

The Chalfonts Community College - Team 1

Date's TBC

Build up Day

You will be spending the day with your World Challenge Expedition Leader, preparing for expedition. You will need to arrive with your bags fully packed with everything you intend to take on expedition (as per the kit list) and all your necessary documents. You will be informed of the timings for this day nearer to your departure once your flight details have been confirmed.

Jul 4, 2021

Depart Home. After all of your planning and hard work, departure day is finally here! Excitement builds knowing the much anticipated flight is just a few hours away. Try to get some rest ahead of the life changing journey that awaits, double-check you have everything you need, say goodbye to loved ones, and head to the airport for your long awaited expedition.



Jul 5, 2021

Travel Day. Today you will be picked up by your prearranged transport with [All Out Africa](#) (the In-Country Agents), and begin the 4 hour drive east to Swaziland. Crossing the border at Oshoek, it is a short way down to the beautiful Ezulwini Valley - Swaziland's 'valley of heaven' - where you will set up camp at your pre-booked campsite at [Lidwala Backpackers](#) and prepare for your expedition.



The tiny kingdom of Swaziland is the smallest country in the southern hemisphere and home to Africa's last absolute monarch. Rich in culture and tradition, it has a fertile landscape and stunning areas of wilderness, whilst being small enough to comprehensively explore in a short space of time.

Before you embark on your first phase, you will receive an orientation briefing from All Out Africa about your expedition and your project.

Jul 6, 2021

Orientation Day. Following this morning's briefing from All Out Africa about your time in eSwatini you can explore the surrounding area, visit the markets or even hike up to take in the views from the fabulous Sheba's Breast to which the trail begins right on the Lidwala backpackers door step. Rich in culture and tradition, it has a fertile landscape and stunning areas of wilderness, whilst being small enough to comprehensively explore in a short space of time.



Jul 7 - Jul 9, 2021

Trekking phase - Ngwempisi Gorge. The trekking phase of your expedition will be an exploration of the Ngwempisi Gorge - an impressive 500m deep rugged granite gorge in southern Swaziland.



You will wild camp for the first 2 nights and then trek to Rock Lodge, which is a spectacularly located lodge perched high above the gorge with incredible panoramic views. From here you can complete a radial day trek before heading back out of the gorge back to the road head on the final day.



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Jul 10, 2021

Canopy tour. After your trek you will be transferred to the Malolotja Nature Reserve, where you will have the chance to take part in the Canopy Tour. The Canopy Tour consists of 11 elevated forest platforms, 10 (zip wire) slides and a 50 metre long suspension bridge that crosses the Majolomba River. You will spend tonight camping at a campsite with facilities.



Jul 11 - Jul 14, 2021

Project phase. The community engagement phase of your expedition will offer a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in a community, giving an insight into a rich new culture. You will most likely be based either at a Neighbourhood Care Point (NCP) or at a school.



Swaziland has been greatly affected by HIV and AIDs. As a result of the HIV epidemic, there are 180,000 AIDS orphans in Swaziland. World Challenge works closely with Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs) to support the growing number of orphaned and vulnerable children in Swaziland. They are places where children can come together and access various services; receive care and support, a meal for the day and some form of education.

Your project could involve tasks such as painting, construction, refurbishment, tree planting, conservation and agricultural work but there will be numerous opportunities to get involved in other activities too - from fetching water, to learning how to make maize meal, running sports matches and helping out around the village.



Your team's financial contribution and un-skilled labour efforts will be appreciated by your community, but at the heart of the experience is the chance to learn new skills, share an experience and make new friends. Don't get downhearted if the task seems to big - instead ask what help is needed, work with the community and do your best. The work will continue long after you have returned home.

Jul 15 - Jul 16, 2021

Travel to Kruger National Park. Today you will travel to [Kruger National Park](#) , 40km North of eSwatini. Kruger is massive, it covers 2 million hectares of pristine African wilderness and it is home to the greatest diversity of wildlife compared with any other African national park.



