SIBUYA

WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE

BUSH • ESTUARY • OCEAN

New Friendships

New Knowledge

New Perspective

Experience conservation from the inside.

Eastern Cape South Africa

WILDLIFE BELONGS IN THE WILD

Sibuya does not support facilities or organisations that promote direct interaction with wild animals for entertainment, including activities such as cub petting, lion walking or other forms of captive wildlife interaction presented as conservation.

The Wilderness Experience is centred on observing, understanding and contributing to the conservation of wildlife within natural systems.

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

admin@sibuya.co.za

(+27) 046 648 1040

www.sibuya.co.za/volunteer/

Sibuya Game Reserve

Eastern Cape, South Africa

THE EASTERN CAPE

Where the Wild Still Sets the Pace

There is a different rhythm to South Africa's Eastern Cape.

Here, dense bush gives way to winding rivers, estuaries meet the ocean and stretches of coastline remain wonderfully untamed. Wildlife, landscape and community are deeply connected, creating a place where conservation is not something observed from a distance. It is part of everyday life.

This is a region shaped by contrast.

Calm mornings on the river.

Long days in the field. Coastal dunes and rocky shores. Wildlife moving through the reserve. Evenings beneath expansive African skies. And within this landscape lies Sibuya Game Reserve.

The Sibuya Wilderness Experience offers the opportunity to spend time within this environment, learning how a working game reserve is managed, contributing to conservation activities as they happen and engaging with communities bordering the reserve, where conservation and people are closely connected.



It is not simply about seeing wildlife.
It is about understanding the landscape, wildlife and communities that form part of the bigger conservation picture.



Bush

Experience the reserve from the ground up, from wildlife monitoring and habitat management to the day-to-day work required to maintain a functioning conservation area.



Estuary

The river and estuary form an important part of the Sibuya experience, opening the door to boating, fish research, birdlife and a completely different perspective on the reserve.



Ocean

The nearby Eastern Cape coastline extends the experience beyond the reserve, with rocky shores, dunes, beaches and marine environments forming part of the wider landscape you will explore.

Conservation Has Many Moving Parts

A game reserve is far more than the animals visitors come to see. Behind every wildlife sighting is an ongoing process of monitoring, maintenance, research, habitat management and decision-making.

At Sibuya, conservation involves understanding wildlife populations, maintaining the environment they depend on and responding to the changing needs of the reserve.

During your stay, you will gain insight into these different layers of conservation and have the opportunity to contribute to selected activities alongside the Sibuya team.

Some days may focus on wildlife.

Others may take you behind the scenes into reserve management, habitat work, community projects or conservation research.

Step Beyond the Safari

Seeing an elephant in the wild is unforgettable.

Learning to identify that elephant, observing its behaviour and understanding the conservation challenges surrounding its population gives the experience an entirely different meaning.

The Sibuya Wilderness Experience is designed to take you beyond wildlife viewing and into the realities of conservation.

Depending on current reserve priorities, the season and conditions at the time of your visit, you may assist with wildlife monitoring, biodiversity management, environmental projects, reserve maintenance and community initiatives.

You'll learn from the people working within the reserve, participate in practical activities and gain a broader understanding of what it takes to protect and manage a wild landscape.

No specialist conservation experience is required.



Every activity forms part of a much bigger picture.

CONSERVATION IN ACTION

Discover What Happens Behind the Scenes

There is no single activity that defines conservation.
It is the combination of research, monitoring, management, education and practical work that keeps a reserve functioning.

