

# HORSE & WILDLIFE CARE

VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE



# YOUR ADVENTURE

## Immerse Yourself in Horse & Wildlife Care near Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Welcome to our unique volunteer project nestled just outside the breathtaking Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, in the beautiful Fuller Forest conservation area. At our organisation, Victoria Falls Wild Hub, we offer a one-of-a-kind opportunity to blend your passion for horses with hands-on care for wildlife in our sanctuary.

## Rescued Horses, Transformed Lives

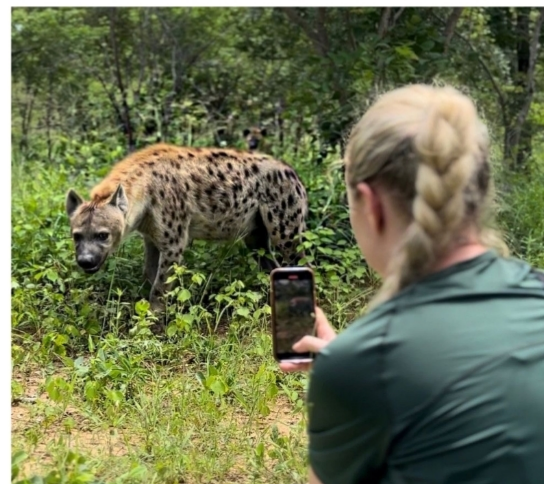
Our equine residents hail from Zimbabwe and South Africa, each with a unique story. With a range of different backgrounds, some of the horses in our care have endured hardships, requiring intervention to provide them with a better quality of life. By joining this program, you'll play a role in their rehabilitation and ongoing care, witnessing firsthand the transformative power of love and compassion.

Here, your days will be spent in a dynamic blend of horse care and wildlife involvement. Alongside nurturing our beloved horses, you'll engage in the care of our wildlife sanctuary animals, including lions, spotted hyenas, ostriches, and more.

On top of that, you will also engage in wildlife conservation activities with our Conservation & Research Manager on projects like our vulnerable tree protection program or camera trapping. This is an amazing opportunity to learn more about ecosystem restoration, wildlife research and wildlife conservation.

This opportunity guarantees a memorable journey with no day looking the same. Your time spent volunteering on this project will be nothing short of extraordinary!

***\*This is currently open to all levels of riders but please note that beginner riders will have riding limitations due to safety.***



# A DAY IN YOUR LIFE

- **Stables & Horse Upkeep:** Your responsibilities will include cleaning and maintenance tasks to ensure a safe environment for the horses. This also encompasses feeding all the horses, grooming and cleaning tack, which enhances their comfort and health. By taking on these responsibilities, you'll be an integral part of our team, supporting the welfare and happiness of our beloved horses.
- **Horse rehabilitation:** We're dedicated to caring for rescue horses with the utmost compassion. This commitment translates into providing abundant TLC, physiotherapy, and groundwork. By working closely with these special horses, you'll have the chance to expand your horizons in horse care beyond the basics. Building trust and fostering strong bonds with our rescue horses is at the heart of what we do, and you'll be part of this rewarding journey as you embark on your own learning adventure with us.
- **Ground Work:** Participate in the horse training through ground work sessions. These are vital for maintaining the well-being of our horses, ensuring they are in prime condition. Through schooling and training exercises, we focus on conditioning the horses while addressing any behavioural issues that may arise. These sessions offer a unique opportunity to strengthen the bond between you and the horses, fostering trust and mutual understanding. Whether you're a seasoned rider or new to the equestrian world, our ground work sessions provide invaluable insights and connections with the horses.
- **Riding in the forest and the community:** Ride out into the community outside of Victoria Falls and see the beautiful views of the Zimbabwean landscape. You will also enjoy rides into our forest area where you might come across African wildlife, and your presence assists in anti-poaching and de-forestation.
- **Care & welfare of sanctuary animals:** Assist in the daily care through feeding, cleaning, behaviour enrichment and expand your knowledge and passion for our animals by getting to know and love their individual personalities. Enjoy unforgettable moments with our magnificent animals such as lion, hyena, ostrich, a variety of birds of prey, to name a few.
- **Wildlife Monitoring and Reserve Maintenance:** Join our dedicated wildlife team on reserve management tasks, and develop and maintain the environment we are based in. This includes assisting them on various initiatives such as Reserve Management, Lion Enrichment Research and Wildlife Monitoring.
- **Assist with Wildlife Research:** Gather and submit essential data for our various projects such as Elephant Impact Monitoring, Lion Enrichment, Wildlife Monitoring and Bird Surveying and more.



# OUR GALLERY



# YOUR VOLUNTEER WEEK

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AM 1	Daily Horse Care Duties.	Early morning animal welfares	Game Drive in the National Park or spend the day at the stables working with the horses	Forest & Reserve Management	Full day at the stables working with the horses.  Daily horse duties, riding, rehabilitation and whatever is needed on the day!
AM 2	Ride in the forest or the community	Lion & Hyena feeding and cleaning		Wildlife Conservation or Research Session	
PM	Behaviour Enrichment & Lion Feeding	Horse duties and ground work or evening ride		Horse duties and ground work or evening ride	
EVENING	Evening around the campfire	Evening Off		Evening Off	
			Movie/Game Night or just hanging out with the group!		Go for dinner at Victoria Falls renowned restaurants (additional cost)
	SATURDAY		SUNDAY		
AM	Optional stables or sanctuary work.		Spend the morning rafting the rapids below the Falls.		
PM	TIME OFF! Explore Victoria Falls!		Take a stroll in the rainforest and be in awe of the largest waterfall on earth!		

