



13 Days

South Africa

Sports and Conservation

This is not just a sports tour. This is an action-packed expedition with plenty of time to play rugby, plus all the sights and adventure South Africa has to offer. The team can train and play games as well as go on safari, visit nature reserves and learn about conservation. Where better to see one of the Big 5 than at one of the oldest game reserves in the country? Animal encounters and conservation efforts are interspersed with rugby games and training sessions to ensure this trip leaves you absolutely breathless.



Recommended tour itinerary

Day
1-2

Arrive in Durban

Fly from the UK to King Shaka International Airport, Durban, where we are met on arrival by our local STC Expedition Leader. We transfer to our accommodation nearby the airport and freshen up. We then have a welcome briefing and set off for our first traditional meal.

Day
3

uShaka Marine World

We spend our first full day at the popular uShaka Marine World on Durban beachfront, where we will learn about the secrets of the ocean. uShaka is a 16-hectare theme park and hosts over 10,000 animals. Go behind the scenes on a special tour to see the areas that are closed to the general public, including the species in the rehabilitation rooms. Afterwards we explore the thrilling Dangerous Creatures exhibit with countless lizards, frogs, spiders and venomous snakes.

Day
4

Stadium Tour and Training 1

Ready, set, play! We start the day with a tour of Kings Park and Moses Mabhida Stadium which had a key role in the 2010 FIFA world cup. After lunch we have a kit check and briefing on what to expect from the sports tour training and games. In the afternoon we get our adrenaline pumping with our first training session.

Day
5

Umgeni Bird Park and Game 1

The morning begins with a tour around Umgeni Bird Park where more than 200 species of birds, many of them endemic to South Africa, inhabit the tropical plants and forest. One of the highlights of the park is a walk through the aviary, where we can see the birds up close. Following this, we watch the free-flight bird show, an educational and entertaining show featuring birds from across the globe. In the afternoon, we will compete in our first rugby game!

Day
6

Hluhluwe Environmental Camp and Training 2

After breakfast, transfer to Hluhluwe and Albizia Camp where we take part in an environmental awareness course. First we go on a guided bushwalk searching for animal tracks and learn basic identification and tracking skills. Our guide will explain the different animal behaviours and survival strategies of both plants and animals. Then we have a reptile talk and snake and lizard demonstration. In the afternoon we have a training session at Hluhluwe Rugby Club.





Day
7

Game 2

In our second game, we go head to head with the development team in Richards Bay, before returning to Albizia Camp.

Day
8

Elephant Interaction and Training 3

Unsurprisingly, the elephant interaction always proves to be one of the most popular parts of the trip! Our hosts deliver an educational talk on the plight of the African elephant and the various conservation strategies that help protect not only the gentle giants but the ecosystems which they inhabit. We are then able to meet the resident elephants ourselves. Afterwards, we have some lunch and there will be a chance to go shopping at Ilala Weavers and Zamimpilo Local Craft Market. With such an exciting first week we will take this afternoon to rest and relax.

Day
9

Game 3

Don your game faces and sport's kit for the last time today as we challenge Grant Leigh or Felixton College in our final match.

Day
10

Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Safari

An exciting day of animal encounters awaits us at the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve; one of the oldest reserves in South Africa. Riding in an open safari vehicle, we go in search of the Big 5 and countless other species on a full day safari, including a visit to the game capture facility. We will also have an anti-poaching talk around the fire in the evening.

Day
11

St Lucia

Our final day of activities includes exploring the waterways of St Lucia by boat looking for the varied birdlife, hippos, and crocodiles that are an essential part of this estuarine system. There will also be a chance to explore the street markets and stores of St Lucia for some last minute souvenir shopping!

Day
12-13

Depart Durban

After breakfast we complete the last leg of our journey as we head to King Shaka International Airport for our return flight back to the UK.

Further information

Look what's included!

- International flights
- All accommodation
- All food
- All transportation and activities
- Bi-lingual, first-aid qualified local expedition leader
- Parent and student expedition launch evening
- Comprehensive pre-expedition training programme
- 1-day offsite safety INSET day for staff
- ATOL financial protection
- Medical Emergency / Repatriation Travel Insurance
- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Carbon offsetting of all flights
- Free t-shirt for every participant and teacher

What's excluded?

- Transport to airport in UK
- Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations
- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- Cancellation and personal effects insurance

Your expedition timeline



Physical expedition rating:

● ● ● ● ● 5/5

A high level of fitness is required to participate on a trip of this level. You need complete confidence in your ability to play sports for multiple days in a different environment and conditions that you may not be used to.

Longer periods of activity could be of a sustained nature, but rest days will be planned. A pre-travel fitness programme of four to six months is essential to ensure you are in optimal fitness to make the most of this trip.

Culture shock rating:

● ● ● ○ ○ 3/5

Students should expect some culture shock. You'll be exposed to signs of poverty. The food will be quite different to home and English, whilst still spoken, will be less prevalent. Respecting the local culture will make it easier to fit in and get the most out of your trip. We're likely to visit remoter locations on this tour where access to western style services may be sporadic. Often on trips of this grading there are parts of the itinerary which are more remote, interspersed with sections which are more 'comfortable'.



A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your expedition journey



1 Get your tailor-made proposal and further information

If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your expedition itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an itinerary just for you. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.

2 Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials

We can provide initial risk assessments and destination threat assessments to help you with your expedition approval process. Ask for posters and your pre-booking information pack too.

3 Arrange an expedition launch evening at your school

This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the expedition with a comprehensive information evening with opportunity for questions.



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