



Nangila

Born on a Journey

The Experiment in International Living

Embark on your immersive journey at the southern tip of continental Africa in stunning Cape Town, where you will learn about South Africa's complex past and explore breathtaking sights such as Table Mountain and the Cape Peninsula, where you will spot penguins while taking in the views. Visit the country's historical landmarks, such as Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela spent 18 of his 27 years in prison before going on to become president. You will also visit community organizations to learn about community building, witness social change in action, and interact with local youth.

Travel to either Kranshoek, an Afrikaans-speaking community, or Kwanokuthula, a Xhosa-speaking community, for a homestay with a South African family. During the homestay, you will work on a service project alongside members of the community, take Afrikaans or Xhosa language lessons, and participate in hands-on music and drumming workshops. Get ready for a safari adventure as you travel north! Visit Kruger National Park for a chance to spot giraffes, wildebeests, antelopes, lions, and zebras in their natural habitat. Your Experiment concludes in Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city, where you will intensify your focus on leadership and social change. Visit important historic landmarks and the Apartheid Museum to better understand the country's transition to democracy, and explore the artsy and business-forward neighbourhoods of modern Johannesburg. Your Experiment will come to a close as you complete your leadership training and design a project to create change in your community back home.

My overall experience as an Experimenter this summer was one that I will remember for my whole life. I have learned how to adapt to new and uncomfortable situations. Besides a country's complicated history, I learned how to better myself as a person and be more open to new things. I will remember the things I saw, people I met and places I went forever. --Shelbi

Day 1

You will be welcomed at Cape Town International Airport and transported to your accommodation for a much-needed rest. Once you have rested for a while and freshened up, we will start the orientation program at the lodge. Expand your creative expression with an interactive drumming session. The orientation will include a brief introduction to the history of South Africa and the creation of the group constitution. Rest of the afternoon will be free to relax. South Africa is known for its "Rainbow" nation so experience our different cultures by enjoying various meals and delicacies for each evening of your time spent in Cape Town. Dinner at the guesthouse.

Cape Town

Day 2

After breakfast, explore the historical city of Cape Town. Walk through District Six, named the Sixth Municipal District of Cape Town in 1867. Originally established as a mixed community of freed slaves, merchants, artisans, labourers and immigrants, District Six was a vibrant centre with close links to the city and the port. By the beginning of the twentieth century, however, the process of removals and marginalisation had begun. Pass the Castle (dating back to the arrival of the Dutch in the 17th century). Visit the District Six Museum, established in December 1994, which includes works with the memories of the District Six experience and with that of forced removals more generally.

Also visit the Slave Lodge Museum, in one of the oldest buildings in Cape Town. The many names of the building over three centuries – Slave Lodge, Government Offices Building, Old Supreme Court, and SA Cultural History Museum – reflect the long and rich history of the building. In 1998 this museum was renamed the Slave Lodge. Under the umbrella theme, 'From human wrongs to human rights', exhibitions on the lower level of this museum explore the long history of slavery in South Africa. Through the changing, temporary exhibitions they address issues around and raise awareness of human rights.

Enjoy your packed lunch in the Company Gardens before making your way to the Bo Kaap, also known as the Malay Quarters. Tucked safely into the fold of signal hill, walk through Bo-Kaap. Use the cobble stoned streets as your guide and you will be lead into a lively suburb filled with brightly coloured houses from the nineteenth and seventeenth century, Muslim saints shrines ("kramats") and many beautiful "Mosques" including the first established Muslim Mosque in South Africa.

Visit the African market at Green Market Square before making your way back to the guesthouse for the first of your thematic workshops and Afrikaans/Xhosa lessons. Dinner at the guesthouse.

Cape Town

Day 3

After breakfast and an Afrikaans language lesson, visit RLABS in the midst of a marginalized community. Their passion is to impact lives through creating systems and environments where individuals may find empowerment, so that transformation can occur through hope, technology, innovation, training and economic opportunities. After lunch, experience the colourful and vibrant energy of Cape Town's townships, Langa, Bridgetown and Rylands. Explore the reality of life for many South Africans, the legacy of the past political system and the hope for the future under our country's new democracy. Return to the guesthouse for another Afrikaans/Xhosa language lesson and dinner.

Cape Town

Day 4

After an early breakfast, visit Table Mountain (weather permitting) and the breathtaking scenery of the Cape Peninsula fringed with dramatic seascapes. Start along the Atlantic Sea Board and admire the pristine Camps Bay and Clifton beaches, drive along the world-renowned Chapmans Peak Drive and take in the spectacular views, visit the mythical meeting point of the Indian and Atlantic Ocean at the Cape Point Nature Reserve and meet the African penguin colony at Boulders Beach. Return to the guesthouse for your next Afrikaans/Xhosa lesson and dinner.

Cape Town

Day 5

After a thematic workshop in the morning, take a hike up Lions Head (weather permitting) and then make your way to the Waterfront. Enjoy your packed lunch at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront and then meet the ferry to Robben Island (weather permitting) for the 3.5-hour tour of the island, where our first democratically elected president, Nelson Mandela was incarcerated for 18 of his 27 years. Make your way back to the lodge for another Afrikaans/Xhosa lesson and dinner.

Cape Town

Day 6

After breakfast, debrief visits from the last two days. Make your way to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront for a scavenger hunt. Final dinner in Cape Town will be at a restaurant at the Waterfront. Return to the guesthouse to pack as we start our next leg of our program.

