

BOLDER 

South Africa Ultimate Adventure

KRUGER, ESWATINI,
INDIAN OCEAN & CAPE TOWN

Adventure

HIGHLIGHTS



KRUGER WILDLIFE & LEADERSHIP

Live and learn at SSLI through game drives, field research, wayfinding, student leadership and a wilderness sleep-out.



ESWATINI CONSERVATION & COMMUNITY

Work from the Savanna Research Centre, learn with local conservation specialists and take part in an exchange at Shewula.



SODWANA MARINE ADVENTURE

Explore iSimangaliso's beaches, dune forest, reef ecology and exceptional marine biodiversity through guided coastal learning and field-based discovery.



CAPE TOWN IN FULL COLOUR

Explore Table Mountain and the peninsula, South Africa's history, Cape Malay culture, penguins and marine-conservation learning.



Destination

SNAPSHOT



LANDSCAPE

Bushveld and river systems, Lubombo savannah, tropical dunes and coral reefs, then Cape mountains, fynbos and Atlantic coastline.



CULTURE

South African and emaSwati perspectives, city and rural life, local food, community hosts and the layered history of Johannesburg and Cape Town.



CHALLENGE LEVEL

Sustained and varied. The programme combines long travel days, early starts, simple field bases, a wilderness night, active coastal exploration and energetic Cape Town days.



ACCOMMODATION

A mix of city hotel or guesthouse, SSLI dormitories, and simple research-centre or community accommodation in Eswatini.



CLIMATE

The route crosses several climate zones. Bush heat, cool escarpment or Cape conditions, rain, wind, surf and strong sun all require adaptable daily plans.



TRAVEL

Substantial road travel, two border crossings and a domestic connection to Cape Town.



ATMOSPHERE

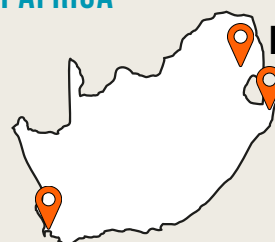
Expansive and transformational: four distinct chapters, growing student responsibility and enough time for experiences to connect rather than blur together.



BEST FOR

Schools seeking a flagship three-week expedition with strong wildlife, marine science, Geography, history, cultural learning and personal-development outcomes.

SOUTH AFRICA



KRUGER NP

SODWANA BAY

CAPE TOWN



KRUGER, ESWATINI, SODWANA & CAPE TOWN

23 DAYS

ONE POSSIBLE JOURNEY This sample itinerary shows how we believe you can get the most from your time and create a well-balanced adventure. The exact running order and individual elements may vary according to availability, local conditions and the needs of the group. Most aspects can also be tailored to suit your school's aims, preferred duration and priorities, so please get in touch and we can shape the right programme with you.

Day 1

Depart the UK

Fly overnight to Johannesburg in anticipation of four incredible adventure chapters. Journey across South Africa and Eswatini, experiencing responsible wildlife tourism, coastal environments, and marine conservation. You'll also undertake different leadership roles as the team tackles the challenges ahead.

Day 2

Arrive in Johannesburg

Meet the local support team, transfer to accommodation and allow time to rest after the flight. A full programme and safety briefing covers health, security, road travel, borders, water activities and group routines. Students may begin expedition journals and set intentions for the way they want to contribute and what they want to achieve.

Day 3

Johannesburg: History & Perspective

Explore Johannesburg with an expert local guide through places such as Soweto, Constitution Hill or the Apartheid Museum. The day gives essential context for later conversations about land, inequality, conservation, community and change.

Day 4

Johannesburg to Kruger & SSLI

Travel north-east to Skukuza, watching the country shift from urban centre to farmland, escarpment and Lowveld. A suitable sustainability or food-security stop may be added if available. On arrival, settle into SSLI, complete park orientation and take a first sunset game drive if timings and conditions allow.

