



IN
PARTNERSHIP
WITH



AFRICAN INSIGHT ACADEMY

INSPIRE | EDUCATE | EMPOWER



Sustainable Wildlife Conservation & Biodiversity Management In South Africa

2 Weeks Practical Training



**Field trip to the wildlife rich Zuluand region of KwaZulu Natal province of South Africa.
Includes the following:**

- The South African Conservation Success Story
 - Wildlife Monitoring Techniques
 - Wildlife Census Techniques
- Ecology and Biodiversity Bushwalks & Game Drives
 - Wildlife Behaviour and Survival Strategies
 - Human-Wildlife Conflict
 - Bush Skills
 - Community Conservation Strategies

Introduction to Wildlife Conservation Field Trip:

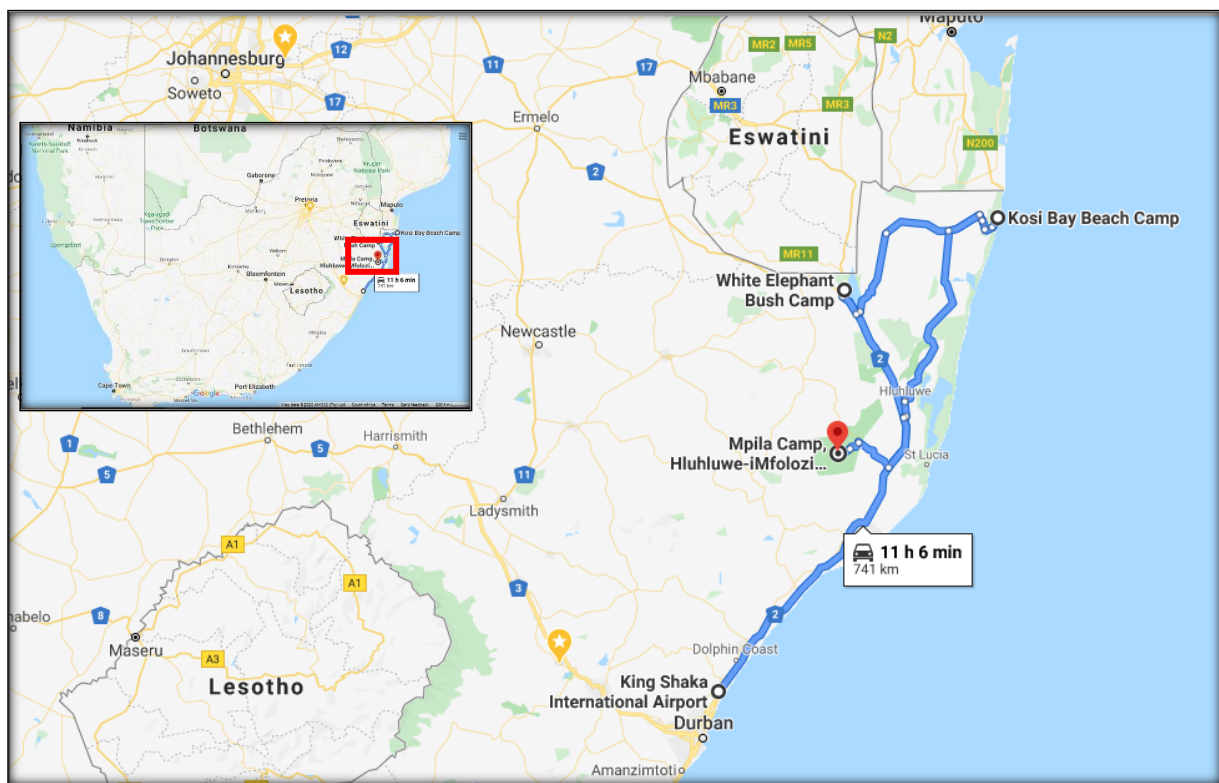
South Africa is the only country in Africa that can claim to have more wildlife today than it had 100 years ago! This conservation success story is one of innovation, hard-won battles and ever-present threats.

The entire eastern section of South Africa falls into one of the planet's 36 global biodiversity hot spots. Therefore, it is not surprising that it is the country's prime "wildlife and safari" destination. The region is home to the world-famous Kruger National Park and the wildlife and marine rich Zululand region.

It is the wildlife and conservation rich Zululand region where this field trip takes place, bringing together a selection of tried and tested modules showcasing our wildlife conservation success story legacy.

The aim for the field trip is to expose students to a cross-section of eco-systems in which we practically demonstrate a variety of wildlife and conservation techniques and explore current challenges. Students are encouraged to critically analyse these operations for interactive debate and discussion.

Route and Flights:



Durban's King Shaka International Airport (DUR) is the preferred port of entry for this trip, minimizing road transfers and maximizing time on the ground. Inbound flights before 12h00 allow sufficient time to get to our first destination in day light. Direct outward-bound flights are usually very early and therefore require the last night in accommodation near the airport. A domestic flight to Johannesburg (departing after 15h00) to connect with late departing international flight is also a suitable option.

