



# TEACHING

## English and other subjects

### eMakhosini, SOUTH AFRICA

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### South Africa has everything ...

- ◆ Sun, sparkling warm and clear oceans, and the most beautiful golden beaches you will ever see ... stretching for miles.
- ◆ Mountain climbing, biking and hiking
- ◆ The *Garden Route*, world famous and sheer paradise!
- ◆ Outstanding Game Reserves where you can see wild animals in their natural habitat, and by contrast symmetric vineyards stretching to infinity
- ◆ Sharks, whales and dolphins, and the amusing Cape Fur Seals.
- ◆ Elegant restaurants, barbecues and beach parties
- ◆ And FRUIT everywhere!

But most of all, South Africans are the friendliest and most hospitable people in the world - without a doubt! If you're invited to dinner ... don't eat for a week beforehand because you'll be overfed, especially if it's a barbecue. Wine is cheap and good. The salads are to die for.

And - of course - the fruit! From the exotic to the commonplace, it's everywhere.

### TEACHING IN SOUTH AFRICA

We help schools in a few different locations, each with its own unique attractions and experience.

You can **combine two or three different projects** to gain a broad Africa experience.

**You don't need any qualifications** to teach on any of these projects.

You can also **teach a variety of subjects**, including Conversational English (or your home language), Music, Drama, Sports, IT, Design Technology and many other Academic subjects

Many of our volunteers have shed oceans of tears when they've completed their placement and it was time for them to leave, and it's not uncommon for their entire classroom to climb into the school bus to go and see them off at the coach station – complete with banners thanking the volunteer for their help, and sometimes clinging to their hands because they don't want them to go. It's no wonder the tears flow freely!

We offer various teaching placements, in different parts of the country and each one has a different vibe!



## Teaching in eMakhosini in KwaZulu-Natal

*'The hospitality, warm welcomes and rich culture makes KZN an absolutely unbelievable place to visit. Something grabs your soul when you arrive here, and stays deep inside you when you leave. It has most certainly stayed in mine.* Jim Morel – South Africa Assistant Manager, on one of his project inspection trips to KwaZulu-Natal-2005.

This is a wonderful project in the beautiful region of KZN. You will be living and working with the Zulu community of e-Makhosini (which mean Valley of the Kings in Zulu). This placement will not only be very rewarding from a teaching perspective, but should also expose you to the great Zulu culture and a broad variety of other topics such as history, archaeology and conservation.

The community you will be working in is one of the most exciting places in terms of tourism development in South Africa. The area is very poor from a social economic perspective but very rich in terms of its natural and cultural resources. The Premier's office of KwaZulu-Natal has identified the area as a priority in terms of economic and social upliftment and the conservation and utilisation of the rich cultural and natural resources.



### YOUR WORK

Your teaching will be focused on the standard conversational English or any other subject that you have knowledge in, and your interaction will teach life skills like numeracy and English literacy. The schools you will be working with are also currently in the process of acquiring computers and a computer teacher. Even the most basic computer literacy skills are lacking here and anything from using Windows to the technical aspects of keeping equipment dust free can not be put to good use. They are hungry for computer knowledge and taking some computer games or programmes with you will be much appreciated.



Sports skills and equipment is also a dire need. The kids love getting involved in new games and need the physical activity. You will often find local community members will also join in. Any old sports equipment such as balls and cricket bats and wickets would be good items to pack in your suitcase. There is no formal sports ground as it is very dry and water access is limited, so the kids play on an open field close to the school.

School hours are from 8.00 until 14.00 and quite often there are after-school activities. Football and Netball are both taught at the school but the school is open to new sports if the opportunity arises. Volunteers are encouraged to use their own skills and interest to start after school activities such as drama clubs, chess clubs, sports, etc.

On your first day of teaching you will be taken to the schools that we help and introduced to the Principal, the teaching staff and pupils.

You will have weekends free and this will also allow some time for travelling and sight seeing. As public transport in these rural areas are limited, you will have to hire a car if you wish to go away for a few days.

### TEACHING SPORTS

If you'd like to teach sports, you'll be able to do so, combined with teaching the children other subjects. At this time sports is not a stand-alone project, but the schools need help with sports and physical education activities. The following sports are currently already being played:

- Soccer
- Netball



The schools are very interested in starting the cricket and hockey for boys and girls alike, but don't currently have any equipment. Also, they have a field that has been donated to the school for use as a sports field, which is currently a dirt/clay track. However, because of the weather and lack of water, they can't plant grass successfully, so Travellers (via their charitable arm of the Phil Perkes Trust, will be assisting in providing and raising funds to lay down some astro turf and some hard courts for the netball.

The bottom line is, the schools would really appreciate it if those volunteers who have the skills could also assist with coaching sports to the children during their teaching programme.



## TEACHING MUSIC & DRAMA

If you have talents in Music or Drama, you can help to pass these on to the children. Your work on this placement will contribute substantially to developing structured programmes in teaching, Music & Drama, Sports and IT - you'll be helping to give the children access to knowledge they don't get now - you can help change their lives forever!



## SCHOOL TERMS 2008/2009

Dates for the school terms (semesters) are given below.

### THE 2008 SCHOOL TERMS ARE:

- Term 1 16 Jan to 20 March
- Term 2 14 April to 27 June
- Term 3 14 July to 26 September
- Term 4 06 October to 05 December

### THE 2009 SCHOOL TERMS ARE:

- Term1 21 January to 03 April
- Term 2 15 April to 26 June
- Term 3 20 July to 23 September
- Term4 05 October to 11 December

## ACCOMMODATION

You will be living in a farmhouse overlooking the village. Surrounded by bush and thickets of indigenous trees, the house is set in the eMakhosini Reserve, an enormous consolidation of rural settlements and land which the community has retrieved to protect it from modern day development.

