NATURE GUIDE COURSES (FGASA) AT KAMBAKU

WILDLIFE TRAINING IN NAMIBIA

The perfect holiday experience!

“Nature holds the key to our aesthetic, intellectual, cognitive and even spiritual satisfaction”

E.O. Wilson
American naturalist

KAMBAKU WILDLIFE COLLEGE
Official FGASA training provider hosted by Kambaku Safari Lodge

CERTIFIED
Study at Namibia’s first FGASA guide school
NATURE GUIDE COURSE

If you want to see nature with different eyes, if you want to discover the magic of African wildlife and if you want to become a certified nature guide – read on:

Wildlife Training at Kambaku – Connect to Nature

Kambaku’s Wildlife College is Namibia’s only FGASA-endorsed training provider that offers vocational training for nature and riding guides. In accordance with the guidelines, we designed a special programme for guests that allows nature-lovers to pass the FGASA Field Guide Level 1 exam, or simply learn more about wildlife.

During the course you will discover the life of a safari guide and feel much more connected to nature. With every step into the bush you will understand its fascinating web of life a little better, learn to identify more and more species and practice teaching others your new knowledge during walks, at hides and on game drives.

Four Modules to Full Studies

The Nature Guide Programme is a 56-day course split in four 14-day modules that can be booked separately or in blocks of two modules (1 and 2 & 3 and 4). Part of every module is a 2-day excursion to an external reserve, national park or cultural heritage spot.

The course content is the same for everyone, regardless whether participants sit for the exams or not. All participants may take the FGASA Field Guide Level 1 exam and become an official Apprentice Field Guide (NQF2). For the FGASA qualification it is mandatory to complete all four modules.

Please note: All training and classes will be held in English.

What does a Safari Guide do?

A safari guide walks and drives guests into game reserves to interpret, in a hands-on inspirational manner, the large and small elements of wildlife around them. In doing so, a deep appreciation of nature and conservation is instilled in your guests.

Safari guides are responsible for managing those encounters that cause adrenaline to pump through your veins, ensuring your guests enjoy thrilling proximity to the game yet with the necessary caution taken.

What is FGASA?

FGASA is short for Field Guides Association of Southern Africa. The association sets the standards for nature guiding practice and represents individual tourist guides, nature-, culture- and adventure guides, trackers and organisations involved in offering professional guiding services to members of the public.
All modules are comprehensive 14-day courses that provide profound knowledge of the African bush. Guided game walks and training drives will enhance your environmental and situational awareness exponentially – no matter whether you attend a course towards an exam or just for self-satisfaction and learning.

Besides general basics every module focuses on a specific topic to develop your skills and knowledge in order to attain the FGASA Field Guide I qualification.

Subjects
- Mammals
- Birds
- Reptiles
- Amphibians
- Fish
- Arthropods
- Geology
- Weather & Climate
- Navigation & Orientation
- Astronomy
- Ecology
- The biomes
- Taxonomy
- Animal behaviour
- Conservation
- Historical human habitation
- Creating a guided experience

Module 1: Secrets of Wildlife
- Study: Taxonomy, mammals, birds, vegetation, fish
- Tour: 2-day tour to Etosha National Park
- Practicals: Learn to drive a safari car, set up camera traps, identify animals, discover Etosha to meet the Big 5, experience a safari guide's life

Module 2: Tracks and Signs
- Study: Arthropods, reptiles, amphibians, astronomy, tracks and signs
- Tour: 2-day tour to Bushman Land (cultural heritage)
- Practicals: Track animals on foot, share the life of some of the world’s best trackers, walk close to wildlife, read invisible signs, orientate yourself in the bush

Module 3: Animal Behaviour
- Study: Mammal behaviour, bird behaviour, guiding skills, climate & weather
- Tour: 2-day tour to Brandberg (desert elephants and black rhinos)
- Practicals: Learn to approach wildlife, read animal’s behaviour, observe the social life of an animal, conduct a guided experience in the bush, spy on the life of the elusive leopard

Module 4: Humans and Nature
- Study: Biomes, ecology, geology, conservation, historical human habitation
- Tour: 2-day tour to Waterberg Plateau Park
- Practicals: Be part of the management of a Namibian wildlife reserve, hike on foot, assist the rangers in their daily work
Start your wildlife career

DATES & RATES

Course Dates
- Module 1: Secrets of Wildlife  
  22 May - 4 June 2020 | 19 April - 2 May 2021
- Module 2: Tracks and Signs  
  5 June - 18 June 2020 | 3 May - 16 May 2021
- Module 3: Animal Behaviour  
  24 May - 6 June 2021
- Module 4: Human and Nature  
  7 June - 20 June 2021

Course costs
- 1 Module » 2 weeks: € 2 800 pp  
  € 290 single room surcharge
- 2 modules » 4 weeks: € 5 300 pp  
  € 580 single room surcharge

Prices include:
- Full-board accommodation
- Practical training and college classes
- Educational material
- 2-day excursion (incl. costs for travel, lodges, food & beverages, entry etc.)
- Tourism levy

Extra: Flight tickets, FGASA examination fees (if desired)

BOARD & LODGING

The Kambaku Wildlife Reserve is located in the heart of Namibia, conveniently situated between Etosha National Park and the Waterberg Plateau.

Surrounded by nature you will find our awarded Safari Lodge with its beautiful garden and mountain view. A cozy room is waiting for your homecoming after adventure-filled days in the bush. During a three-course dinner you can exchange views with your trainers and fellow students and review the events of the day. For a better understanding of life in the African savannah, you will also spend some nights per module at our private Safari or Bush Camp deep down in the Kambaku Wildlife Reserve – an unforgettable experience for all wildlife enthusiasts.

Please find more information at www.kambaku.com
Kambaku Wildlife College Instructors

GUIDING & COLLEGE

Marie Herment

Marie is a FGASA Field Guide Level 2. After a master in Ecology, her passion for wildlife took her to Namibia where she has been living for years now. Fascinated by all the connections between animals, trees and the ecosystem, she spends her time guiding guests and passing on her passion to young Namibians as trainer at the Kambaku Wildlife College.

Viva Jung-Heiliger

After a horse-riding career in Mozambique and South Africa, Viva decided to make Namibia her new home. As a FGASA Field Guide Level 2, she shares her experience and passion for nature from the back of a horse, from a safari car or on foot. As instructor to Kambaku Wildlife College, she is also involved in the training of our guides.

Paulus Nghinjewa

Paulus has been a Kambaku team member from the very beginning. The Namibian professional hunter is our best asset when it comes to reading invisible signs and tracking game on foot. He will take you as close as possible to the animals, remaining unnoticed. One afternoon with Paulus, and your vision of the bush changes completely.

Stefanus van Zyl

Stefanus started his guiding career with us and got graduated with his FGASA Level 1 at Kambaku Wildlife College. His passion for the smallest form of life makes every bush walk alongside him a unique experience. For people interested in arthropods, he is the best instructor at the College.

Jaco Venters

After a career twist, Jaco went to South Africa to get his FGASA Level 1 and spend more time in the bush. Today, he is a wildlife and tour guide at Kambaku, with a special talent in visual storytelling. Join him for specific training in wildlife photography and your photos will improve hugely!

“An educational nature experience beyond the mainstream – without waiving superb accommodation and relaxation!”

Marie Herment

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BOOK YOUR TRAINING

CONTACT US

Questions or booking requests:
reservations@kambaku.com

FGASA training provider:
Kambaku Wildlife College
hosted by Kambaku Safari Lodge
P.O. Box 247
Otjiwarongo
Namibia

Details on programme:
www.kambaku.com/fgasa-guide-courses