



AFRICAN IMPACT

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Chimpanzee Wildlife & Orphan Care Project, Zambia

Join us on this unique project, and get the chance to help take care of over a hundred chimpanzees in the biggest chimp sanctuary in the world! Interact with young orphaned chimps, record and learn about the animals' behaviour, and help educate local Zambian children about chimpanzees and other wildlife. A very hands-on experience, and a unique way to contribute to the conservation of this endangered species.



About African Impact

At African Impact, we see ourselves as the on-the-ground AFRICAN SPECIALISTS in volunteering. We were founded over five years ago in Zimbabwe and have our head office in Cape Town, South Africa, with supporting operations offices in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia. To date we, together with our project managers out in the field, have had the privilege of sharing Africa with over 3,000 volunteers who were determined to make a difference in the amazing communities and conservation areas we work in

Project Highlights

- Interact with young chimpanzees at the orphanage
- Be a part of the day to day life in the largest chimpanzee sanctuary in the world
- Help take care of both chimpanzees and a range of other animals, including African geese, parrots, monkeys and a hippo
- Play an important role in the rehabilitation of endangered chimpanzees
- Assist with educating local children about chimpanzees and the need to help conserve them

General Information on Chimpanzees

The chimpanzee is the animal kingdoms closest relative to humans. In fact, chimpanzees are more similar to man than they are other apes, and research indicates that chimpanzees are over 99 percent genetically identical to humans. Baby chimpanzees, for instance, mature at roughly the same rate as humans, often staying close to their mothers until the age of eight.

Chimpanzees are native to Equatorial Africa, and once roamed in their millions across 25 countries in West, Central and East Africa. But relentless poaching, logging, habitat destruction, and human encroachment have reduced the wild population to less than an estimated 150 000, and they are classified as an Endangered Species.

Chimpanzees are social animals with strong family bonds. They live in large groups of 25 or more, and female chimpanzees are attentive mothers, often doting on their offspring for the first four or five years. Chimpanzees are also efficient hunters and tool makers, and exhibit



many of the same emotions once thought exclusive to humans, such as jealousy, envy, compassion, greed, sloth, avarice, and malice. Hunted for meat or captured for sale to foreign zoos and animal testing labs, chimpanzees are disappearing at a rate of 6,000 per year. The illegal hunting and subsequent sale of primate meat, known as "bushmeat", is a thriving commercial enterprise and is on the increase with the depletion of forests. Sadly, it is believed that the killer human viruses such as Ebola and AIDS are directly related to the consumption of this ape meat, yet the practice shows no signs of abating.

Chimpanzee babies who survive the hunting ordeal are often sold as pets, zoo animals, or circus performers, while some wind up in medical research.

The Wildlife Orphanage

Chimfunshi is a family-run wildlife orphanage in the north of Zambia. Chimfunshi was founded in 1983 when a game ranger brought a badly wounded infant chimpanzee to the cattle ranch of David and Sheila Siddle, a British couple who had lived in along the Zambian copperbelt since the 1950s. The Siddles nursed that chimp – nicknamed "Pal" – back to health, thereby establishing a tradition of care and respect that forms the legacy of the sanctuary. Once word of Pal's recovery spread, the Siddles found themselves inundated with orphaned chimpanzees. Although many are confiscated from poachers who attempt to smuggle the infants into Zambia for sale as pets, an equally large number are rescued from dilapidated zoos and circuses from all over Africa, Asia, Europe and South America.

With over a hundred chimpanzees, Chimfunshi is now the largest chimp sanctuary in the world.

In 2002, an Education Centre was built to provide a facility to teach the youth of Zambia about ecology and wildlife conservation. It is also used by local and international students researching group behaviour and ethnic studies.

The Siddles' work has won them a steady stream of honors and awards, including the United Nations Environment Programme's Global 500 Award (2000), the Audi / Terra Nova nomination (2001), a special commendation from the Nedbank / mail & Guardian Green Trust Awards (2000), and the Jane Goodall Award (1995). In 2001, the Siddles were granted MBEs by Queen Elizabeth II in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.





