



Chance Of a Lifetime Travel

COLT are proud partners of African Impact, on-the-ground leaders in African volunteering and winners of the 2011 Invelo Award for Responsible Tourism



HIV/AIDS Orphan Care and Teaching ANTELOPE PARK, ZIMBABWE

At African Impact, we see ourselves as the on-the-ground AFRICANSPECIALISTS in volunteering. We were founded over 5 years ago in Zimbabwe and have our head office in Cape Town, South Africa, with supporting operations offices in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia. To date we, together with our project managers out in the field, have had the privilege of sharing Africa with over 3,000 volunteers who were determined to make a difference in the amazing communities and conservation areas in which we work. And they did... and so can you...

During the past few difficult years in Zimbabwe, the most vulnerable members of our society have suffered from the breakdown of educational and medical infrastructures. Our aim is to make an impact on the lives of these children, from babies to teenagers, some who have no families to support them.

Despite the difficulties they have faced, these children are still so full of warmth and joy and are sure to be an inspiration to anyone who works alongside them. We invite you to join us as we strive to be a part of restoring this amazing country...

Project Location: Gweru, Zimbabwe

Project Age Limit: Minimum age 17 years, unless a specific arrangement is made and consent forms signed. Maximum age dependent on participants' health

Project Duration: Minimum 3 weeks, Maximum 8 weeks



Project Highlights:

Interact with and make a difference in childrens lives!

- The upliftment of orphanages and care homes
- Adding value through services and practical help
- Changing the living conditions for disadvantaged children and making a positive impact on their future.
 - Interaction with underprivileged children and babies, enriching their lives
 - Encouraging and mentoring the young people of Zimbabwe
 - Assisting in preparations and execution of school lessons
 - Assisting with marking and assessing Children's Progress
 - Making teaching aids
 - General counselling and support to students
 - Experiencing the way of life in a third world country, immersed in the culture, rather than as a tourist.
 - Seeing the beauty of Africa with many new experiences
 - Being a part of the revival and renewal of an amazing country, and her people
 - Make friends for life with other international volunteers on the programme

More about our HIV/AIDS Orphan Care and Teaching Assistance Project:

HIV/AIDS Orphan Care:

During the past few difficult years in Zimbabwe, the most vulnerable members of our society have suffered from the breakdown of educational and medical infrastructures. Our aim is to make an impact on the lives of these orphaned children, from babies to teenagers, who have no families to support them.

Volunteers will assist with loving and caring for as well as mentoring orphans and physically disabled, from the very young to high school age. Despite their disabilities and the difficulties they have faced, these children are still so full of warmth and joy and are sure to be an inspiration to anyone who works alongside them. We invite you to join us as we strive to be a part of restoring this amazing country...

Make an impact on the lives of underprivileged and disabled children! Act as a mentor, and a guiding and helping friend to the youths at the homes. The need is so great; there are many different activities volunteers can get involved in, depending on their expertise and passion. Activities include Teaching assistance, ordiology, speech therapy, study programmes, workshop hosting, sports coaching, repairs and maintenance at the homes, painting, gardening, youth camps and life skills training are just a few areas in which you will have to opportunity to impact on these young people's lives.

Your help in caring for babies and younger children will involve changing and feeding as well as assisting with planned activities and games at the homes. You may be called upon to assist the doctor dress wounds and identify health problems on her regular visits to the orphanages.

Maintenance of the orphanages is a major problem, and despite the lack of funding, there is also a need for manpower to assist with things such as painting and general repairs, as well as the maintenance of vegetable gardens.

This is a chance to make a difference in someone's life, as well as spending some time living in a third-world country with different cultural norms. Take advantage of the beauty of an African country, which offers many new experiences.



Teaching Assistance:

Teaching is leading a child to responsible adulthood through imparting academic and life-skills. The children that you will come into contact with on this project are keen to be taught and moulded.

Through the academic support you will give them and their teachers, you have a chance to address the issues of oversubscribed classes and poor teacher-student ratios. With approximately 2184 students at Mkoba 4 Primary School, the average class size is 55 students with one teacher, with around 312 students per grade. Classes are hot seated as there are not enough classrooms and resources such as text books and teaching aids are also grossly inadequate. Here you have the chance to make teaching aids that can assist the teaching and learning process.

Although Somabula Primary School, with a total of about 280 children, is much smaller than Mkoba 4 they also need volunteers to assist. With student – teacher ratios being about 40:1, you can offer valuable support to the students who lack sufficient individual attention. The teachers also find themselves overwhelmed at times and welcome fresh ideas and enthusiasm. This school also has a significant number of boarders. These children are desperate for extra 'homely' attention assisting with their studies and social skills, but also caring for and making them feel special and important. Your presence on this project can make a meaningful difference to the lives of the children you come into contact with. There is also opportunity for volunteer to get involved with a local pre-primary school and interact and play with the younger children too!

In working with the children, we also hope to reach out to impact the community through facilitating adult literacy classes. Volunteers with special skills can also use these to benefit the community.



