

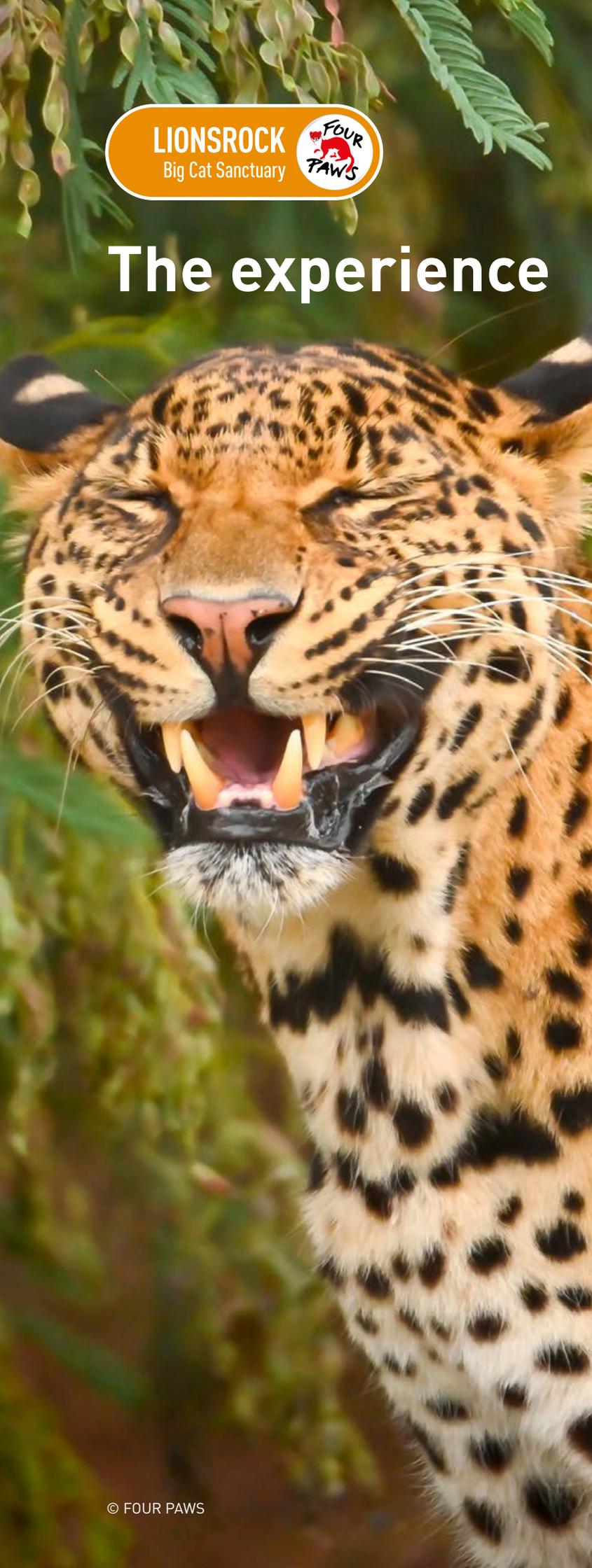
Animal Friendly Traveller

LIONSROCK
Big Cat Sanctuary



LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary was established by FOUR PAWS, the global animal welfare organisation for animals under direct human influence, which reveals suffering, rescues animals in need, and protects them. Our vision is a world where humans treat animals with respect, empathy, and understanding.

Our Sanctuary creates a safe forever home for over 100 Big Cats and raises awareness about the ethical and holistic treatment of wild animals in captivity. This pristine paradise, nestled in the valley below our iconic LIONSROCK, provides a beautiful, species-appropriate home for our animals. As a guest, you will gain in-depth knowledge about our Big Cats and their stories as well as overall education on the plight of Africa's Big Cats that are under duress globally.



LIONSROCK
Big Cat Sanctuary



The experience

A unique experience in Animal Welfare

LIONSROCK Big Cat Sanctuary is less than a 4-hour drive from Johannesburg, just outside of the picturesque town of Bethlehem in the Free State.

