

Volunteering

2021

South Africa
Namibia
Botswana



sikhula sonke
growing together



WYSE TRAVEL
CONFEDERATION
FULL MEMBER





The unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic has posed an enormous challenge for people, communities, governments and companies worldwide. For the projects partnered with GHV, the challenge has been even bigger. Under-staffed and underfunded under normal circumstances, some projects have been left with no other choice than to close. Other projects have temporarily closed; some are operational but have had no volunteers to assist them for many months now.

At Good Hope Volunteers, we see opportunity in every challenge and are looking to those resilient projects that are still operating, projects that have adjusted their operations to be able to function despite the pandemic. These projects are waiting for international volunteers to return as soon as international travel regulation allow.

In our 2021 portfolio, we present these projects to you. Most of them are available now, though some will only resume operations later in 2021. So, whenever you are ready to travel again and to start the journey of your lifetime, Good Hope Volunteers is ready to support you realising your dreams.

We have 25 years of experience in bringing young international travellers to South Africa and 11 years of experience in sending volunteers to projects. As a local provider, we pride ourselves on being involved with and knowing all our projects personally.

We look forward to getting to know you and to supporting you through this experience.

Yours sincerely,

Wolfgang Graser

Alexander Kratochwil

Join us and become a Good Hope Volunteer

Be passionate about a cause

All of our projects provide services vital to the communities and the environment in which they are based. Volunteers play an integral part in the services offered, and your help is needed! A portion of your fee goes towards the upliftment of the community or project you work at as well as your passion to serve, so you get to leave Africa knowing you have made a difference!

Anyone can get involved

We have selected and developed projects located in environments that are suited to all, whether you are a tourist, a solo traveller, a student, or coming as a family. We offer everything from budget experiences to premium projects. All you need in order to apply is a good command of the English language and be at least 18 years of age. Our projects attract volunteers from dozens of different countries, allowing you to make life-long friends from across the globe.

We will find the right project for you

Applying to Good Hope Volunteers is free! Allow us to walk you through our application process to best determine which projects will be most suitable for your goals and needs.

We come highly recommended

For over 20 years, the Good Hope brand has been creating experiences and supporting students and volunteers from all over the world. We have been actively involved in changing the lives of thousands of students embarking on the adventure of a lifetime through meaningful travel in southern Africa. Read through some of our many testimonials to see for yourself!

We offer a wide variety of project options

We offer projects in South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. The experiences range from community-driven social projects to those that focus on environmental and conservation initiatives. Wherever your passions lie, Good Hope Volunteers will match you up with the right project at a fair cost.

We are passionate about volunteering

We are an experienced and motivated team with years of practice operating and travelling throughout southern Africa. We are small and flexible enough to meet your personal needs but also large enough to offer you a full range of support services. We will be on hand to help you every step of the way, from visas to airport transfers, accommodation options to advice and around-the-clock on-the-ground support.

Social volunteering



Caring for the Elderly

Cape Town, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
all year round

This organisation aims to provide all its residents with the highest standard of care and nursing within a homely environment, and to promote quality of life, the maintenance of independence, and the preservation of dignity. Volunteers work with residents who come from all walks of life and socioeconomic backgrounds. Tasks include playing games, instruments, etc.



Community Children's Project

near Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 - 12 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

Work in a rural township community on the Garden Route where you will support children from the ages of 2 to 6. Volunteers provide basic day care and assistance with daily developmental programmes. This project requires lots of hands-on work, both in the classroom and outdoors.



Hout Bay Children's Programmes

Hout Bay near Cape Town, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 4 weeks
Feb to Nov

This project caters for the children in a developing community near Hout Bay. As a volunteer, you spend mornings caring for young children while their parents are at work. Afternoons are spent in an aftercare programme that assists older children with their homework and creative activities once school has finished. Meals are also provided daily for all the children.




Jeffrey's Bay Kindergarten

Jeffrey's Bay, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 4 weeks
during school terms

The project centres around a nursery school for disadvantaged children. The project provides education and stimulation and relies on basic aids to teach the children and provide an educational experience for them. Located in Jeffrey's Bay, you will have the opportunity to have fun on the beach and enjoy surfing in your spare time.