Cape Town

Day 7

After breakfast, depart for Oudtshoorn travelling through the vineyards and fruit growing areas of the Langeberg region on into the semi-arid region of the Little Karoo. (Lunch en-route). After dinner you will have the evening free to relax.

Oudtshoorn

Day 8

Explore the spectacular limestone caverns of the world renowned Cango Caves in the Swartberg Mountains. Visit an ostrich show farm to see the world's largest flightless bird. Return to the lodge for a home stay orientation which will include appropriate behaviour and responsibility within the host community, cultural exchange and awareness, and the understanding of people with different backgrounds.

Oudtshoorn

Day 9 – Thursday 9 July

Travel to Plettenberg Bay, through the lake district of the Garden Route and visit the "Heads" in Knysna en route to your home stay within the Kranshoek or Kwanokuthula communities. The local people of these communities want to welcome visitors into their communities, their homes and their lives. You are invited to enjoy every aspect of the township, the culture and the people. Visitors will be treated to exceptional hospitality and warmth. The real highlight is staying at a home stay as a personal guest of the family.

Home stays in Kranshoek/Kwanokuthula

Day 10 to 18

Home stays in Kranshoek/Kwanokuthula, Community Service Project and three thematic sessions when possible.

Home stays in Kranshoek/Kwanokuthula

Day 19

Bid your host families farewell, and travel on the long journey into the Great Karoo to Colesberg en route to the Drakensberg mountains.

Colesberg

Day 20

After breakfast you will continue through the beautiful country to the Drakensville Resort at the foothills of the Drakensberg Amphitheatre, a world heritage site with its majestic vistas of the highest mountain range in the country. Spend the next three nights at the Drakensville Resort.

Drakensville Resort

Day 21 to 22

Two days will be spent enjoying the interesting program planned for this beautiful area which includes hiking and abseiling. We will also learn about the San people and their artwork as well as their tracking and bow making skills.

Group leaders will continue with the thematic workshops.

Share your experiences of the homestay and whether it fulfilled your expectations. You will have the opportunity to share your cultures' cuisine as you will be cooking your own meals whilst at Drakensville.

Drakensville Resort

Day 23

You are off to an early start for the final leg of the journey to the Mpumalanga Province located in the north-eastern part of the country, traveling through the Natal Midlands to Nelspruit, often referred to as the "Gateway to the Kruger National Park".

Nelspruit

Day 24

After breakfast, explore the Lowveld Escarpment of the Mpumalanga Region (meaning 'the place of the rising sun'), offering breathtaking landscapes with attractions like the Blyde River Canyon (the world's third largest and the only green canyon), majestic waterfalls and high-altitude scenic drives leading to attractions like God's Window and Bourke's Luck potholes. Make your way to Hazyview for a good night's rest as you will be rising very early in the morning.

Hazyview

Day 25

Rise very early before breakfast or even sunrise for a game drive on an open-air vehicle in the world-renowned Kruger National Park. Meander under riverine trees along rivers and dams, where there are resident crocodiles and nesting fish eagles. Take a slow drive and see knobthorn and marula trees, known

for its herbivores, which include giraffe, wildebeest, zebra and buffalo, as well as ostrich, warthog and the magnificent black sable antelope. You should also keep your eyes peeled for predators such as lion, cheetah, hyena, jackal, buffalo and elephant. Return to the lodge for breakfast.

Discuss and prepare for the next few days in Johannesburg. Also make up any thematic sessions that may have been missed. In the late afternoon, make your way to Kruger Gate for a sunset experience in the Kruger National Park.

Hazyview

Day 26

After a relaxed breakfast, make your way to Tlholego Ecovillage, a sustainable community that awakens possibility through living, learning, working together. It is situated on 150 ha of land near Rustenburg in the Northwest Province of South Africa. It enables those who make this rural farm outside Rustenburg their home, to live their dreams and values in tune with the natural environment. One of these is living, learning and working in community, because economic, social and environmental needs can be more effectively met through both individual and collective engagement.

Tlholego Ecovillage - Rustenburg

Day 27

Work in the garden and learn how the community grows and makes added value products to support their livelihoods - "Food as our medicine". Learn about Climate adaptation strategies as a developing consciousness to strengthen entrepreneurs and communities. Another thematic session. Dinner and chat session around the fire is a great rural African experience in the winter months.

Tlholego Ecovillage - Rustenburg

Day 28

Make your way to Johannesburg, arguably the financial hub of Southern Africa, in the Gauteng province. Its cultural legacy is a multicultural melting pot evidenced by the many excellent museums, theatres, galleries and craft markets.

Visit Constitution Hill and learn about South Africa's journey to democracy. It is a former prison and military fort that bears testament to South Africa's turbulent past and, today, is home to the country's Constitutional Court, which endorses the rights of all citizens.

Johannesburg

Day 29

Visit the Apartheid Museum which illustrates the rise and fall of apartheid. The museum is a beacon of hope showing the world how South Africa is coming to terms with its oppressive past and working towards a future that all South Africans can call their own.

Let us give you an insight into black South Africa today by visiting Soweto, the biggest township in South Africa. Shrouded in myth and controversy, vibrant Soweto is a city of surprise and contrast of starting enterprises and vigorous cultural interaction.

Johannesburg

Day 30

Final thematic workshops to reflect on your experience, the skills and knowledge you've learnt and your personal journey throughout the program.

Prepare for the final farewell dinner.

Johannesburg

Day 31

After an early breakfast and re-entry workshops, pack your bags. You will have a little time to do some last-minute shopping. Bid farewell and then you will be transferred to OR Tambo International airport.

Please note that the days spent in Cape Town could be swapped around in order to accommodate weather.