

the
leap



Namibia

Daunstey's School - 19 - 29 August 2020

Welcome to Oana Conservancy



Oana Conservancy is one of the last remaining wildernesses in Southern Namibia which is embarking on a journey of ecological restoration and rewilding after its previous life as a hunting ranch.

Now owned by Ian Craig and Pete Morkel, leading conservationists, who are determined to turn this area into a safe sanctuary for black rhino, linking up with neighbouring conservancies to **create a new National Park**, changing the map of Africa and protecting endangered species for future generations.



Be part of their journey

It is a huge and exciting project for all those who love Africa and want to contribute to wildlife conservation. The Leap is one of their main sponsors, supporting their mission and passion by sending teams of volunteers to complete their evolving conservation projects.

Over the last few years they have made great progress and are now in a position to let a few select school groups become involved - to join this privileged development in Africa and be part of Namibia's history.



Lower School Expedition in August 2020

The plan is for a team of 16 Lower School pupils to spend 8 nights in the reserve contributing to hands on ecological restoration involving leopard monitoring, mammal surveys and dam building before embarking on an overnight trek to the Oranje River and summiting the Ol Doniyo Peak.

Adventure, contribution and personal development all combined.

Itinerary Overview

Transfer across the border in to the reserve



The team will be picked up at Upington airport, South Africa and driven over the border into Namibia and into the reserve of Oana. The journey takes about 5-hours through semi-desert landscape made up of mountains and sandy plains - dramatic and utterly stunning, so it will be an interesting ride.

On arrival the expedition will be met by Ed and Andrea, who run the camp and who will be looking after the group throughout.



Reserve Conservation

Throughout the time in the reserve the team will tackle several projects which are all part of the long term conservation schedule. The aim of these projects is to get the land back into a healthy eco-system so it can once again become home to the black rhino.

Wildlife Assessments

Oana is home to the iconic quiver tree, leopard, kudu, brown hyena, caracal, oryx, honey badger and aardvark.

However, it is an area unstudied and given its history they need to know who lives where and in what numbers - the first stage of 'rewilding' the land.

To help with this the team will jump into the back of the landrover, binoculars at the ready, to seek out and record the wildlife whilst analysing footprints and spore.

They will also help with the leopard survey, by setting up camera traps and identifying individuals.

Land Development

Oana is in the process of removing old buildings, structures and scrap left from its hunting days, developing water points, removing alien vegetation and building hides for wildlife observation.

The team will help by tackling the alien vegetation and removing scrap off the land, before building a water dam on the reserve.







Adventure Intertwined

3 days



Trekking to the Oranje River and Ol Doniyo Peak

The team will head off on a 2 day trek across the sandy grass plains to reach the banks of the Oranje River where they will sleep under the stars for a night. The river is beautifully clean and safe for swimming so the team will have time to fish, swim and cook on an open fire.

The team will also spend a day summiting Ol Doniyo Peak, the highest point on the reserve. The trek should take about 5 hours and the views will be well worth the climb.



Accommodation, Food and Down Time

Accommodation

The group will be staying under canvas on one of Oana's plains surrounded by mountains. The canvas tents surround a main hub tent providing a safe and homely environment. The chillout zone with its sofas, cushions and campfire creates the perfect opportunity for stargazing once the day's work is done. There are separate shower and WC tents to freshen up.

Food

Three daily meals will be prepared by the camp chef in the kitchen or on the camp fire. The food is delicious and will cater for all dietary requirements.

Drinking water, tea, coffee, and juice will be provided throughout the expedition.

Soft drinks and snacks are also available to buy.

Down Time

Down time will be spent beading, bread making, playing volley ball or board games.

Dates and Costs

Dates

Departure London - Johannesburg:	Wednesday, 19th August 2020
Arrive Johannesburg:	Thursday, 20th August 2020
Departure Johannesburg - London:	Friday, 28th August 2020
Arrive London:	Saturday, 29th August 2020

Costs

Total cost: £2975

Communication and Safety



Communication

There is sporadic wifi in camp - so the team will be off grid while they are away but daily instagram posts will be uploaded so you can see how they are getting along. The Leap is also on 24/7 emergency stand-by while the team are away.

Health and Safety

There is a first aid box on site with trained first aiders.

The nearest medical center is in the town of Karasburg a 1.5 hour drive away.

Through SATIB we can get an emergency air evacuation to the closest hospital.







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