



YOUR LIFE ALTERING CAREER CHOICE

Conservation & Research Course 14 Days

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THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM NATURE ARE MANY - THE IMPORTANCE OF A BEETLE

Conservation and Research –7 Days

Course Overview

Mashatu Conservation and Research course offers you the opportunity to join a dedicated research project in a new approach to game management. Forming part of the Limpopo-Shashe Trans frontier conservation area, the core study area allows natural migration of game across historically established national borders. This exciting new concept in wildlife management creates a need for volunteers to assist in research of populations moving through this vast wilderness.

Educational modules will be included in the form of lectures and daily drives and walks, projects and reserve work. Tuli and Mashatu that forms part of Tuli is vast and not a lot is known about its wildlife, thus has not been studied extensively. Link in with researchers in the area and help collect data and share knowledge of the area.

Lecturers will provide insight to many of your conservation questions while practical exercises and contact with researchers on the ground will provide great insight into the subject matter.

Course Location - Mashatu Camp



EcoTraining's accommodation facilities and game reserves are authentic, with as little clutter to dilute the relationship between nature and our learners as possible. While learners are at our camps, we want them to co-exist in the environment, when sleeping we want them to hear elephants browsing on leaves and night-jars call right outside the tents at night. EcoTraining stands for an honest comfortable safe experience. It's all about the bush.

Our Mashatu Camp is located in the land of Giants in the Tuli reserve of Botswana bordering South Africa. Tuli forms a key part of the proposed **Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area**. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty with majestic

rocks, diverse vegetation, abundant wildlife, a profusion of birds and a rich archaeological heritage and spans over 25 000 hectares.

The Northern Tuli Game Reserve, on the confluence of the Limpopo and the Shashe rivers, in the eastern-most corner of Botswana, is the collective name for several privately-owned game reserves including the Mashatu, Ntani and Tuli Game Reserves, covering all the land north of the Limpopo River.

Daily Programme

A typical daily programme at the camp follows a routine of **rising early, usually before sunrise**, enjoying hot coffee while you listen to the bush waking up and then leaving the camp for an outing into the wilderness.

The outings are extremely flexible and determined by the unpredictability of what is found during the outing in combination with the subjects that have to be covered. The outing could be a game drive following up on the roar of a lion heard during the night or a walk, learning about the plant species occurring in the area. It could be a walk following fresh elephant tracks, learning how to track the animal and finding it or it could be a game drive to a waterhole where animals come to drink.

Learners return to camp in the late morning for a hearty brunch which is followed by a lecture on the subject of the day. Study and rest time is then followed by afternoon tea and another outing into the wilderness until sunset, if walking, or until well after dark if doing a game drive.

Afternoon outings could include night drives looking for nocturnal animals such as owls, bush babies and leopards or it could be a walk looking for and learning how to identify interesting birds. It could be time spent studying the night skies or it could be a time for learners to test their 4x4 driving skills.



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It is then back to the camp for dinner, stories around the campfire, discussing the day's experiences and wondering about tomorrow's adventures.

The emphasis is on practical day-to-day experiences in the bush. The daily outings are flexible and may focus on specific subjects such as animal tracks and tracking, birds, plant identification or animal behaviour, or may involve game viewing and learning about the ecosystem in general.

Meals

- Wake-up to tea/coffee with biscuits and fresh fruit
- Enjoy a cooked breakfast, with cereals and fruit for brunch
- In the afternoon indulge with a few light snacks
- A balanced, warm plated meal finishes off the day for dinner

Course Rates

Please contact enquiries@ecotraining.co.za for more information.

Rate includes:

- Qualified & Experienced Instructors
- Lectures
- Game drives
- Walks
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Tea, coffee and cordials
- Further details on request or registration

