

12-DAY PROGRAM



GLA GROUP TRAVEL SAMPLE ITINERARY

EXAMPLE ITINERARY ONLY: DURATION, DATES, COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES ARE CUSTOMIZABLE



SOUTH AFRICA: Animal & Wildlife Conservation

See the front lines of rhino conservation, learning how to track and protect South Africa's most majestic wild animals, and helping local children see their stake in conservation.

OVERVIEW

An early morning mist hangs on the horizon, and you're trying not to breathe too loudly. A group of grazing wildlife could be close. It's early—the time you'd usually wake to start the day—but today you've been tracking rhinos for an hour already. This is life on Bonamanzi Game Reserve, where you'll be teamed up with locals in the fight against poaching. Through tracking, education, and community outreach, you will learn how South Africans are keeping rhinos and other wild animals safe.

THIS ITINERARY INCLUDES:

- **12 days / 11 nights of accommodation**
- 24 community service hours
- 1 free chaperone per 10 students
- 2 expert GLA staff members
- Medical & evacuation insurance
- 12-26 students (price is per student)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- ★ Assist with an ongoing rhino conservation project
- ★ Track and monitor wildlife movement on a renowned reserve
- ★ Educating community children about anti poaching
- ★ See how traditional Zulu crafts are made
- ★ Experience tribal culture and traditional storytelling

SPOTLIGHT ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

Anti-poaching and conservation are complex issues, and require multifaceted solutions. This program is designed to show students that community development, biological sciences, economic stability, tracking & monitoring, and education are all important elements in successful conservation. Students will gain firsthand experience with a holistic approach to conservation as they engage in an array of fieldwork, classroom lessons and community collaborations.

SAMPLE ITINERARY: DAILY BREAKDOWN



DAY 1: WELCOME TO SOUTH AFRICA!

Touch down in Durban (DUR) or Johannesburg (JNB)! GLA staff will greet you upon your arrival, and our group will drive together to Bonamanzi Game Reserve. It will be a long journey, but well worth the distance, because we'll be arriving at a world-renowned game park that will serve as Home Base over the coming days.

DAY 2: GAME DRIVE & SERVICE WITH KINGSLEY HOLGATE FOUNDATION

We'll jump straight into action with an early morning game drive! You're likely to see a handful of animals before you even finish breakfast. Head to Kingsley Holgate Foundation, where service begins at a nursery, and you'll see how the foundation is involving everyone, from young children to the elderly in conservation and community development. In the evening, we'll have a guest lecturer to introduce us to Zulu culture.



DAY 3: PROJECT RHINO & CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Service continues with a focus on children as we join Project Rhino educating local children about rhino poaching. Setting the context early will help these children grow up appreciating and understanding the value of nature. When they see you enthusiastic to visit and learn about nature from their community, the seed is planted for a future local conservationist. After lunch, we'll work again with the nursery. At night, we'll head deep into the reserve to track leopards!



4: WILDLIFE TRACKING

We will have another early morning animal adventure, only this time we'll be on foot! Guides will teach us how to identify animal tracks. After breakfast, we will have more service with the Kingsley Holgate Foundation. In the afternoon, it will be time to roll up our sleeves and get dirty as we volunteer working in bush management. After dinner, an organization called Move Africa will prepare for a different kind of service the following day.

DAY 5: SERVICE WITH MOVE AFRICA



Move Africa will bring us on an outreach project in local schools, with a focus on education and action for menstrual health in school. You'll help them set-up a fundraiser to purchase menstrual cups, which not only reduces waste from costly one-use products, but also helps girls stay in school. Later in the day we will learn about Zulu arts and craft by participating in a workshop.

DAY 6: SERVICE WITH ZULULAND CAT CONSERVATION PROJECT

We are going to spend the entire day volunteering with this amazing project to help injured or sick cats survive, and even get back into the wild. You will get up close and personal with cheetahs and other cats at the center. The work we do will depend on what the need of the day is, but it could involve clearing vegetation, feeding animals, cleaning, or supporting the maintenance of the center.



DAY 7: SERVICE WITH BONAMANZI RESERVE

We bring our focus back to the Bonamanzi Reserve, where we will have a hands-on learning day with animal ID Kits, participating in impact study, and identifying and clearing invasive plants such as water hyacinth and cacti. We will also participate in rhino monitoring. At night, we will help set and collect images from camera traps which are used to monitor herd health and populations around the reserve.

DAY 8 - 9: LEARNING AND SERVICE FOR ANTI POACHING



Up to this point in the program, our contribution to conservation has been through habitat work, education of children and community outreach. Today starts the direct anti-poaching part of our service. An anti-poaching K9 will demonstrate how its acute senses are used to find and stop poachers. You will be split into anti poaching groups, taking turns on: snare sweeps, fence patrol, and river patrol in a boat (Students will not engage with any confrontation of poachers, but rather be calling in signs of trespassers if they see any). Wrap up these two days of hard yet rewarding work with a sunset cruise in a hippo and crocodile estuary near the small coastal town of St. Lucia, where we'll spend the night.

DAYS 10: ORPHANAGE OUTREACH IN KHULA VILLAGE



For our last day of service, we bring our focus back to the children. We will go and volunteer at Khula Village and support a health-focused project. In the afternoon we will have group discussions about the impact of such service, and ask ourselves about who gets the most value from the interaction - us or the children? At GLA, we focus on "service learning", with an emphasis that all our service is ultimately a way for us to learn more about ourselves. This will set the tone for a final reflection about our time in South Africa, and a moment to bring our learnings to a conclusion.

DAY 11: BEACH, CRAFT SHOPPING, AND CLOSING CEREMONY,

On this final full-day, we will celebrate, relax, and reflect on this journey. No trip to South Africa would be complete without a braai (South African for barbeque), which will be done on a beach overlooking the Indian Ocean. The local craft market is a great spot to pick up some souvenirs for your loved ones!



DAY 12: DEPARTURE

Time to say Hamba Kahle—“goodbye” in Zulu—to South Africa! We'll start with our bus journey back to Durban or 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.

TRAVEL TO SOUTH AFRICA

GLA Home Base | Students will live at a research camp near the Somkhanda Game Reserve in a large, comfortable, farmhouse-style eco-lodge. Students share rooms with roommates and have access to shared bathrooms. Camping in comfortable, well-equipped tents on stretcher beds will happen on two different overnight excursions.

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 Fall season in March and April, so expect a mix of sunny and rainy days!

Flights | This program allows for two different airport options—Durban or Johannesburg—but as JNB requires an additional four-hour drive, this will be something to factor into the cost and itinerary. Most group travel clients opt to travel together on the same flight, whether that be a group booking or individually-purchased tickets. GLA's partner travel agency, StudentUniverse, can be a helpful resource in finding and booking flights that meet the groups' budget and logistical requirements.

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 group's daily experience to the desired degree. 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

GLA 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.

OUR EXPECTATIONS

Be present

Our mission at GLA is “to inspire the next generation to realize their potential to transform the world and their unique 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. Students may get hot, dirt, and bug-bitten along the way, but their contribution can be transformative to both the community and themselves. 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 staff.

Flexibility & Program Changes

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 or various cultural celebrations and holidays. We expect participants to be open-minded and flexible, and willing to embrace the experience when plans

change. GLA will communicate adjustments to group leaders with advance notice whenever possible and work together with custom group leaders to reschedule or replace activities if needed.

Mentorship & Health

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 all participants should be physically and mentally healthy. Each student and staff member will undergo a self-reported medical screening process that includes a physician sign-off to ensure that our program can safely accommodate everyone's physical and mental health needs.