Day 5

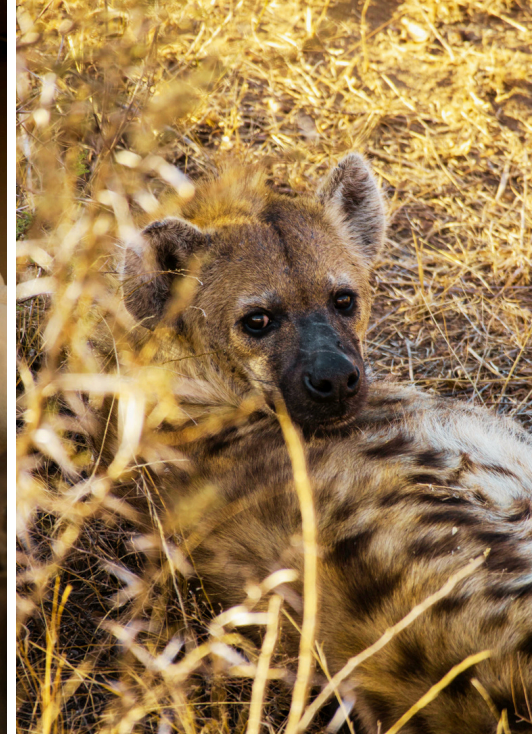
Wildlife, Ecology & Observation

An early park drive introduces Kruger's scale and biodiversity. Guides focus attention on habitat, behaviour and relationships rather than a simple species count. At SSLI, ecology sessions and a guided bush activity reveal how tracks, plants, insects, birds and water all contribute to the living system.

Day 6

Conservation Fieldwork

Work in teams on an approved research activity such as camera trapping, species monitoring or habitat observation. Students practise accurate recording and learn how evidence supports conservation decisions. Rotating leadership roles make communication and care for the group part of the fieldwork itself.





Day 7

Wayfinding & Student Leadership

Use maps, compass skills and route interpretation to move from passive passenger to active participant. With professionals maintaining the safety framework, student leaders help brief the day, interpret the landscape and manage group decisions. Reflection connects practical navigation with judgement and self-awareness.

Day 8

Wilderness Sleep-out

Prepare for an incredible and privileged experience! Your wilderness night in the reserve, focused on bush skills and night ecology. You'll check equipment, contribute to camp routines and share a traditional braai before listening to the sounds of the park after dark. The experience is managed carefully but still asks the group to step beyond most people's comfort.

Day 9

Safari & Kruger Reflection

Retrieve and review field data, identify patterns and consider what we've learned. A final student-led safari or interpretation exercise brings together observation, wayfinding and communication. The evening reflection closes the Kruger chapter and prepares the team for another conservation research landscape across the border.

Day 10

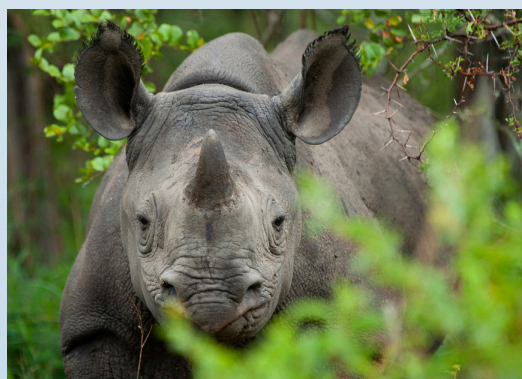
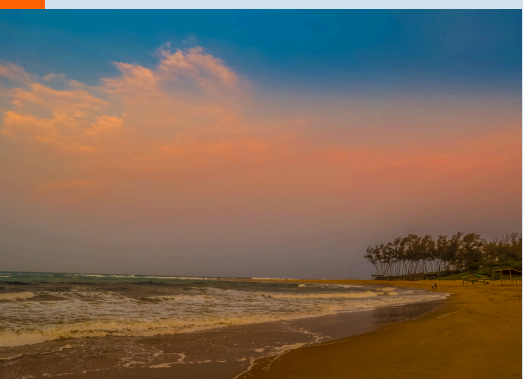
Kruger to Eswatini

Travel south and cross into Eswatini. At Mbuluzi Game Reserve, settle into the Savanna Research Centre beside the river, meet the ecological team and compare the reserve's setting with Kruger. Border processes and the environmental transition make this an important and interesting journey.

Day 11

Mbuluzi Savannah Research

Explore biodiversity beyond the headline species. Depending on the live programme, students may use camera traps, observe birds, reptiles or small mammals, study vegetation or process existing data. The session examines how protected areas, agriculture and rural communities interact within the Lubombo conservation landscape.



Day 12

Shewula Community Exchange

Travel to the Lubombo Plateau for a day agreed with local hosts. Students may share suitable Lessons in Conservation activities with younger learners, join cultural exchange and enjoy a local lunch. Preparation and listening matter more than arriving with predetermined solutions, and all activity follows a sensible safeguarding approach and local priorities.

