakfast accommodation that will collect you from the airport when you arrive, and then we arrange for our transport service to collect you from the accommodation on the Friday morning.

WHY TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Over 20 years' experience of sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of flexible projects that are value for money!
- Accredited projects helps appeal to future employers
- Excellent support! And 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions before, during and after your trip of a lifetime!
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

Donations to **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation and Food
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ Transport to the placement site

- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ UK administration
- ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations)
- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile project
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline

“Travellers is an amazing organization that offers life changing experiences to people of all ages, I will highly recommend it to everyone, and I will be planning another volunteer experience for myself as well as for my sons. Thank you so much for the experience of a life time!”

Deanne Peterson

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: info@travellersworldwide.com

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure! Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home.

The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Fact file, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget. As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind. Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

THINGS TO DO IN SOUTH AFRICA

LOCATION, EXPLORING AND SIGHTSEEING:

The best advice you'll get from us is to try to see some of the country while you're in South Africa. It's big (huge!) and each different region is exciting and very, very beautiful. Cape Town is probably the most beautiful city in the world (I can say that, I grew up there :-). KwaZulu-Natal comes a very close second, albeit very different. Knysna is where South Africans go on holiday, which gives you some idea of how lovely the region is.

Northern South Africa has some of the most famous Game Reserves, including Kruger National Park, and vibrant cities like Johannesburg. With its gold mines and history, it's very different to the rest of the country.

ACTIVITIES IN CAPE TOWN

Adrenaline Activities - Enjoy exciting and “real” adventures with an adrenaline twist!

- Abseiling
- Sandboarding
- Deep-sea Angling
- 'Kloofing' (insanely jumping off very high cliffs into pools of water!)
- Paragliding
- Helicopter flips
- Bungee jumping (just up the coast)



-and a LOT, LOT more!!!!
- ❖ Township Tours - A visit to one of the many townships surrounding the city is an experience that will open your eyes to the way in which the biggest portion of Cape Town's population are living. Take a township tour of Langa, the oldest township in South Africa or Khayelitsha, the second largest township in South Africa. Township tours will usually be co-led by a resident in the area, showcase local industry and community projects and include a visit to a township bar or 'shebeen'.
- ❖ Cape Winelands - Wine lover or not, a visit to the Cape Winelands is an absolute must as the region is one of breathtaking beauty and majestic mountain backdrops. Rolling vineyards and quaint Cape Dutch homesteads ... as well as some of the country's best wines.

HOW TO BOOK

TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#) online.

Telephone
01903 502595 (UK)
or
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!

We hope you'll join us!

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

www.travellersworldwide.com

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