



Volunteer Program

Kaapsehoop Horse Trails, set on the beautiful Drakensberg escarpment, 35 km from Nelspruit, Mpumalanga, South Africa now offers a Volunteer Program. This involves activities such as general equine husbandry, lessons in saddles and bridles, horseback riding, survival course, archery, counteracting alien vegetation and general farm management.

It is a must for horse lovers and a guaranteed unforgettable experience.

a must for horse lovers



Duration

The project runs for a minimum of one week, starting on the first Monday of every month. Volunteers are initially able to book for one or two weeks with the option to extend their stay after the first week on the project. Successful applicants need to arrive the day before the project begins.

Requirements

- No prior experience or education in this field are required as basic skills are taught to volunteers during their stay.
- Age: 18-40
- Physically fit
- Weight below 90 kg (due to animal welfare a horseback riding weight limit must be applied to assure that the animals do not suffer back injuries).



The Program

1. Volunteers will work full days from Monday to Friday (7:00-16:00).
 2. Weekends can be spent at own leisure.
 3. A town trip to Nelspruit, Mpumalanga's provincial capital, is scheduled once a week so that volunteers have the chance to get into town and do some shopping.
 4. Activities during the week includes
 1. General equine husbandry
 2. Lessons in saddles and bridles
 3. Horseback riding
 4. Survival course
 5. Archery
 6. Counteracting alien vegetation
 7. Community project with the local forestry community
 8. General farm maintenance
- Note that the itinerary is subject to change depending on climatic conditions and seasonal variability.
 - Inexperienced riders and volunteers who have never worked in this field will be taught the necessary skills by our qualified staff.

Leisure Time

During the weekends, volunteers have the opportunity to explore the surrounding area. Kaapsehoop itself is a beautiful village with scenic views and hiking trails.

The world renowned Kruger National Park is about one and a half hours drive away and offers the possibility of viewing the Big Five in their natural environment.

The Panorama route takes you to some of the historic sites of the region as well as to breathtaking waterfalls.

The Elephant Sanctuary, Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, The Endangered Species Centre & Kapama Cheetah Breeding Project as well as other animal sanctuaries are one to three hours drive from Kaapsehoop.

There are also a range of other outdoor activities such as geckoing, the Big Swing, caving, hot air ballooning, all in the near vicinity.

If volunteers do not wish to leave the project over weekends, they are welcome to stay but are responsible for their own meals.

Kruger Mpumalanga Airport is 35 minutes away with daily flights from Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.



Accommodation

During the project, volunteers will be housed in our volunteer quarters: a three bedroom house located on site. The house has a fully functioning kitchen, a shower, a separate bathroom and a lounge area. The three bedrooms are each equipped with two single beds and volunteers will be asked to share with one other person if the maximum volunteer capacity of 6 persons is reached. Each volunteer will be allocated a locker within the bedrooms to store away their valuables. The veranda looks out onto the stunning mountains of the Kaapsehoop region. There is also an open fireplace should volunteers wish to barbecue or sit around a camp fire in the evenings.

Cost

ZAR 3500 per volunteer for one week or

ZAR 7000 per volunteer for two weeks.

This includes accommodation and 3 meals per day during working days (Monday to Friday) as well as the above mentioned weekday activities.

Transfer from KMIA Airport (Nelspruit) or OR Tambo Airport (Johannesburg) can be arranged (at an additional cost).

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<http://www.facebook.com/KaapsehoopHorseTrailsVolunteerProject>

Application forms can be downloaded from the Facebook Page