Nyanga Upliftment Project

Cape Town, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 - 12 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

Volunteers joining this multipurpose facility can assist with education and social welfare programmes as well as outreach work focused on health and economic development by supporting mainly children and women. Tasks include helping in the kitchen, gardening, playing and more. This project is set in Nyanga, a township in Cape Town where the need is great.



Protecting Children

Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
from 21 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

Caring and loving volunteers help the staff at this unique organisation empower vulnerable children, who were potential or actual street children. The focus is to provide quality education and developmental programmes so that children reach their full potential and grow to become leaders in their communities.



Safe Haven

Cape Town, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
all year round

This organization supports children and their immediate family in a dignified and compassionate manner and also provides a safe haven for abandoned and abused children. Volunteers join a variety of projects supported by the organization during their experience. For this project it is important to be flexible and take initiative.

Social volunteering



This centre exists for a small number of the many marginalized people in the Cape community and provides specialized care for 90 profoundly intellectually and physically disabled citizens. Participate in group and stimulation activities, help with meals and organise events. Make a real difference in the life of someone who needs it most!



This is an early intervention literacy programme. It supports children who are at risk in learning to read. To do this, the programme focuses on language enrichment, offering extra help and remedial assistance to children. This project runs during school hours but volunteers can choose to assist directly in the school as well.



This unique urban farming project will allow you to experience sustainable farming, education, and health promotion. The project encourages change in the way the public sees food production and purchasing and also teaches the community where our food really comes from, and how it can benefit the families that live here.

Combine volunteering with a language course



When you volunteer, it is essential that you are able to communicate clearly with your supervisor, colleagues and the people you are helping. A good command of English is therefore required for all projects.

If you need to brush up on your English skills, add a language course before you start volunteering. Doing this will also give you a chance to get accustomed to the country before you start at your project.

Our sister company, Good Hope Studies, operates an English language school from two campuses in Cape Town: one campus

is situated in the leafy residential area of Newlands and the other is in the vibrant city centre on a pedestrian walkway.

We offer short-term and long-term programmes for General English as well as exam preparation courses, business courses and a teacher training centre.

Our school is well-known for the professional yet relaxed environment in which learning is both challenging and fun. Students from up to 50 different countries benefit from our courses each year.

Our story

In 1994, Wolfgang Graser and Alexander Kratochwil moved from their home in Vienna to the beautiful city of Cape Town. They quickly fell in love with this vibrant city and its friendly, smiling people. They first opened an English language school for foreign tourists to learn English, but soon they discovered that behind the shiny places there are enormous problems and challenges that this country faces for historic reasons. They met with organisations that assist government in the struggle for a better life and a better environment.

When you see what these organisations do, it's not difficult to feel moved and share in their desire to help. They can't solve all problems overnight, but they do make an

impact and do change people's lives on a daily basis. What they need, though, are volunteers who share their passion to help and who want to make a difference.

In 2009 we started to supply some of these organisations with international volunteers. What we specifically loved was not only to seeing these organisations thrive with the volunteers, but also noticing how the volunteers themselves benefit hugely from the experience.

In 2016, Vanessa Randon joined us to develop Good Hope Volunteers into a larger and more professional organisation. She holds an undergraduate degree in Marine Biology and a postgraduate degree in Physical Oceanography from the University

of Cape Town. With her passion for communities, animals and the environment, she has developed Good Hope Volunteers to a top service provider in this field.

It is our passion for positively impacting both South Africa and the international travellers that pushes us daily to provide the best possible meaningful experience for our volunteers, while supporting our projects with what they need to do their jobs and to grow into a brighter future.

Today we support around 40 projects in southern Africa. If you are looking for a life-changing experience, then allow us to assist you in finding the most suitable project on our website and beyond.