Home to over 100 Big Cats and the playground of a variety of free-roaming wildlife and a birding enthusiast's dream, the Sanctuary is a refuge and haven for all.

LIONSROCK, with so much to explore and so much to offer, falls under the umbrella of the global FOUR PAWS Organisation.

Through constant research and experience, you will be the happy benefactor of a wealth of information in this lesser-known field of protecting animals at risk.

Why learn at LIONSROCK:

An international and innovative platform focused on special care tailored to each of our unique Big Cats and their needs.

We strive to create the best learning experience based on behaviour change education framework and real-life learning approach that is supported by enriching experiences. As a high impact centre, we put emphasis on learning by doing, and doing in the service of one welfare: a complimentary nexus of animal welfare, human welfare, and environmental sustainability.

Our FOUR PAWS Founder, Heli Dungler, with his courage and passion, has shaped animal welfare worldwide. From a small group of animal welfare activists in Austria, he built the global animal welfare organization for animals under human influence, which reveals suffering worldwide, rescues animals in need, and protects them.

Every visitor to the Sanctuary, whether a volunteer or a guest, contributes to this mission.

“Compassion, in which all ethics must take root, can only attain its full breadth and depth if it embraces all living creatures and does not limit itself to mankind.”

- Albert Schweitzer

Course outline

LIONSROCK is one of only five true sanctuaries in the country but is unique in so many ways. You will meet our dynamic team who have dedicated their lives to this field.

You will assist and learn first-hand from our resident experts about pressing animal welfare issues and what can be done about them. Learn, lend a hand and just enjoy what will undoubtedly be a life-altering course and break from your everyday routine. Arrive as a participant and leave a little more adept and as an ambassador for all that is good about life and the world of animal welfare.

Sadly, not all of your adventures will be LIONSROCK. Animal abusers all over the world earn money by displaying animals to travellers and tourists.

The animals, often taken from the wild, are frequently poorly kept, neglected or overworked. They eventually die or their owners kill them when they are past their usefulness. Being discarded or sold for body parts or souvenirs is unthinkable but still in practice. This is an overused phrase but true all the same - help us be the change we all wish to see in the world and it could start with enrolling in this short course.



Wild animals belong in the wild.

We all know that nature without wildlife is just scenery. Learn about the multitude of ways that this is threatened or exploited, and then - all the ways that we can make a meaningful and tangible difference.

Is a sanctuary a sanctuary?

Many cruel establishments and breeding facilities are now marketing their animal prisons as "sanctuaries" or "rescues".

This interesting short course will teach you to ask a few simple questions that will help you determine whether a facility is helping or exploiting animals.

Our Big cat stories

While on the topic of Animal-friendly travel, we would be amiss if we didn't mention our own Four-Paw'd heroes who have survived atrocities you cannot imagine and their resilience and grace in overcoming horrific starts in life.

Meet some of our heroes in person during your stay.

The Good beginning

One of the few things that man cannot construct. To know where we are going, it's important to know where we have come from and how we can restore some semblance of a forgotten beautiful world.

Cruel Souvenirs

One of the joys of traveling is taking in the experiences and bringing home things that remind you of your adventure. However, with that joy comes a responsibility to make the lightest impact on the habitats and wildlife you're seeing.

While you're making your bucket list, why not also consider what you should avoid?

What can you do?

SO MUCH! never underestimate the difference you can make, even as a solo traveller. In fact, begin even before booking your trip and courses by doing a bit of research, alerting authorities on suspected abuse, and following up on your return home.

But there is so much more...



The package

FULL BOARD

3 Nights | 4 days (Full Board)

R6 600 (Per person)

R6 000 (Per Person - sharing)

Includes: Accommodation, all meals, conference facilities, pen, notepad, course work outline etc. and Wi-Fi.

Excludes: Any additional tours, beverages after breakfast service, all alcoholic beverages, Visa fees, flights, or road transfers. An airport shuttle can be arranged for you at an additional fee. Excludes anything not clearly stated above.

Minimum requirements: A basic understanding of the english language.

Must be 18 years or older.

