



## Botswana Wild Project

**Availability:** The project is available all year long.

**Arrival Day** - Saturday in Johannesburg

**Time** - Your flight can land anytime on Saturday

**Airport** - O R Tambo International Airport ( or Lanseria)

**Orientation** - Saturday and Sunday

**Project Starts** - Monday. You will be transported to the bus station in Johannesburg to catch the bus to the Polokwane station (+-6hrs to station). At the station you will meet your shuttle driver who will take you to the Botswana border to meet your project leader (+\_ 3hrs drive to border) Alternatively, you can fly from JNB - Polokwane to skip the bus at your own expense

Johannesburg to Polokwane on route Mainliner JHB-POL  
Depart: **08:15am ZA** | Arrive: **14:15pm ZA**

**Departure Day/Project ends** - Monday, arrival in Johannesburg in the afternoon.

**Departure time** - You **MUST take a late evening flight out of JNB**, as the bus from Polokwane will only arrive in JNB in the late afternoon. Alternatively, you can fly from Polokwane – JNB if you wish to skip the bus at your own expense.

Polokwane to Johannesburg on route Mainliner POL-JHB  
Depart: **10:30am ZA** | Arrive: **15:35pm ZA**

**Min Duration** - 2 weeks (excl 2 day Orientation)

**Min Age:** 16

**Max Age:** N/A - Medium Level of fitness required

**NOTE:** We can also collect you at any Hotel or place of accommodation on your arrival day, should it be within close radius of the City centre or Airport

## Overview :

Escape into the untamed beauty of Botswana's Central Tuli Block and embark on a wildlife volunteer program that combines adventure with conservation impact. Nestled in a sanctuary for iconic African species, from elephants to leopards, this experience promises a true wilderness immersion.

As you contribute to the conservation objectives of the area, you'll be surrounded by vast landscapes and indigenous wildlife, creating memories that last a lifetime.

**Ultimate Goal:** Partnering with adjacent protected areas, game reserves, and national parks, the program aspires to remove fences and create a larger protected area. This collaborative effort aims to enhance biodiversity in Southern Africa.

Join us for an unforgettable adventure that not only enriches your life but also contributes to the preservation of Africa's extraordinary wildlife and habitats. Volunteer with purpose, and make a difference in the heart of wild Africa!





## The Project:

### 2 Day JNB Welcome Orientation:

Your project starts with a 2-day orientation in Johannesburg at Curiosity Backpackers.

Arrive in Joburg or Jozi, as it is known locally, and get shown around by people who know the city well. The orientation is excellent for first-time visitors to find their feet the local way and meet other volunteers on your project.

#### *Day 1*

You will be picked up from the airport and taken to the hostel. Here you will be given a chance to settle down before you receive your welcome pack. You will be given a briefing on your volunteer program and then meet other travelers and volunteers for a Pan Africa welcome dinner.

#### *Day 2*

Embark on a captivating exploration of Johannesburg and Soweto after breakfast. Discover the Maboneng Precinct, a vibrant hub of creativity, art, and culture, redefining the city's history and future. Explore landmarks such as the Carlton Centre and Ghandi Square, witnessing the urban renewal of Johannesburg.

In Soweto, South Africa's largest township, capture iconic moments at Orlando Towers and Soccer City, the World Cup final venue. Visit the Hector Pieteresen Memorial for insights into the 1970s youth uprisings, and stroll along Vilakazi Street, home to both Nelson Mandela and Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu. Enjoy lunch, shop for local arts and crafts, and delve into the rich history of these dynamic neighborhoods.

#### *Day 3*

After breakfast we will take you to Johannesburg Airport or your bus stop for your onwards travel to the project.



## Location:

**Central Tuli Block:** Historically a mixed-use area, the Central Tuli Block has been transformed into a wildlife sanctuary. Private conservationists worked to re-wild the region, making it a haven for Africa's iconic species. This program aims to provide an authentic wilderness experience for youth while contributing to the conservation goals of the area.



## Volunteer Tasks:

Your daily journey will involve approximately six hours of volunteer work, divided between early morning and late afternoon tasks to steer clear of the midday heat. During lunch and the early afternoon, you have free time to indulge in reading, relaxing, playing games, or even taking a siesta! For those more active individuals seeking less downtime, there are consistently available activities around the camp, such as downloading camera trap data, identifying spoor, and capturing images of birds and insects for identikits.

The late afternoons typically culminate with a breathtaking sunset atop a rocky outcrop, and if the weather permits, evenings are spent enjoying the night sky around a campfire.

