

# CENTURION

A photograph of two game rangers in a savanna landscape at sunset. One ranger is crouching in the foreground, looking down at something in his hands, while the other stands behind him, looking on. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun, with tall grass and distant trees visible.

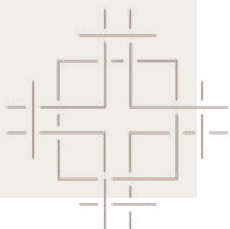
Singita

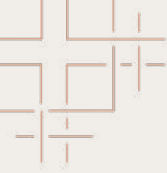
## **AMERICAN EXPRESS CENTURION SAFARI EXPERIENCE**

### *Game Ranger's Course*

**E**ACH OF THE ACTIVITIES IN THE AMEX CENTURION GAME RANGER'S COURSE HAS BEEN SPECIALLY CRAFTED to immerse you in the exciting world and daily life of a game ranger. They'll equip you with valuable knowledge & skills, and enable you to set out alongside your Field Guide on unique explorations that provide you with exclusive behind-the-scenes experiences in the bush.

Have a look at the various options below and let your Personal Amex Relationship Manager know which activities interest you most. We'll then arrange a tailor-made programme with dedicated themes to suit your preferences.





## ANIMAL TRACKING & TRACK IDENTIFICATION



It's undoubtedly one of the most exhilarating ways to experience the wilderness up close and by tracking the spoor of wild animals, you are able to completely tune in to the rhythms of nature.

Understanding the different tracks and signs of animals is like learning a new language. It allows you to recreate scenarios and read their past moves to predict their next steps...

During this module, you'll learn:

- how to differentiate between various wild animals' tracks and recognise signs, features and details to enhance your understanding of their behaviour
- incredibly valuable ways to interpret any skeletal remains, homes or nests you might come across
- how the feet, paws, hooves, claws and movements of species differ - according to their individual designs and requirements

This fascinating journey of discovery will see our highly skilled trackers coaching you on this ancient art, and you'll soon discover that it's inherently filled with valuable life lessons and parallels that are equally useful in your personal and professional sphere.





## BUSHCRAFT



With modern life severing our connections with nature in so many ways, making us forget our innate ability to survive in the wild, there's an ever-growing yearning to thrive in a natural environment. And when it comes to the thrill of being able to tend to your basic physiological needs in the great outdoors, the African bush provides the perfect backdrop.

From foraging to fire-making, and from shelter-building to sourcing clean water - nothing compares to the sense of place, independence and freedom you experience when you rediscover age-old skills of living close to the land.

This module encompasses a wide range of activities, including:

- Practical survival and navigation skills
- Making articles, tools and fire from natural materials
- Sourcing and purifying water
- Identifying edible plants
- Cooking food in the bush using field-crafted and rustic techniques
- Learning various traditional medicinal and wound-management techniques
- Making ropes and tying knots



## BIRDING

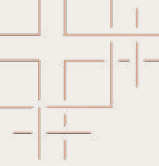


Presented by our specialist bird guides, this activity could stretch up to a full day of bird-watching and includes plenty of practical information and delightful surprises. It will equip you with some fascinating knowledge and identification skills to recognise birds based on their appearance, calls, habits or nests. More advanced birders will also be able to hone their skills in the recognition of new species, and distinguishing more complex or subtle features.

Highlights include:

- Taking part in the “Singita Dawn to Dusk Bird Challenge” – which starts with experiencing the intensity of the Dawn Chorus as you sip your morning coffee out in the bush, with the sun beginning to paint the eastern horizon with its pastel hues. Thereafter you’ll visit a multitude of different habitats that are home to the area’s incredible variety of species.
- Conservation Project participation: For an even more meaningful experience, you can escalate your understanding of the valuable work done by Singita’s conservation partners in their tireless efforts to preserve and protect the natural legacy of this pristine area. Personalised activities and interactions can be arranged if requested in advance. Through your participation, a percentage of your bed-night rate will be benefitted to (#BirdlifeSA), one of our conservation partners.
- Exclusive opportunities to access very specific and unique birding habitats outside of our reserves – such as the Afromontane mist-belt forests and grasslands of Mariepskop, or the vast habitat variety represented within proximate regions of the Kruger National Park. These ex-situ outings are arranged according to individual interests, and conducted by your dedicated Field Guide in a closed Singita guest-transfer vehicle





## IDENTIFYING PLANTS & TREES



Experience a tailormade nature walk on which you'll learn more about plants & trees – including their medicinal uses, edible fruits and pods. You'll also find out which ones are poisonous, which offer firewood, and which are reliable sources of water.