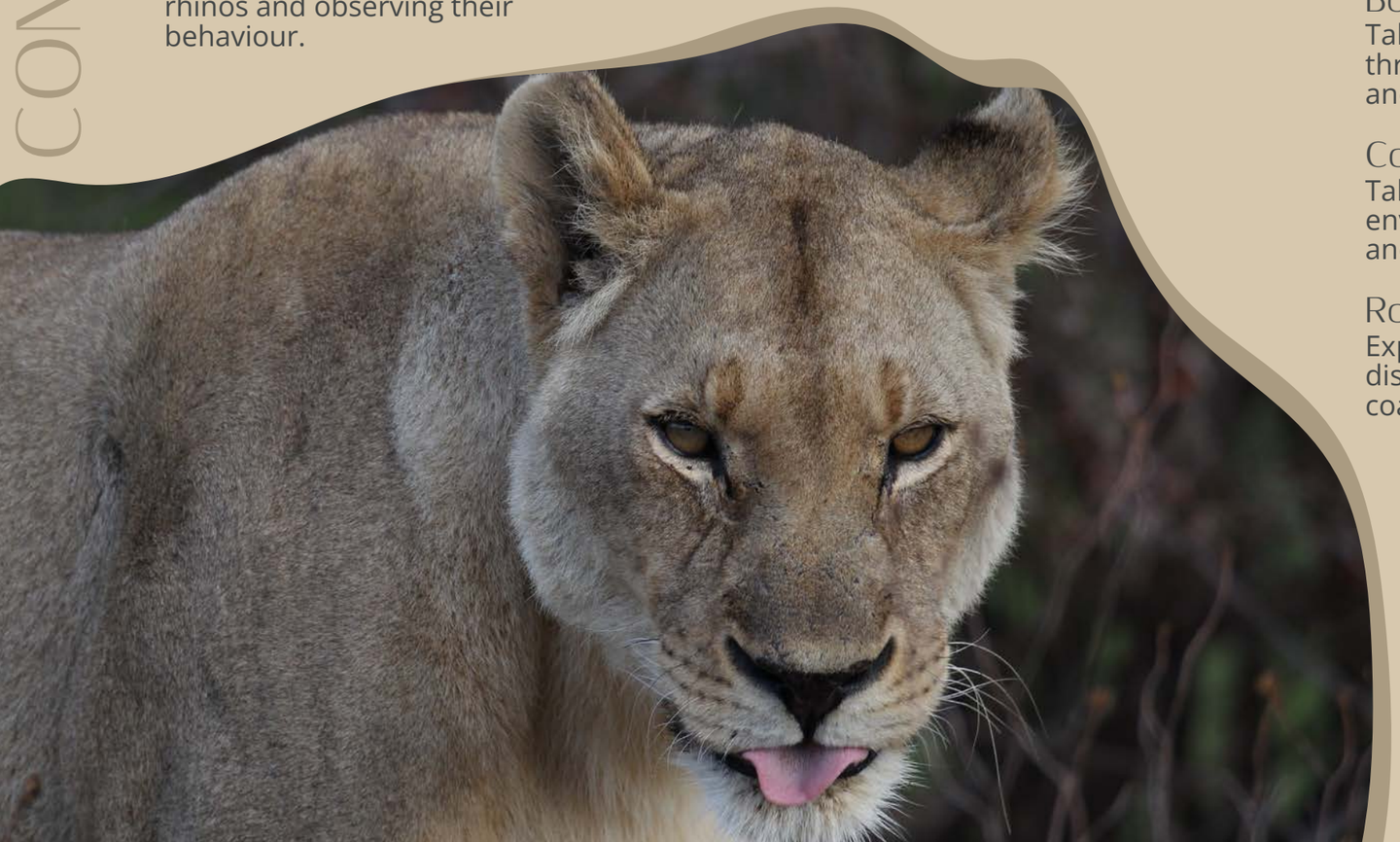
Wildlife Monitoring

Elephant Monitoring
Learn about African elephant populations and the challenges they face, while helping identify Sibuya's elephants and observing their behaviour.

Rhino Conservation
Gain insight into rhino populations, their role within the ecosystem and the human-induced pressures facing the species. Monitoring may include identifying individual rhinos and observing their behaviour.

Lion Monitoring
Discover more about lion ecology and conservation through monitoring, presentations and discussions shaped by current reserve requirements.

Camera Trap Monitoring
Help set up and monitor camera traps, offering a fascinating glimpse into wildlife activity that often goes unseen.



Biodiversity & Wildlife Management

Where reserve requirements allow, activities may include game counts, game capture, wildlife procedures and giraffe or buffalo darting for parasite management.



Bird Watching
Learn to identify bird species across Sibuya's varied bush, river, estuary and surrounding habitats.