THEORY:

Wild animals belong in the wild. | The Good Beginning | Is a sanctuary a sanctuary? | Cruel Souvenirs | Our Big cat stories | What can you do?

EXPERIENCE THE SANCTUARY:

Standard Tour | Exclusive tour | Hike to platform | Tiger tour

BECAUSE YOU DESERVE IT:

Special Boma bonfire welcome | Fun V-edgy team-building dinner - try to outdo our chefs! | Special cave dinner on your last night.

Extend your stay with us and explore the beautiful attractions in and around Bethlehem like a visit to Clarens or Golden Gate.

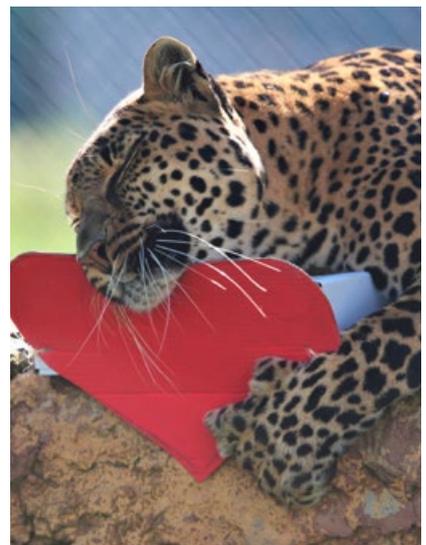
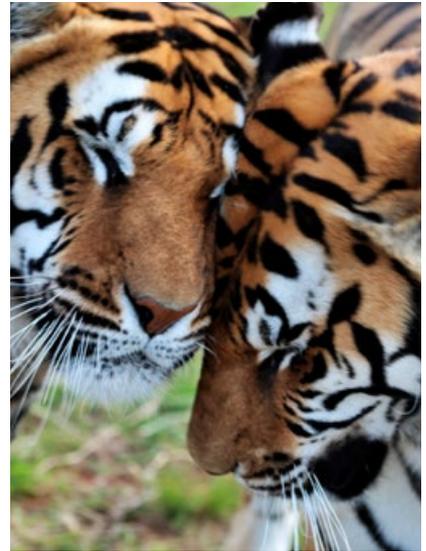
Ask our friendly staff at reception to assist with your external activity bookings and itinerary.

ADDITIONAL NIGHTS (Excluding your activities):

R1500 per person (Full Board)

Programme

#THOUGHTFULTHURSDAY (DAY 1)	
14h00	Arrival, check-in, and orientation
15h30	Standard Tour
17h30	Welcome drinks and informal introduction
18h00	Dinner at Restaurant.
#FRIDAYVIBES (DAY 2)	
07h30 - 08h30	Breakfast at Restaurant
08h30 - 10h00	1st session - Wild animals belong in the wild
10h00 - 13h00	Exclusive Tour (Includes a visit to Tiger Valley)
13h00 - 14h00	Lunch at the restaurant
14h00 - 15h00	2nd session - The Good Beginning
15h00 - 15h15	Tea break
15h30 - 17h00	3rd session - Day-end recap
17h00 - 18h00	Free Time
18H00	V-edgy self-prep team dinner at Boma. Ingredients and guidance by guest chef
#SATISFIEDSATURDAYS - (DAY 3)	
7h30-8h30	Breakfast
8h30-09h30	1st session - Is a Sanctuary a Sanctuary?
09h30-11H00	Hiking trail to the platform
11h00-11H30	Mid-morning tea break
11:30 - 12H30	2nd session - Cruel Souvenirs
12h30-13h30	Lunch
14h00-16h30	3rd Training Session
17h00 - 19h00	Cave picnic dinner and chat around the fire about the final topic:- What You Can Do? - Speak up! & Top Tips
#SOULSUNDAY (DAY 4)	
07h30 - 08h30	Breakfast
09h30 - 11h00	Tiger Tour
11h00	Settle accounts, check out and depart



YOUR TYPICAL DAY AT LIONSROCK:

First thing to note is that no two days at this magical sanctuary are ever the same but this will give you a basic outline.

