



Wildlife Campus

20
YEARS
ANNIVERSARY

LEARN PROTECT SAVE

Magazine

**COVID-19 and
our services**

**A Course for
Kids?**

**Newsflash: Wildlife
Management, Cultural
Guiding and much more!**

*Discover your
gift inside!*

Celebrates **WildlifeCampus** **20 years**



WildlifeCampus CEO

Todd Kaplan

"Some 20 years ago, we were six months into the development of the website, but we had still not finalised a name.

AfriCollege was the first choice, followed by WildCollege, but all suggestions had been discarded in favour of WildCampus. We all loved the name and developed some creative ideas, but we had a problem.

The URL, wildcampus.com had already been registered by somebody else. Since no site had been developed using the name, we assumed the owner would part with it relatively easily, but he still wanted US\$ 8,000 for it.

AfriCam at the time had significant development capital, but US\$ 8,000 was ± R70,000 back then, an exorbitant sum of money for essentially a US\$20 name.

Our designs were in vain. The owner of WildCampus.com would not budge from his US\$ 8,000, which we were not prepared to pay. The team brainstormed new ideas for hours. Ideas were no problem, but we had the familiar problem of not being able to find a domain name that was not already registered by somebody else.

The World has changed! So much of what we've always taken for granted is now subject to rules, regulations, protocols and procedures.

Right now, our lives are on hold in so many ways - plans abandoned, trips delayed and adventures cancelled. In the midst of all the chaos, what hasn't changed is WildlifeCampus, our quality courses, commitment to excellence in education and the support of our students.

As WildlifeCampus celebrates our 20th year in the industry, I reflect back on origins of the adventure, created as an educational initiative for AfriCam.com

Early one evening, Keith Wallington AfriCam's marketing director and I were sitting around brainstorming the "name issue" for the hundredth time; literally by randomly typing names into a domain registration site. Keith typed in "WildlifeCampus". I thought it was a little wordy, but it qualified on the key criteria: it was available. Keith typed the company credit card number into the computer and WildlifeCampus was christened."

In future editions we'll delve back for more on the WildlifeCampus origin-story, but for now enjoy the current issue.

Todd



Contents

20 years WildlifeCampus	2
A course for Kids?	4
Field Update: Anti-Poaching	5
Updated Course Spotlight	6
How to join WildlifeCampus?	7
Wildlife Management News	8
Cultural Guiding News	9
What's to come for 2020?	11
Our Anniversary gift to you!	11
Game Lodge Management News	12
Our response: COVID-19	15

Click on the title to jump to the article of your choice

WildlifeCampus Kids Big-5 Course

Is here!



We've had many requests for a course designed for kids and finally the first of many is here! With changing times and increasing amounts of time spent at home this is the perfect course to keep the kids busy. The course can be completed online with no time limit and parents are welcome to assist their children.

World's 5 best-known African animals are all closely examined in this short course designed just for kids.

Lion, Leopard, Elephant, African Buffalo and Rhinoceros are all explored in terms of their classification, vital statistics, habitat, social structure, feeding behaviour, reproduction, general ecology and conservation status.

This course is completely FREE*
In addition, the downloadable PDF contains a number of fun activities

* A course certificate may be redeemed at a cost of R 250

WildlifeCampus Magazine 4

Anti-Poaching Field Update



A name certainly popping out on the list is Aldine Lombard who is the first female to have successfully completed the GameWays Anti-Poaching practical.



Congratulations and good luck to all graduates on the journey ahead!

We trust you will make a big difference in protecting our endangered wildlife and valuable nature!



At the end of March, the first GameWays Anti-Poaching course for 2020 came to an end with the official graduation parade at GameWays in Limpopo. While we were unable to attend, WildlifeCampus is extremely proud of the 12 students who have successfully completed their practical training journey.

You can make a difference!

The GameWays Anti-Poaching course equips students with all the necessary knowledge and practical training, to enable them to take a stand against crime and poaching activities taking place in our country.

The 2,200 Hectare GameWays training facility is ideal for anti-poaching training. GameWays is located just outside Steenbokpan, about 70 km West of Lephalale, in the stunning Limpopo bushveld.