Habitat & Vegetation Management
Get involved in vegetation monitoring and rehabilitation, invasive plant clearing, brush cutting and other work that supports healthy habitats.

Reserve Management
Go behind the scenes of a working game reserve. Activities may include road and firebreak maintenance, brush clearing, fence patrols, conservation security and exposure to Anti-Poaching Unit operations.

River, Coast & Community



Boat Cruise & Fish Tagging
Take to the river and learn about fish research through the safe capture, recording, tagging and release of suitable estuarine species.

Community & Environmental Outreach
Take part in initiatives such as local school visits, environmental education, community projects and beach or river clean-ups.

Rocky Shores & Coastal Exploration
Explore the nearby Eastern Cape coastline and discover the biodiversity of its rocky shores and coastal environments.



NO TWO EXPERIENCES ARE THE SAME



Conservation Follows Nature, Not a Timetable.

This means that certain activities may be seasonal, weather dependent or determined by current conservation and reserve management priorities.

Some wildlife management procedures may happen during your stay. Others may not.

What remains constant is the opportunity to experience genuine conservation work as it happens.

Certain experiences naturally lend themselves to particular times of year.

During the warmer summer months, for example, the programme may include nights spent out on the reserve, evening activities or night drives beneath the Eastern Cape sky.
Other seasons bring their own rhythms, wildlife movements and conservation priorities.
Come with an open mind.

The unexpected is often part of the experience. And the day-to-day needs of a working reserve change with them.

Rather than following a rigid activity schedule, the Sibuya Wilderness Experience responds to what is happening within the reserve at the time of your visit.

Rain Falls

Seasons Change

Wildlife Moves

Conservation Priorities Shift

LIFE AT THE LODGE

Your Home in the Eastern Cape

The Sibuya Wilderness Experience isn't only about the time spent out in the field.

Between conservation activities, there is time to slow down, connect with the people around you and enjoy a different rhythm of life in the Eastern Cape.
Days may be filled with wildlife monitoring, practical conservation work and time exploring the reserve, river and surrounding landscapes. In between, there is space to relax, share meals, reflect on the day's experiences and spend time with the rest of the group.
It is often these quieter moments that become just as memorable as the activities themselves.

A Place to Recharge

Your accommodation provides a comfortable base throughout your stay, giving you time to rest and recharge between activities.

Specific accommodation arrangements and facilities will be confirmed as part of the booking process.

- Selected conservation activities & Guidance from our conservation team
- Accommodation & Laundry Facilities
- WIFI in Selected Areas
- Breakfast and meals as specified & Tea, coffee and water
- Sibuya T-shirt & Sibuya branded bottle
- Species list



YOUR TIME AT SIBUYA

Your Days Could Be Filled With...

No Set Schedule.
Plenty To Experience.



Wildlife & Conservation

Elephant, Rhino & Lion Monitoring

Camera Trap Monitoring

Game Counts & Wildlife Management

Wildlife Procedures

Biodiversity Projects





Life Behind the Scenes

Habitat & Vegetation Management

Vegetation Rehabilitation

Road & Reserve Maintenance

Firebreak & Fence Work









River, Coast & Community

Bird Watching

Boat Cruises & Fish Tagging

Coastal & Rocky Shore Exploration

Community Outreach

Beach & River Clean-Ups

Exploring the Eastern Cape

A Visit to Addo Elephant National Park

Optional Weekend Activities



1 WEEK MINIMUM
2 WEEKS RECOMMENDED

Stay a Little Longer

The longer you stay, the more opportunity there is to experience the different sides of conservation at Sibuya.

A two-week stay is recommended for a more complete experience, while one-week stays and longer visits remain possible. Because conservation follows the needs of the reserve, activities aren't assigned to specific days or weeks.

Come with an open mind. What happens during your stay is part of what makes the experience real.

BEYOND THE RESERVE



Your time at Sibuya is also an opportunity to experience more of the Eastern Cape.

Addo Elephant National Park

A visit to Addo Elephant National Park may form part of the experience, offering another perspective on conservation within the Eastern Cape.

Sunshine Coast

Spend time exploring the nearby coastline, from rocky shores and dune trails to beach days and time in nearby coastal areas.

