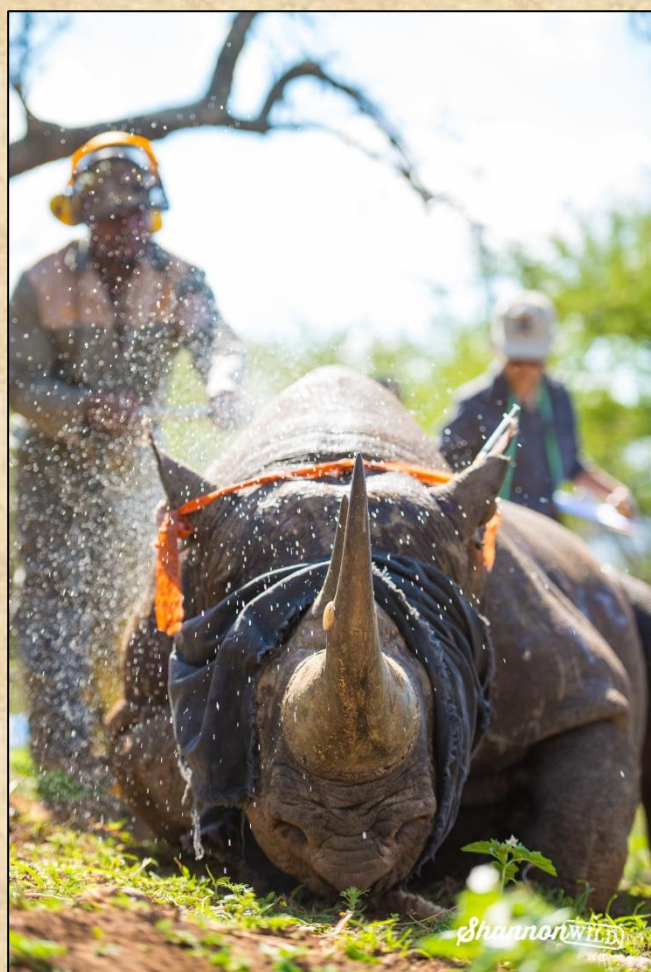




## WILDLIFE CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE HOLIDAY PACKAGE

Be part of a wildlife conservation experience that is saving rhino. Your participation directly funds a strategic wildlife operation aimed at saving critical wildlife species.



Somkhanda Game Reserve is located in the Pongola district of Zululand and is home to valuable populations of both white and black rhino as well as leopard, elephant, buffalo, lion, wild dog and all the common game species.

Join our team of dedicated wildlife professionals on a rhino darting operation as they undertake horn reductions, or fitting of a radio tracking device, as part of the ongoing conservation interventions and strategies to protect critical populations black and white rhino. This is a unique opportunity to be part of a conservation success story. To add to the experience you will also join field rangers and wildlife monitors in their daily task of monitoring the reserve's wild dog, elephant and black rhino.

### Programme:

#### Days 1 & 2:

Depart from Durban International airport and transfer to Hluhluwe/iMfolozi Park in Zululand, the oldest game reserve in Africa and famous for saving white rhino from extinction. For 2 days we explore this iconic park which is also home to the largest concentration of black rhino in Africa; as well as home to lion, elephant, buffalo,

leopard, wild dogs, cheetah and the full range of plains game that historically occurred in the area. Our overnight accommodation is the luxury Rhino Ridge Lodge, situated on community land that has been incorporated into Hluhluwe/iMfolozi Park. We explore the park in open safari vehicles with local guides.

### Day3:

Arrival at Somkhanda at approximately 15h00. This community owned game reserve is operated in partnership with African Insight and Wildlands (a conservation NGO). After a welcome drink and settling in there is an optional game drive, or relax and enjoy the view from the deck overlooking the waterhole.



Sundowners and snacks will be served whilst your host talks about the vision and mission of Somkhanda and provides an overview of the state of rhino populations, current conservation strategy as well as an overview of the rhino darting operation you will experience. Key reserve staff will join us for dinner.



### Day 4:

We kick off with an early morning game monitoring activity - either elephant or wilddog - enjoying coffee and a snack in the field. During this time the ground team will be locating the correct animal and the vet and helicopter will arrive on site. After a final briefing on the procedures, roles and responsibilities the vet and pilot will take off and dart the first animal. We, the ground support team, will follow by vehicle. As soon as the animal is down it's time for action. With a limited window to complete our task we must work quickly. After administering the antidote we retreat to a safe distance and observe that the animal gets up and is safe. Returning to the lodge for Lunch you have an opportunity to engage with the vet, pilot and reserve conservation management. After lunch we dart a second animal. In the evening we enjoy a boma dinner.



### Day 5:

A full days programme starting off with a game monitoring activity - coffee and snacks in the field. We return to lodge for late breakfast and an opportunity to relax. For the hyperactive another game drive. In the afternoon another game monitoring activity rounding off with sundowners and a short night drive before dinner.

## Days 6 - 8:



For those that have still not had enough early coffee and snack and a guided bushwalk before breakfast, packing up and departing.



Our next destination – iSimangaliso, St. Lucia Wetlands World Heritage Site. South Africa's first world heritage site is significantly important in due to the fact that it protects 7 different ecosystems and thus and incredible range of habitats and biodiversity. The Kosi Bay Lake system and estuary is arguably the most unique and pristine component of the protected area and definitely the least commercialised.

Our base for the next 3 nights is Kosi Forest Lodge which is also on community land and operated by a private partner. From here we have 2 full days to explore the unique swamp forest, lakes, beach as well as the estuary. One activity is included each day which allows time to relax or enjoy other optional activities. The highlights are a canoe trip into the swamp forest, a hike to Bhanga Nek beach or a trip (by vehicle) to the mouth where snorkelling at low tide in the 'aquarium' is something not to be missed.



## Days 9:

After breakfast pack up and depart for Durban.

**Cost: R45, 130.00 per person sharing**  
(Min 6 people and Max 12 people sharing)

### Includes:

- 8 nights' accommodation
- All Meals
- All Transport
- Activities as per programme
- Community Levies
- Conservation Contribution

### Excludes:

- Drinks
- 30% single supplement

**DATES: 29 July – 10 August 2017**  
**08 – 16 August 2017**



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