

Conservation & Environment

Botswana

Conservation Schedule Botswana | 2024

Welcome to our Conservation & Environment Project in Botswana, where an unforgettable two-week experience awaits you. Embark on an immersive journey that seamlessly blends conservation efforts, environmental research, and cultural exchange, offering you a unique opportunity to make a positive impact on the region's wildlife and ecosystem.

Objectives:

► Wildlife Surveys and Data Collection:

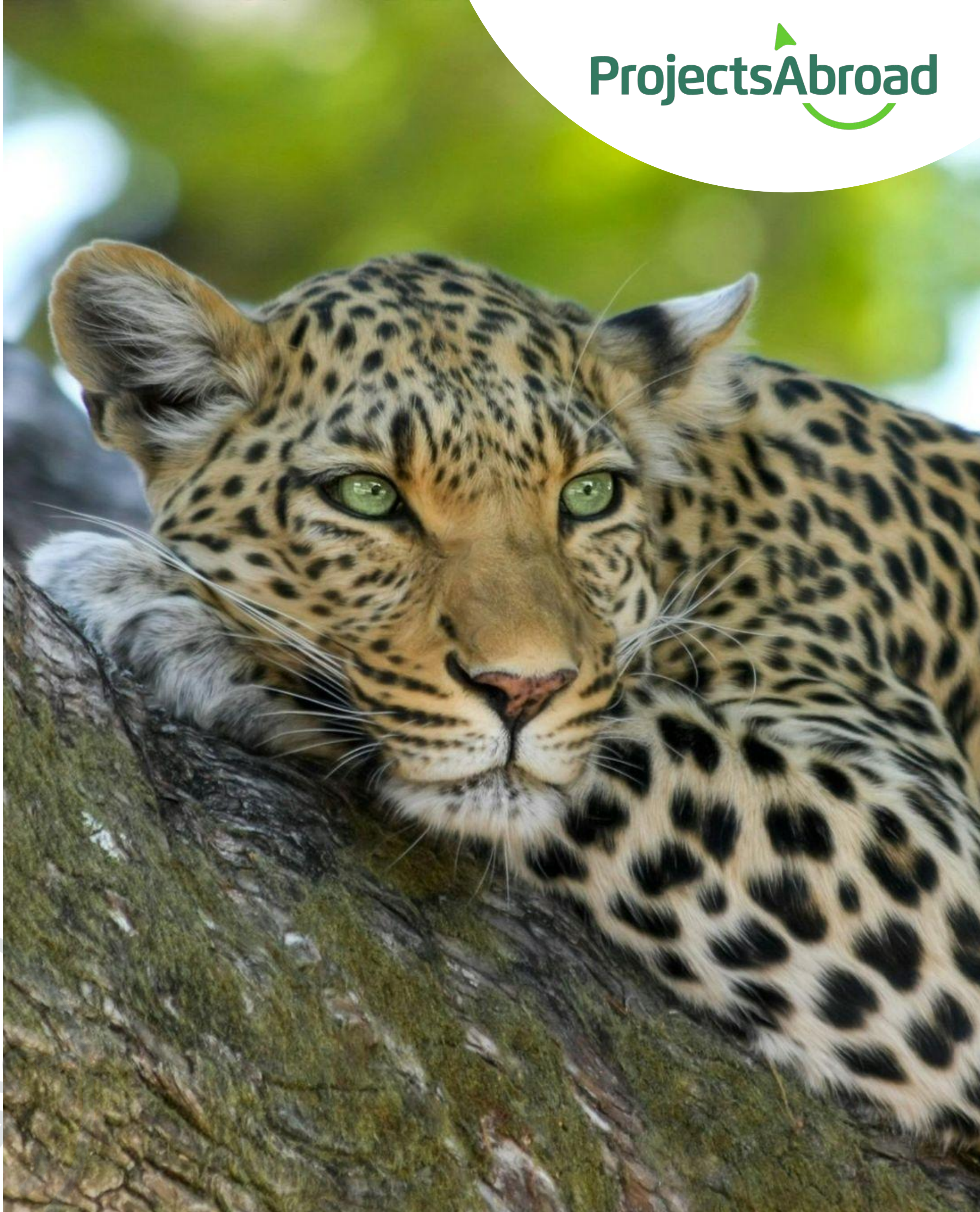
Engage in various wildlife surveys to observe and document the diverse fauna of Botswana. Conduct mammal censuses, helping to monitor and protect the populations of iconic species such as Elephants and Leopards. Take part in camera trap initiatives and data collection, capturing vital information on Botswana's rich biodiversity.