What the price includes:

- *Project Fee*: the project fee entails financing that goes directly back into the project that you are involved with. It facilitates funding for items such as resources for painting, building repairs, etc,
- Airport transfers
- Transportation at all times whilst on the project
- Full board and lodging including three meals a day whilst on the project

What the price does not include:

- All items of a personal nature, such as curios, gifts, clothing (work and other)
- Additional refreshments and snacks
- Return flights
- Email and telephone calls made during your placement (charged out at cost)
- Any excursions over and above your planned itinerary in Zimbabwe e.g. visit to the Victoria Falls
- Personal insurance cover for the duration of your placement, which must include cover for repatriation

Project Orientation:

You will receive your introduction and orientation to the project upon arrival. You will be introduced to your Volunteer Co-ordinator and to the Volunteer Manager, and will be shown around the volunteer accommodation and surrounding area.. Your Volunteer Co-ordinator will brief you on Africa, Zimbabwe and the projects and will prepare you for your work on the various parts of the project.

Project Support:

Throughout your placement you will have the support and guidance of our experienced volunteer coordinators. They are part of our support team, which will provide you with competent 24-hour field support and assistance.



Project Accommodation:

- Comfortable, shared thatched accommodation with safes for the storage of valuables.
- Daily room servicing on request
- Free use of the laundry service available to volunteers
- Other facilities available include swimming pool and access to all other activities available to guests at Antelope Park including internet facilities, lion walks, elephant rides and swims, horse rides, game viewing, bird watching, canoeing and boat cruises. Please liaise with your project manager on costs.

Please note that accommodation upgrades are available to those who wish to have a more 'comfortable' volunteer experience. Pricing available on request.

Project Meals:

You will enjoy at least 2 cooked meals a day and depending on your programme – plus a packed breakfast or lunch. Meals at the Safari Camp are served buffet style and are taken in the main camp dining room, a thatched building overlooking the dam.

Please let us know before you depart for Africa of any food allergies or specific requirements.



Project Travel Highlights:

Optional:

Being based at Antelope Park, you will have the privilege to access the amazing activities on offer at discounted rates. “Where else in the world” can you come home from work and –

- *Walk with lions* – Founded right here at Antelope Park - A World Exclusive to our organisation
- *Ride elephants* – Antelope Park has 4 elephants and sunset or sunrise rides will be available
- *Game viewing* – by horseback, carriage, vehicle or on foot
- *Sunset cruises* on the lake in front of the camp
- *Cub sitting and feeding* (subject to availability)
- *Horse rides* – Antelope Park’s horse rides are regarded as some of the best secure wildlife horse rides on the continent
- *Full moon* elephant and horse rides

And so much more!!



During your stay at Antelope Park you will have the opportunity to enjoy an excursion to some of the other spectacular spots that Zimbabwe has to offer. Day trips are offered to the Great Zimbabwe Ruins as well as Granite Ridge and once a month a trip to the Victoria Falls is organized for those volunteers who are interested. These trips are also a great time for volunteers to interact and get to know each other better. The expedition such as the one outlined below (to Victoria Falls) will cost you approximately US\$475 (this includes National Parks fees, transport, meals – although not in Victoria Falls – and accommodation).

- Day 1: Leave after breakfast from Antelope Park for Miombo Safari Lodge (Hwange National Park); the largest national park in Zimbabwe, and the same size as Belgium! You will get the opportunity to go on a game drive in Big 5 territory where you could get up close and personal with a herd of elephant, buffalo, a pride of lion and many more.
- Day 2-4: Leave after breakfast from Miombo for Victoria Falls, adrenalin capital of Africa! You have the option to bungee jump, white water raft, visit the Falls, gorge swing across the Batoka Gorge below the Falls or just enjoy the great social atmosphere at this tourist hot-spot! Dinner at the amazing “Boma” Restaurant is included whilst at the Falls.
- Day 5: Depart early morning from Victoria Falls to return to Antelope Park

Note: This trip only operates with sufficient volunteer interest.

There is also the option of a day trip to Great Zimbabwe – the ancient founding city of modern day Zimbabwe. The cost of this trip is dependent on the number of people going. +/-USD60

Getting there:

We will meet you at the airport!

Your options are as follows:

- Fly in to Bulawayo from Johannesburg, possible overnight Bulawayo at our volunteer lodge, and transfer by 2 hour journey to Gweru either with an Antelope Park representative or on the City Link Bus the following morning. In some very rare cases, you may be required to spend 2 nights at the lodge
 - Fly in to Harare (Zimbabwe's capital), overnight at our volunteer lodge, and then transfer by 4 hour journey with either an Antelope Park representative or on the City Link Bus the following morning. In some very rare cases you may be required to spend 2 nights at the lodge.
 - There is a chance that whichever airport you arrive at you will be met directly at the airport by staff from Antelope Park and transferred directly to the park without the need for an overnight stay. It just depends on transfer availability.
- We organise all volunteer pick-ups, overnight accommodation at respective volunteer lodges (Bulawayo or Harare), and transfers to your programme of choice as part of your fee.



Our Partners

[The Happy Africa Foundation www.happyafricafoundation.org](http://www.happyafricafoundation.org)

African Impact is proud to have been instrumental in the establishment of The Happy Africa Foundation in 2007 and continues to be one of the Foundations major supporters. UK Registered Charity Number: 1123529. The mission of The Happy Africa Foundation is to empower the African people through the support of community and conservation based initiatives that operate at grass roots level.

We are proudly affiliated to the UK-based **Know Before You Go** campaign that promotes education and knowledge-sharing amongst travelers.

African Impact is delighted to have been nominated as a **2009 World Travel Awards Finalist** and see this as exciting recognition of our position as African specialists in Volunteering, with over 5 years experience in sharing Africa with travellers who have a passion for making a difference.