Within its borders lie an abundance of wildlife, lion, leopard, cheetah, rhino, elephant, buffalo, hippo, giraffe and zebra to name just a few, are all common sightings. You will enter Kruger at the Crocodile Bridge Gate and spend two nights camping at the famous Lower Sabie Camp which is arguably the best camp in the park for game viewing. Your Kruger package will be organised by [All Out Africa](#).

Jul 17, 2021

Kruger National Park to Maputo. Rise early and take an early morning safari for more game spotting.

It's time to leave Kruger, cross the border and head to Maputo - goodbye easy English-speaking South Africa, hello Portuguese-speaking Mozambique! From the border it's only 50km to Maputo. On arrival get settled in and receive a briefing from Fatima, the owner of the hostel. She will be able to help you organise changing money, bookings and transport around Maputo today.



With its intriguing mix of crumbling pastel-coloured Portuguese mansions, scruffy slums, high rise blocks and wide leafy boulevards, Maputo offers a great introduction to Mozambique. Mozambique has a fascinating and sometimes tragic recent [history](#) which has affected many of the people you will meet during your expedition. Make sure you read up on Mozambique before you arrive in Maputo. Today you should also confirm your project and transport arrangements.



Jul 18, 2021

Travel Day - Maputo to Tofo. It's time to begin the long journey up the coast to Tofo in Inhambane Province.



As the scenery whistles past the window you can expect to see everything from coconut palms to towering granite mountains, children herding goats, people meandering on bicycles laden with charcoal on their way to market and roadside stalls piled high with fruit and vegetables.



Jul 20 - Jul 21, 2021

Project Phase - Marine Research Project. [The Marine Research & Whale Shark Conservation Project](#), based in Tofo, involves gathering field data on whale sharks, coral reefs and other marine biodiversity. This is so recommendations for improving the conservation of marine life can be made, as well as creating general awareness about the marine environment.

Your project will begin with an orientation briefing from the project director, Katie, in which you will learn all about the international effort for whale shark conservation and how your team can help with the task of identifying marine life at sea.



Very little is currently known about whale sharks transience and residence (i.e. travel patterns) in the world's oceans, and this data plays a vital role in building up a picture. For the next 2-3 days you will head out on the boat to go snorkelling in the morning and then use the afternoons to record your discoveries in the project database.



As part of this project you will also be organising a beach clean up operation which will involve categorising litter. This will help local conservationists to target those responsible more accurately. You may also have the chance to take part in humpbacked whale monitoring from shore.

Jul 22, 2021

TRAVEL DAY TO VILANCULOS. Today you set off north to Vilanculos to explore the beautiful beaches it has to offer. Vilanculos offers long pristine beaches and dazzling views to take your breath away. The beautiful bay has calm and shallow waters which are ideal for watersports and fun in the sun. Just beyond the bay is the magnificent **Bazaruto Archipelago, a chain of islands** in a marine national park.



Jul 23- 24, 2021

Rest & Relaxation - Coast. It's time to hit the beach for some well deserved rest and relaxation! Situated on a stunning white sand beach with tropical palm trees and a turquoise ocean, Vilanculos is a fantastic place to enjoy some of the most stunning beaches along the Mozambique coast line. You have the choice to go horse riding on the beach or explore the [Bazaruto Archipelago](#) by boat.



Jul 25, 2021

Departure day. Your African adventure has come to an end, and there's just time for a final kit check before you head to the Vilanculous Airport, for a short flight to Johannesburg for your overnight flight home.

Why not use the flight and airport transit time to update your travel journal. Make sure you've captured the experience so that you can always look back on your time in Africa.

Jul 26, 2021

Arrival UK. Getting off the plane, you'll be bursting with stories and photos to keep family and friends entertained for hours! Saying goodbye to your team will be harder than you'd imagine as you'll have become lifelong friends but the excitement of a shower, clean sheets, a comfy bed and catching up on all the news at home will make it easier. Don't forget to keep the experience alive and put your images, videos and best stories up on Youtube, Flickr and Facebook - remember to tag them all as World Challenge so you can compare notes with other returning Challengers.

