



# CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE ECOLOGY

As a intern you will experience hands-on field research relevant to the Conservation of savannah ecosystems in Africa. Join us and study birds, reptiles, ungulates, rodents, small predators, bats, vegetation and a variety of other plant and animal life in one of southern Africa's most unique Conservation areas within a global biodiversity hotspot. Investigate the interface among protected areas, rural communities and commercial agriculture in Swaziland's Lubombo Conservancy while based in the private Mbuluzi Game Reserve and also working in neighbouring Hlane Royal National Park and Mlawula Nature Reserve.

Although savannah's are well represented in African Conservation areas, they are subjected to increasing degradation as a result of human influences through land use and climate change. Though well known for large charismatic game such as elephants, rhinos and lions, there are a variety of smaller species that are threatened and are arguably more important to the functioning of savannah's.

Whether you are looking to gain experience to add to your CV, need to fulfill University requirements or just have experience to contribute, we like to make our internships as beneficial for each intern as possible. That's why we want to know in advance if you have a special interests, expertise or goals to achieve whilst your completing your internship with us.

## ACCOMMODATION & MEALS

During your stay you will be accommodated at the Savannah Research Centre located in the Mbuluzi Game Reserve\*. Accommodation will be in 2-man tents, fitted with mattresses and pillows. Three meals a day will also be provided, some on a self-serve basis and others cooked for you.

*\*Depending on availability, you may be placed a satellite research camp within a partner Game Reserve, and not at the main Savannah Research Centre in Mbuluzi. Please inquire for more information.*

## PROJECT START DATES

Arrival day for this project is the first Monday of the month throughout the year, with the exception of November & December when the project is closed. *(Please ensure that your flight arrives BEFORE 1:00 pm)*

2017 ARTA WINNER!

2017 GYTA FINALIST!

African Responsible  
Tourism Awards 2017  
at WTM Africa  
BEST TOUR OPERATOR &  
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION  
GOLD

GLOBAL YOUTH TRAVEL  
AWARDS 2017  
FINALIST  
OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER PROJECT

## INCLUDED IN THE COST

- Comprehensive 24 hour, 7 day a week support from All Out Africa
- Research projects specifically designed to enable you to make an active contribution during your stay
- Developing research and field techniques which support any additional assistance which may be required
- Support of intern project coordinators who are experts in their fields which ensures the intern experience is valuable
- Comprehensive orientation to the country, its culture and your role as a intern upon arrival
- All food and accommodation throughout your stay

## INTERN ROLE

The research may involve weighing, measuring, tagging and banding young birds (especially raptors), bats and reptiles (lizards and tortoises) to monitor their condition and enable the study of their population dynamics and dispersal. It also may involve fitting radio-transmitters to track the animals to determine their home range, distribution and movements.

An intern, although also not being paid, is different from a Gap-year volunteer as they are expected to bring some knowledge and/or experience in the area they are working in. There are fewer internship posts available so competition for these is higher. Interns will be working at a more career focused strategic level and developing local capacity to



work effectively and with meaning, as well as gaining valuable hands-on, practical experience during their placement. Interns are also expected to take on more responsibility and to create their own goals and seek activities to be involved in or lead. They will also have a mentor assigned to them to guide them during the internship.

*In order to carry out many of these activities you will need to have some environmental science knowledge already.*

**Some of the activities you will get involved in may include:**

**Biodiversity monitoring** - Seasonal Savannah systems are under constant threat from human activities resulting in biodiversity losses, shrub encroachment and pollution. We use birds counts, acoustic bat monitoring, small mammal trapping, vegetation surveys and camera traps to investigate environmental change.

**Leopard tortoises** - Tortoises are being radio-tracked to better understand how they move through the landscape. We are looking at how changes in vegetation communities and different boundary types affect home range size and movement patterns.

**Helmeted guineafowl** - One of only two species of guineafowl, little is known about how agriculture affects their habitat use and breeding success. Using GPS and radio-tracking technology in addition to nest monitoring, we are gathering valuable data on this important species.

\* Please note that the activities listed above are based on availability and may vary by season. These are samples of activities that are interns are likely to participate in.

As an Intern, you will primarily be responsible for directly assisting the marine biologist on site. This may include working as a lab assistant, and helping the intern researchers with species identification and/or lab procedure. Depending on your skill level and expertise, your internship may also include working on an independent research project.

## WHERE YOUR PROJECT FEE GOES

By signing up with us you are donating your time and skills to work directly with communities in need through a structured project. There are many benefits of interning through an organization like ours. Sometimes it is hard to find projects to support in a foreign country that are safe, worthwhile, and reputable. When you sign-up for one of our projects for 2 or 12 weeks, you become part of a bigger, sustainable plan that our team of qualified staff have carefully crafted. You will also receive travel and visa support, orientation, a safe place to stay, logistical support, in addition to clear expectations of the work you will do. This is why we charge a fee for interning or interning abroad.

Your project fee goes towards a company you can trust, an experience that is worthwhile and an opportunity that will make a positive and sustainable impact on the community you have chosen to serve.

## DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN INTERN

**7:00** Wake up to see the sunshine and get yourself started for the day with hearty breakfast!

**8:00** Travel to your placement and get ready to begin your day

**8:30** Participate in your chosen project

**RESERVE YOUR GROUP WITH  
A 10% DEPOSIT!**

**8 Weeks Starting At \$2250**

\*Prices listed in US Dollar. For special prices, group rates or custom placements please email for a custom quote.

**13:00** Time to either return to your accommodation for lunch, or eat the packed lunch you made that morning!

**14:00** Begin your afternoon's work with a full stomach and enthusiasm

**16:30** Return back to your accommodation, time to shower off the dust and share your day's adventures with other interns!

## ITINERARY FOR YOUR EXPERIENCE

**Day 1** Fly into OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg where you will be met by All Out Africa staff members who will transfer you by road from Johannesburg to the Kingdom of Swaziland.

**Day 2** The second day begins with an informative presentation that will brief you on all you need to know about the culture and country, how to effectively contribute during your intern experience.

**Day 3** The third day begins with an early start as you are transferred to our Savannah Research Centre in the east of Swaziland in Mbuluzi Game Reserve. Here you will meet your knowledgeable research coordinators and will receive a thorough orientation to life at the camp and the research activities.

**Day 4-5** and other weekdays for the duration of your stay. You will spend these days assisting with research and Conservation activities.

Airport transfer is included and facilitated by All Out Africa if on the designated departure day.

## NOT INCLUDED IN THE FEE

**X** Local transport fares to your project or partner  
Note: Interns may travel more frequently and further distances to meet with their partners. If this is a concern, please let your agent know in advance so special arrangements can be made.

**X** Medical/Travel Insurance

**X** All flights & Visas