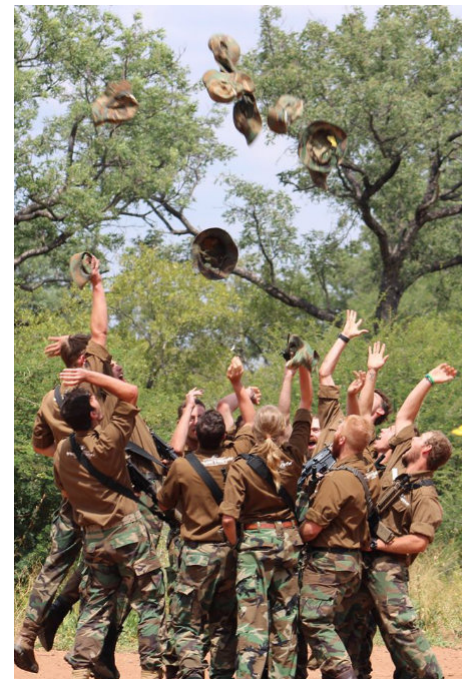
WildlifeCampus Anti-Poaching

When deciding to embark on a practical training journey, GameWays will register applicants as online students with WildlifeCampus.

Phase 1 of the training process requires students to complete the WildlifeCampus Online Anti-

Poaching Course over the period of one month.

After successfully completing the online course, students receive a WildlifeCampus certificate. This certificate forms part of the admission requirements to participate in the practical training at GameWays.



Something for you?

Click on the GameWays logo to find out more

Updated Course

Spotlight



During the December Holidays WildlifeCampus and Co* headed out to Maloti-Drakensberg Park (UNESCO World Heritage Site) to summit Mafadi (South Africa's highest peak). The primary goal of our trip was sourcing adequate pictures to update our Online Wilderness Navigation Course.

The result - a freshly updated course with stunning imagery serving as a great guideline on how to find your way in the wilderness by relying only on your equipment and your surroundings..

Our Wilderness Navigation Course is a practical navigation course for all hikers, trampers, mountaineers, orienteering enthusiasts, outdoor leaders, teachers, scouts, guides, adventure racers, rescue teams and anyone else who ventures "Anyplace Wild". It is written by master navigator, Andrew R Friedemann, this may be the most valuable course you will ever study. Navigation is a skill that can be learnt by anyone; developing a proficiency in this ability can save your life and will significantly enhance your experiences when venturing into the outdoors.

* The WildlifeCampus team would like to thank our good friends Danny Breetveld (The Netherlands) and South African filmmaker Robert Wedderburn for joining Jonathan Acx on this awesome mission!

A course for you?

Click on the wax seal
to view the full synopsis.



How to join *WildlifeCampus*

WildlifeCampus has been a FGASA Endorsed distance learning provider since the year 2000. Over 25, 000 students in over 154 countries have used WildlifeCampus to enhance their knowledge of our valuable Wildlife and Nature!

Are you a wildlife enthusiast, up for a career change, a professional in the wildlife/tourism industry or simply curious in all that involves natural sciences and wildlife?

Then our courses will be your thing!

In **4** Simple Steps

- Go to www.wildlifecampus.com
- Left on top of the homepage click the "Register Online Courses" button
- Complete the registration form
- Click the "Register for free" button to complete your registration



**Or click the wax seal to start filling
in our registration form.**

Wildlife Management News

In February WildlifeCampus' partner Hillcrest Game Estates was awarded the North West Wildlife Traders (NWWT) 2020 Wildlife/Game-farmer of the Year Award.

Franco Joubert, founder and managing director of NWWT said that this is the sixth-year running that this prestigious award has been presented. The criteria for this particular award are not so much about who is the biggest and the best, but rather about giving due recognition to wildlife/game farmers who have been showing to be truly interested and involved in making a difference in the South African game and wildlife industry, particularly in the current difficult times in which the industry finds itself.

The winner was selected from North West Wildlife Traders roughly 500-600 clients.

Congratulations to Hillcrest Game Estates on this well deserved award!



(From L-R) Ben Groenewald (Hillcrest Game Estates), Franco Joubert (NWWT) and Piet Botma (Hillcrest Game Estates)

Read more about our Partnership
by clicking the Hillcrest logo



THE FIRTH-FAMILY FARM SINCE 1914

John Firth
4TH GENERATION

More info on our Wildlife Management Course

Click on the wax seal
to view the full synopsis.



Cultural Guiding News

If you are a keen traveller, existing or aspiring cultural guide, professional nature guide, field guide, or merely have an interest in this extensive topic, these courses are definitely an entertaining and educational programme to consider!

Our Cultural Guiding Courses are currently being updated! Eastern Cape, Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal are fully updated! Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Western Cape, Northern Cape, and Free State Provinces are all currently being updated for mid-2020 release.

Whether you are career-orientated or simply wish to upskill to provide a more inclusive experience for your guests and clients, our Cultural Guiding Series is an excellent resource.



