



## HANCHI CONSERVATION PROJECT CLOSE UP

Manage endangered roan and stunning sable antelope breeding herds from horseback and study some of Africa's most elusive and persecuted predators.

### CONSERVATION IN ACTION

#### How does this project make a difference?

Monitoring and management from horseback is vital to the successful breeding and relocation of these endangered and rare species which make up the single largest private sable and roan herds in South Africa. Having successfully relocated over 100 endangered roan antelope, this project is of great conservation importance.

#### How do I, the volunteer, make a difference?

From horseback, you will monitor the roan antelope, quizzical tsessebe and stunning sable antelope as part of this successful breeding and relocation project. Your research will contribute to the ongoing effort to help secure a future for these stunning animals.

### CORE ACTIVITIES

This project allows you to be involved in a variety of conservation tasks, from caring for horses to monitoring endangered antelopes and assisting with the predator conservation project. Your work will include:

- Equine husbandry and care, including disease control
- Equine tack and yard maintenance
- Roan and sable monitoring, studying densities, ages and condition
- Predator monitoring - young antelope are very vulnerable in bush and the bomas require management to ensure predation levels from cheetah and hyena are minimal
- Fence line patrols/servicing of inner sable and roan camps and the greater reserve
- Removal of invasive plant species
- Disease free buffalo habituation from horseback on the greater reserve
- Rhino monitoring from horseback on the greater reserve

Joining the Zingela predator conservation project on the greater reserve you will:

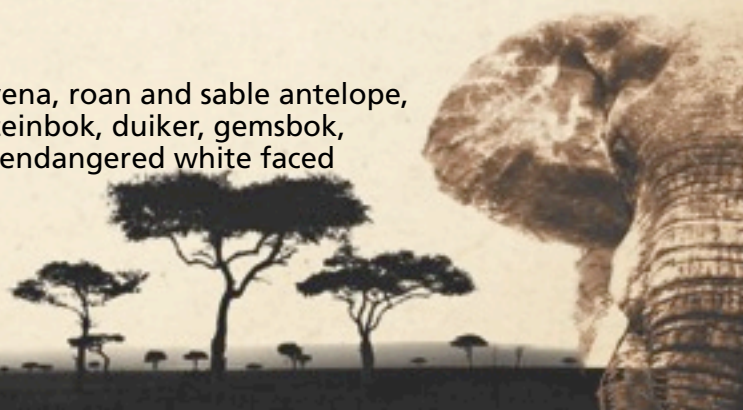
- Receive training in radio telemetry techniques used to monitor movements of cheetah observing hunting and feeding behaviour, recording kills found and social interactions.
- Record GPS positions to determine home ranges and movement patterns of collared animals.
- Assist with a leopard baseline study recording all sightings and behaviours.
- Assist with the hyena project looking at resident population numbers as well as diet preferences to establish how percentage is scavenged and killed.

### SKILLS GAINED

Equine care and husbandry, tracking (including the use of telemetry equipment), animal identification and behaviour

### WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE

The reserve is home to leopard, cheetah, brown hyena, roan and sable antelope, tseebie, zebra, jackal, pocupine, giraffe, impala, steinbok, duiker, gemsbok, wildebeest, warthog, bushbaby, kudu, waterbuck, endangered white faced ducks, black chested snake eagle and more!





## LOCATION

The project is situated on a 8,500 hectare farm near Alldays, in the Limpopo Province in South Africa.



## FACILITIES

**Accommodation:** Rustic bush camp with accommodation in twin share tents. There is no electricity, only paraffin lamps creating a warm cosy atmosphere. Volunteers can enjoy hot showers which are heated with gas.

**Meal arrangements:** Catered, with some help and participation from volunteers.

**Nearest town:** Alldays, South Africa.

**Working hours:** Variable and weather dependent. Volunteers work a half day on Saturdays followed by an evening braai (BBQ). Sundays are a day of rest.

**Extras:** Volunteers who are at the project for four weeks or more have the opportunity to visit Kruger National Park

**Contact with home:** Your mobile will work, albeit intermittently. South Africa time = GMT+2 hrs. You will have access to pay phones and internet cafés during town trips on days off.

**Transfers:** Transfers to the Hanchi Conservation Project are usually done by road. The drive from Johannesburg airport takes approximately 7 hours, broken up with a lunch stop.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Airport:** We meet all our volunteers personally at Johannesburg airport directly off the plane.

**Road Safety:** All drivers have Public Driving Permits and only new, air conditioned vehicles are used for transfers.

**First aid & emergency:** First aid available in camp and on horse trails.

**Medical:** Doctors in Alldays. There is a hospital in the nearby provincial capital Polokwane.

**Project Insurance:** Students will be required to sign an Indemnity form.

## IS THIS PROJECT RIGHT FOR ME?

You do not need to be an experienced rider to join the Hanchi Conservation Project - there are horses for all abilities. If you would like to join the cheetah tracking, you will need to be able to hike on foot for a couple of hours at a time.

The camp is atmospheric but the facilities are somewhat basic - if you love horses, want to learn about wildlife, feel comfortable with the thought of camping in the field and are looking for an opportunity to immerse yourself in nature, then the Hanchi project will be a great choice for you.





## **BOOKING INFORMATION**

**What's Included?** Return international flights from London Heathrow (optional), transfers from Johannesburg airport, food, accommodation, 24 hour support from our ground manager, ACE T-Shirt, financial contributions to the project

**What's not included?** Travel insurance, spending money, excursions

**When can I join?** This projects runs all year round except over Christmas.

**How can I join?** You can apply online at [www.conservationafrica.net/apply](http://www.conservationafrica.net/apply) or simply fill out an application form in one of our brochures and post it back to us.