Day 13

Eswatini Wilderness & Leadership

Complete the Eswatini phase with a guided trek or field journey. Students take increased responsibility for pace, group care and decisions while local guides help them interpret the landscape. Back at camp, review research findings and reflect on how community, education and conservation connect.

Day 14

Eswatini to Sodwana Bay

Cross back into South Africa and continue east to the Maputaland coast. Bush and savannah give way to coastal forest, high dunes and the warm Indian Ocean. Settle into your Sodwana base, and complete site, beach and coastal-safety briefings before a first walk in the softer evening light.

Day 15

Coastal Forest, Dunes & Indian Ocean

Wake to a very different rhythm from the bush, and begin exploring Sodwana's coastal setting on foot. Discover the meeting point of dune forest, sandy shoreline and ocean, examining how wind, waves, vegetation and wildlife shape the landscape. The pace is more relaxed and leaves time to absorb the colour, space and atmosphere of the Maputaland coast.

Day 16

Reef Ecology & Marine Biodiversity

Continue exploring the living story of Sodwana's offshore reefs through guided marine-ecology learning, visual resources and shoreline observation. You'll investigate coral systems, food webs, turtles, fish, sharks, rays and seasonal ocean visitors. The day links biodiversity with the protected status of iSimangaliso and asks how people can experience a fragile coast responsibly.



Day 17

Coastal Conservation in Action

Take part in a shore-based conservation activity such as a beach survey, litter clear, dune-vegetation study - or another task agreed with the local team. Students collect evidence, consider the pressures created by tourism and waste, and compare coastal management with the protected-landscape questions first explored in Kruger and Eswatini.

Day 18

Sodwana Adventure & Reflection

Spend a final day exploring the wider coastal environment through an approved nature walk, beach challenge, environmental workshop or seasonal wildlife-learning activity. Time for rest, field-journal work and a shared reflection allows the group to notice the slower details of the coast before leaving.

Day 19

Sodwana to Cape Town

Travel to your regional airport for the domestic flight to Cape Town. On arrival, settle into the final base and take a relaxed orientation walk. Mountain, city and ocean now meet in one view, opening the fourth chapter of the expedition.

Day 20

Table Mountain & the Cape Landscape

Explore Cape Town's natural setting through a guided Table Mountain trek, the Lion Trail or another route suited to weather and group ability. Fynbos, fire ecology, water, geology and the city's shape all become part of the walk. A calmer evening allows recovery after the active day.

Day 21

History, Memory & Democracy

An opportunity to visit selected sites such as Robben Island and the District Six Museum, subject to operations and weather. Local guides help students engage with apartheid, forced removal, resistance and democracy through people and place. Reflection connects Cape Town's history with perspectives first encountered in Johannesburg.

Day 22

Cape Peninsula, Marine Life & Celebration

Complete the journey through a Cape Peninsula day shaped around the group's learning goals. Options include Boulders Beach, Cape Point, the Two Oceans Aquarium, SANCCOB, a Bo-Kaap walk and cooking experience or a conservation workshop. The final dinner celebrates shared effort while students identify what they will carry back into school life.

Day 23

Depart Cape Town

Transfer to the airport for the journey home. Students leave with an unusually connected view of Southern Africa: wildlife and data in Kruger, biodiversity and community in Eswatini, ocean skills at Sodwana, and the landscapes and history of Cape Town. The expedition closes, but the reflection, friendships and sense of capability continue.



WHAT'S INCLUDED



Free teaching staff places
Bolder Adventure Programme Leader 

International flights



All in-country transport
All accommodation, meals and safe drinking water

All required permits/park fees
Guided activities with expert local partners



Group safety, communication & sleep-out equipment
Travel Pack, inc. hoody or tech tee

Comprehensive travel insurance
Safety management & planning
24/7 support during travel



Highly experienced UK account management
Pre-trip briefings & training (*as applicable*)

PLEASE NOTE: Cancellation insurance, visas, vaccinations, personal expenditure, tips for leaders, guides and drivers - and any other services not listed above are not included.

NEXT STEPS

1

Consider your preferred itinerary or direction



2

Book a 20 minute planning call. We'll confirm your aims, shape the itinerary, and prepare what you need for SLT and promotion

3

Receive your customised pack for confirmation and launch

4

Reserve your dates with a small holding deposit



BOLDER 

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DIFFERENTLY**



hello@wearebolder.co.uk



+44 (0)1244 794601