

LAND REHABILITATION & REFORESTATION PROGRAM

Duration: 2 weeks minimum to 12 weeks.

Dates: January - November

Requirements:

- Minimum age: 18.
- English proficiency: You must have an Upper Intermediate level of English.

Special skills: Be physically fit and prepared for manual labour.

Documents required: Enrolment form, curriculum vitae, letter of motivation, passport copy, proof of medical insurance.

Day of arrival: Sunday

Day of departure: Sunday



Project Highlights:

- Create a job! For every volunteer on the programme we will hire a local community member during the project. Without you, our forest will suffer and less jobs will be available.
- Help the fight for natural vegetation to combat the threat of alien vegetation to the local ecosystem and water stability by giving your time to assist our teams in the field
- Immerse yourself in the heart of South Africa's indigenous Afro Temperate forest and fynbos biomes – sleep out in BioCamps Monday to Thursday with a break at Firefly Falls from Thursday to Sunday (back in the field Monday mornings) each week.
- Enjoy various activities during your free time, such as bungee jumping, ziplining, swimming with seals, beautiful beaches, Hiking, MTB trails and much more.
- Build lasting friendships with volunteers from around the world while contributing to positive change.
- Explore the stunning beauty of the Garden Route District and experience South Africa's cultural diversity.
- Gain a deeper understanding of South Africa's complex history and global challenges.
- Experience the allure of South Africa that often keeps people returning.

Project Information:

The Garden Route, along South Africa's southeastern coast, is famous for its diverse landscapes, from lush forests to dramatic cliffs and golden beaches. Alien vegetation poses a significant threat by displacing native flora and negatively affecting the ecosystem. Volunteers play a vital role in restoring the ecological balance and protecting the region's rich biodiversity.

Volunteers will:

- Learn to identify and remove invasive plant species.
- Receive training in proper removal techniques.
- Participate in ecological monitoring.
- Engage in manual labour for alien vegetation removal.
- Might assist with growing and planting indigenous seedlings for reforestation efforts.

The project's aims:

- Biodiversity Restoration.
- Encouraging natural corridors for all natural life.
- Education and Awareness.
- Community Involvement.
- Job Creation for local community.
- Research and Monitoring.
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Daily Schedule (when on shift):

- 06h30 - 07h30: Breakfast served and harvest table for lunch packs.
- 08h00 - 17h00: (Lunch break from 12:00 to 14:00)
- - Daily tasks vary by season and project needs
- - Removal of alien vegetation by sustainable and ethical practice - by hand and machinery (training and certification provided)
- - Seeding and planting of Indigenous species back into cleared land according to environmental impact assessments

*Wet weather can influence this project.

- 18h00/18h30: Dinner served

Weekends:

- Friday evenings: Traditional braai (BBQ) at the Firefly Falls.
- Saturdays: Down time or choose an activity
- Sundays: Down time or choose an activity

Project Location: Nextdoor to Firefly Falls

PROGRAM AND PACKAGE DETAILS

Transport

Arrival: Collection by Shuttle at either George or Port Elizabeth Airport and transferred to Firefly Falls base camp.

Departure: Shuttle to George or Port Elizabeth Airport from Firefly Falls (Alternative destinations can be arranged at extra cost)

*Please note airport transfers are only included for a minimum 3 week stay. For any stays under 3 weeks airport will be charged separately

Getting to and from the Project: Weekly transportation to your project site

Activities: Transport provided BUT on clients account

Accommodation: (Firefly Falls)

- Shared two-bed rooms with bedding and towels provided.
- Well-equipped communal kitchen as well as other communal areas.
- Entertainment facilities including a hot tub, bar, and outdoor BBQ area.
- Free WiFi at the main homestead and entertainment area.
- Bedding changed weekly, laundry facilities available.
- Bordering an indigenous forest

Meals:

- Daily breakfast and lunch are self-prepared (basic continental breakfast and build your own sandwiches for lunch if you lucky, maybe some leftovers from dinner)
- Home style and home cooked sit down dinners provided with entire team.
- Vegetarian, vegan, and special dietary options available. (please communicate dietary requirements before arrival)
- Tea, coffee and hot chocolate station
- Food eaten between meals is for the volunteer's own account
- If you require extra snacks or sweet treats we will happily transport you to the nearest local superette on collection from the days project.
- Any restaurant/takeaway meals over down time is at clients cost

Free Time:

Numerous adventure activities within an hour's drive, including bungee jumping, skydiving, swimming with seals, whale watching (in season), numerous hiking trails, ziplining and more. Consult project coordinators for activity arrangements once you have arrived.

What to Bring:

- Pocket money/credit and debit cards.
- Personal toiletries, beach towels, and prescribed medications.
- Sunscreen, mosquito repellents (There are lots of mosquitos in the forest)
- Practical working clothes are very important, bring long sleeved tops and long pants for work. (Mosquitos!)
- The correct footwear is very important for the reforestation project, please ensure you have strong boots that are ankle height, they need to be weather resistant and comfortable. (You will have long days of manual labour making a positive impact one day at a time)
- Books, laptop, camera, and personal items.

Cell Phone Use: Cell phone use is prohibited during working hours. Discuss photography with project supervisors for guidance.

Clothing Guidelines (while in the field): Modest clothing is essential. No low-cut tops, short shorts, or swimwear. Bring long sleeved tops and long pants for work as well as the correct shoeing that will allow you to work in a stable yard as well as ride horses.

Medical Insurance: You must have medical insurance covering a minimum of US\$100,000 from departure to arrival in your home country.

Health: No vaccinations are required unless traveling to specific areas, consult a doctor for recommendations. Keep in mind that HIV and AIDS are prevalent in South Africa.

Safety: Training will be provided for before you head into the field. Please stick to these training guidelines.

Included:

- Project placement.
- Airport transfer.
- Accommodation.
- In field transport
- Meals.
- Welcome pack.
- Orientation.
- Electronic certificate.
- Local support.
- WiFi.

Not Included:

- Activities and other transport outside of programme transport.
- Personal expenses. (including additional food costs)
- Visa costs.
- Travel insurance.
- Flights.

Your Commitment: Take your commitment to the project seriously. Your daily presence and adherence to working hours are essential and will help keep the experience positive for all involved

Please let us know if you have any further queries around this project.

We look forward to hosting you.