

# VOLUNTEER

With



# UKUHLAMBA

*Africa*

in partnership with

# Ubhetyan-O-Africa

# VOLUNTEER With



## ANIMAL CARE & WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

## VOLUNTEERING IN SOUTH AFRICA



### OVERVIEW

Thank you for showing interest in Ukuhamba Africa Volunteers, in partnership with Ubhetyan-O-Africa. When you think of volunteering, you never know what to expect. We provide you with this booklet to find out more about what we do. We hope to make you feel as comfortable as possible about volunteering, while preparing you for your orientation and minimize any cultural shock upon arrival.

If you have any questions and can't find the answer here, please email us at [info@ukuhambaafrica.com](mailto:info@ukuhambaafrica.com)

### WHY CHOOSE SUCH AN EXPERIENCE?

Caring for an injured, sick or abandoned animal is a powerful experience no matter where you are, but in a rehabilitation sanctuary, surrounded by some of Africa's most iconic wildlife, including 3 of the Big 5 species (Lion, Leopard, Rhino), it can be a truly life-changing experience. This unique experience allows you to get up close and personal with the carnivores at the rehabilitation centre daily while learning the importance of conservation in the 21st century.

If you're passionate about saving wildlife, or you've always dreamed of working hands-on with wild animals or you're taking the next step in your veterinarian career, this is the right choice for you. Among other skills, you'll gain experience in animal care and husbandry, wildlife rehabilitation methods and assist dedicated and experienced staff in caring for animals.

- Work hands-on to help save Africa's wildlife and make a meaningful contribution.
- Learn new career skills from experienced wildlife rehabilitation and veterinary professionals.
- Make a lasting difference in the lives of wild animals left vulnerable.
- Go beyond being a tourist in South Africa and work with a dedicated team to make a real difference.

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## **CONSERVATION** **SPOTLIGHT**

### **re-releasing animals into the wild**

It's disheartening that human actions often lead to the injury or orphaning of wildlife, especially in regions like South Africa where the diversity of wildlife is significant. Wildlife rehabilitation centres play a crucial role in providing a safe haven for these animals. They offer specialized care, medical attention, and rehabilitation programs aimed at restoring the health and natural behaviours of the animals.

### **re-releasing animals into the wild**

While conservationists would love all rehabilitated animals to be released back into the wild, sadly the instances where this is possible are the exception rather than the rule. Even when an animal has recovered to full health, releasing it back into the wild isn't always possible. As a consequence, many animals that are taken in at the rehabilitation centre go on to become permanent residents. So the work of a volunteer together with a wildlife rehabilitation centre, after they have helped an animal regain full health, is to provide a rich and fulfilling life for their residents.

### **The far-reaching impacts of wildlife rehabilitation facilities**

As an animal care volunteer, you can have a very immediate and obvious impact on the well-being of an individual animal. But the effects thereof stretch far beyond the fences of our centre. Some species such as the serval (a wild cat that resembles a leopard) are now bred in rehabilitation centres in South Africa and then released into the wild. This strategy doesn't work for all species – lions and hyenas are both notoriously difficult to release back into the wild – but for species like the serval, it's an effective way to repopulate areas where they had previously been wiped out.

This is exactly why we partnered with Ubhetyan-O-Africa who have an exceptionally high success rate for the re-release of certain species, including small carnivores, reptiles, antelope, and many birds.

