

monkeyland KZN



Monkeyland-KZN is a unique sanctuary where rescued exotic primates roam freely through a 23-hectare forest.



We are a true sanctuary which means no touching, playing with, hand-feeding or in any other way exploiting these animals.

VOLUNTEERING

Whatever skills and experience you can bring, we are sure to be able to create the right volunteer placement for you.

Whether you just want to be able to spend time in nature and help the primates or you want to train as a sanctuary guide or have special skills or interests, such as photography, we have lots of projects on our to do list.



The key requirement is a willingness to work hard and get involved in any area where it's needed, from the possible sweaty and dirty tasks in the forest to the early morning stock-takes in our gift shop and a whole range of activities in between.



WHERE WILL I STAY?

Our volunteer house is located in the small town of Shakaskraal, which was the site of King Shaka's royal military homestead called



Perfectly situated just 10kms from the sanctuary and 10kms from the beaches, bars, restaurants, cinema and shopping malls of Ballito.



You'll stay in a twin or quad room, each room has a private shower room. Bed linen and bath towels are provided.



The house has uncapped wifi, TV lounge, DVD and book library, playing cards and board games and a well-stocked honesty bar. You'll receive 3 meals per day.



A TYPICAL DAY VOLUNTEERING AT MONKEYLAND-KZN

There really is no such thing as a typical day when volunteering with us! Your daily activities will depend on what is happening at the sanctuary at the time and on your own individual skills, experiences and interests. However, the schedule below will give you an idea of how you might spend most of your days:

7.30 Leave the Volunteer House and travel to the sanctuary

8.00 - 10.00

You will either spend time in the monkey kitchen cooking and preparing food for the monkeys or head to the forest to clean the feeding platforms and water bowls and provide fresh food and water.

10.00 - 10.30

Morning tea break.

10.30 - 14.30

This part of the day will really depend on your personalised volunteer programme, you will also have time for a lunch break. You could be involved in any of the following:

- assisting the maintenance team and/or animal keepers in forest maintenance tasks, e.g. removing alien vegetation, removing litter on the route from the reception site to the forest;
- working on your own photography or video project;
- working with the maintenance team on a project at the reception site, this could be anything from repainting floors, sanding and varnishing tables, building shelving, gardening etc.
- helping out in the monkey kitchen ensuring all the food for the afternoon feed and the following morning feed is ready and stored in the cold room;
- assisting the marketing team with social media posts, attending marketing shows, doing local brochure runs, contacting schools etc.

14.30 - 17.00

You will either head to the forest to help with the afternoon feed or continue with your project.

17.00 Return to the volunteer house for a well-earned rest and meal.

LEISURE TIME

At Monkeyland-KZN, it's not all about work. KwaZulu-Natal province is full of incredible things to see and do, whether you want to spend your off-days lazing on the beach or doing something more active. How about a night or two away? You can go hiking in the Drakensberg Mountains or in search of the Big 5 at Hluhluwe-Umfolozi, Africa's oldest nature reserve.

ACTIVITIES ON OUR DOORSTEP

All of these activities, and more are within a 15 minute drive of the volunteer house:

- horse riding;
- zip lining;
- guided snorkelling trip;
- lazer tag;
- helicopter ride;
- microlight flight;
- water-skiing
- local markets and shopping malls;
- cinema
- mountain biking



DURBAN

Head to Durban and explore the Botanic Gardens, join in a beach clean up, take a walk on the Beechwood Mangroves boardwalk or through Umhlanga Nature Reserve, go canoeing, explore the markets or the art deco architecture on a guided walking tour, or join a waterfalls tour.



A LITTLE FURTHER AFIELD

Head inland for a full day out or a couple of days away and you can visit the Nelson Mandela Capture Site and Museum, Shongweni Farmer's Market and explore the Drakensberg Mountains. Or join a 4x4 trip up the Sani Pass and into Lesotho, stopping for lunch at the highest pub in Africa!



Or venture north to St Lucia and Hluhluwe-Umfolozi for boat trips to see hippo and crocodile and open vehicle safari drives in search of the Big 5 and other wildlife.



For more information about volunteering at Monkeyland-KZN or to apply for a place on the programme, contact our Volunteer Coordinator on volunteer@monkeylandkzn.co.za