► Hands-on Conservation:

Participate in hands-on maintenance and prevention tasks such as soil erosion and water dam repair.

► Culture

Botswana is renowned for its stunning landscapes, diverse wildlife, and vibrant culture. Beyond the conservation work, experience the unique culture and natural beauty of the country. Visit local villages to gain insight into traditional lifestyles and customs, and enjoy the tranquility of the Motswiri camp.





Highlights

- ▶ 50 Service Hours
- ▶ Conduct hands-on work to tackle conservation threats in the area
- ▶ Learn about conservation challenges in the area
- ▶ Observe elephants, leopards and giraffes in their natural habitat
- ▶ Visit local villages
- ▶ Offset your carbon footprint

Accommodation
Bush camp

Transport
4x4 and by foot

Meals
All meals will be either packed or served at the camp.

Timings
This schedule is subject to change, however you will be advised in advance should this happen. You will depart from the camp between 6.30 and 7:30am and finish around 5pm. This may differ from day to day depending on the activity and progress of the volunteer work.

Responsible Travel
We offset 100% of carbon emissions associated with your in-destination transport. We’re committed to being fully climate-positive by 2024!

By volunteering with us you’re helping reforestation efforts, protecting existing forests and providing employment to local communities around the world.

Day 1	Sunday
Morning	You will be collected from Polokwane airport and begin your adventure with a scenic drive to Motswiri camp, getting to know your fellow volunteers along the way. Enjoy the landscape as we journey to our base, preparing for the exciting work ahead.
Afternoon	Upon arrival, have lunch and participate in an essential orientation and safety briefing to familiarise yourself with the camp and project goals. Learn about the specific conservation efforts you'll be contributing to and how your work will make a difference. If time allows, embark on a game drive to witness the local wildlife and landscape.

Evening	Settle into camp life with a relaxing dinner, and unwind after your first day.
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Day 2	Monday
Morning	Start your day with a light breakfast to energise you for the day's activities. Project Work: Help maintain the area around camera traps, ensuring they capture clear footage of local wildlife.
Afternoon	Enjoy a midday break with lunch and take some time to relax before the afternoon tasks. Project Work: Assist in preparing materials to combat soil erosion, which is caused by flooding and is a crucial part of preserving the local ecosystem.

Evening	Enjoy a meal followed by a screening of "Blood Lions," an insightful film about wildlife conservation.
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Day 3	Tuesday
Morning	Fuel up with a light breakfast. Project Work: Participate in a survey of the mammal population at Mopani dam, contributing to important wildlife data collection.
Afternoon	Discuss the impacts of wildlife trade and conservation efforts with the Project Director over lunch. Project Work: Continue the essential task of preparing materials for soil erosion prevention.

Evening	Conclude the day with a satisfying meal at camp..
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Day 4	Wednesday
Morning	Begin your day with a light breakfast. Project Work: Enhance your knowledge with a lecture on identifying animal tracks (spoor) and bird species.
Afternoon	Have lunch while learning more about the upcoming soil erosion activities. Project Work: Participate in building barriers to prevent soil erosion, directly helping to protect the environment.

Evening	Enjoy a hearty dinner to end the day.
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Day 5	Thursday
Morning	Start your day with a light breakfast. Project Work: Go birdwatching at Jenda Hide and take a walk along the riverine, observing local wildlife.
Afternoon	Take a break for lunch and enjoy some time to relax around the camp. Project Work: Continue working on soil erosion prevention by constructing barriers.

Evening	Conclude the day with dinner and a viewing of "Seaspiracy," a documentary on ocean conservation.
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Day 6	Friday
Morning	Begin the day with a light breakfast. Project Work: Join a patrol to help protect wildlife from poaching activities.
Afternoon	Enjoy lunch while discussing sustainable living practices. Project Work: Continue constructing barriers to prevent soil erosion.
Evening	End the day with a nutritious dinner.
Day 7	Saturday
Morning	Start your day with a light breakfast. Cultural: Learn to weave with LALA palm and grass. Engage in a crafting session to learn traditional weaving techniques using local materials. Visit a nearby village to experience local culture and community life.
Afternoon	Take a break for lunch. Cultural: Take a scenic walk to the nearby hills and enjoy a beautiful sunset.
Evening	Enjoy an African BBQ (known as a Braai) to end the day.
Day 8	Sunday
Morning	Begin your day with a light breakfast. Relax: Take some time to read your book, play games and catch up on personal tasks like laundry.
Afternoon	Enjoy a fun lunch activity by making your own pizza. Project Work: Spend the afternoon on a leisurely game drive or walk, soaking in the natural beauty.
Evening	End the day with a delicious dinner at camp.