Itinerary Overview:

Days 1 – 8: Pongola Game Reserve

The base of African Insight Academy. This 30,000ha game reserve incorporates a section of the impressive Lebombo Mountains, the entire Jozini lake and a substantial section of prime wildlife rich bushveld habitat. Not only does the reserve enjoy spectacular scenery but its diverse habitats are home to over 80 species of mammals (including 4 of the “Big 5”) and 350 bird species. Opportunities to encounter wildlife such as buffalo, elephant, rhino, leopard, hyena, giraffe, wildebeest, zebra, warthog and 12 different antelope species offer considerable opportunities to study and learn about African Wildlife and its conservation.

Accommodation:



African Insight Academy operates from a custom-built tented safari-style camp that offers participants the experience of a traditional camping safari but with all the mod-cons of comfortable beds, hot showers, well-appointed dining facilities and “boma” area.

Activities:

Depending on the aims and objectives of the group the following activities / learning experiences are available and included:

- Bushwalks
- Game drives
- Night drives
- Scorpion “hunting”
- Boat Trip
- Authentic Community Experience
- Variety of bush skills
- Night Skies
- Sleep Out
- Camera Traps
- Telemetry Monitoring
- Game Counts
- Vegetation survey
- Conservation service project
- Sustainable Utilization
- Human-Wildlife Conflict



Days 9 – 11: Isimanagaliso Wetlands World Heritage Site

iSimangaliso means miracle and wonder, which aptly describes this unique park. It is 1,328,901ha in extent (marine and terrestrial combined) making it the second largest protected area in South Africa after the Kruger National Park. The park contains 220km of pristine coast line, three major lake systems, eight interlinking ecosystems, Africa's largest estuarine system, 530 bird species and 25,000-year-old coastal dunes which are among the highest in the world. The centrepiece is the vast Lake St. Lucia, home to large numbers of hippos, crocodiles, pelicans and flamingos. The Sodwana Bay section is known for its colourful coral reefs.

To experience the entire system would be an entire field trip in itself so the Kosi Bay section, located on the border of the World Heritage Site on the Mozambique border, is the focus of our field trip. It is unique for its four interlinking lake system ranging from fresh to salt water, pristine beach, mangroves, most of South Africa's remaining swamp forests, as well as 700-year-old fishing traditions.

Accommodation:



Our base is a community owned tented lodge operated in partnership with an experienced professional tourism partner. The accommodation is comfortable well-appointed tents (same as Pongola section) and the camp also has a swimming pool. The camp's ideal location offers easy access to the park's marine and lake system.

Activities:

Depending on the aims and objectives of the group the following activities / learning experiences are available:

Included:

- Educational hike through 3 ecosystems
- 3 lakes Boat Trip
- Snorkelling
- 700-year-old traditional fish-traps

Optional:

- Kayaking



Days 12 – 13: Hluhluwe – Imfolozi Park

The Hluhluwe and Umfolozi Game Reserves were established in 1896 to protect the White Rhinos which were at that time on the endangered list. Conservation interventions have saved this species from near extinction. Subsequent capture and transportation techniques developed here are still in use today and have led to the reintroduction of white rhino to reserve throughout southern Africa. It was only in 1989 these two parks were formally connected, creating the 97 000 Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Park.

Home to the Big 5, African Wilddog, cheetah hyena and all species that historically occurred in the region this park is the flagship of conservation in KwaZulu-Natal.

Accommodation:



Our base is Mpila Camp in the Imfolozi section of the Park and consists of self-catering bungalows and safari tents. For this section of the trip the group will be accommodated in ensuite chalets or furnished tents. Participants will assist with food preparation, cooking and washing up.

Activities:

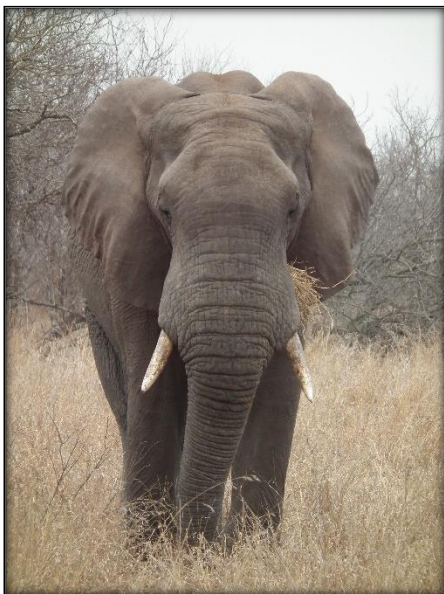
Depending on the aims and objectives of the group the following activities / learning experiences are available:

Included:

- Game Drives
- Centenary Centre Museum

Optional:

- Sunset Game Drive with Park Guide
- Early morning bushwalk with Park Guide



We leave the park after lunch on Day 13 and travel to Durban to board a domestic flight that connects with an international flight out of Johannesburg. Optional overnight near airport and connecting with early morning flight home. (Overnight accommodation not included)

Day 14: Depart

Includes:

- Accommodation on shared basis
- All meals from Dinner on Day 1 to Breakfast on Day 14
- All Transport
- All entrance fees, activities and excursions as per itinerary

Excludes:

- Flights
- Travel insurance
- Optional activities
- Refreshments
- Accommodation on Day 14 (if required)

Our Training Partner, African Insight Academy holds the following service excellence accreditations:



[British Standards Institute](#)
[BS8848 health and safety](#)
[accreditation for adventurous](#)
[activities outside the United](#)
[Kingdom](#)



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