

Live 4 Now

WILD ZOO

2019 PROGRAMME DATES

16 January to 5 February

15 May to 4 June

12 June to 2 July

10 July to 30 July

7 August to 27 August

There are only 8 spaces available in each group to give you the best experience possible!
We work on a first come first served basis, so book early to avoid disappointment!

Fill in the application form and send it to elton@live4now.co.za to book your spot!





The **Wild Zoo** programme is specifically designed for those who are either studying or working in the zoology field or those studying environmental science, animal science, biological science or a similar degree that have a keen interest in the zoology side of their studies.

This **activity packed** programme addresses topics such as ecology, biodiversity, conservation, sustainability, game reserve management, ornithology, marine biology, herpetology, botany and geology amongst others. Meet **professionals** out in the field and learn from their vast experience.

Food, accommodation, ground transport and activities are **all included** in this package.

DAY 1: ARRIVE

Today we will pick you up at **George Airport** in the Western Cape Province. We will then make our way to our overnight accommodation. The accommodation will be based in a small coastal town not too far from the airport. You will be able to freshen up before dinner and a chat, getting to know your fellow students that are on the tour with you.



DAY 2: ORIENTATION AND BIG 5 GAME RESERVE

Today you will take part in an **orientation** where we will explain everything that lies ahead. Today is also the first day spent in wildlife conservation. You will be taken to a **Big 5 game reserve** which is located inland from Mossel Bay where you will spend the next 5 days to learn all about the conservation efforts run on the reserve.



DAY 3 TO 6: WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

You will spend the next few days **living on the game reserve** learning about and helping out in **conservation** efforts on the reserve. These efforts could include aspects such as the monitoring of elephant, rhino, lion and cheetah, checking of camera traps used to monitor the movements of leopards, bird identification, vegetation management, habitat utilization and identification of animal tracks to mention a few.



DAY 7: OSTRICH INTERACTION

Today you will depart from the game reserve and will make your way to a small town called Oudshoorn, famous for its ostriches. You will be taken on a guided tour of a working **ostrich farm**. You will learn all about these interesting animals and get up close and personal to them. You will be spending the night in the town of Oudshoorn.



DAY 8: CANGO CAVES EXPERIENCE

Today you make your way to the **Cango Caves**. Here you will be taken on an educational tour by an experienced and knowledgeable caving guide. You'll enter a mysterious and strangely beautiful underground world of fascinating rock formations, cellar like chambers and low passageways. Be prepared to crawl, duck and squeeze your way through a fascinating subterranean world. In the afternoon you will make your way to **The Eden District** where you will be spending the next four nights.

DAY 9: BIRD RINGING & RAPTOR PARK

In the morning you will meet with an NPO responsible for conserving the beautiful Natures Valley area. You will take part in a **bird ringing** exercise with a professional bird ringer. In the afternoon you will go to a **bird of prey centre** where you will be given a guided tour and learn all about these birds including rescue and rehabilitation.



DAY 10: SEA HORSE CONSERVATION AND 3 ANIMAL CENTRES

In the morning you will meet with the **Knysna Basin Project** who is concentrating on the conservation of the Knysna Sea Horse and other endangered animals in the local estuaries. In the afternoon you will visit **3 animal centres**. You will be taken on a guided tour of each centre learning about these animals, the importance of such centres and the good work they do. Some of the animals you will encounter include cheetah, lion, leopard, lemurs, squirrel monkey and over 200 species of birds amongst many others.



DAY 11: TSITSIKAMMA

You will start the day off by doing a **tree top canopy tour**. Here you will learn about forest ecology while traveling from platform to platform on a **zip line** hanging 30 metres above the forest floor. Not only educational but loads of fun. In the afternoon you will partake in a **guided forest walk** in the beautiful Tsistikamma forest learning more about this interesting and important biome.



DAY 12: CAPE VULTURE CONSERVATION

In the morning you will make your way to a **nature reserve** along the Garden Route. Here you go on a short hike and meet with the a local ecologist who will talk to you about the conservation efforts surrounding the endangered **Cape vulture**. You will be spending the next three nights in Gansbaai.