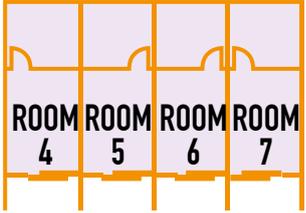
06h30	08h30	12h00	13h00	15h00	17h00	18h00
Breakfast at 07h30	1st session 08h30	Lunch at VSA*	2nd session 13h00	Tea break	Session end	Diner at VSA*

*VSA - Visitors Service Area



Accommodation

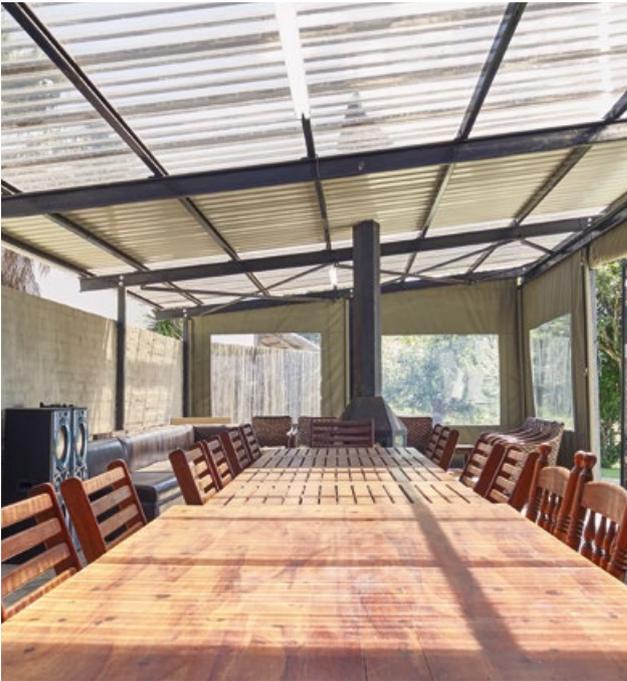
Single /Sharing room | Pool | Boma area | Lapa area |
Secure free parking | Wifi access | Full board |
Rooms 4 - 7 | Sleeps 2 per room | 1 X dbl bed per room



Rooms 4 - 7



Student Lapa

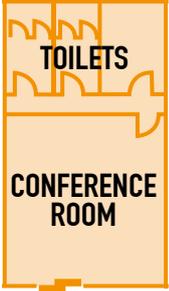


Conference room

AV equipment | TV | Projectors | Workbook & Lecture notes provided | Coffee/Tea Station | Ablutions

Helen Keller said that “Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

The #ThinkTank provides the ideal space for growth, learning, and sharing.



Conference room



Conference room

Internal activities- life at the rock

We strive to be a success but more importantly, of value.

What you think may change what you do, but what is also true is, that what you do will change what you think.

Balance is key, take some downtime in order to taste the joys of life in abundance.



Stay a while? External activities

Being a stone's throw away from the tourist town of Clarens, there are several activities you can arrange when you have free time to explore.

From river rafting, quad biking and zip-lining to inspirational art galleries and live entertainment. You will be spoilt for choice.



FAQ's

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING ALONG?

We recommend bringing sunblock, sunglasses, short and long-sleeve clothing, hiking shoes, gumboots, sneakers and a good jacket. Don't forget travel/country plug adapters, binoculars or camera.

WHICH TYPE OF VISA DO I NEED?

South African passport holders do not require a visa for leisure travel. For other nationalities, please arrange SA visas prior to arrival. Contact your South African Embassy for further assistance. A visa on arrival is approximately 50 USD.

DO I NEED INSURANCE?

All visitors are responsible for their own travel insurance. The hospital is approx. 40 minutes drive from the Sanctuary and we also have trained first aid staff members.

CAN I SIGN UP WITH A FRIEND?

This is very possible (depending on availability). Contact our office and we will accommodate your request as far as possible.

DO I NEED TO GET ANY VACCINATIONS?

Please check with your embassy or local consulate.

IS THIS COURSE ACCREDITED?

It may not be accredited but there is no price tag on a shift in mindset or pressing reset on what we thought we knew.



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