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Wildlife Rehabilitation & Captive Care

"If you not only love African Animals but truly care about their conservation, want to see them rehabilitated and thrive in their natural habitats - then this is the experience for you."

Michaela



Designed for students or anyone with a keen interest in African wildlife, this special Wildlife Rehabilitation and Captive Care program is the ideal experience for those interested in pursuing or starting out in a career in veterinary, wildlife or zoology fields.

Participants will gain first-hand experience of wildlife husbandry in sessions led by the most experienced members of the sanctuary team. You'll gain an understanding of species-specific behaviours and learn about the role of the sanctuary in rescue, rehabilitation and release through a busy itinerary packed with theory and practical sessions. Furthermore, this group will get a front-row seat for any unexpected veterinary activities going on during their visit, including call-outs and rescues.

Offered twice each year, in February and September, the program is capped at 10 participants per intake. The 2 week Captive Care program can easily be combined with a week or more of general wildlife volunteering at the sanctuary and/or time spent at one of the remote wildlife research projects studying carnivores, elephant or wild dog populations.

Book now with a low \$400 deposit, balance due 3 months before trip. Payment plans available

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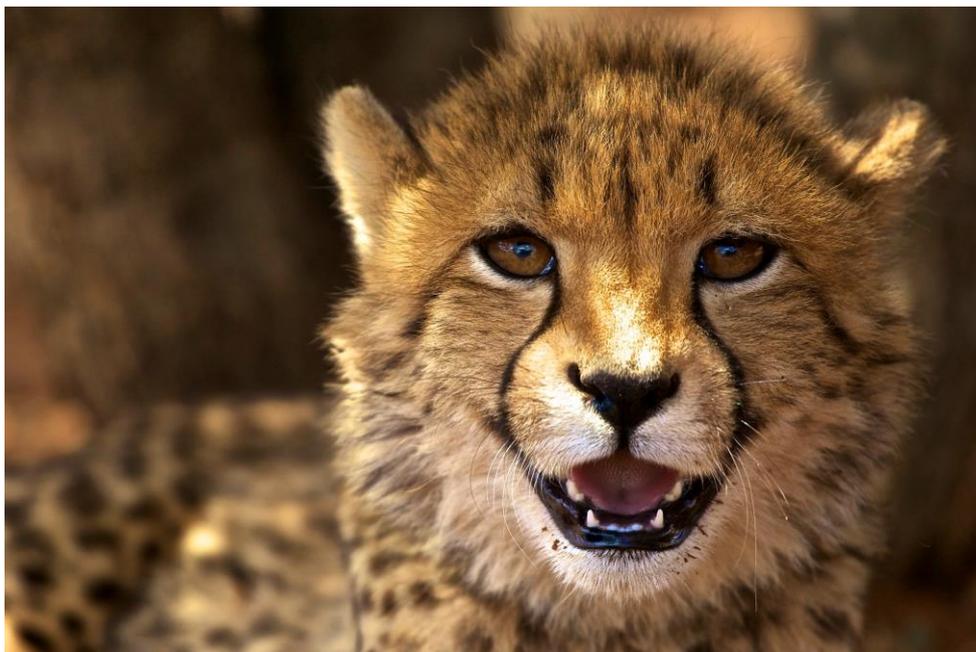
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Snapshot

- **2021 Dates :** 19 Sep – 02 Oct
- **2022 Dates :** 30 Jan – 12 Feb, 04 – 17 Sep
- **Pricing:**
 - **2 weeks Rehab & Captive Care program** AU\$2,845
 - **3 weeks (inc 1 week Sanctuary program)** AU\$3,835
 - **3 weeks (inc 1 week Research program)** AU\$4,165
 - **4 weeks (inc 1 week Research + 1 week Sanctuary)** AU\$4,995
 - **Additional Sanctuary weeks + \$990**
- **Minimum Age :** 18 if solo, 16+ if accompanied by a parent/guardian
- **Fly In/Out :** Windhoek (WDH)
- **What's included:** All meals, accommodation, return airport transfers, 24/7 support
- **What's not included:** Flights
- **Accommodation:** Twin-share rooms or safari tents (with proper beds)
- **Food:** 3 delicious catered meals per day are provided for you



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Itinerary

Day 1 (Sunday) Arrive into Windhoek Airport (airport code WDH) and you'll be met by our staff and taken straight to the sanctuary – your home for the duration of your trip. Settle in and meet other participants as well as sanctuary volunteers, the permanent members of staff and the animals who also call this place home.