DAY 13 & 14: GREAT WHITE SHARKS!

You will be spending the next 2 days with marine biologists out in the field learning about the conservation of these amazing animals. This is based in the Gansbaai area, famous for its dense population of **great white sharks** and whale watching. You could take part in activities such as a **shark cage dive**, shark tagging on a research boat, a snorkelling survey or dissection as well as lectures from the biologists.



DAY 15: AFRICAN PENGUIN & SEABIRD SANCTUARY

On your way out of Gansbaai you will be visiting a world class **seabird sanctuary**. Here you will be given a behind the scenes tour of the centre and a talk by one of the biologists about the endangered African penguin. In the afternoon you will stop over at a **coastal nature reserve** where you will be given a talk by a marine specialist about **marine conservation** relating to endangered seabirds. You will be spending the remaining nights of the programme in Cape Town.

DAY 16: PARKS BOARD AND BABOON CONSERVATION TALK

Today you will be in Cape Town. You will spend the morning with scientists from a **national parks board**. You will be receiving talks on topics which could include the running of a parks board, biodiversity management and conservation. In the afternoon you will meet the founder of **Baboon Matters** which is an NPO dedicated to the conservation of baboons. Find out what they are doing to create sustainable measures to manage baboon/human conflict in urban areas.



DAY 17: EWT TALK AND CAPE LEOPARD TRUST

You will spend the morning with scientists from the **Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)**. Topics That could be addressed include wildlife and energy, estuary conservation and Cheetah metapopulation management. In the afternoon you will head off to attend a lecture on the **Cape mountain leopard** to hear about the efforts taken to conserve this rare animal. The lecture is presented by the The Cape Leopard Trust.

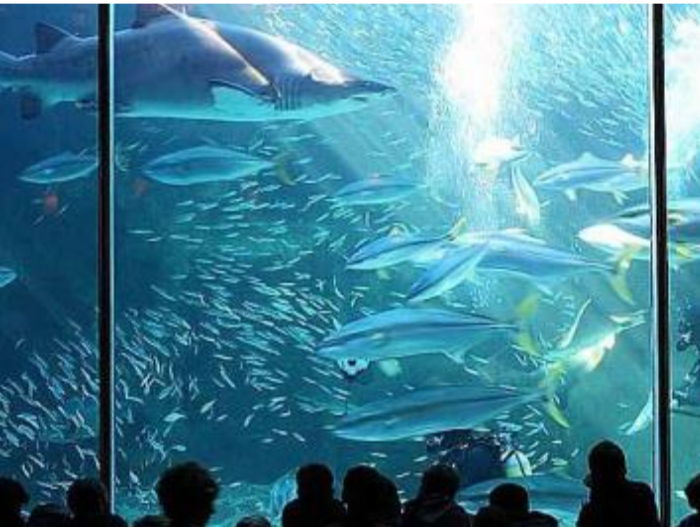


CONSERVATION IN ACTION



DAY 18: SNAKE COURSE

You will spend the day partaking in a **professional snake handling course**. The course is certified by FGASA (Field Guides Association of South Africa). The course will include snake identification, handling techniques and the actual **handling of venomous snakes** such as a Puff Adder and Cape Cobra. You will receive a certificate after completion of the course.



DAY 19: TWO OCEANS AQUARIUM AND V&A WATERFRONT

In the morning you will go to the **Two Oceans Aquarium** in Cape Town where you will be given some time to explore the aquarium after which you will receive a special talk by one of the aquarium biologists.

You will have the **afternoon off** to explore the famous Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, one of South Africa's most visited cultural and historical attractions.



DAY 20: KIRSTENBOSH BOTANICAL GARDENS

Today you will spend a full day with a botanist in the **Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens**, also known as the most beautiful gardens in South Africa and is acclaimed as one of the great botanic gardens of the world. You will get a full tour of the gardens and receive lectures on different aspects of **botany**.



