

Chimpanzee Wildlife and Orphan Care Project Zambia



www.africanimpact.com



At African Impact, we see ourselves as the on-the-ground AFRICAN SPECIALISTS in volunteering. Founded in 2004, we have so far hosted over 6000 volunteers on our exciting Conservation and Community Volunteer Projects in Africa.

*We are also immensely proud to have been nominated as Finalists for the following Responsible Tourism Awards in 2009: The **World Travel Awards**; The **British Youth Travel Awards** and the prestigious South African **Imvelo Responsible Tourism Awards**. In 2010 we were once again nominated for a World Travel Award and were proud **Winners of an Africa-wide Imvelo Responsible Tourism Award**. An accolade awarded in 2009 to Sir Richard Branson's Uluksaba Eco-Lodge in South Africa. In 2011 so far we are nominated for a World Travel Award and are entrants once again in the Imvelo Awards, British Youth Travel Awards and Virgin Responsible Tourism Award.*

Our head office is in Cape Town, South Africa, with supporting operations offices in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia. We are determined to make a difference in the amazing communities and conservation areas in which we work. And so can you...

African Impact

PHYSICAL ADDRESS 6 Carlton Close, Noordhoek, 7985, Cape Town, South Africa.

TELEPHONE +27217854319 Direct Line or CALL US TOLL FREE 08005200926 (UK) 1-800-606-7185 (USA)



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Location: Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage, in the North of Zambia

Age limit: Minimum 18 years, maximum decided on potential participants' health

Required experience: Volunteers on this project have to be in good physical shape, as physical work is involved on most days.

Project Highlights:

- Interact with young chimpanzees at the orphanage
- Be a part of the day to day life in the largest chimpanzee sanctuary in the world
- Capture data on chimpanzee interaction, behaviours and any tool use to support the unique research opportunity the centre provides
- Help take care of both chimpanzees and a range of other animals, including African geese, parrots, monkeys and a hippo
- Play an important role in the rehabilitation of endangered chimpanzees
- Assist with educating local children about chimpanzees and the need to help conserve them
- Make friends for life with the other international volunteers on the programme and immerse yourself in Zambian culture

Chimpanzee Wildlife and Orphan Care Programme

The chimpanzee is the animal kingdoms closest relative to humans. In fact, chimpanzees are more similar to man than they are other apes, and research indicates that chimpanzees are over 99 percent genetically identical to humans. Baby chimpanzees, for instance, mature at roughly the same rate as humans, often staying close to their mothers until the age of eight.

Chimpanzees are native to Equatorial Africa, and once roamed in their millions across 25 countries in West, Central and East Africa. But relentless poaching, logging, habitat destruction, and human encroachment have reduced the wild population to less than an estimated 150 000, and they are classified as an Endangered Species. Chimpanzees are social animals with strong family bonds. They live in large groups of 25 or more, and female chimpanzees are attentive mothers, often doting on their offspring for the first four or five years. Chimpanzees are also efficient hunters and tool makers, and exhibit many of the same emotions once thought exclusive to humans, such as jealousy, envy, compassion, greed, sloth, avarice, and malice.

Hunted for meat or captured for sale to foreign zoos and animal testing labs, chimpanzees are disappearing at a rate of 6,000 per year. The illegal hunting and subsequent sale of primate meat, known as "bushmeat", is a thriving commercial enterprise and is on the increase with the depletion of forests. Sadly, it is believed that the killer human viruses such as Ebola and AIDS are directly related to the consumption of this ape meat, yet the practice shows no signs of abating.



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Chimpanzee babies who survive the hunting ordeal are often sold as pets, zoo animals, or circus performers, while some wind up in medical research.

The Wildlife Orphanage

Chimfunshi is a family-run wildlife orphanage in the north of Zambia. Chimfunshi was founded in 1983 when a game ranger brought a badly wounded infant chimpanzee to the cattle ranch of David and Sheila Siddle, a British couple who had lived in along the Zambian copperbelt since the 1950s. The Siddles nursed that chimp – nicknamed "Pal" – back to health, thereby establishing a tradition of care and respect that forms the legacy of the sanctuary. Once word of Pal's recovery spread, the Siddles found themselves inundated with orphaned chimpanzees. Although many are confiscated from poachers who attempt to smuggle the infants into Zambia for sale as pets, an equally large number are rescued from dilapidated zoos and circuses from all over Africa, Asia, Europe and South America. With over a hundred chimpanzees, Chimfunshi is now the largest chimp sanctuary in the world.