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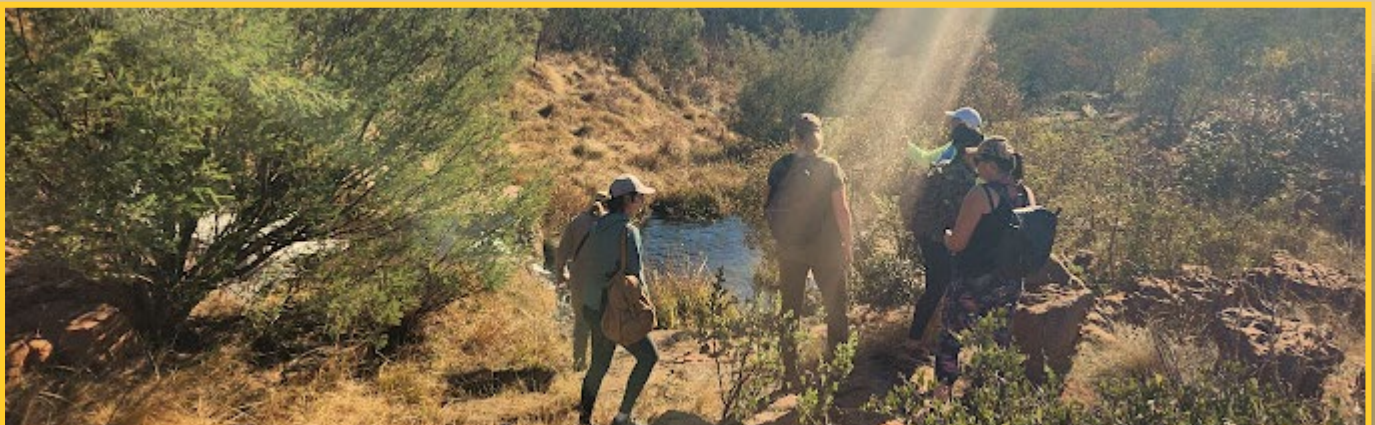
### UKUHAMBA AFRICA &

### UBHETYAN-O-AFRICA PARTNERSHIP



Ukuhamba Africa and Ubhetyan-O-Africa partnership, coupled with passion and dedication can set individuals or organizations apart in any endeavor. When there's a shared commitment and enthusiasm toward a common goal, it drives a level of excellence and innovation that distinguishes it from others. We've partnered with this volunteer program for several reasons:

- **Shared Mission:** Both share a common mission and goals related to wildlife conservation, animal welfare, or environmental protection. Partnering with the volunteer program aligns with our objectives and allows Us to further this cause.
- **Innovative Solutions:** Passion and dedication fuel creative thinking, leading to unique and innovative approaches to challenges or projects.
- **Higher Engagement:** When there's a shared passion for a cause or project, individuals are more engaged, motivated, and willing to go the extra mile to achieve success.
- **Stronger Relationships:** Partnerships built on passion and dedication tend to foster stronger and more enduring relationships, allowing for effective collaboration, mutual support, and a shared sense of purpose.
- **Resource Enhancement:** Partnering with a volunteer program can provide additional human resources, which are often crucial for organizations dedicated to caring for animals. Volunteers can assist in various tasks, allowing both organizations to expand their capacity and reach.
- **Educational Opportunities:** Volunteers may receive valuable training, hands-on experience, and knowledge about wildlife care and conservation, contributing to personal growth and understanding of these issues that can lead to a more significant and positive impact on the community, industry, or cause.



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### **ABOUT**

# **Ubhetyan-O-Africa**



Ubhetyan means “Rhino” in Zulu, with the reserve located in a malaria-free area of Mpumalanga.

A Family owned and operated since 2010, Ubhetyan-O-Africa is administered to the highest ethical standards, in keeping with modern conservation methods for the protection and enhancement of its indigenous and endangered species.

This private game reserve situated 40km outside Middelburg (MP) is nestled in the enchanting landscapes of Mpumalanga, with a full-time chef, restaurant, functions and catering facilities available. At night the sound of lions roaring, the whoop of hyenas, and waking up to the call of the Southern ground hornbill (to name a few) will all add to an unforgettable experience.

Spread over 502 hectares of untamed bushveld. Situated 145 km from Pretoria & 155 km from Johannesburg International Airport.

During the Summer months (September to Feb) temperatures can rise to 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) This is also our rainy season so expect thundershowers/overcast days.

During Winter months (May to August) daily temperatures are around 25 degrees Celsius (77 Fahrenheit) with night temperatures plummeting to zero degrees Celsius (32 Fahrenheit)

The breeding program ensures gene diversity by breeding strong bloodlines, with the carnivore breeding programs involving Hyena, Leopard, Wild dog, Black Footed Cat, Fenner Fox, Bat-eared Fox & Honey Badger.

Ubhetyan-O-Africa is also involved with LALP (Loskop Area Leopard Project) when the need arises, volunteers will assist in trapping problem animals to relocate.

Rhinos are free-roaming and part of your volunteer responsibilities is monitoring the safekeeping of these animals day and night.

Both support the “Anti-Rhino poaching” program and sometimes you will be involved in site visits where poaching took place.



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