Take a virtual tour with us as we explore the Provinces and meet the people of beautiful South Africa! Each Cultural Guiding Course covers a Province in South Africa. In each course we include:

- A General Provincial Overview
- A Cultural Overview
- A Historical Overview
- A Nature and Conservation Overview
- In-depth information on Villages, Towns and Cities
- Map Orientations
- Municipal Districts
- Tourist Attractions and Regions



Students who successfully complete the course will be awarded a certificate for the province completed.



For more information on our Cultural Guiding Collection, get in touch:

info@wildlifecampus.com

Cultural Guiding Collection

Currently updated and online courses

Click on the picture to view a synopsis of the course



2020 What's to come?

Click on the picture to view a synopsis of the course



Our Anniversary Gift to you!

Mail us your username and the code: "1st Magazine" to receive a 20% discount for the purchase of any online course in our online shop!

Click on the picture to email us!

Game Lodge Management News

by  Wild Dreams Recruitment

Are you interested in a career in the hospitality industry? However, you're not sure which department would suit you? Have a look at a brief rundown by Wild dreams Recruitment of what each department entails.

Food and Beverage



This is often one of the largest departments within the hospitality industry as it covers a few departments who have very different duties. If you see the abbreviation F&B then this is food and beverage.

Within this department you have the following:

- Waiter/Waitress
- Bar tenders
- Butlers
- Scullers
- Commis Chefs
- Pastry Chefs
- Chef de parties
- Sous Chefs
- Head/Executive Chefs
- F&B Managers
- Hosts / Hostesses / Anchors/Guest relations

One very big difference is that some of these jobs are front of house and some are back of house.

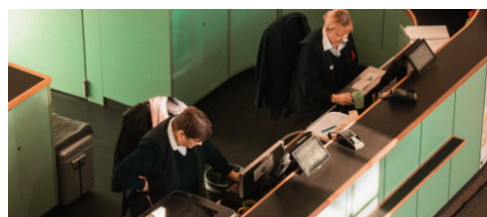
If you enjoy talking to people and are confident to communicate with people from around the world then considering a

waiter, bar, butler or host role would suit you. Often these positions overlap, and you may be a waiter and a bar tender at the same time. These positions suit people who are quick on their feet and can multitask.

Chefs on all levels need to be creative and really have a passion for cooking. If this sounds like you, then working in the kitchen (behind-the-scenes) is the place to be. As you learn more you can progress to a higher level or find which aspect of working in the kitchen you really enjoy.

An F&B Manager would oversee all aspects of front and back of house so it would suit someone who is great with people, not only guests and customers but with staff as well. Knowledge of overall service in the department would be essential and although the F&B Manager doesn't always do the cooking, having a background in cooking would be a great help.

Reception/Office related roles



Working in Reception may make you think of lots of admin

work, however, in the hospitality industry this often entails much more than sitting behind a computer all day.

Within this department you have the following:

- Receptionists
- Admin assistants
- Office Manager
- Financial Manager
- Debtor/Creditor
- HR Manager
- Reservationist

The skills needed in this department are good computer knowledge, as well as great telephone and writing skills. You are also often the face of the establishment being the first person a guest or customer sees, so you need to be presentable, friendly and confident in communicating with people.

It's also a department where you will need a good knowledge of numbers. Although we all have calculators there is often invoicing, petty cash, reports, tips, and sales all managed in this department.

Game Lodge Management News

Multi-tasking is also a must-have skill in this department.

If you are employed in a specific role then it will be important to have in-depth knowledge about this aspect of the industry. For example, in the HR sector then an understanding of things like labour law and employment equity will be a must.

In the Lodge industry the reception staff will normally also host meals, so this integrates with the F&B department nicely and having that warm outgoing personality is key to success in this area.

Guides and Trackers



This department is only related to the lodge sector (not restaurant and hotels)

Within this department you have the following:

- Guides
- Head Guide / Assistant Head Guide
- Trackers

Guides and trackers work as a team with their roles to provide the guests with an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime wildlife experience.

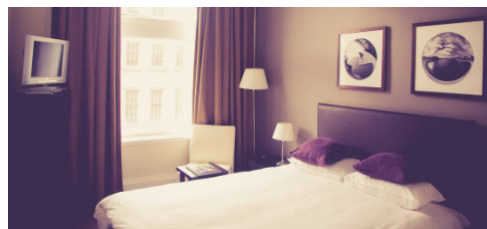
Guides and Trackers need to be conservation minded at all times and pass on their passion for nature and conservation through the game drives and bush walks they provide for guests.

Knowledge about animals, plants, trees, geology, insects, birds, conservation and tracks/signs of animals is vital. It will also help to have a background knowledge on drinks and food as Guides are often hosting guests at meals and need to be clued up on what is being served.