Day 9	Monday
Morning	Start your day with a simple breakfast. Project Work: Help with road maintenance and trimming vegetation to keep the paths clear.
Afternoon	Take a break for lunch and relax. Sleep-out: Get ready for an overnight adventure in the bush where you will sleep under the stars and listen to the wildlife around a campfire.
Evening	Sleep-out: Enjoy the unique experience of sleeping out in the wilderness with experienced staff.
Day 10	Tuesday
Morning	Pack your belongings and return to the main camp. Settle back into camp and have a light breakfast. Project Work: Participate in cleaning waterholes and solar panels, essential tasks for maintaining the reserve.
Afternoon	Enjoy lunch and then head out to collect data from camera traps. Project Work: Help conduct an elephant census at Mopani dam, contributing to important conservation research in the area.
Evening	End the day with dinner and a fun games evening.
Day 11	Wednesday
Morning	Start your day with a hearty breakfast. Project Work: Participate in a clean-up activity at Hi-side to help maintain the area.
Afternoon	Enjoy lunch while discussing the challenges and practices of sustainable living. Project Work: Take an adventure walk to explore the surrounding area.
Evening	End the day with dinner and review the findings from the camera traps.

Day 12	Thursday
Morning	Start your day with a nutritious breakfast. Project Work: Participate in a census and walk along the Limpopo River to observe crocodiles.
Afternoon	Enjoy a picnic lunch in a scenic spot. Project Work: Help remove invasive plant species to protect the native ecosystem.
Evening	Conclude the day with a delicious dinner.
Day 13	Friday
Morning	Begin your day with a nutritious breakfast. Project Work: Assist with road repairs and vegetation trimming to maintain access paths.
Afternoon	Take a break for lunch. Project Work: Help with an elephant census at Hi-side, gathering vital data for conservation efforts.
Evening	End the day with a hearty farewell dinner.
Day 14	Saturday
All Day	The final day is always bittersweet. It's been an amazing journey for the group. You've all bettered your understanding of conservation, developed a deep connection with the Botswana community, and have become immersed in the country's culture and history. As you leave Botswana, know you are always welcome back! We look forward to hearing what amazing things you all achieve in the future.

Student Learning Outcomes

Intercultural Competence

Students will be immersed in different cultures, gaining an understanding of their role within our global community and developing a deeper cultural awareness.

Leadership Development

Students will be pushed out of their comfort zones, experiencing new challenges each day. They will build their confidence and resilience through team activities and new life experiences.

Healthy Active Living

Students will be encouraged to prioritise their self-care, enhancing their physical and mental well-being.

Empowerment

Students will be empowered to think for themselves, challenging the “status-quo” and cultivating transformative decision-making mindsets.

Global Citizenship

Students will be exposed to new perspectives, engage with real-world challenges and contribute to sustainable development initiatives.



One of the most sparsely populated countries on Earth, Botswana is a paradise for anyone seeking a connection to the natural world. Visitors will be immersed in the indigenous traditions of local tribes as well as the forward-looking outlook of many local people.

Most notably, Botswana is home to the world’s largest land mammals, which have a special place in the hearts of Botswana citizens. This is one of the best countries to spot these powerful but vulnerable animals.

FUN FACTS

- ▶ Botswana has Africa’s highest concentration of elephants
- ▶ Botswana is Africa’s oldest democracy
- ▶ Over 70% of the land in Botswana is desert
- ▶ 38% of the land in Botswana is protected

Want to learn more?

We’d be happy to talk to you and and and answer any questions you may have. You can call or email our team, or use the ‘live chat’ feature on the Projects Abroad website.

General inquiries: groups@projects-abroad.org

Destination Information	
National Language:	Tswana, English
Population:	2.4 million
Currency:	Botswana Pula
Time Zone:	GMT+2
Capital:	Gaborone
Calling Code:	+267
Dominant Religion:	Christianity
National Dish:	Seswaa
National Animal:	Zebra
National Bird:	Kori Bustard

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