

South Africa Horse Adventure

Experience horse riding at its very best, whilst carrying out research into wild horse populations in this incredible setting!

Visit South Africa – a "Rainbow Nation" that combines modern culture with an ancient, breathtaking landscape. Evolving for over thousands of years to become the environmentally and culturally diverse nation that it is today, South Africa attracts millions of visitors every year to its wide, sandy beaches, cosmopolitan cities, friendly people and, of course, magnificent African bush.

Immerse yourself in this authentic South African horse ranch experience, where you'll have the opportunity to enjoy comfortable and safe horse riding in stunning South African country side surroundings. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced rider, you will quickly feel at ease on the ranch's well trained, beautiful cross bred and home reared horses. Professional and friendly instructors will also be on hand to help and guide you.

This project is perfect for anyone with an interest or passion for horses and horse riding. You will enjoy a varied daily schedule that combines working with and caring for these well-trained and beautiful horses. This peaceful and reviving break in sublime and breathtaking South African scenery is the ideal retreat for anyone looking to reconnect with themselves and nature.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience life on an authentic South African horse ranch
- Gain in depth knowledge of equine husbandry
- Admire the breathtaking scenery of the South African countryside
- Make new life long friends and return with brilliant memories

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Volunteers must be 18 years old
- Riders must weigh less than 90kg

FAST FACTS

Location	South Africa
Activities	Horseback riding Equine husbandry Farm maintenance Saddle and bridle lessons Community forestry Archery
Transport	Airport pick-up upon arrival
Accommodation	Guesthouse accommodation

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

From the off you will be involved in a wide range of activities in and around the stables such as the care and feeding of the horses and maintenance of the paddock, arena and field shelter as well as looking after the saddlery and equipment. You will also have the opportunity to ride the horses through this stunning area, once a gold mining region, which is home to approximately 160 to 200 feral horses across 17 000 hectares of forestry and grassland. The breed type seems predominantly Boerperd with herds ranging in size from bachelor herds of around 3 to larger more structured herds of up to 20 horses.

Whilst taking part in this project you will also be given the opportunity to contribute to ongoing research into these wild horses. Responsibilities may include:

- Counting and documenting different herds
- Maintenance of water and drinking points for the horses
- Helping to rear abandoned foals (when applicable)
- Eradication of old barb wire along the roads, that injure horses
- Impact studies on the bio carrying capacity of the ranch habitat

Further scientific studies are possible if and when the project receives skilled volunteers that are able to spearhead other avenues of research.

These activities are a must for the adventurous horse lover and will surely guarantee you an unforgettable experience!

In addition you may find yourself involved in sustainable farming activities & local forestry community initiatives. There may even be time for archery lessons in your free time in the evenings and at weekends!

Your working day will be from 7am - 4pm Monday to Friday, with weekends can be spent at your own leisure. A town trip to the nearby provincial capital is scheduled once a week, so you'll have the chance to get into town to do some local shopping.

Note that the itinerary is subject to change depending on climatic conditions and seasonal variability and those inexperienced riders who have never worked in this field will require training by our qualified ranch staff.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?

Upon arrival at Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport you will be met by a friendly local staff member and transferred to your accommodation. Once you have had time to rest the staff will provide you with a local orientation session. Your in country coordinator will help you acclimatise and you'll feel at home in no time in this stunningly vibrant country.

WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?

The farm-style accommodation offers a relaxing and reviving getaway in the countryside. You will be housed in our volunteer quarters, a three bedroom house located on the project site. The accommodation is comfortable with a fully functioning kitchen, a shower, a separate bathroom, and a lounge area. The three bedrooms are each equipped with two single beds, whilst each volunteer will be allocated a locker within the bedrooms to store away their valuables. A veranda looks out onto the stunning mountains of the region and there is also an open fireplace should volunteers wish to have a barbecue or sit around a camp fire in the evenings.

Note that the project location in South Africa has an altitude of 1600m, with temperatures up to 10° cooler than those in the closest city, so do bring some warm clothes with you for chilly African evenings.

WHAT WILL I BE EATING?

You'll get the chance to sample the exhilarating fusion of food that is South African cuisine. On the ranch, you will enjoy three meals per day from Monday to Friday, which will typically be delicious home cooked African meals prepared by the friendly local staff. A popular way to finish the day is with an authentic South African braai (BBQ). Vegetarian and special dietary requirements can also be catered for.

COSTS

2 weeks	US\$ 1,145
Extra week	US\$ 545

DEPARTURE DATES

Starts on the 1st of every month.

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

- Food
- Accommodation
- Airport pick-up
- In-country transfers
- Local orientation & training
- In-country emergency support
- 24-hour international HQ back-up

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.