

## PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

### Level 1 Marine Guide

#### Course Duration

1 Month

#### Course dates for 2010

4 – 31 May 2010

2 – 30 August 2010



**\*Registration closes 4 weeks prior to course commencement.**

#### Course Fee

R19 500

#### Course fee includes:

- All tuition
- Meals & Accommodation
- All transport and entrance fees to parks and reserves visited during training. (Transport from to and from the airport is excluded.)
- FGASA exam fees.
- First Aid Training
- \*PADI Open Water Dive Training
- PADI membership registration
- Uniform
- Training manuals



**Certification: On successful completion of the programme, qualifying learners will receive:**

FGASA Level 1 Marine Guide Qualification

PADI Open Water Diver Qualification

Bhejane Nature Training Marine Guide Certificate

#### Disclaimer:

The information given above is accurate at the time of writing. Factors beyond Bhejane Nature Training's control, such as regulatory changes, may cause the exact content, duration or venue of certain modules to change. In the event of any such change, all possible measures will be taken to minimize inconvenience to students.

**Above certification is subject to successful completion of all the qualifying exams and assessments.** (You are welcome to contact us for more information about industry certification and training authorities such as FGASA and PADI)



### **Admission Requirements:**

- FGASA Level 1
- Minimum recommended age is 18.
- An acceptable standard of English literacy for second language speakers is required to successfully complete the programme. English literacy at Grade 10 is the minimum requirement.
- Valid river's licence. (Optional - only required if you want to be assessed on foot as well as in a vehicle)
- Health / Travel insurance is recommended.
- A reasonable level of personal fitness

### **Programme Content:**

**The course consists of two components.**

#### **1. FGASA Marine Guide Training**

All aspects of the FGASA Marine Guide Syllabus are covered to introduce to student to marine and coastal environments, and assist with assessment preparation. The syllabus covers:

- Creating a guided coastal marine experience
- The Coastal Marine Environment and Two Oceans
- Geology and the coastal marine environment
- Astronomy
- Weather and Climate
- Basic Marine Ecology
- Basic Taxonomy

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- Sea Plants (Including Dune, Mangroves and Saltmarsh Plants)
- Coastal and Marine Invertebrates
- Amphibians
- Marine Reptiles, Fish and Birds
- Coastal and Marine Mammals
- Animal Behaviour
- Historical Human Habitation and Conservation Management for Marine Protected Areas

## 2. PADI Open Water Dive Training

The second component of the course takes you underwater to learn more about the Coral Reefs and the numerous species of fish and corals that inhabit them. Open Water Dive Training is followed by Fish Identification Dives and the opportunity to see some of the most magnificent marine wildlife in its natural habitat.



### Books and Equipment

- Bhejane Nature Training Manuals are included in the price.
- FGASA Manuals, Workbooks and Logbooks are included in the price.
- Equipment such as binoculars are not included.
- FGASA prescribed books are not included

Students will receive a complete list of recommended books and equipment upon registration.

### Facilities

Training takes place at both the college base on the Thanda Private Game Reserve (theory only) as well as at the Coral Divers Concession (Practical) within the iSimangaliso Wetlands Park (a World Heritage Site). Accommodation is provided in two man tents with electricity and running water available. The camp is in close proximity to the beach and is situated amongst species rich dune forest vegetation where sightings of Samango Monkeys, Livingstone's Turaco and Red Duiker are common.

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**Uniforms:**

Students will be provided with BNT shirts as well as all dive gear whilst training.

Students are required to bring their own sleeping bags and pillows.

**Location:**

The reserves of Northern Zululand and Maputaland have often been described as simply the most breathtaking and spectacular in the whole of Southern Africa. Known globally as a biodiversity hotspot, the area boasts a biodiversity that is unrivalled by any other Southern African Parks. The first national park ever proclaimed in South Africa, The Pongola Game Reserve, together with the surrounding parks and reserves of St. Lucia and Hluhluwe, make this the oldest protected areas in Africa – a truly unique wilderness area.

Known for its impressive lakes and wetland systems, the area is also characterised by unspoilt marine reserves, and a range of habitats that includes mountains, grasslands, forests (more than 80% of SA's remaining forests are found here), savannah, estuaries and mangroves. The Sand Forests, Fever Tree Forests, and Fig Forest in Mkuze Game Reserve is guaranteed to add some magic to your training experience!

**Our instructors:**

All instructors are recognised FGASA trainers and assessors and are registered with the relevant training authorities such as THETA and SASSETA to conduct assessment on national qualifications and unit standards. Training is supplemented with guest lectures by locally based Marine Biologists and Dive Instructors.

Guest lectures are also conducted by various specialists. These may vary from one course to another as we have to rely on the availability of these experts.

***Book your place now, to become a part of the  
Zululand Conservation Legacy!***

***Payment and Cancellation Policy***

A 25% deposit is required upon first registration. The balance is to be paid prior to course commencement.

Closing date for registration is 6 weeks prior to course commencement.

Courses are limited to a maximum of 10 students. Timely cancellation is consequently of utmost importance to enable us to notify any students on waiting lists as soon as possible of an opening.

Cancellations done before the closing date of registration are subject to an administration fee.

The minimum deposit required for registration is non-refundable if cancellation occurs after the registration closing date. (This does not apply to cancellation due to extraordinary circumstances.)



Field Guides Association  
of Southern Africa

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