Your Free Time



Optional weekend activities are for participants' own account unless otherwise specified.

Transfer costs are shared between participating guests and will vary depending on the distance travelled to each activity.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

The Essentials

- *Transfers to and from Port Elizabeth Airport on scheduled arrival and departure days*
- *Shared twin-bedded en-suite accommodation*
- *Breakfast and meals as specified Tea, coffee and water*
- *Wi-Fi in selected lodge areas Access to communal lodge facilities*
- *Swimming pool*
- *Pool table*
- *Daily conservation experiences and activities*
- *One qualified conservation coordinator per 10 participants*
- *Addo Elephant National Park entrance fees and applicable conservation levies where included in the itinerary*
- *Linen and basic conveniences*
- *Single rooms may be available on request at an additional cost.**

Yours To Keep

Sibuya T-shirt | Sibuya branded bottle | Species list | Conservation Certificates

Not Included

Unless otherwise specified

Medical and travel insurance | International or domestic airfares
Personal items and expenses | Alcoholic beverages | Soft drinks | Gratuities
Restaurant meals during free weekends | Optional weekend activities and excursions



COME PREPARED

What to Pack?

You do not need specialist equipment to take part, but life in the field is much more comfortable when you arrive prepared

Everyday Essentials

- [ ] Toiletries
- [ ] Personal medication
- [ ] Personal first-aid items
- [ ] Reusable water bottle
- [ ] High-SPF sunscreen
- [ ] Beach towel
- [ ] Notebook
- [ ] Casualwear

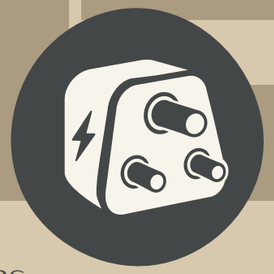
Other Useful Gear

- [ ] Binoculars
- [ ] Daypack or rucksack
- [ ] Torch or headlamp
- [ ] Camera
- [ ] Laptop where required for presentations

Field Clothing

- [ ] Short and long-sleeved shirts
- [ ] Short and long work trousers
- [ ] Comfortable hiking or work footwear
- [ ] Trainers
- [ ] Warm layer or fleece
- [ ] Windbreaker or rain jacket
- [ ] Hat or cap
- [ ] Underwear and socks
- [ ] Swimwear

Neutral-coloured clothing is recommended for time spent in the reserve.



- [ ] South African plug Adapter

Summer Months

- [ ] ***A sleeping bag may be required for selected summer experiences between November and March.***

Please confirm requirements with the Sibuya team prior to departure.

Please note: This is a general packing guide. Requirements may vary according to season, weather and planned activities. Please confirm specific requirements before traveling.

Ready To Make It Happen?

Everything you need to know before booking your Sibuya Wilderness Experience.

How Long?

Minimum stay:
1 week

Recommended stay:
2 weeks

Longer stays may be available on request.

Arrival & Transfers

Sunday arrivals

Scheduled airport transfers

Approximately 1.5 hours to Sibuya

Booking Your Stay

1. *Enquire* — Contact the Sibuya team to check availability for your preferred dates.
2. *Confirm* — A 50% deposit secures your booking.
3. *Get Ready* — Finalise your payment and travel arrangements before arrival.

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Current Rates & Important Information

BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

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Sibuya Game Reserve
Eastern Cape, South Africa

Rates, Payment & Cancellations
Rates are quoted per person, per week, based on shared accommodation unless otherwise specified. A 50% deposit is required to confirm a booking, with the balance payable prior to arrival. Cancellation fees apply according to the notice period provided, and an administration fee may apply to early cancellations. Sibuya is not liable for cancellations arising from flight or airport delays, illness or other unforeseen circumstances.

Travel Insurance

Comprehensive medical and travel insurance is strongly recommended.

Travel Information

Participants are responsible for ensuring that passports, visas, travel documentation and any documentation required for minors are valid and meet current South African travel requirements.

Travelling with Minors
Travellers under the age of 18 may be required to travel with an Unabridged Birth Certificate and additional supporting documentation.

Parents or guardians should confirm current South African travel requirements before departure.