

Shamwari Conservation Experience

Info sheet



Project Overview

Project Duration: Min 2 week Monday – Monday (program runs all year round)

Project Costs: R4750 per person per week on shared bases.

Location of project: Paterson (87km from Port Elizabeth)

Getting there: Arrive Port Elizabeth Airport, shared transfers are available on the arrival / departure Mondays at an additional cost.

Activities: May include monitoring, telemetry tracking, restoration and rehabilitation of reserve landscape, management of Breeding Centre, alien plant control, volunteering at Born Free Foundation and Animal Rehabilitation Centre and community work. Various talks and presentations.

Working Hours: 8am–5pm; Monday–Friday (weekends at leisure)

Getting to the project daily: Transport is provided.

Who can apply: Minimum Age 16, medical insurance cover and love of animals.

Project Description

Shamwari Conservation Experience boasts a multi-purpose center to accommodate participants for their involvement in the behind the scenes wildlife and conservation activities.

Shamwari Game Reserve, situated in the malaria free Eastern Cape region of South Africa, encompasses 25000 hectares and is home to the largest concentration of big 5 animals in the Eastern Cape. It offers several conservation activities in which volunteers can participate, including short and long term projects aimed at preserving and protecting Africa's endangered species for future generations to come.

Who can apply

This project is open to all local and international volunteers aged 16 years or older. You must be able to understand and speak English to a good standard. You must be physically fit, enjoy working with children, be open minded and willing to work in rural conditions.

No previous experience or qualifications are required however if you are skilled in any given field we will ensure you are placed accordingly.

What's included



Accommodation

The accommodation situated on the reserve alongside many of the Shamwari staff. There is electricity, hot water and bed linen in all rooms.

The shared twin bed accommodation with shared en-suite bathroom is clean and comfortable.

Orientation

You will be required to attend a full orientation talk on arrival. This will include:

- Welcome and introduction to the project
- Tour of the facility
- Meet the team and hosts
- Ethics and code of conduct
- What to expect

Support

24hr support from the Shamawari staff.

Fee

50% of your fee goes to the running of the project the other 50% covers accommodation, food and administration duties.

Extras

Allow for US\$450 for snacks and optional extras such as internet.

Food

Breakfast, lunch and dinner is included in the communal dining area. There are also chocolates and cold drinks available for purchase. Drinking water is provided.

Optional extras

Internet: Vouchers at R100 per 500mb

Shooting: Shooting with a shotgun and .223 can be arranged as a group

Telephone: Telephone available using a world call card

What's not included

Flights, Insurance, Visas, airport pick up, weekend entertainment and transport and internet access.

The working routine

The day to day planning is done for a working day of 8-5 pm with lunch at 12h00 and can change according to activities planned / scheduled.

Your role as a volunteer

The Shamwari CNSV:XP for Gap Year individuals takes participants behind the scenes and exposes them to the several daily aspects involved in the conservation management of Shamwari Game Reserve. Participants are exposed to short and long term projects which are by outcome, intended to create sustainability for generations to come.

Project rules

NO drugs, no excessive alcohol, please read the VSA code of conduct provided.

Weather

Come prepared for various weather conditions all year round.
Summers very hot with the occasional colder day. Winters cold with the occasional warm day.

What to pack

Passport, tickets and visas

Insurance details

ATM cards

Mobile phones, if you are bringing your mobile please unblock the code BEFORE you leave your country.

Charger

Universal adapter plug for South Africa (you can buy these in SA)

Toiletries, soap, shampoo, razors etc.

Sun Block & hat

Swim wear

Towels

Medicines & mosquito repellent

Torch

Comfortable shoes e.g. trainers and sandals

Clothes, jeans, t-shirts, underwear, shorts, dresses etc.

Wind proof jacket

Water bottle

Other activities

Health

- Shamwari is a malaria free area.
- First Aid kits are available on site and per student vehicle.
- Fire extinguishers, fire horn and related fire drill with exit indicators are set out.
- An emergency panic button system is located at all major buildings.
- All medical costs are for own account of the participants and are required to be paid in cash (no terms allowed) to medical service providers. We advise a minimum amount of 5,000.00 ZAR be kept in credit per participant for this service, should the need arise.
- Please note that all medical services in South Africa are on a paid basis and medical insurance is not recognised as cash or means of payment and will generally only act to service claims and recovery of funds on a reclaim basis.
- There are strict access controls measures with no unauthorised individuals allowed on the property.
- M.O.D's are identified and available for any general assistance or should any incident or accident arise.
- Health and Safety audits and risk assessment are reviewed and updated periodically.
- Pest control measures are in place and serviced at regular intervals.

Other activities after volunteering?

This opportunity can be used to explore the Eastern Cape and surrounding biodiversity and the several other leisure-based opportunities which include the likes of elephant back safaris, bungee jumping and surfing lessons.