Conservation volunteering

African Cat Sanctuary




Standford, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

2 - 12 weeks
all year round

This sanctuary creates a safe and secure home for captive-bred big cats and raises awareness about the ethical and holistic treatment of animals. This 40-hectare paradise provides a beautiful home for the animals, and volunteers are involved in their day-to-day care and protection as well as the education of the public.

African Horizon



Thornhill, South Africa
from 17 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
all year round

Most animals brought here are either orphaned baby animals or seriously injured adults who will be cared for at the sanctuary for a lifetime. Where possible, they are released back into their natural habitat. Situated on the Garden Route, the project is well located for exploring this unique terrain or doing a variety of sports in your free time.

Centre for Endangered Species



closest town: Hoedspruit, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

3 weeks
specific dates

This facility is dedicated to the survival of rare, vulnerable and endangered species, particularly rhinos and cheetahs. The programme aims to equip volunteers with the ability to actively participate in the conservation of wildlife in the Kruger National Park area. Some days will be set aside for included excursions.

Domestic Animal Shelter



Hout Bay near Cape Town, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
all year round

This centre is a pro-life, nonprofit organisation whose core aim is to rescue, rehabilitate, re-unite and re-home lost, abandoned, abused and neglected dogs and cats. Volunteers make a marked difference to the lives of the animals here and need to have patience and a deep love for the work they will do.

Game Reserve Conservation



Mossel Bay, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

This project aims to return this land along the beautiful Garden Route to its natural state and ensure a self-sustaining, functional ecosystem by rehabilitating agricultural land, expanding the reserve, and creating community awareness. Volunteers take part in research on various wild-life species and essential hands-on conservation work.

The Forgotten Five



Outjo, Namibia
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
all year round

This organization specializes in research, rescue, rehabilitation, and release of animals. Their primary focus is the "Forgotten Five" which are the cape griffon vulture, cape pangolin, Damara dik-dik, spotted rubber frog, and dwarf python. However, they will accept any animal indigenous to Namibia that needs help. The goal is to always rehabilitate and release these animals where possible.

Wildlife Conservation



closest town: Windhoek, Namibia
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

2 - 12 weeks
all year round

This project provides a safe haven for orphaned and injured African wildlife. Efforts are directed to long-term rehabilitation. Volunteers play an important role in caring for and feeding animals as well as helping with daily tasks at the sanctuary. This may be combined with supporting San children at a local school.

Wildlife Research Project



Wildlife Research Project



Mossel Bay, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

This programme provides a great opportunity to get involved in the conservation and sustainability of African wildlife and ecosystems. Not only are volunteers directly involved in protecting and studying African wildlife and ecosystems but they also undergo educational sessions where the focus is on teaching the bigger picture.

Combined social & conservation volunteering

Cape Nature Conservation



Muizenberg, South Africa
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
all year round

Volunteer at a reserve that aims to promote the conservation of the indigenous fauna and flora of the Zandvlei wetland in Muizenberg. The programme is very broad and every day will be filled with a new adventure. Interact with people from across Africa and make a difference in the conservation of the reserve.

Community & Wilderness Outreach



Tuli Block, Botswana
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

4 - 12 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

This is a unique project that focuses on building relationships between communities, families, and the animals and owners of game reserves in rural Botswana. It also offers support programmes and educational outreach activities in the hopes of bridging the delicate gap between all members of this unique environment.

Conservation & Community



Paterson, South Africa
from 17 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

2 - 8 weeks
all year round

This project offers a rare opportunity to combine community development and environmental protection. Volunteers will work directly with children from a local care facility as well as support environmental conservation efforts on a working game reserve.

Ocean Conservation



Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
from 17 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

from 2 weeks
mid Jan to mid Nov

This foundation is dedicated to the conservation of the marine environment in South Africa through research, willingness to help, and dedication. You can make a real change for the future of South Africa's beautiful coastline and at the same time enjoy seeing whales, dolphins, seals and seabirds in their natural habitat.



