

# REVIEW

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**Organization Name: African Conservation Experience (ACE)**

**Location:** South Africa, Botswana

**Website:** <http://www.conservationafrica.net>

**VERDICT:** HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

**Project Overview:** African Conservation Experience offers multiple volunteer projects that take place in a couple countries in Africa. These projects range from rescue to research to rehabilitation and care, including community projects and marine projects. 60-80% of your placement fees goes directly to the project, including travel expenses. They also practice responsible travel, which entails recycling and offsetting your carbon footprint which they teamed up with an organization called Climate Care.

As a volunteer, depending on the project, you can expect a multitude of activities to do. These range from animal husbandry, to wildlife research, to wildlife rescue and relocation, wildlife veterinary work and the opportunity to take wildlife course. Whether these wildlife courses are quality courses, I don't know. The courses are said to be taught by zoologists, biologist, experts and some will be recognized towards a certification from FGASA, if you wish to pursue that certification.

This website is very informative and the application is thorough. After submitting an application, you are contacted by ACE's staff and they line the best project up with your needs. It is almost like a job interview, which I'm a big fan of.

**Is it Conservation?:** Yes. There is a large variety of projects and the staff at ACE has a thorough application and review process.

**Verdict Explanation:** The only reason this grade is not a ten is because only 60-80% of your contribution goes into the project. The rest goes into staff and overhead costs. This is completely understandable; however there are other organizations out there that give more towards the project. Lastly, the 'responsible travel' is a selling point that ACE uses that isn't anything special. Many organizations recycle ink cartridge and try to reuse, compost or recycle materials while on the project.

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These reviews are based solely on my opinion and research done by leading conservation organizations