Volunteer Responsibilities

- Prepare chimpanzee and monkey/ baboon food for daily feedings
- Assist with feedings
- Interact with the young chimps at the orphanage
- Assist with feeding the other animals at the orphanage (including a hippo)
- Assist with the education programme
- Clean food buckets and boxes
- Walk fence line around enclosures to check for overhanging branches, grass, weeds that might stop the electrical fence from working
- Clean out plastic bottles used for the feeding of milk to chimpanzees
- Pick lemons for chimpanzees from trees
- Sweep and clean visitor areas
- Assist orphanage manager in other duties

Typical Day

A day in the life of a volunteer on this project may look something like this (please note that your schedule may vary from day to day, this is just to give you a general idea):

- 07h00 The start of your day in the orphanage! Spend the morning cleaning enclosures and preparing food for the animal's breakfast and lunch and assist with their feeding.
- 12h00 - 13h00: Lunch time
- 14h00 - 16h00 Depending on the daily schedules set you may be required to assist in the Education Centre, educating the local community about wildlife and the importance of its preservation. Alternatively you may be required to help out with chimpanzee related tasks.
- 16h15: Briefing by your project manager about the following days activities.
- Evenings – a sociable affair where volunteers chat about their day and enjoy dinner together.

Project Pricing:

	2 Weeks	3 Weeks	4 Weeks
USD:	USD 1680	USD 2150	USD 2720
GBP:	GBP1120	GBP1430	GBP1810
EUR:	EUR1340	EUR1720	EUR2180

Project Cost Includes

- Project Fee: this entails financing that goes directly back into the project and to the Chimpanzees and other orphan animals, facilitating the continued care and rehabilitation of animals in need as well as food, management and maintenance of the sanctuary.
- All travel to and from the airport to the sanctuary.
- Full board and lodging which includes 3 meals a day
- Full time assistance in your projects and comprehensive orientation by various trained staff during your stay.
- The service of a cleaner to attend to your room each day.



Project Cost Excludes

- All items of a personal nature, such as curios, gifts, clothing
- Return flights to Zambia
- Email and telephone calls made during your placement.
- Any excursions over and above your planned itinerary
- Personal insurance cover for the duration of your placement, which is expected to include cover for repatriation.
- Food and drink items not included in your meals (such as soft drinks, beer, and sweets)

Project Orientation:

Volunteers will be introduced to the Wildlife Sanctuary and its inhabitants and receive a comprehensive orientation upon arrival. This will include the following:

- Introduction to all African Impact representatives and sanctuary staff
- Introduction to the project aims and objectives
- Familiarization with all duties and activities you will be involved in.

Project Support

Throughout your stay at your placement you will have the support and guidance of our experienced field-workers and project coordinators. They are part of our greater African Impact support team and will provide you with competent 24-hour field support and assistance.

Project Accommodation

While at Chimfunshi you will be provided with on-site dormitory style accommodation. This includes bed and bedding, toilets, showers & washing facilities, and very basic self catering cooking facilities. The Education Centre located next to the accommodation is equipped with a power source (UK plugs) and charging of electrical equipment is possible during the day



Project Meals

You will be provided with three catered meals per day, and will eat in our thatched dining area.

Start Dates & Getting There

You will need to fly into Ndola Airport and your project manager will meet you there. (There are direct flights to Ndola from Johannesburg, South Africa, and Nairobi, Kenya.) The start dates to this project are flexible, though we encourage you to arrive in Ndola on the 1st or 15th of the month.

Meet your Destination Manager!

Originally from the Netherlands, Marleen joined African Impact as a volunteer in Zimbabwe in 2005. She fell in love with the continent straight away, and joined African Impact permanently in 2006 to develop and manage projects in Zambia, and later in South Africa. Marleen now lives in Cape Town, where she works at our head office. Marleen will take you through the entire process of your placement, and will be available to answer any questions you may have.



Our Partners

[The Happy Africa Foundation www.happyafricafoundation.org](http://www.happyafricafoundation.org)

African Impact is proud to have been instrumental in the establishment of The Happy Africa Foundation in 2007 and continues to be one of the Foundations major supporters. UK Registered Charity Number: 1123529.



The mission of The Happy Africa Foundation is to empower the African people through the support of community and conservation based initiatives that operate at grass roots level.



We are proudly affiliated to the UK-based **Know Before You Go** campaign that promotes education and knowledge-sharing amongst travelers.

African Impact is delighted to have been nominated as a **2009 World Travel**