Any photographic knowledge is an advantage. Many guests will have cameras and would want to take pictures to enable them to have memories of their trip. Its also important, as a guide, that you get your vehicle positioned in the best photographic spot.

With these roles knowledge and passion go hand-in-hand and without these you won't be successful. So, if you love wildlife and the bush then get studying as you do need a formal qualification to become a Guide or a Tracker.

Housekeepers



This department is more than just cleaning rooms, its about creating a guest experience through small touches and attention to details.

Within this department you have the following:

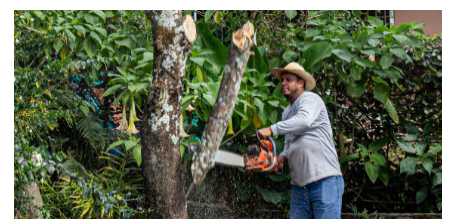
- Head or Senior Housekeeper
- Housekeepers
- Laundry department

Housekeepers need to have excellent attention to detail skills and the ability to thoroughly check areas to make sure all areas are clean, neat and tidy at all times. Housekeepers should also be cognisant of any maintenance-related issues.

Pride in their work is very important and if they can be creative with small touches such as towel arrangements, flowers, notes in the rooms. Itf will make a big difference to the guests stay.

How clean and tidy an establishment is, will also be important to any guest.

Maintenance



This department is very hands-on, there can still be admin but it's also about getting things fixed as quickly as possible and preventing problems in the

Game Lodge Management News

first place. It can be one of the busiest departments if you are in a large lodge as there are many aspects that fall under maintenance.

Within this department you have the following:

- Maintenance manager
- Assistant Maintenance manager
- Maintenance workers
- Gardeners

These positions are suited to people who are very 'handy' who know how to fix things and can make a plan! It's good to have a technical mind when working in this department and also attention to detail and the knowledge to be able to see a problem before it starts. This department often deals with health and safety as well, which is vitally important so a background in these aspects would help.

In the Hospitality industry having a good overall knowledge of different

maintenance related aspects would be beneficial as no two days are ever the same so although it's good to specialise it's also important to have a good general knowledge and of course don't be afraid to get your hands dirty!

Management



This department is often made up of people who have already worked in other departments as it is rare to be able to immediately walk into a Management position within the industry without any background knowledge. It may be that you start as a waiter and then get promoted throughout your career, including to front-of-house, head of department and, finally, management.

Within this department you have the following:

- General Managers
- Operations Manager
- Assistant Managers

For these roles you need to be a multi-tasker, a people's person which includes interacting with guests, clients but also staff and have a good overall understanding of how every single department works. An admin/financial mind is also required as the role will include a fair amount of admin.

If you have a strong personality, you are also able to work hard and help where needed, then this may be the job for you. Do everything you can to move through the departments and take opportunities for promotions as they come to you. Once you are a Manager, have confidence in your abilities and be a warm and open person and you will have great success.

Whichever department you currently work in or are hoping to work in, in future it is vital to have passion for the industry as the hospitality sector means long hours-expect to work weekends, public holidays and although most of the time you have lovely guests and customers you will have challenging days! So, focus on the positives and enjoy life in this crazy but very fun industry.

More interesting articles and information on the hospitality industry?

Visit the Wild Dreams Recruitment website:
www.wilddreams.co.za

Our Game Lodge Management Course

WildlifeCampus' Game Lodge Management Course was written in collaboration with Wilderness Safaris and is the first true Lodge Management course to have been released to the public.

Drawing on over 30 years of experience in the creation and running of lodges, this offering is suitable for those seeking to enter this rewarding industry, or for safari companies that strive to emulate the accomplishments of one of the world's most successful lodge groups.

The certificate in Game Lodge Management is widely recognised and accepted as the best throughout the industry.

Click [here](#) for a synopsis of our Game Lodge Management Course
or
email: info@wildlifecampus.com

Our Response to *Your Question*

“Will I be able to study as usual in the event of a lockdown?”

For sure!

All WildlifeCampus activities will continue as usual.
Students may take online courses from anywhere in the world,
anytime.

Many students have contacted us with concerns regarding the closure of WildlifeCampus during the South African lockdown. To set your minds at ease, WildlifeCampus will not be closing and our team is only an email away!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone the very best during the lockdowns happening globally. Please, stay safe. It won't be too long before we are allowed back in the bush once again!

**For those who have booked tours to, or within, SA - please don't cancel but rather postpone.
The same applies to everyone who has booked practical training, please support our practical training providers by postponing your training, rather than cancelling.**

Africa is waiting for you to explore when this is all over.

Hang in there!

Lockdown madness?

WildlifeCampus activities continue as usual.
Students may take **online** courses from
anywhere in the world, anytime.