In 2002, an Education Centre was built to provide a facility to teach the youth of Zambia about ecology and wildlife conservation. It is also used by local and international students researching group behaviour and ethnic studies.

The Siddles' work has won them a steady stream of honors and awards, including the United Nations Environment Programme's Global 500 Award (2000), the Audi / Terra Nova nomination (2001), a special commendation from the Nedbank / mail & Guardian Green Trust Awards (2000), and the Jane Goodall Award (1995). In 2001, the Siddles were granted MBEs by Queen Elizabeth II in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

Your daily tasks may include:

- Prepare chimpanzee and monkey/ baboon food for daily feedings
- Assist with feedings
- Interact with the young chimps at the orphanage
- Monitor activity from outside the enclosures and document movements and activities with video cameras
- Assist with feeding the other animals at the orphanage (including a hippo)
- Assist with the education programme
- Clean food buckets and boxes
- Walk fence line around enclosures to check for overhanging branches, grass, weeds that might stop the electrical fence from working
- Clean out plastic bottles used for the feeding of milk to chimpanzees
- Pick lemons for chimpanzees from trees
- Sweep and clean visitor areas
- Assist orphanage manager in other duties



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A day in the life of a Chimfunshi volunteer...

A day in the life of a volunteer on this project may look something like this (please note that your schedule may vary from day to day, this is just to give you a general idea):

07h00 The start of your day at the sanctuary! You may spend the morning monitoring and recording behaviour, cleaning enclosures and preparing food for the animal's breakfast and lunch and assist with their feeding. Or you may take out a group of young orphaned chimp on a fun 'bush walk' (about once a week)! This will give you a chance to interact with the animals, and watch them play in their natural environment.

12h00 - 13h00 Lunch time

14h00 - 16h00 Depending on the daily schedules, you may assist in the Education Centre, educating the local community about wildlife and the importance of its preservation. Alternatively, you may continue the monitoring and recording of behaviour or help prepare food for the other wildlife at the sanctuary.

16h15 Briefing by your project manager about the following days activities.

Evenings – a sociable affair where volunteers chat about their day and enjoy dinner together.

Project Support:

Throughout your stay at your placement you will have the support and guidance of our experienced field-workers and project coordinators. They are part of our greater African Impact support team and will provide you with competent 24-hour field support and assistance.

Project Accommodation and meals:

- While at Chimfunshi, you will be provided with on-site dormitory style accommodation.
- This includes bed and bedding, toilets, showers & washing facilities. You may be sharing a room with other volunteers.
- The Education Centre, located next to the accommodation, is equipped with a power source from Solar panels (UK plugs) and charging of electrical equipment is possible during the day.
- Please note that the accommodation and facilities are comfortable but basic.
- You will be provided with three catered meals per day, and will eat in our thatched dining area.



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Getting there:

You will need to fly into Simon Mwansa Kapewwe International Airport, Ndola, Zambia. (There are direct flights to Ndola from Johannesburg, South Africa, and Nairobi, Kenya.) Arriving volunteers will be picked up by one of our projects coordinators **at 13.00 on the first and third Monday of the month**. You can either arrive in the morning, or arrive the day before and book accommodation to stay overnight. In this case, one of our drivers will pick you up from your accommodation around 13.30 on the Monday.

Departing volunteers will be dropped off at Ndola airport **at 11.00 on the first and third Monday of the month**. If you fly out the next day, you'll have to book accommodation and stay overnight. Our project coordinator will drop you off at your accommodation between 11.00 and 13.00, and you will have to arrange an airport transfer the next day – so make sure your accommodation offers this service.

