



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

For the latest travel advice for South Africa, please visit either; <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/south-africa>  
<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/south-africa-travel-advisory.html>

### **Who should join this programme?**

No wildlife experience is necessary, but a passion for the outdoors, an adventurous spirit and a desire to contribute to the protection of endangered and vulnerable animals are absolutely required. You should be able to communicate reasonably well in spoken English.

The programme is perfect for individuals / groups passionate about conservation, wildlife, anti-poaching and of course K9, the course can be tailored to suit the age range, skill level and interests of particular groups.

### **What special equipment do I need to bring?**

Please bring suitable clothing for a hot climate, good sunscreen, caps and sunglasses are advisable. The climate in KwaZulu-Natal is humid and due to the proximity to the ocean the weather can also change quickly, a light waterproof coat is essential. I always pack Mosquito repellent, anti-histamines and some painkillers / ibuprofen. Some Imodium and Dioralyte can also be valuable inclusions in your baggage. A good pair of binoculars / small camera and a bird book are also useful. Another essential item is a small rucksack / daypack for carrying your water and other items during days out in the bush.

### **How fit do I need to be?**

There is a fair amount of foot-based tracking and hiking through different terrains. A moderate level of fitness and all-round good health will make your time more comfortable.

### **How old do I need to be?**

The minimum volunteering age for solo travellers is 18 years. Student and youth groups can be catered for on a bespoke programme. Families are also very welcome, and we suggest that the course is best suited for children aged over 16 years. There is no upper age limit, but for volunteers aged over 65, we do require your medical form to be signed by a practising doctor / GP.

### **How many people will there be?**

Outside of the programme instructors and staff, each programme has been designed for a maximum of 4 people, the only exceptions will be if a family larger than 4 wish to participate in the programme at the same time.



### **When can I join?**

Start dates are flexible throughout the year, but run on a 11 day programme, 7 day programme free window format. The project runs year-round, expect over Christmas and New Year.

### **When is the best time to come?**

With hot and humid summers (October to April) and mild, dry winters (May to September), whenever you travel to sub-tropical KwaZulu-Natal a warmth will always be in the air. Temperatures stay highest along the coast, cooling the further inland and west you go. The Drakensberg Mountains, at an elevation of 3,000m can experience heavy snowfall during the winter, while Durban and the North Coast stays toasty at around 20°C with warm seas for swimming and snorkelling. December to February is peak season on the coast. For wildlife, travel during dry July to September for the best chances to see game across Zululand.

### **What animals will I encounter?**

The KwaZulu-Natal region of South Africa is an area teeming with wildlife and home to some spectacular scenery. The reserves included within the programme are both BIG 5 and smaller non predator game reserves, so an abundance of all of the best of Africa's diverse and fascinating wildlife could be encountered during your stay with us.

### **Do I get some time off?**

The course is 10 days long. You will get breaks during the heat of the day to relax and recharge, and free time in the evenings for leisure and your first and final day is allocated for travelling.

### **How much spending money should I bring?**

We recommend bringing around R1,500 in local currency (South African Rand) to cover personal expenses such as drinks, food, souvenirs, snacks, tips etc. It is also advisable to bring a suitable debit card for the required food shopping trips to the local supermarket.

### **Do I need a visa?**

We recommend you have at least two blank pages in your passport, and it must be valid for at least 6 months after your arrival date in South Africa. Many nationalities can get a 90-day tourist visa upon arrival into Johannesburg. However, it is your responsibility to check your visa eligibility prior to arrival.

### **What vaccinations do I need?**

Please consult your local GP or travel clinic for detailed medical advice.

Malaria – Hluhluwe is regarded as a low risk malaria area, but please consult your GP for guidance. All volunteers should make sure their Tetanus, Polio and Hepatitis A and B are up to date.

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Please visit this [UK government website](#) for more details.

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