Ms Vanessa Randon, Product and Sales Manager at Good Hope Volunteers:

"Ever since I was a little girl I have loved this country, my home, our people, and have always had a desperate passion for the environment. As I grew older, and travelled more of Africa, I realised that I had a unique responsibility to share my love and passion with as many people as I possibly could. I truly believe that each and every person has a chance to make a difference to our world, and we have the opportunity to initiate a positive change in our lives. I care deeply about every volunteer experience and believe that what Good Hope Volunteers does is remarkable. I am privileged to be a part of this team, and hope more and more people come to Africa, to learn, grow and discover who they are and what they are capable of."

Farm stays

Family Dairy Farm Experience



near Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
from 18 years

2 - 12 weeks
all year round

The farm is a family-run dairy farm that has successfully grown from its original mixed-agriculture and milk production activities to a highly popular farmstall and coffee shop offering a wide assortment of produce for retail and in-house consumption, plus an established horticultural seedling and plant retail nursery.

Wine Farm Experience



near Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
from 18 years

2 - 12 weeks
all year round

This farm is a family-run boutique wine estate that has successfully grown in size and reputation since 2008. They also assist the historically disadvantaged local community by constantly helping community members to participate in the local economy. Volunteers are involved in both wine production and community outreach activities.

Medical volunteering

Medical Project



Omaheke region, eastern Namibia
from 18 years
your impact: ♥♥♥♥♥

2 - 12 weeks
mid Jan to mid Dec

The project is committed to improving the lives of the San community through education, health care and improved living conditions. You will assist the clinic staff in providing primary health-care to locals. The project is a great choice for volunteers with an interest in health care, community service, nutrition and medicine.