Project Costs:

2012	GBP	USD	EUR
2 weeks	GBP1095	USD1970	EUR1425
4 weeks	GBP1795	USD3230	EUR2335
6 weeks	GBP2695	USD4845	EUR3495

Project Cost Includes:

- Project fee: this entails financing that goes directly back into the project and to the chimpanzees and other orphan animals, facilitating the continued care and rehabilitation of animals in need, as well as food, management and maintenance of the sanctuary
- Airport transfers
- Accommodation
- Three meals a day
- Full time assistance in your projects and comprehensive orientation by various trained staff during your stay.
- The service of a cleaner for your room each day

Project Cost Excludes:

- All items of a personal nature, such as curios, gifts, clothing
- Return flights to Zambia
- Email and telephone calls made during your placement
- Any excursions over and above your planned itinerary
- Personal insurance cover for the duration of your placement, which is expected to include cover for repatriation
- Food and drink items not included in your meals
- Laundry (there are facilities for you to hand wash your own clothes)



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Project Orientation:

Volunteers will be introduced to the Wildlife Sanctuary and its inhabitants and receive a comprehensive orientation upon arrival. This will include the following:

- Introduction to all African Impact representatives and key sanctuary staff
- Introduction to the project aims and objectives
- Tour of the different parts of the sanctuary
- Introduction to the education program for local children
- Familiarization with all duties and activities you will be involved in

Project Travel Highlights:

Zambia is a fantastic country to travel in and there are some incredible National Parks, like Kafue and South Luangwa. We are very fortunate to be based right next to the Kafue River – a beautiful yet very remote location! If you would like to travel onto Livingstone after your placement, we can help you book flights once you are at Chimfunshi. Many travellers go to Livingstone to see the world famous Victoria Falls – one of the 7 Natural Wonders of The World! There are lots of adrenaline activities to do in Livingstone too – like white water rafting, bungee jumping and micro lighting...to name a few! Or you could join an overland tour from Livingstone to Cape Town or Livingstone to Nairobi – please contact your African Impact Destination Manager if you would like more info or to book an overland tour – a great way to end your placement!

Meet your Destination Manager for this project!

Emma is a past volunteer and now works in the African Impact head office in Cape Town. Emma will guide you through the whole pre-arrival procedure for this placement. You will receive comprehensive information throughout to ensure you are fully prepared for your project placement with us. Emma is originally from Cape Town. She has spent many years travelling the world and living in fascinating places, immersing herself in the culture, language and lifestyle. She has also volunteered on various projects and after all her travels has returned home to work in the place she loves most. Africa is where her true passion and inspiration for life is and she loves wildlife conservation and the people of Africa! Her dream is to one day settle on a beautiful beach where the monkeys roam free in the trees above her and she can sleep to the sound of the waves and the calls of nature.



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- For news and updates on all of our projects please join us at African Impact's official Facebook main page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/African-Impact-Official-Page/140942759303157#!/pages/African-Impact-Official-Page/140942759303157>
- Follow us on Twitter - Want to hear what is happening at the projects in real time Follow us on Twitter @ http://twitter.com/#!/African_Impact



We are proud to let you know that African Impact were recently announced as the **WINNERS** of the South African **Imvelo Responsible Tourism Awards 2010 and 2011** in the Best Social Involvement category.

This is a huge honour for us, and enormous thanks must go to all our past volunteers and project teams who have supported our work here in Africa and have helped make this possible! More information on these Africa-wide awards is available on our website: <http://www.africanimpact.com/news-article/african-impact-win-responsible-tourism-award-2010!/20101112>

Sir Richard Branson's prestigious private game reserve Ulusaba, here in South Africa, was the winner of this category last year, so that's the level of competition for these awards!



Our Partners

[The Happy Africa Foundation www.happyafricafoundation.org](http://www.happyafricafoundation.org) African Impact is proud to have been instrumental in the establishment of The Happy Africa Foundation in 2007 and continues to be one of the Foundations major supporters. UK Registered Charity Number: 1123529. The mission of The Happy Africa Foundation is to empower the African people through the support of community and conservation based initiatives that operate at grass roots level.

We are proudly affiliated to the UK-based **Know Before You Go** campaign that promotes education and knowledge-sharing amongst travellers.

African Impact is delighted to have been nominated as a **2009 World Travel Awards Finalist** and see this as exciting recognition of our position as African specialists in Volunteering, with over 5 years experience in sharing Africa with travellers who have a passion for making a difference.

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