### 1. Research:

- ✓ Conduct mammal and bird surveys
- ✓ Study migration patterns throughout the year Develop elephant identikits
- ✓ Monitor camera traps and document nocturnal activities
- ✓ Contribute valuable data to the broader management planning of the area

### 2. Conservation Projects:

- ✓ Undertake activities based on conservation needs
- ✓ Fence repair, waterhole construction, soil erosion control, and more
- ✓ Play a vital role in protecting and maintaining the wilderness area

### 3. **Wildlife Observation:**

- ✓ Observe wildlife in their natural habitat
- ✓ Encounter herds of elephant, zebra and giraffe, with opportunities to track leopard, lion and hyena.
- ✓ Immerse yourself in the sounds and sights of the African bush

### 4. **Sleep-Outs:**

- ✓ Experience the magic of Africa's starlit sky
- ✓ Witness breathtaking sunsets over the plains
- ✓ Fall asleep under the vast African sky, listening to the sounds of nearby creatures

### 5. **Discover:**

- ✓ Learn to identify species in the African bush
- ✓ Engage in spoor identification and cast-making
- ✓ Participate in conservation debates and bird identification sessions
- ✓ Absorb the silence and vastness of the surrounding landscapes



## **Volunteer Requirements:**

- ✓ **Completed application form**
- ✓ **Language Skills:** Basic level of competency in English
- ✓ **Copy of return flight itinerary**
- ✓ **Medium level of fitness:** You can actively participate in activities and can handle the physical demands associated with work on the project.
- ✓ **Medical insurance** that includes evacuation

## What's Included:

Your volunteer rate covers everything you need for an immersive experience:

- ✓ Return Transfer from JHB to the project
- ✓ (Recommend to fly JHB to Polokwane @ Own expense)
- ✓ Certificate of completion
- ✓ All meals
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ 24-hour support and supervisor
- ✓ Donation to the project
- ✓ Braai once a week
- ✓ 2 Day Johannesburg Orientation
- ✓ Guided activities
- ✓ Game drives
- ✓ Sleep-outs under the stars
- ✓ Sundays off for relaxation and local exploration
- ✓ Laundry day
- ✓ Please note that extra excursions, SIM cards, and personal snacks are not included in the rate.

## Meals

Volunteers will receive 3 meals a day.

- ✓ Breakfast is a simple oats, breads, spread, cereals - self service
- ✓ Lunches and Dinners are substantial home-cooked meals
- ✓ Tea and coffee will be available all day.
- ✓ There will be periodic visits to a local village where there is a small local shop to buy simple snacks, but we recommend you bring extra snacks from home or Johannesburg
- ✓ A refrigerator is available for you to use for your personal food and drinks

*NOTE: Please do let us know up-front if you have any regarding food*

*One piece of luggage which does not exceed 80cm x 60cm x 30cm in size, and of a total mass (all luggage and goods combined) not exceeding 20kg. In addition, a daypack is recommended for daily use during your volunteer activities.*



## Accommodation:

A fully equipped tented camp is home away from home.

There are 2-6 person walk-in safari tents with bunk beds, sheets and pillows. Ablutions are shared, with hot and cold showers and flush toilets.

There is a common area for eating, relaxing and reading and a beautiful boma for fireside evenings.

The kitchen is equipped with gas appliances and all meals are provided. Pizza nights are a highlight with the home-made pizza oven



## Extra Information:

- ✓ **Shops/Grocery Stores:** When possible, trips to visit a local village will be scheduled to pick up basic snacks and cool drinks
- ✓ **ATMS:** There are plenty of ATMS in Johannesburg where you will have your orientation. Please exchange your foreign monies in Johannesburg airport as it cost effective and safe. You will need PULA for Botswana and you would need to take this with you from Johannesburg or home

### Supervision/Co- Ordination

As the nature of the work varies we will place volunteers under the supervision of various staff members. We will have one member of our team assigned as “team leader” to facilitate the smooth operation of the volunteers stay and provide guidance where necessary.

## Weather in Botswana

Botswana generally experiences a subtropical climate with distinct wet and dry seasons.

- ✓ **Dry Season (March to October):** This is the dry season with warm days and cooler evenings. During the winter months (June-August), temperatures can drop significantly at night and early morning. This is a lovely time of the year for wildlife viewing as animals tend to gather around waterholes.
- ✓ **Green Season (November to February):** This is the summer season with higher temperatures and the welcome of summer rains. While there can be rainy days over this time, afternoon rainstorms are most common, bringing a welcome relief to the heat. The landscape becomes lush and green, and this is when many of the baby animals arrive.



## Packing List:

### DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Passport
- ✓ Travel documents (required for individuals under 18 years old)

### LUGGAGE

- ✓ Suitcase or rucksack
- ✓ Daypack for daily use

### CLOTHING

- ✓ Towel
- ✓ Sleeping bag
- ✓ Large water bottle
- ✓ Head torch (a cell phone light may not be sufficiently bright for this purpose)
- ✓ Sunscreen (ensure an ample amount for sun-exposed work)
- ✓ Insect repellent
- ✓ Personal toiletries (preferably eco-friendly)
- ✓ Camera with necessary batteries and chargers
- ✓ Binoculars (if available)
- ✓ Journal, cards, games, art supplies and desired...
- ✓ Reading books and mamma / bird identification books (if available)
- ✓ Basic first aid kit (plasters, headache tablets, antiseptic cream, etc.)

### IMPORTANT

Please ensure you have all necessary personal medication and enough for your stay plus a couple of extra days. Obtaining medicine and prescriptions in the remote camp area may be challenging.

### EXTRAS

- ✓ Snacks if desired



✓ Pocket money (for local purchases...)