DAY 21: DEPARTURE

Today is a sad day as we have to say goodbye. We will take you to **Cape Town International Airport** where you will make your way back home. We are sure this experience will benefit you throughout your career and will never be forgotten.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US

elton@live4now.co.za

www.live4now.co.za

Tel: +27 82 797 8907

Wild Zoo is a product of Live4Now



Wild Zoo | Information booklet

About Wild Zoo

Live4now is an organisation which oversees meaningful educational tours in South Africa and provides an all-inclusive package for students. Food, accommodation and ground transport are all included in our packages.

Live4now was incorporated in 2012. It was established by Elton and Melissa du Plooy who were born and educated in South Africa. They share a common passion for wildlife and showing guests their beautiful country. Thus Live4now was created. We provide a unique experience to students by combining education with many exciting activities. We will go out of our way to make sure you see as much as possible of the beautiful area in which we are located, boasting safari parks, amazing landscapes and a wild coastline. All of the activities we offer are included in the cost to help make it easy to budget for the trip with no unexpected costs.

We will accompany you from airport pick-up to drop-off, offering guidance and support throughout your experience, making it as meaningful and rewarding as possible. Our personal service, the quality of the activities, the excellent accommodation we offer and the well-managed, meaningful structure of our programmes will make this an experience you will never forget.

The Wild Zoo programme is specifically designed for those who are either studying or working in the Zoology field or those studying environmental science, animal science, biological science or a similar degree that have a keen interest in the zoology side of their studies.

The programme length is 3 weeks and takes you out into the field to learn hands-on from professionals. Learn while having a great time touring South Africa.

Please see the itinerary document for a breakdown of the trip. Please note due to the unpredictability of nature, the weather and the availability of the scientists, this itinerary may change without prior notice.

The programme could address aspects such as:

Game reserve management and wildlife conservation

You will spend 5 days on a 'Big 5' game reserve. During your time on the reserve you will be accompanying and assisting game rangers as they fulfil their duties managing the conservation on the reserve. You could take part in tasks such as:

- The visual monitoring, research and tracking of Elephant, Lion, Rhino and cheetah,
- Monitoring of the critically endangered Cape Mountain Leopard with the use of camera traps,
- Bird identification and monitoring,
- Monitoring animal behaviour,
- Habitat and vegetation identification,
- Erosion control,
- Alien invader plant removal and management

Ornithology

- Learn about Ostriches on a real Ostrich farm and get to interact with these interesting birds.
- Visit a raptor centre. Learn about the anatomy, behaviour and the rescue and rehabilitation the centre is involved with.
- Visit the world's largest free flight aviary and bird sanctuary. See beautiful indigenous birds and exotics.
- Visit a coastal nature reserve where you will learn about the work involved with protecting the endangered Cape Vulture.
- Take part in a bird ringing exercise hosted by a professional bird ringer who runs a local NGO focusing on conserving the biodiversity of the beautiful Natures Valley area.

Marine Biology

- Spend 2 days with an organisation committed to the conservation of great white sharks. Go out with Marine biologists on their research boat to tag sharks, get up close and personal to these apex predators by partaking in a shark cage dive and go out on a snorkelling survey or perform a dissection.
- Visit a world class seabird sanctuary. Here you will be given a behind the scenes tour of the centre and given talks by one of the biologists and the vet nurse in charge of their care about the endangered African penguin.
- Visit a coastal nature reserve where you will be given a talk by a marine specialist about marine conservation relating to endangered sea birds.
- Explore Africa's premier aquarium in Cape Town after which you will receive a special presentation by one of the aquarium biologists.
- Spend a morning with scientists learning about how they are trying to save the Knysna Seahorse from extinction and also studying the health of local estuaries and their inhabitants.

Herpetology

- Partake in a professional snake handling course. The course is certified by FGASA (Field Guides Association of South Africa). The course will include identification, snake awareness and the handling of venomous snakes such as the Puff Adder and Cape Cobra. You will receive a certificate after completing the course.

Animals in captivity

- Visit numerous animal centres and apart from learning about the animals they keep, learn how the centres are managed, why they were established and the good work they do.

