



South Africa Trek

25-29 May 2024



Join the Trek of a lifetime in South Africa

The Atlas South Africa Trek 2024 will see five action packed days with the group undertaking a challenging trek through the Kruger National Park. The day you trek will be tough, hot, and over harsh terrain guided by armed guides, who will protect us from the animals. Our group will need to silently navigate through the bush and riverbeds surrounded by the Big 5, this is a tough physical challenge, and most definitely not a stroll in the park! Overnight camping under the stars will be followed by an early morning start with game rangers and vets to assist us de-horning the rhinos. This once in a lifetime conservation experience will complete the trek challenge.

The group will then visit Atlas projects in Gauteng and the Cape, including the Atlas DigiBus in the Langa township in Cape Town. You will be able to see first-hand the challenges on the ground, along with the critically important work that Atlas carries out to support the young people who live in some of the world's poorest and most dangerous communities.

About The Atlas Foundation

The Atlas Foundation helps some of the world's poorest children thrive through the power of rugby, providing a platform which partners with local organisations that have a tangible impact on the daily lives of deprived young people.

Through health, education, gender inclusion programmes and a diverse range of rugby initiatives, we provide safety, education, food, sport, guidance, and community to thousands of children across five continents.

Founded, and led, by Rugby World Cup Champion Jason Leonard OBE, Atlas is driven by the core values of rugby: teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline, and sportsmanship.

We are committed to getting help directly to those who need it.



The 2024 Trek Itinerary

Day 1 – Saturday 25th May

The group will arrive in Johannesburg and proceed directly to our GWRI project on the ground in Daveyton, Gauteng. You will get to meet some of the remarkable young women who have been subject to harrowing experiences during their childhood and learn how Atlas is playing a vital role in empowering them.

You will then transfer to your hotel to freshen up before dinner.



Day 2 – Sunday 26th May

The Group will leave early for a flight to Hoedspruit, in Kruger National Park, where you will be met by Joe Pietersen, an Atlas Champion and former International Rugby Player, who will be your host for the trek element of your trip to South Africa.

We will spend the rest of the day silently navigating the hard terrain, protected from the Big Five and other animals, by armed guides as we trek through the bush and riverbeds, it will be an experience you will never forget! You will reach the overnight camp at sunset, it will be very basic, with simple food and a bucket shower! The evening will be spent around the campfire, enjoying the sounds of Africa at night!

Day 3 – Monday 27th May

A very early morning start will see the trekkers meet up with game rangers and vets to begin the challenging task of de-horning selected rhinos, which helps protect them from poachers. Moving these exceptional animals is a tough physical exercise, with all hands on deck required! Aside from taking part in a vital conservation task, you will also participate in a once in a lifetime experience.

An afternoon flight to Cape Town will see you arrive in the early evening in time for some well-deserved R&R overlooking Camps Bay and the Atlantic Seaboard.

Day 4 – Tuesday 28th May

A full day of Atlas project activity starts with a visit to the Atlas South Africa DigiBus in Langa, the oldest township community in South Africa. You will see the significant impact that this impressive mobile digital classroom, with its 40 computers and desks, has made on the 1000+ children that are taught each month on the DigiBus. Student grades have improved by 20% in the first full year that the bus has been operating in Langa, which is transformative for the children.

After a traditional lunch in Langa, you will head out to Masiphumelele and Ocean View High Schools. There you will see the new Atlas Media Centre and learn how the Atlas rugby programme is helping the boys and girls from these deprived communities. The work that Atlas is doing is central to helping overcome the problems of drugs, violence and gang culture which proliferate in these schools. By walking through Masi, with our experienced coaches who act as role models and mentors for the children, you will see first-hand the impact Atlas has in the community.

Day 5 – Wednesday 29th May

After four intense and challenging days, you will have a full day to enjoy Cape Town, recently named Best City in the World for the fifth consecutive year in the 2023 UK Telegraph Travel Awards.

At the end of the day, you will be driven to Cape Town International for your evening return flight home.

Recommended Flights

Our Itinerary has been planned around the following flights

Outbound

London Heathrow to Johannesburg

British Airways BA0057

Depart London Heathrow Friday 24 May 21:25

Arrive Johannesburg Saturday 25 May 09:25

Inbound

Cape Town to London Heathrow

British Airways BA0058

Depart Cape Town Wednesday 29 May 18:40

Arrive London Heathrow Thursday 30 May 05:50

The Atlas Foundation

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