



W I L D L I F E p r o g r a m m e s

Work Travel SA offers a range of wildlife volunteering opportunities, giving you the chance to get a taste of the behind-the-scenes work done by conservationists, researchers and game rangers at some of South Africa's top 'Big Five' Reserves, including the iconic 2 million-hectare Kruger National Park, which is a world leader in advanced environmental management techniques and policies.

Volunteers must be extremely flexible, in order to cope with a diverse array of tasks around the reserve, including critical conservation efforts not directly related to animals. While the work can be tough, the experience is highly rewarding and you will form lifelong memories during your stay.

Volunteer tasks and responsibilities may include assisting with various endangered species research projects (such as tracking and monitoring lions), developing rhino identikit, conducting bush patrols to monitor fences, fixing road infrastructure and identifying and removing alien plant species.

As a WTSA volunteer, you will benefit from wildlife and conservation training in fields such as bush craft, tracking, animal behaviour, identification techniques and navigation. You will also gain hands-on experience in conservation and the practical application of biodiversity management in a game reserve, while certain projects also look to create sustainable development initiatives such as vegetable and permaculture gardens at schools, crèches and clinics, aiming to strengthen links between reserves and local communities.





Project Durations: 1 to 3 Months. Two week projects are allowed at Kruger National Park (upon request). Longer periods must be arranged with WTSA beforehand, subject to visa approval and payment of additional programme fees. (Projects may vary).

Work Days: Generally 5 to 6 days per week. Volunteers may sometimes be needed to work over weekends, depending on research requirements, data collection times, workload and the nature of activities (projects may vary).

Accommodation: Generally in a dedicated research camp, either in dormitory buildings, shared huts or comfortable tented camps with permanent, fully-equipped dining, kitchen and ablution facilities. Volunteers are responsible for daily cleaning of camps. Consult individual projects for further details.

Special Skills: A love for animals and a genuine desire to make a difference in conservation are essential. Volunteers must be fit, healthy and prepared to work hard!

Attractions: Reserves are generally located in remote or rural areas with limited social activities and attractions; these projects are not ideal if you crave big city life, but if you love spending time in nature you will be in your element. Our wildlife conservation projects are located in big game areas with an abundance of game (including lion, elephant, buffalo, rhino and leopard). As a nation, South Africa offers a wealth of stunning natural highlights, cosmopolitan cityscapes and a unique cultural melting pot: South Africa truly is a world in one country and visitors invariably fall in love with the fresh and vibrant rhythms of "The Rainbow Nation".