

13 day Bush awareness course

Purpose

Students will gain some basic knowledge on some of the more interesting aspects of the bush. There will be daily walks and drives which will allow the students to relax and observe the wild life of the reserve.

Activities during the 13 days may include

- A cultural tour around the local town with a visit to a Sangoma where you will see how different plants are utilized.
- A cruise on a boat on the Olifants River and enjoying the local birdlife. This is just a great opportunity to relax for 3 hours while someone else does the driving. Apart from birds there is a great opportunity to view hippos, crocodiles, elephants and much more from the safety of a cruise boat.
- Sleep out under the stars. This is a memorable experience where you get to sleep out under the stars without the safety of tents or electric fences. Individuals keep watch in turns while their colleagues try and sleep. Lions, elephants, buffalo and hyena could all make an appearance during the night, so you need to be vigilant- oh and don't forget the odd scorpion or snake.
- A visit to the local snake park and a ranger training day. Learn how to identify some species and how to handle them safely.
- A trip to a local animal rehabilitation centre. Here is an opportunity to get up close and personal to some animals and to learn about the valuable work some people do in the effort to try and save animals that have normally been injured by mankind.
- Spend some time looking for scorpions with a UV light, following the calls of frogs and try to locate these elusive amphibians.
- An evening learning about the stars and an opportunity to look through a telescope (weather permitting). Take in breath-taking views of the moon and maybe the rings of Saturn or the Galilean moons of Jupiter.
- A full day safari within the Kruger national park. (Entrance fees are excluded from the costs of the course. No trip to this part of the country would be complete without a visit to the gem of South Africa's conservation areas.

		<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
<u>Week 1</u>	Morning	Arrive @12h00 and check in	Morning walk. Breakfast Bird introduction	Morning walk. Breakfast Mammals introduction	Morning walk. Breakfast Flora Trees and grasses	Mammals introduction		Pack up camp and clean equipment
	Afternoon	Familiarization of facilities	Bird introduction	Mammals introduction	Tree uses- medicinal etc.	Cultural tour of Namakgale	Prepare for sleep out	Relaxation time
	Evening	Evening game drive	Birding drive	Game drive		Cruise on Olifants river with Kambaku safaris	Sleep out overnight	
<u>Week 2</u>	Morning	Early breakfast Trip to Khamai reptile park	Morning walk. Breakfast Ecology introduction	Morning walk. Breakfast Arthropods	Morning walk. Breakfast	All day trip into Kruger	Pack up and go	
	Afternoon	Trip to Moholoholo	Amphibians	Arthropods	Astronomy			
	Evening		Frogging drive	Scorpion drive	Stargazing	Dinner in Phalaborwa Certificate presentation		