



INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL ADVERTISING OF A VACANT POSITION

Suitably qualified candidates are invited to apply for the following vacancy:

POSITION: Meerkat Habituator
DEPARTMENT: Conservation / Hospitality
JOB GRADE: 3

Role Summary

To responsibly habituate, monitor, and interpret designated meerkat groups while prioritising animal welfare, natural behaviour, conservation, research and exceptional guest experiences.

The role requires a strong understanding of meerkat behaviour, patience, consistency, excellent observation skills and the ability to communicate wildlife and conservation knowledge in an engaging manner.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

MEERKAT HABITUATION & ANIMAL WELFARE

- Conduct responsible and ethical habituation activities in accordance with established protocols.
- Monitor individual animals, group dynamics, behaviour and wellbeing.
- Ensure activities do not interfere with natural behaviour or essential activities.
- Identify and report signs of stress, illness, injury or abnormal behaviour.
- Prioritise animal welfare in all field and guest interactions.

GUEST EXPERIENCE

- Deliver exceptional and educational meerkat experiences.
- Provide engaging interpretation of meerkat behaviour, ecology and social structures.
- Create personalised and memorable guest experiences while maintaining appropriate wildlife-viewing standards.
- Communicate Tswalu's conservation and research initiatives effectively.

CONSERVATION & RESEARCH

- Conduct behavioural and ecological observations and maintain accurate records.
- Collect and submit data according to established research protocols.
- Support relevant meerkat conservation and research initiatives.
- Share significant observations with the Conservation Department.

SAFETY & COMPLIANCE

- Ensure the safety of guests, staff and wildlife during all activities.
- Follow Tswalu's safety, conservation, animal-welfare and operational protocols.
- Maintain awareness of environmental and wildlife-related risks.

T. +27 53 781 9112 | **E.** info@tswalu.com | **W.** tswalu.com

Farm Korannaberg 296, Van Zylsrus, 8467, South Africa | P.O. Box 1081, Kuruman, 8460, South Africa

DIRECTORS: DAT LAMB (BRITISH) | DN McFAYDEN | CL OPPENHEIMER | JEM OPPENHEIMER | NF OPPENHEIMER
INCORPORATED IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA | COMPANY REG NO 1968/001382/07 | VAT REG 4020125912



- Report incidents, hazards, injuries and animal-welfare concerns promptly.

ADMINISTRATION & TEAM COLLABORATION

- Maintain accurate daily records and required reporting.
- Work closely with Conservation, Field Guides, trackers, lodge management and other departments.
- Participate in briefings, training, meetings and conservation initiatives.
- Support the wider Tswalu team in delivering seamless guest experience.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- Wildlife tracking and/or relevant qualification or practical experience in wildlife management, animal behaviour, or a related field.
- Valid First Aid certification.
- Valid driver's licence and PDP.
- 1-3 years' experience in wildlife, conservation, tracking, animal behaviour or a related environment.
- Experience with wildlife habituation is highly advantageous.
- Experience working with meerkats or other habituated wildlife is preferred.
- Experience in a guest-facing or luxury hospitality environment is advantageous.

SKILLS, COMPETENCIES & BEHAVIOURAL ATTRIBUTES

- Strong understanding of meerkat behaviour, ecology and animal welfare.
- Excellent observation, attention to detail and record-keeping skills.
- Patient, calm, consistent and respectful when working with wildlife.
- Strong communication, interpretation and guest engagement skills.
- Sound judgement, situational awareness and decision-making ability.
- Passion for conservation and a genuine interest in wildlife and the Kalahari environment.
- Professional, reliable and accountable.
- Ability to work independently while contributing positively to a team.
- Adaptable and comfortable working in a remote and changing environment.

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Early mornings, weekends, public holidays and extended periods in the field.
- Outdoor work in varying and sometimes extreme Kalahari weather conditions.
- Regular walking, standing, sitting and driving.
- Remote working environment with live-in accommodation typically required.
- Regular interaction with local and international guests.

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PACKAGE

- Market related salary
- Single accommodation
- Staff flights between Johannesburg and Cape Town

Suitably qualified candidates can send their CVs to opportunities@tswalu.com

Applications close on **02nd October 2026**

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