The Program After breakfast on Monday participants will come together for orientation – this important session will talk you through the history of the sanctuary, its aims and the important program safety rules. The Rehab & Captive Care program runs for 10 days, Monday to Friday with the weekend off in between.

Participants will learn the ins and outs of species behaviour, gaining an in-depth understanding of everything from wild dog pack mentality to captive cheetah management. Informative presentations are key to understanding the basis of the animals' activity and behaviour. We'll cover nutrition and enclosure management, enrichment, post-rehab monitoring, ethical dilemmas and also the impact of human-wildlife conflict and the role conservation organisations play in Africa.

Practical sessions will cover health, condition, behaviour, social structure, feeding habits and gender differences, examined using our on-site animals as a visual aid. Here participants will have the opportunity to visit our big cats and wild dogs, to walk amongst baboons and cheetahs in the veldt and to observe our other various conservation ambassadors in order to gain a better understanding of their behaviour. Watching the way lions interact over food or the way baboons build a complex social hierarchy will better enable participants to draw conclusions about the various species and learn what contributing factors stand in the way of successful rehabilitation.

The sanctuary boasts an incredible variety of magnificent wildlife, all on a 3,500 hectare reserve located in the heart of the Namibian bush. With lion, leopard, cheetah and wild dog as well as baboons, vervet monkeys, oryx, kudu and countless other species in need of the care that the sanctuary provides there is plenty of work to be done here. Participants will learn about the role of the wildlife sanctuary as well as the circumstances of the animals that come into our care, from the day of arrival until the day of release. During these sessions, our expert wildlife coordinators will share their own experiences and detailed knowledge of animals in captivity and in the wild.

Each animal has its own story... whether rescued from a farmer's trap, surrendered or seized from illegal captivity, injured or orphaned there are many paths to this rehabilitation centre. They specialise in rescue and rehabilitation so that animals, once ready and where possible are able to be returned to the wild – where this is not possible, they get to live out their days at the sanctuary in a safe and caring environment where they are given a life as much in tune with their natural instincts as possible.

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Weekends During your free time there's lots to do...or do nothing at all! Take a nature walk across the farm, swim in the pool, play football or even go paintballing – but always make time for the beautiful African sunsets. Saturday afternoons are set aside for fun and games as a group followed by a braai (BBQ) for dinner. You may have chance to join a trip into Windhoek or to visit the ancient San skills academy to try your hand at a range of tribal skills including fire-making with traditional San fire sticks, making bows and arrows and jewellery.

Extend your stay by combining your 2 weeks veterinary program with a week or more of general wildlife volunteering at the sanctuary and/or time spent at one of the remote wildlife research projects studying carnivores, elephant or wild dog populations. Refer to the **African Wildlife Sanctuary** and **Research Weeks** info packs for details. For extended programs, we can offer great flexibility with your arrival and departure dates.

Last day (Saturday) On your last day with us, having said your goodbyes and packed your bags, we'll whisk you off to the airport in plenty of time for your flight onwards, or home.



Accommodation and Meals: There are two accommodation styles, allocated on arrival – these are standard rooms or large, raised safari tents with proper beds. Both types are very comfortable and twin-share with shared bathrooms – if travelling solo you'll be paired with another participant (same-gender), no single supplement applies.

Three meals a day are included so you'll enjoy the luxury of having your breakfast, lunch and dinner prepared for you.

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