\*This is a **rough example** of how your week as a Horse & Wildlife Care volunteer could look. However, due to the nature of our project, daily and weekly activities may change on a daily basis and at any time depending on our work and to improve your experience.

# YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Our volunteer village is nestled at Victoria Falls Wild Hub in Fuller Forest – 4000 acres of prime forest estate, surrounded by beautiful flora and fauna. Staying in our basic safari tents of 4-6 people with a large shared ablution block. There is the opportunity to upgrade to an en-suite tent or en-suite cottages, at an additional cost, when there is availability. Down time is spent in the reception area overlooking a watering hole where you might spot some wildlife like elephants, kudu or impalas!

It's only a 20-minute drive from the Victoria Falls town and a 10-minute drive from the Victoria Falls international airport so you can take a taxi in to town at any point!

There's no other place on Earth like Victoria Falls! Known as the Adventure Capital of Africa and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, the variety of activities to enjoy in this area are truly unlimited. Make yourself at home at the world's largest waterfall system. This is a dream location for any traveller looking to connect with nature in the most unforgettable way.

Wildlife is held in the highest regard in Victoria Falls. With the town bordering an unfenced National Park, it is not uncommon to have wildlife in the streets. Elephants, lions and buffalo are all known to move through the town whilst warthogs and baboons are daily visitors. Surrounded by incredible wildlife, spectacular birds and awesome reptiles, the safari never stops. Your next wildlife encounter can happen at any given moment!



# ABOUT US



As a key buffer area between National Parks and local communities, Victoria Falls Wild Hub (VFWH) exists to facilitate efficient conservation efforts for the land, wildlife, and people in and around Fuller Forest.

We believe in the transformative power of learning, serving, and stewarding the natural world toward a better future.

In 2023, the Victoria Falls Wild Hub was established to take over the responsibility of leasing and managing the 4,000-acre Fuller Forest as a for-profit, purpose-driven venture.

## THE SANCTUARY

VFWH inherited over 20 lions which were a legacy of an unsuccessful breeding-for-release program by another organisation. We have the responsibility to maintain the highest standard of care for these lions. The fees paid by visitors who view the lions help to fulfil this obligation and partially fund the broader stewardship of the forest.

Apart from the lions, VFWH cares for many animals that have been rescued for rehabilitation purposes as well as animals caught in human-wildlife conflict, including hyenas, ostriches, a duiker, a baboon, a monkey, and a crowned eagle to name a few. We have different animals at the sanctuary depending on which animals are in need so you as a visitor may meet both new and old residents! VFWH will only accept to take in and care for animals that are in genuine need of rescue, rehabilitation, and where possible, released back into the wild.

## WHAT WE DO

VFWH offers different experiences from day visits, volunteer/intern/service learning placements, and faculty-led group travel. Through collective efforts, from daily visitors, volunteers, interns, and university partners, we create a meaningful impact on wildlife, the environment, and the Fuller Forest Conservation Area. Our impact success is dependent on the success of our activities. The more guests and partners that come through our doors, the greater the impact we have on the area!

# YOUR PROJECT

## ARRIVAL DAYS

Arrival days are on Mondays at Victoria Falls International Airport.



## PRICING

2025	1 WEEKS	2 WEEKS	3 WEEKS	4 WEEKS	5 WEEKS	6 WEEKS	7 WEEKS	8 WEEKS
USD	1405	2205	2990	3825	4515	5210	5905	6595

It is also possible to pay in Pounds & Euros on request

**\*Please note that if you stay longer than 4 weeks you will require to obtain a "Temporary Employment Permit" at an additional cost of US\$500.**





# WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Accommodation in shared safari tents
- 3 basic meals a day, 7 days a week
- All project fees & national park entry fees
- 1 trip to Victoria Falls for 1-3 week stays, 2 trips for stays above 4 weeks
- Airport pick-up/drop-off to and from Victoria Falls International Airport
- Housekeeping and weekly laundry services
- Free WiFi (weather or power cuts can cause the WiFi to be slow at times)
- 24-hour, on-site support by our friendly and knowledgeable staff



# WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

Victoria Falls is the adventure capital of Africa! Here are just a few of the experiences you can take advantage of at an additional cost while staying with us:

- A boat cruise on the mighty Zambezi River
- Follow in the footsteps of David Livingstone with a tour around the Victoria Falls National Park
- Adrenaline junkie? Bungee, swing or slide off the famous bridge or gorge
- Get another stamp in that passport of yours by going on a game drive and boat cruise in the Chobe National Park (Botswana)
- Hang over the Victoria Falls as you swim in the Devil's Pool (seasonal approx. August-Feb)
- Get your adventure fix by white water rafting down the lower Zambezi River
- Fly above the Falls with a helicopter ride – getting a bird's eye view of one of the world's seven wonders!
- Taste traditional Zimbabwean dishes while you enjoy drumming, dancing and singing at The Boma Restaurant.