Voluntourism



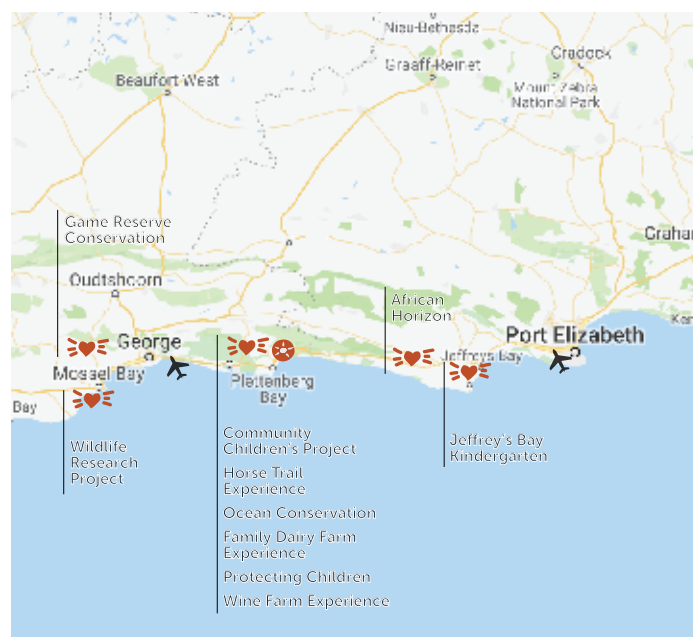
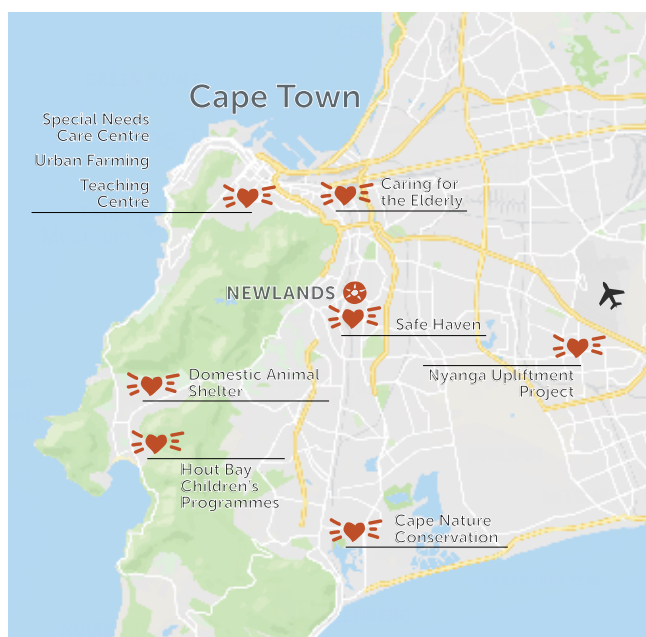
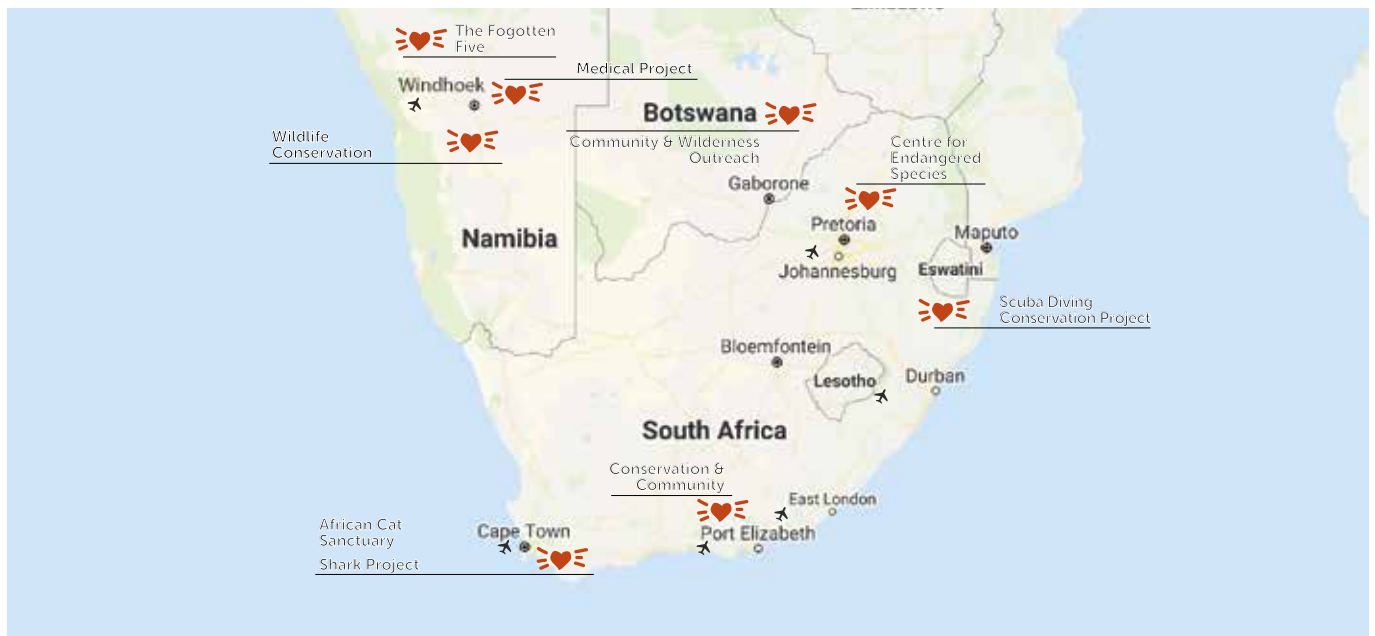
These beautiful animals have spent the majority of their lives in cruel and unjust hands. Now they are able to spend the remainder of their time in peace along the Garden Route. A magical project for all horse and animals lovers. No previous experience is necessary. Enjoy this unique way to see this part of South Africa on horseback.



Those who can't dive will have a dive course first. Volunteers dive every day during the week in the morning, collecting photographic data on turtles, mantas, whales and ragged-tooth sharks. Later in the day, the collected data is entered into database. For marine research efforts, marine lectures provide a deeper insight on ocean conservation.



An ocean-based project which aims to unite scientific research and public participation in the protection of South Africa's great white shark. Volunteers are primarily here to work closely with sharks and tourists. In doing so, they increase awareness of these wonderful creatures. You get involved in ocean conservation, shark wound healing, tagging and tracking.





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