



Please see the **NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES** at the bottom of this sample itinerary for details on program changes.

Please note that program activities may change in order to adhere to COVID-19 regulations.



SOUTH AFRICA: Safari Service Expedition™

Be on the front lines of animal conservation, and learn how to track, monitor and protect South Africa's most majestic wild animals.

OVERVIEW

On this program you will experience life in a renowned game reserve and learn about conservation on the front lines. You might spot Africa's "Big Five" in the region — lions, leopards, elephants, Cape buffalo and rhino. By night, you'll live at a rustic Home Base on the reserve, hearing traditional stories and learning about tribal culture. By day, shadow wildlife conservationists in the South African bush on game drives to observe animals and learn about sustainably preserving the region's endangered species.

14-DAY PROGRAM

July 1 – July 14, 2022

Tuition: \$3,999
Service Hours: 32
Language Hours: 0
Max Group Size: 20
Age Range: 14-18
Student-to-Staff Ratio: 8-to-1

HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ Assist with ongoing rhino and African elephant conservation projects
- ★ Track and monitor wildlife movement on a renowned reserve
- ★ Spot Africa's "Big Five" wild animals
- ★ Enjoy a bonfire as you camp under the stars
- ★ Experience tribal culture and traditional storytelling

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

Join conservationists in the field, assisting with habitat restoration and wildlife monitoring. Help eradicate an invasive plant species, learn about anti-poaching, undertake a snare patrol to identify leopards, and learn from wildlife protectors about their experiences fighting poachers. Track the movements of elephants and other wildlife by satellite, and learn how rangers set camera traps—join them in combing through video footage. Finally, learn how the surrounding local community is critical to conservation.

SAMPLE ITINERARY: DAILY BREAKDOWN

Actual schedule of activities will vary by program session. The information detailed here is typical for what you can expect to experience; however, service work and activities vary depending upon the needs of our local community partners, various celebrations and customs, as well as the weather and specific needs of the student group.



DAY 1: WELCOME TO SOUTH AFRICA!

Touch down in Johannesburg, the heart of South Africa! GLA staff will greet you upon your arrival, and our group will drive together to a local hotel for an overnight stay in Johannesburg. Rest up, because we'll be heading out early the next morning for a road trip to Home Base in the African bush.

DAY 2: SUNSET IN THE RESERVE

We'll travel for most of the day, making our way to Home Base on the game reserve. While the drive is long, the views of South Africa are breathtaking. Take the time to get to know your fellow travelers before we arrive for a traditional welcome dinner and to settle in on the vast and peaceful grounds, located right along a biodiversity corridor where migratory animals travel.

DAYS 3-4: PROTECTING THE BLACK RHINO HABITAT

Service begins! Spend mornings volunteering on the reserve, working to eradicate *chromolaena odorata*—a fast-growing, invasive plant species—in order to preserve the most natural habitat possible for the endangered black rhino. Learn from local biologists and conservationists about the issues that have reduced the population by 98% in the last thirty years. They range from land development to poaching for the illegal, international trade of rhino horn to parks being overrun by non-indigenous plant species like the one you're helping to clear.

Guaranteeing a rhino sighting is near impossible, as the animals graze and wander at their own will across the large sanctuary—but keep your fingers crossed! You'll be able to track their whereabouts in real time with the conservation team, and are guaranteed to see countless other wild animals daily at close proximity, like the African wild dog, impala, kudu, nyala, giraffe and many others.





DAY 5: TRADITIONAL STORIES & LOCAL CRAFTS

Life on the reserve is very far removed from the tourist path, so prepare to encounter a wealth of traditional culture. Hear stories straight from the source by spending time with local families and enjoying tea with the community *Gogo* (grandmother). Try your hand at making traditional crafts and shop from artisans for handmade beadwork, intricate basketry and colorful pottery.

DAY 6: ANTI-POACHING: SNARE PATROL

Of all the threats facing black rhinos, poaching is the deadliest. Black rhinos have two horns, which makes them lucrative targets for the illegal trade of rhino horn. A wave of poaching for rhino horn rippled through Africa in recent history, exacerbated in some areas by political instability: wars cause poverty, which increases poaching. Learn about these issues and how South Africa has worked to combat them. Help critical anti-poaching teams check for snares, and walk the perimeter to check for break-ins.



DAYS 7-9: BUSH SLEEPOUT UNDER THE STARS

Prepare to experience a bush sleepout where we'll camp out in comfy tents with stretcher beds. Professional field guides will help keep watch. While at camp we'll learn more about tracking animals on foot, go on bush walks to study the region's biology and ecology and just enjoy being in nature. The second night in the bush will end with an open-fire cooking competition under the starry night. Team up and show off your skills!



DAY 10 - 13: WILDLIFE SPOTTING (GAME DRIVE) AND WRAPPING UP SERVICE

Rise early for a memorable adventure driving through the misty game reserve. If we're lucky (and quiet), it's possible that we'll see tracked rhinos, elephants and lions. Appreciate the majesty of these wild animals—how can we give them protection that lasts for generations?