Botany

- Spend a full day with a botanist in the Kirstenbosch botanical gardens, also known as the most beautiful gardens in South Africa and is acclaimed as one of the great botanic gardens of the world. You will get a full tour of the gardens and receive lectures on different aspects of botany.
- Spend a day in the beautiful Tsitsikamma area and learn about forest ecology while traveling from platform to platform on a zip line hanging 30 metres above the forest floor. Not only educational but loads of fun.
- Learn about natural vegetation and the management of it on a game reserve as well as the control of alien invader plants and why it is so important.

Geology

- Be taken on an educational tour with an experienced and knowledgeable caving guide and explore the beautiful underground world of fascinating rock formations that make up the famous Cango Caves.

Animal behaviour

- Learn about the ways animals interact with each other and their environment.

Ecology, biodiversity and sustainability

- These topics will be addressed throughout the entire programme but in particular you will meet scientists from a national parks board, the parks board of the Western Cape area (CapeNature), The Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) and The Cape Leopard Trust.

The management of endangered species

- This topic will be addressed on many different occasions throughout the programme by scientists and rangers in charge of their conservation.

What's included

- Food: 3 meals a day
- Accommodation
- All ground transportation
- All the activities
- Lectures and course materials
- Park entry fees
- Travel advice prior to departure
- Transfers from George Airport on arrival and to Cape Town International airport on departure (on set arrival and departure days only)
- Orientation on arrival
- Tea, coffee, juice and bottled water (where necessary)
- Support and assistance throughout your stay, 24/7
- A certificate upon completion

Other

Washing machine:

- A washing machine is available at certain areas during your trip at your own cost (approximately R60 per wash). Washing powder will be supplied.

Wifi:

- Wifi availability will be limited. **It is recommended that you purchase your own local sim card at Johannesburg international airport if you require constant internet access.**

Weather:

- It can get cold here in Winter so you need to bring some warm clothes with you. In the mornings and at night it can be very cold (below 5 degrees celcius) but mostly during the day the temperature is mild to warm (18-26 degrees celcius).

What's not included

- Visa costs
- Flight tickets
- Medical and Travel Insurance

Health and safety

- Live4now will have a guide with you from airport pick up to drop off.
- All travelling is done by the coordinators/guides that possess Professional Driving Permits.
- You will be required to sign an indemnity form on arrival.
- Hospitals and Doctors are located in the nearest towns.
- Malaria: The tour takes place in a non-malaria region. So you do not need malaria medication.
- You should consult your doctor for advice on vaccinations you might need before travelling to South Africa.

Currency

ZAR (South African Rand). If you need to change your currency into Rands, please do it at Johannesburg airport (OR Tambo) as this is the only place you will be able to do it.

If you are going to also use your bank card while you are here then please remember to let your bank know that you will be using your card out of the country.

Items to bring along

Please make sure you only bring one large suitcase and one piece of hand luggage. This is due to space restrictions in the minibus.

Essential items:

- Mosquito repellent
- Light cotton clothing - (no bright colours)
- Warm clothing for cold evenings and mornings
- Preferably some old clothing that can get ruined
- Hat/cap
- Sunscreen
- Swimming costume
- Comfortable walking shoes
- A few pairs of old long trousers for walking in the bushveld
- Waterproof jacket
- A small backpack
- Hiking shoes (preferably with high sides that cover ankles)
- Any special medication
- Swimming towel
- A refillable water bottle

Non - essential items:

- Camera
- Binoculars
- Sunglasses
- Spending money to buy gifts for friends or luxury items (chocolates, drinks), washing your clothes etc.

Requirements

- Full travel and medical insurance
- Basic English
- Good level of fitness

How to apply

Contact the coordinator directly to enquire or request an application form:

Elton du Plooy

elton@live4now.co.za

Mobile: +27 82 797 8907

Price (per person)

- € 2 880

Payment

A 25% booking deposit is required to secure a place in the group.

Full payment needs to be made **2 months** before arrival.

Payment can be made via PayPal or by direct transfer.

Bank details are on the invoice that's gets sent through after the applicant form is submitted.

Application form

Programme date applying for:	
Name:	
Surname:	
Date of birth:	
Gender:	
Country:	
University:	
Year of study:	
Field of study:	
Email address:	
Mobile number:	
Date:	

Thank you for completing the application form.

Please send it to elton@live4now.co.za