Embark on the adventure of a lifetime as you learn from a professional photographer and improve your wildlife photography skills in an area known for its spectacular scenery and iconic animals. On this unique program, you'll use your photographs and newly honed (or existing) skills to contribute to vital wildlife conservation efforts.
Take your photography to the next level during this four-week program, beginning the stay with one-week of intensive tutoring from a professional photographer.

Develop your newly acquired/existing skills in the remaining three-weeks, in the disciplines of wildlife, birding, macro, landscape, experimental photography, and more.

Use your photography skills to aid our sister projects, from contributing to I.D. kits for research or reporting on the developments in our community projects.

Learn how your images can make a difference through conservation support, fundraising, marketing, and more.

Camp out at our overnight camp once a week – a truly African experience that sees you spending a night in the middle of the bush, under an unimaginable number of stars.

Assist in ongoing practical conservation initiatives, including removing invasive plant species or conducting snare sweeps. This directly preserves the habitat, and lives, of the animals who call this area home.

Live in the heart of the world-famous Greater Kruger Area, in your own private volunteer lodge surrounded by wildlife.

During your downtime, explore Blyde River Canyon, take in the sights of the Panorama Route, go for a hike, take a swim in our pool, or put another stamp in your passport by visiting the intriguing land-locked country of Swaziland.
ABOUT THIS PROJECT

This project is based in the Greater Kruger Area of South Africa – famous for its breath-taking scenery and wildlife, as well its protection efforts to save these species’ and preserve their natural habitats. In this impressive setting, you’ll get the opportunity to enhance your photographic skills while raising awareness of conservation issues and solutions taking place around you. If you have always wanted to take amazing wildlife photographs, there is no better place in the world.

WEEK 1 - PHOTOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP

In the first week of this program, you will take part in an extensive workshop alongside our professional photographer, Samuel Cox. He will teach you the basics, secrets and highlights of photography, by explaining how to use your camera settings and what you need to focus on when taking pictures. You will get assignments to capture frames, colors, movement, portraits, and much more, all of which should teach you new techniques and make you a better photographer. Last but not least, Samuel will also teach you how to edit your photographs in Adobe Lightroom – helping them stand out from the crowd.

WEEK 2, 3 & 4 - VOLUNTEERING

Your remaining time on this project will be spent contributing to our wider aims and objectives here in the Greater Kruger, continuing to develop and grow your photographic skills the entire time. We aim to give you a realistic idea of what it is to be a professional photographer which includes editing and learning how best to use your photographs. Through the different activities identified in the next couple of pages, we’ll take pride in teaching you how to create National Geographic-level photographs, how to present them in context, and how to seek out opportunities for exposure. You will have assignments to complete and at the end of the four weeks, will be astonished by the end result.
Working in conjunction with our research department, photographers will assist the research team in collecting animal identification information. By taking clear and concise photographs of the wildlife we encounter on game drives, the research team are able to identify the individuals and report back on their health, movements, and behavior. These photographs are key for reserve management as they feed into identification databases that are consulted when making conservation-led decisions.

Conservation-centered thinking
It is very important as a wildlife photographer to work in an ethical manner when photographing animals in their natural environment. Therefore, we will teach about animal behavior and help you become more conservation-minded in your approach to photography. Understanding how to be a photographer in this context ensures the best possible impact on wildlife conservation, as well as provides you with stunning imagery.

Creative exposure
We are always looking for opportunities to use your images and gain our photographers exposure through publications, online blogs and databases. We have a photographic database for conservation and educational purposes, so bear this in mind when you are capturing photographs of the wildlife we encounter. Images are also sold online, and all proceeds go directly back into the core research projects.
WHAT ELSE YOU'LL BE INVOLVED IN

MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY
Use your camera to transport people into the world beneath their feet with Macro Photography. As a photography volunteer, you’ll develop your understanding and appreciation of the smaller aspects of the wildlife environment and learn how to best portray their immense beauty. You will soon be in awe of the amazing creatures we so often overlook, such as the dung beetle, the dragonflies, and many more.

REPTILE CENTER
During your time with us, we will get you involved in different and exciting activities. Partnering with a local Reptile Center, you will get the chance to photograph several species such as: snakes, spiders, crocodiles and many more reptiles. This is an opportunity to photograph them in a way you will not be able to in the wild, but still in the reptiles’ natural environment.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING IN THE BUSH
Fancy camping under the stars? No sleeping bag required! In a Big 5 Game Reserve, you will have the chance to see a variety of wildlife, take stunning pictures of them and just simply enjoy what the bush has to offer during the day. After sunset, the night drives give you an opportunity to work on your lowlight photography skills – learning to work with light instead of against it. Finishing off your night with stargazing around the campfire, this is a definite highlight!

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS
Our knowledgeable Field Guides and on-site staff will hold presentations to enhance your understanding on topics such as: rhino poaching, giraffes, lion conservation, bio indicators, beetles and bugs and many more.