You will be living with one of our Volunteer Liaisons, who will also look after you while you are on this project. They are really lovely and will make you feel very welcome throughout your stay.

The house is very basic. No telephone or internet or TV. It is self catering so you will have to cook own food and you will be given a monthly budget for this. The house has two bathrooms and two toilets. There are seven bedrooms, one of these is for the Volunteer Liasion; and the remaining six rooms can accommodate at least two volunteers each. The house is approximately 40 minutes from Ulundi town and not within walking distance. You will be taken into town on a regular basis to stock up with supplies.



As the house is not fenced off you will often find game from the Park roaming around the house. These include kudu, giraffe and even rhino's!

## Feedback from Katya Loftus and Stephen Sherring, Teaching volunteers in e-Makhosini

### What experience did you feel you gained?

We both developed as people which sounds cheesy but really is true. We were accepted in the close knit village, most people had never interacted with a white person before let alone 2 English people, this acceptance boosted our confidence so much and opened our eyes to a different culture and a different way of life and has changed our perspective on life forever.

### What is the best thing about your placement?

The children were definitely the best part of our placement. Every single child was totally different and each and every one was special in their own way. If ever we had a day where we felt low or homesick they would have a smile or a hug for you that would just get rid of every worry we had (not that there were many in such a beautiful place!)

### Would you recommend this placement to anyone else?

Yes definitely. It is a life changing experience!!!!

### What type of person do you think this placement would suit?

I think this project would suit most people, however we would recommend that 2 or more people went together as the lack of amenities/ access to communication would be difficult for a solo traveller.

### Was there anything that you weren't told before you went away that you think future volunteers should know?

Although we were made aware of how remote it was we didn't realise HOW remote it was. It didn't particularly affect us as we were integrated into the community, but it should definitely be emphasised to any interested volunteers that there is absolutely nothing to do or nowhere to go in the evening, and arriving without knowing this may be a shock and off putting to volunteers.

Teaching is NOT available during school holidays and most of our volunteers use this time to do some independent travelling and sightseeing.



## GENERAL INFORMATION ON SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is a very modern country in most aspects. Anything that can be obtained in Europe can also be obtained in South Africa - and probably a lot cheaper! It is a very outdoors way of life in South Africa, with walks on the beach, outdoor cafes and restaurants, braais (barbecues), swimming and surfing, etc.

Food is cheap, public transport is cheap, taxis are cheap, and entertainment is cheap! South Africa has all the usual satellite TV channels, English-speaking newspapers, Magazines, etc. South Africa is full of all kinds of culture, from Jazz, Folk, Rock and Country to Symphony Orchestras and Ballets, and all of it is affordable. On a personal note, take good, comfortable sandals/shoes because you are surrounded by mountains and beaches and lots of places to hike, trek, ramble, climb, and generally enjoy on foot.

But most of all, South Africans are the friendliest and most hospitable people in the world - without a doubt! If you're invited to dinner ... don't eat for a week beforehand because you'll be overfed, especially if it's a barbecue.



### SOUTH AFRICAN FOOD

South African food is excellent and generally of a very high standard. You'll also find a wide variety of ethnic dishes and you must try the traditional South African foods, such as:

- Boerewors (a very flavoured sausage unlike any other you've tasted – it's wonderful!),

- Malayan curries and rooties (curries which have evolved over generations to become typically South African). Rooties are curries served in a pastry casing which you eat with your fingers.
- Pickled fish - a tinned curried fish with onions which has a unique flavour.
- Smoked snoek – similar to smoked mackerel but more chunky and flavoursome.
- Biltong – this is meat which has been salted, dried and smoked. You can chew on it for hours! BUT you'll either love it or hate it.
- Barbecues (known as a *braai*, or *braaivleis*). This is probably the best way of eating in South Africa. Friends get together around the fire, drink lots of wine and beer (and even dampen down the flames by trickling wine over the meat and letting the drips put out any unwanted flames – adds a tremendous flavour to the food!)
- All the usual liquid refreshments are available, including some rather exciting ones such as ice-cream floats (coldrinks with ice-cream on top, sipped through a long straw), iced coffee (excellent!) and iced chocolate (even better!). These are ice-cold coffee or chocolate drinks with a scoop of ice-cream, topped with cream and sprinkled with chocolate or coffee. Very refreshing on a hot day.

Restaurants are superb and very, very cheap! With local beer costing only 70p and coca cola 45p, a good night out is cheap! Wine is also very cheap and very good. There is an excellent selection of fresh fruit. Many houses have fig trees or loquat trees that hang over onto the pavement and passers-by just pick some as they walk along. The water is safe to drink; however, it is always sensible to check by asking the locals when outside a town. Bottled drinking water is also readily available.

## The next step...

If you would like to join us on one of our exciting projects then please fill in either an online application form at our website ([www.travellersworldwide.com](http://www.travellersworldwide.com)) or one that is attached to our brochure. Once you have booked and confirmed your place we will send you detailed pack information regarding your placement and country.

**I do hope you join us and please do call or email if you have any questions at all about this or any of our other projects – 01903 502595 or email [info@travellersworldwide.com](mailto:info@travellersworldwide.com)**

**If you would like to know more about Travellers in general, or about any of our other projects we run in over 18 countries worldwide, please visit our website at [www.travellersworldwide.com](http://www.travellersworldwide.com)**

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