

Zimbabwe Black Rhino & Elephant Conservation

Zimbabwe is one of the most underrated yet beautiful countries of Southern African. Find out for yourself on this spectacular conservation project!

Once known as the “bread basket of Africa”, Zimbabwe has a flourishing international tourism industry, not only at Victoria Falls and Hwange National Park but throughout the country. Unfortunately with the collapse of the economy, the currency collapse of 2007 plus often exaggerated negative press coverage, Zimbabwe now often evokes images of political unrest and corruption. However, the reality - particularly in recent years - is different. The economy has now stabilised with the introduction of the US dollar as the local currency, fuel, food and medical supplies are all as readily available as in any other African country and the country is safe for visitors who exercise a little common sense and follow a few basic rules.

Today, curious tourists, wildlife enthusiasts and adventure seekers are returning to Zimbabwe and those that come can expect a royal treatment. Zimbabwe remains one of the most beautiful and unspoilt of the Southern African countries and from the moment you arrive you will experience the friendliness, hospitality and welcoming nature of the Zimbabwean people. Our advice - come and find out for yourself with this once in a lifetime opportunity!

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Gain a lifetime of unmatched memories
- Experience life on the front line of rhino conservation!
- Make lifelong friends

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum age of 17 years

FAST FACTS

Location	Zimbabwe, Southern Africa
Activities	Rhino and elephant conservation work Community development projects Game reserve management
Transport	Airport pick-up
Accommodation	Volunteer house

WHAT DOES THE PROJECT DO?

Our volunteer programme is based around wildlife conservation focusing on the endangered black rhino, game park management and community education. We believe that without ongoing education in schools and in the local community the future of wildlife in Zimbabwe cannot be secured. The focus of our volunteer programme is very much on wildlife conservation and the majority of your time is spent in the game park.

This is a unique opportunity to live amongst African animals in the heart of the bush and experience day to day life on a privately owned game park with all its challenges and joys. We have four of Africa's Big 5 game, lions, elephants, rhinos and buffalos, and a huge range of plains game including sable, kudu, waterbuck, wildebeest, crocodile, hippo, giraffe and zebra. With 150 species of bird plus numerous snakes and lizards this volunteer programme is an animal lovers paradise.

The project contributes to a long term, sustainable conservation programme focusing on the ongoing protection of Zimbabwe's wildlife, especially the black rhino. Volunteers will be involved in a variety of conservation projects which may include: working with our black rhinos and elephants, studying and learning about their behaviour, undertaking anti poaching patrols to ensure the continued safety of the animals, helping to educate local school children about conservation, wildlife and the environment, really learning about what is involved in the running of a game park and undertaking other community development initiatives.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

You will be living in the heart of a 10,000 acre privately owned game reserve in eastern Zimbabwe where you will have the opportunity to spend time with black rhino and be involved in valuable wildlife conservation work to secure the future of the species in Zimbabwe. You will get a unique behind the scenes look at life in an African game park.

During your volunteer programme you will also have the opportunity to meet some of the local children and community leaders as you spend time at the school teaching children the importance of caring for the environment around them as well as undertaking general teaching assistance, sports coaching and gardening.

This volunteer programme will give you a real hands on experience of wildlife conservation as you immerse yourself in the wildlife which surrounds you. Get up close to our four black rhino and our elephant herd, observe their behaviour and social interactions, learn about the 50 species of animal and 150 bird species and get a feel for daily life on an African reserve.

With the diversity of our programme - from daily feed deliveries, anti poaching patrols, animal monitoring, light veterinary work and general maintenance around the game park to camp outs in the bush and night drives - no two days will be the same!

Because we only take 10 volunteers you will be able to form close relationships with the animals and people and see the tangible difference which you make each day.

Weekdays will be busy, but on Saturday afternoons and Sundays you can go fishing or canoeing or camping in the bush, undertake rifle training or just relax by the pool at the volunteer house with a cold beer! You will have the opportunity to go horse riding in the bush - an amazing way to experience the wildlife. For those who enjoy hiking we can arrange walks both on and off the reserve and you can also visit local cultural sites or go and enjoy the hustle and bustle of Harare.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?

You will be picked up from Harare airport on the Monday by a friendly local staff member and transferred to the project site. Once you have had time to rest the local staff will introduce you to your project and the local area. Your in country coordinator will be more than happy to help you settle in and acclimatise and you'll feel at home in no time in this friendly, vibrant country.

WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?

You will be staying in a two storey thatched house in a beautiful location by the shores of our largest lake - ideal for fishing! You will have a comfortable room, sharing with 1-5 other volunteers. There are two shared bathrooms plus two outdoor showers for those hot African days, a swimming pool and outdoor braai (that's an African bbq!) area. Inside the house is a kitchen, dining room, lounge and bar area. Your rooms and the house will be cleaned every day and the housekeeping staff will also do your laundry when required. The volunteer coordinator and manager live on site and are on hand 24 hours a day for questions, information and rescuing you from spiders!

WHAT WILL I BE EATING?

You will receive three home cooked meals per day cooked by our resident cook except on a Sunday, when you will cook for yourselves, for which all food is provided to you. We can cater for all sorts of dietary requirements and please just let us know before you arrive. If there are snacks which you know you will need (chocolates, crisps etc), please feel free to bring supplies with you as town trips are only once a week! Breakfast is usually around 9.00am, lunch around 1.00pm and dinner around 6.30pm.

COSTS

2 weeks	US\$ 2,395
Extra week	US\$ 1,045

DEPARTURE DATES

Weekly, please arrive before midday on a Monday.

Please check availability before booking

This project is not available in these dates:

January 14th - 21st, 2019 is fully booked

DURATION

2 weeks +

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Before you go

- Pre-departure support & documentation
- Travel & medical advice & documentation
- Equipment advice
- Discounted medical kit
- Free Frontier t-shirt

In-country

- Airport pickup for those arriving before midday on a Monday
- In-country transfers
- 3 meals a day
- Accommodation
- Local orientation & training
- All concession entrance fees
- In-country emergency support
- 24-hour international HQ back-up

AIRPORT INFORMATION

Nearest airport(s): Harare (HRE)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Call us on 020 7613 2422 (UK) / 1 949 336 8178 (US)

Mail us on info@frontier.ac.uk

Check out our social media here:

Project details were correct at the time this document was generated. Price, dates and other details are subject to change. Please see our website for current details for this project.