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE MONTH
Every month we have a photography competition. Our photographers submit five of their favorite images with the hope of this image being voted the best by our staff and volunteers. The winning image takes pride of place as our Facebook cover shot for the month!
**A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A PHOTOGRAPHY VOLUNTEER**

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<tr>
<td><strong>AM</strong></td>
<td><strong>Photography</strong> - Waterfalls/Landscapes</td>
<td><strong>Conservation</strong> - Invasive Plant Removal</td>
<td><strong>Photography</strong> - Game Drive</td>
<td><strong>Photography</strong> - Sunrise Shoot</td>
<td><strong>Photography</strong> - Game Drive</td>
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<td><strong>MID-MORNING</strong></td>
<td>Project meeting</td>
<td><strong>Rhino Poaching Presentation followed by Photo Editing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Break Up Camp and Return to Lodge</strong></td>
<td><strong>Photo Editing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Photo Critique</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PM</strong></td>
<td><strong>Photography</strong> - Macro Bush Walk</td>
<td><strong>Photography</strong> - Game Drive</td>
<td><strong>Photo Editing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Community</strong> - Reading Club</td>
<td><strong>Photo Editing or Optional Town Trip</strong></td>
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<td><strong>EVENING</strong></td>
<td><strong>Overnight Camp/ Astral Photography</strong></td>
<td><strong>Light Painting</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sundowners Quiz</strong></td>
<td><strong>Braai Night</strong></td>
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<th>SAT</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Weekend Trips – Panorama Trip</td>
<td>Weekend trips – Kruger National Park</td>
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*This is a rough example of how your week as a photography volunteer could look. However; due to the nature of the project these activities may change on a daily basis.*
WHAT ELSE IS IMPORTANT?

WHERE YOU WILL BE STAYING
During your volunteering placement you will stay in our lodge within the Greater Kruger Area- a spacious lodge boasting a large swimming pool all situated on 18 hectares of land. This beautiful landscape serves as home to impala, warthog, bush pig, nyala and a great diversity of birdlife. Here, you'll dine, relax and socialise. We don't know of a better place to sit around a camp fire and admire the stars!

WHAT THE LOCATION IS LIKE
Situated in the heart of South Africa’s most famous ‘Big 5’ area, we are surrounded by game reserves including the world-renowned Kruger National Park, which is a 45-minute drive from the lodge.

The nearest town is Hoedspruit, which is a 30-minute drive from our lodge and a great place to spend some relaxing downtime. We do an optional weekly town trip on Fridays to visit supermarkets and souvenir shops or you can simply relax whilst drinking coffee or eating ice-cream.
Extensions available up to 12 weeks by switching from photography to the research projects, where you may have the opportunity to utilize your photographic skills to help these vital initiatives.

Want to know what's included? Great news, it is pretty much everything! Including your:

- First week's photographic workshop and mentorship from our professional photographer
- Shared accommodation (private accommodation upgrades are available for an extra supplement)
- Airport pickup and drop-off on selected Sundays
- All your daily project transport
- 3 meals a day, freshly cooked from our team of great chefs
- A full-time housekeeping service and 24-hour onsite support
- Returning volunteers receive 5% discount!
- Existing volunteers booking another project in a NEW location receive 10% discount!
- Wi-Fi is available for an additional fee, but you will need your own WI-Fi compatible device. (Approx.: R350 for 2 weeks or R600 for 4 weeks)

Our team stays with you and offers guidance and advice whenever you need it. We help plan your day so you get as much out of your work as possible. We are also here to make sure you have fun!

**PRICES 2020**

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<tr>
<th>2020</th>
<th>GBP</th>
<th>EUR</th>
<th>USD</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 WEEKS</td>
<td>£ 2754</td>
<td>€ 3167</td>
<td>$ 4263</td>
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Start dates 2020

26 January | 23 February | 22 March | 19 April | 17 May | 14 June | 12 July | 09 August | 06 September | 04 October | 01 or 29 November | 27 December
What To Do In Your Free Time

We know you’re going to be working hard during the day but we want you to enjoy your downtime in the evenings and on the weekends. Here are just a few ideas:

- Go on the famous Panorama Route, which is a scenic route along Mpumalanga Escarpment with Blyde River Canyon, Africa's second largest canyon
- Go on an adventure in Blyde River Canyon that include extreme hiking or micro light flying
- Go on a day safari or overnight trip with an experienced guide to the world-famous Kruger National Park, South African's largest game reserve
- Enjoy a fantastic fun filled afternoon learning about the Shangaan culture, language and history through dance and music
- Go on an afternoon town trip in to Hoedspruit, grab an ice cream, do some souvenir shopping and pick up some yummy snacks for the following week
- Get an extra stamp in your passport and explore Swaziland, in the wonderful Mlilwane Game reserve filled with numerous animal species and stunning flowers
- Relax by the pool, watch a movie or challenge your fellow volunteers and staff to a game of touch rugby
At African Impact, we create the most transformative and impactful volunteer experiences on the planet for communities, wildlife and volunteers.

Volunteering in Africa is what we do, it's in our DNA and what we are awarded for year after year. We've built, grown and developed our very own projects, hand-in-hand with local African communities. We work with the most incredible people to make this happen and surround ourselves with inspiring human beings from every corner of the world.

Every year is a chance to grow, learn and better our offering – both for host communities and for volunteers themselves. We're constantly pushing the boundaries of excellence and know that volunteering can achieve even more.

What do we believe in?

- Providing an extraordinary experience to our volunteers
- Making tangible, measurable impacts for our communities and wildlife initiatives
- Transforming the lives and perspectives of everyone who is part of our journey

So, welcome to what good volunteering looks like. Join us and go #BeyondVolunteering to a place that connects cultures, mindset and ideas. A place that leaves you awed and inspired, able to do more, discover more and to make a real impact.
Nicole is originally from Canada. However, she has called South Africa home for the past 11 years.

She first came to South Africa as a community project volunteer and therefore knows (first-hand) the life-changing experience of volunteering in Africa.

After travelling the world, it is the rich beauty of South Africa that has stolen her heart. She now looks forward to sharing the diverse volunteer experiences waiting for you here with African Impact.

Email Nicole on: nicole@africanimpact.com

We look forward to welcoming you for a unique, rewarding and unforgettable experience!