This module will:

- Introduce you to Singita's vast diversity of plant life
- Teach you basic tree-identification skills and show you more about each plant's identifying features.
- Showcase the various uses of plants – by other wildlife and by mankind (ethnobotany)







## STARGAZING

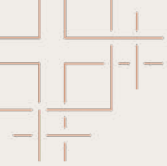
The stars and constellations are brimming with fascinating legends and they've been used them for millennia as indicators of impending seasonal change, the subject of fireside stories and more. For example, the Seven Sisters/Pleiades is known in locally as the isiLimela - "the planting stars", because when they begin to rise in the eastern horizon (which typically occurs in October in South Africa), it's traditional the time to begin readying fields to be planted prior to the arrival of the summer rains.

During this module, you will spend your time reclining on a chair, lying down, or relaxing in a hammock as you piece together the various constellations and learn more about each of their stories - and their meaning significance in African Star-lore.

As one of the more restful components of the Game Ranger's Course, it will allow you to quietly stare up into the heavens and count shooting stars and satellites, or to simply get lost in the magnitude and peace of the endless canopy of stars.

*\* Augment this experience and combine it with the Astronomy Evening to learn more about the various constellations through our high-powered telescope.*





## ASTRONOMY EVENING UNDER AFRICA'S NIGHT SKY



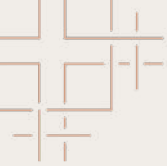
The field of astronomy quickly captures your imagination once you start exploring the various stars and planets – and the creative descriptions ancient astronomers chose for the various constellations in our galaxy.

At Singita, the experience is amplified, and the humbling enormity of this experience is even more pronounced because with no air or light pollution, you'll be seeing the night sky as you've never seen it before.

Through the eye-piece of the telescope – which can be set up in an exclusive location especially for this activity – you'll be looking at craters and “seas” on the moon, marvelling at the beauty of Saturn's rings, counting some of Jupiter's multitude of moons and looking for stellar clusters and nebulae – all while being surrounded by the intoxicating nocturnal sounds of the wilderness. Combined with a tailor-made Bush Dinner, it's the ultimate way to discover and explore the magic of the night sky.







## BLIND SAFARI



When you close your eyes, you're often able to experience the essence of the bush on a much deeper level – which will ultimately enable you to describe it in much more meaningful detail to others. This immersive hour-long activity involves wearing a sleep mask while your Guide takes you on a sensory exploration that opens up the wonders of the wilderness in a journey unlike any other.

For example, as you listen to the rustle of leaves and smell the scent of a herd of elephant ambling past your game-viewing vehicle, you can prod your Guide to explain in as much detail as possible what their features look like, how they break off twigs and how the baby elephants keep huddling close to their mothers. Often, many details are casually overlooked during sightings, but with closed eyes, we are forced to imagine – and ask for – the tiniest bits of information, which could add rich layers to our understanding of animal behaviour, and add to the thrill of “witnessing” them in the wild.

From discovering the relevance of scents and textures in wildlife patterns – and why animals prefer certain plants over others for their nutrition – to taking note of the texture of the soil and how it feels as it crumbles between your fingers, this highly informative activity will let you taste, feel, hear and smell your way through a range of experiences that sharpen the senses. As a result, you'll be much more focussed in your observations once you open your eyes again, immersing yourself in nature much more fully than before.

Offering an extraordinary amount of explanatory detail, your Guide will illuminate features and characteristics you would never have noticed up to now, and bring the relevance of things usually taken for granted to the fore.



# Singita

## NOTE

*All of these activities and courses can be tailored and combined to your personal preferences and for an even deeper immersion into the bush, rustic, picnic-style meals can be arranged in the field. This means that rather than rushing back to the lodge, your days can flow seamlessly along with the natural rhythms of the bush – complete with the option of post-picnic naps in hammocks under the shade of ancient trees.*