## Eastern Cape Veterinary Experience South Africa

The Eastern Cape Veterinary Experience gives participants exposure to behind-the-scenes interactions with vets, researchers, wildlife managers and conservationists in stunning South Africa, while getting hands-on with some of the continent's amazing wildlife. Get your hands dirty assisting, or simply watch from up close, either way, you will have an unforgettable encounter with Africa's wildlife during this small-group adventure (maximum 8 participants).

This program is designed those in veterinary training from vet and vet nurse students to young veterinarians and veterinary nurses and techs. You do not need lots of experience to take part, this trip is suitable for Pre-Vets and for anyone interested in a career in the industry, however the further into your veterinary career you are the more you may gain from participating in both the practical activities and the field lectures.



"You will get hands-on experience on various wildlife species, learn different techniques to locate, approach, capture and relocate them and will learn about products and medication that are used for all sorts of wildlife. The living accommodations and meals are wonderful, you will be treated as a king! Overall a fantastic experience, I would recommend it to anyone interested in wildlife medicine and conservation." Vicky, Aug 2023

## **Snapshot**

• 2024: 30 Jun – 13 Jul, 21 Jul – 03 Aug

• 2025: 11-24 May, 22 Jun - 05 Jul, 10-23 Aug

• Pricing 2024: AU \$4,745 / £2,500 / €2,930 / US \$3,145

• Pricing 2025: AU \$5,235 / £2,765 / €3,225 / US \$3,275

• Vic Falls Tour AU\$1,477 - \$2,139 (tour price varies)

• Minimum Age: 18

Fly In/Out : Port Elizabeth (PLZ)

• What's included: All meals, accommodation, return airport transfers, activities

• What's not included: Flights, travel insurance, off-site activities

Accommodation: Twin-share glamping tents in luxury tented camp

• Food: 3 delicious meals per day are provided, most dietary needs are catered for.









## **Itinerary**

Participants will experience Africa's wildlife through our hands on program allowing for a unique and invaluable opportunity to learn within the veterinary field and working in the bush.

Knowledge and experience gained during this course highlights many of the issues facing wildlife vets and conservation in Southern Africa. This knowledge and the broad basics will naturally serve as transferable skills for future wildlife work anywhere in the world, including captive facilities. Participants will gain technical knowledge and skills involved in the chemical restraint and immobilisation and conservation of wildlife. There are multiple theory and practical sessions during the course to ensure maximum learning opportunities outside of your usual classroom setting. Topics you can expect to cover:

- Species identification
- Grazing and reserve management
- Methods of capture & immobilisation
- Nutrition & deficiencies
- Conservation methods including hunting as a conservation tool.
- Conservation vs trophy hunting.
- Applied pharmacology with commonly used drugs
- Dart gun theory and practical
- Law and ethics in wildlife management and wildlife work
- Transferable skills
- Rehabilitation
- Plus many other wildlife related topics



Whilst wildlife work rarely runs to a definite schedule, an **example itinerary** is as below:

- **Sunday** Arrive at Port Elizabeth Airport (airport code PLZ), where you'll be met and taken to the reserve, a journey of around 90 minutes. Make yourself at home before your welcome and orientation in the late afternoon!!
- Monday Introduction to capture and immobilisation. Anatomy & physiology lecture
- Tuesday Dart gun theory and practical. Approach on animals in the wild lecture and practical
- Wednesday Game capture / wildlife work
- Thursday Set up of passive capture ie boma / nets. Pharmacology lecture.
- Friday Passive capture of wildlife



- Saturday and Sunday are free time, with no scheduled program activities. If you wish to explore the Eastern Cape then a choice of excursions are available which the team will happily help you arrange. From a safari day at the wonderful Addo Elephant National park to adrenaline activities, elephant-feeding, hiking, whale watching ..... there's lots to do if you so choose.
- Monday Helicopter darting capture
- Tuesday Game capture/ wildlife work
- Wednesday Mass capture / game capture / wildlife work
- Thursday Antiparasitic treatment darting practical
- Friday Wildlife work / game capture. Wildlife first aid and rehab lecture & practical.
- Saturday Departure day, transfer to Port Elizabeth



**Accommodation and Meals:** You'll find yourself at home in our luxury tented camp, for an in the bush experience. Tents accommodate 2 people sharing. The main lodge is where you will be for meals. Laundry services and wifi are available.

Three delicious catered meals are included each day, so you'll enjoy the luxury of having your breakfast, lunch and dinner prepared for you. Most dietary needs are catered for.





## Victoria Falls tour

Extend your stay with a week or more of conservation volunteering or take an exciting adventure tour linking South Africa with spectacular Victoria Falls via Botswana's bucket-list destinations Okavango Delta and Chobe National Park. The tour starts in South Africa and finishes in Zimbabwe, travelling via wonderful Botswana. 3 countries, 8 days...nice!

With three bucket-list African destinations in a week this adventure tour offers the very best experiences available in Southern Africa. We'll have you to Port Elizabeth airport nice and early Saturday morning for your short flight to Johannesburg (not included) ready to join your group. The adventure tour is mainly camping (equipment provided) with one budget hotel night and most meals are included as well as a heap of activities (with others available to book as optional extras).

Our journey starts in Johannesburg before we drive north, with an overnight at Khama Rhino Sanctuary and onward to the world-renowned Okavango Delta. Here we undertake a unique and exciting overnight wildlife safari by dugout canoe, watching the myriad species as they gather at the water's edge to drink. Chobe National Park is another A-list safari location, here we hope to see herds of elephant, rare antelopes, lion, hyena and African wild dog.

We finish our journey with an adrenalin fix as you peer over the sheer edge of the thundering waters of Victoria Falls. Go wild if you wish, leap off bridges, take a thrilling white water rafting adventure through rampant rapids of the Zambezi or experience the grandeur of raging Victoria Falls from up high in your micro-light aircraft. Then, cool off with a tranquil sunset cruise along the upper Zambezi River as you watch the African bush go by. Operated by our partner G Adventures, the tour price varies but is usually in the range AU \$1,477 - \$2,139.



Only 8 places each group - plan ahead to secure your spot - Interest free Payment Plan