DAY 14: DEPARTURE

Time to say *Hamba Kahle*—"goodbye" in Zulu—to South Africa! We'll depart for the Johannesburg airport together, and GLA staff will make sure that everyone is checked in for their flight and ready to embark on their journey home.





NOTICE ON PROGRAM UPDATES

Every year brings new and exciting opportunities for experiences we can offer students on our programs. While this program is being planned for 2022, some activities or details may change between now and the program start date. Please note that references from past participants and previously published information may not accurately reflect every aspect of this program. Refer to the sample itinerary above or to the GLA website for the most up-to-date version of program activities, and please note that further updates may be made between now and the program start date.

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO PROGRAM ACTIVITIES DUE TO COVID-19

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please note that program activities may change in order to accommodate COVID-19 regulations. In particular, service projects and other activities that typically involve close contact or engagement with members of the local community may be curbed, altered or skipped depending on staff evaluations on the ground and/or at the discretion of our Executive Director and Director of Program Operations & Risk Management. Every effort will be made to provide an exceptional experience on-location, at whatever level of community interaction is deemed safe at the time.

TRAVELING TO SOUTH AFRICA

GLA HOME BASE | On this safari adventure, students will lodge in several locations. Upon arrival in Johannesburg, the group will stay in a guest lodge. For the remainder of the program, Home Base accommodations include wooden cabins, canvas cottages, and a safari camp, which is outside under the stars. Students will share accommodations with roommates and have access to bathrooms, and enjoy communal meals as a group.

FOOD | Staples of South African food include rice and potatoes, stew with vegetables and chicken or beef served with *pap*, similar to cornmeal. *Braai* is a traditional barbecue that is a must-try for every visitor to South Africa.

CLIMATE | South Africa will be in its winter season in June and July, so expect sunny days and brisk evenings!

LEADERSHIP

Global Leadership Adventures started as an educational institute, so we continue to think and act like educators—not tour operators—as we deliver life-changing programs. We intentionally weave a leadership curriculum into the daily experience on our programs. Through group discussion, meaningful service, workshops, speakers and excursions, staff guide students to reflect on program events through the lens of leadership, and celebrate outstanding examples of leaders they encounter in the local community. Lending this context to the experience creates opportunities for students to dig deep into their vision, purpose and knowledge of themselves and the world.

ABOUT GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ADVENTURES

Global Leadership Adventures was founded in 2003 by Fred Swaniker, a native of Ghana, TED Fellow and educational entrepreneur whose work has been praised by Barack Obama. Born as a global extension of the revolutionary African Leadership Academy, Global Leadership Adventures now operates programs centered around leadership, sustainable community service projects, and meaningful travel across Africa, Asia, Europe or the Americas. Through life-changing adventures, we strive to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it.

GLA HAS BEEN FEATURED IN:

The New York Times

 **USA TODAY**

 **NBC NEWS**

The Boston Globe

seventeen

Our Expectations

Be present

Our mission at GLA is “to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their role in it.” To that end, we expect GLA students to maintain high standards of personal behavior and to be open-minded. The culture may be different, sometimes shockingly so. GLA will challenge students as they are expected to work hard and be present physically and mentally for all activities. We also ask students to take a step back from regular use of technology - particularly their smartphones - so as to maximize their engagement with the program and their fellow participants. Students may get hot, dirty and bug-bitten along the way, but their contribution can transform the community. The goal is for each student to return home having had a life-changing experience.

No tolerance

GLA has a no-tolerance policy towards drugs, alcohol, tobacco and disruptive behavior. Those who violate or are suspected of violating this policy will be immediately dismissed from the program at the sole discretion of GLA staff.

Community-Led experiences

GLA makes every effort to offer thoughtfully crafted programs for teens and young adults. Detailed planning and exhaustive communications with partners are indispensable parts of our program development process. However, occasionally service and activities are adjusted from session to session, due to weather, changing needs of our local community partners and/or various cultural celebrations and customs. We expect participants to be open-minded and flexible, willing to embrace the experience when plans change. GLA makes every effort to communicate adjustments to students and families with advance notice. We expect you to be open-minded and flexible.

Mentorship

GLA is not a therapy program. Our staff are highly skilled, professional, caring and fun, but they are not licensed therapists. GLA programs can be physically and emotionally demanding, and applicants should be in good physical and mental health.

We're Here to Help

Contact Us

Want to learn more about Global Leadership Adventures and our available programs? Our Admissions Team has expertise and insights into our slate of program offerings, and we're happy to answer any questions you might have. We have collectively visited or staffed many of our GLA programs around the world, and we have advice to share on everything from getting your travel documents together to what a typical day on a program is like. Call us at 1-858-771-0645 any time during office hours for assistance.

Enroll Now

We encourage you to enroll on your 1st choice program as early as you can! In fact, our most popular programs fill early every year, and many students end up putting off the quick and easy application process only to end up on the waiting list. The best way to ensure that you save your spot is to place your deposit and apply early. You can easily enroll online at www.experiencegla.com/enroll.