



MORE FIELD GUIDE COLLEGE - FACT SHEET

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ABOUT US

MORE Field Guide College is a FGASA endorsed delivery partner established by MORE Family Collection to produce professional guides of an exceptional calibre and give students from around the world the life-enriching experience of living their African dream.

FGASA (Field Guide Association of Southern Africa) maintains the highest standards for guiding throughout the region and is a registered provider with CATHSSETA (South Africa’s Culture, Art, Tourism, Hospitality, and Sport Sector Education and Training Authority).

OUR EDGE

MORE Field Guide College maintains an exceptional pass rate, with students under the tutelage and guidance of the industry’s finest. Together, the team conveys a well-rounded understanding of the environment, wildlife, field guiding, and safari hospitality.

Riaan Fourie, Group Safari Manager - Qualifications: National Diploma in Nature Conservation (Tshwane University of Technology), FGASA SKS (Dangerous Game) Trails Guide, FGASA SKS (Birding) Guide, Accredited FGASA Trails Guide Mentor, FGASA Safari Guide of the Year (2019)

Obakeng Medupe, Principal Facilitator (NJM Campus) - Qualifications: FGASA Professional Field Guide, Professional Trails Guide, Tracking (Level 2), Range officer, Advanced Rifle Handling

Francois Fourie, Assessor - Qualifications: Professional Field Guide (Level 3), FGASA Professional Trails Guide, FGASA Trails Guide Mentor, FGASA Assessor, FGASA SKS Birds, Range Officer, with a BA (Psychology) degree and SAIM Business Management diploma

Mitchel Bloem, Sales & Marketing Manager - Qualifications: NQF4 Trails Guide, 6 years Field Guide experience at two of the MORE Family Collection properties - Marataba Luxury Lodge and Lions Sands Sabi Sands

OUR HISTORY

The founding of MORE Field Guide College was inspired by passionate conservationist Nick John More (1967–2013), and originally called NJMORE Field Guide College. It fulfils his wish to continue the legacy of three generations of More nature ambassadors, dedicated to protecting our environment, and sharing their love and knowledge of the world’s last wild places. Therefore, students are chosen for their genuine and palpable love of the bush, and their ability to inspire this in others from around the world.

OUR GUIDING CULTURE

Our MORE Field Guides are the new generation of nature ambassadors. They have a vast knowledge of the environment, a passion for guiding, a dedication to teaching people about our extraordinary natural heritage and inspiring them to do their part to protect it. In conducting safaris, our guides never cause undue stress to the wildlife, and are careful to maintain a balance between human presence and ecosystem health.

OUR LOCATION

NJM Campus

Marataba is a privately managed, 23 000ha section of the greater Marakele National Park – a magnificent piece of Waterberg* wilderness, just 3.5 hours outside Johannesburg. The scenery is dramatic, the wildlife prolific and readily seen, and the plant life equally intriguing. All the Big Five, along with smaller and rarer species, like the highly endangered pangolin, are found here. Among the flora, rare yellowwood and cedar trees, and ancient cycads and ferns flourish. The park has a significant history too, conserving ancient San Rock art and Iron Age sites. The Waterberg Biosphere Reserve is one of only 500 UNESCO biosphere reserves and the only savannah biosphere in the world!

OUR COURSES

Our full-length courses give MORE students opportunities to attain FGASA-certified qualifications and invaluable experience in the field. Graduates have the option of entry into more advanced courses or a six-month internship at a top safari lodge, setting them on the right track to a guiding career.

Our short courses are a great introduction for those considering a career in field guiding, as well as ideal for qualified field guides looking to up-skill themselves and keep up to date with industry developments. They also offer those looking for an on-the-ground adventure in Africa during a gap year or sabbatical an enriching life experience.

Full-Length Courses

MORE Career Course (January & July intakes):

- 1 year – 6-month training course and 6-month internship at a five-star MORE Family Collection safari lodge
- Open to South African citizens, 20 (turning 21) and older.
- Qualifications include NQF2 Nature Site Guide qualification (FGASA) Guide, FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide Mentorship Programme, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling, CyberTracker Tracks & Signs and Wilderness First Aid, with other essential skills, such as Snake Handling, 4x4 driving, and Photography.
- Top performing students, who meet the criteria are considered for permanent employment with MORE Family Collection

MORE Guide & Trails Experience (January & July intakes):

- 6 months – with the option of additional work experience (6 months)
- Open to both South African and International citizens, 18 years and older
- Qualifications include NQF2 Nature Site Guide qualification (FGASA), FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide Mentorship Programme, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling, CyberTracker Tracks & Signs and Wilderness First, with other essential skills, such as Snake Handling, 4x4 driving, and Photography.
- Interested graduates are assisted with securing an internship at a top lodge – a placement fee is applicable, enquire directly for more information.

Short Courses

MORE Guide Experience (January & July intakes):

- 3 months (70 days full-time study plus a break)
- Open to both South African and international citizens, 18 years and older
- A limited number of places are available
- Qualifications include a NQF2 Nature Site Guide qualification (FGASA), Birding, Rifle Proficiency and Wilderness First Aid, Hospitality training, and other essential skills

MORE Adventure (April & October intakes):

- 3 months (60 days full-time study plus a break)
- Open to both South African and international citizens, 18 years and older
- A limited number of places are available
- Qualifications include FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide Mentorship Programme, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling*, CyberTracker Tracks & Signs, Specialist Birding, Snake Handling and Wildlife Photography certificates, with other essential skills

**Conditions apply*

MORE Apprentice Trails Guide Mentorship Programme (May & November intakes):

- 1 month
- Open to both South African and international citizens, 18 years and older
- Qualifications (if you a qualified NQF2 Nature Site Guide, and an active FGASA member otherwise this will only be a course for experience) include a FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide Mentorship Programme* certificate, with mentoring, hours on foot, Big Five encounters and Cybertracker Track & Sign, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling, and other essential experience.

**Conditions apply*

MORE 60-Day NQF2 Nature Site Guide (FGASA)

Embark on an unforgettable adventure in the African bush, while gaining invaluable knowledge about wildlife and nature.

- Course duration is a maximum of 60 days, however this may vary due to public holidays, etc
- Open to both South African and International citizens, 18 years and older
- Qualifications include NQF2 Nature Site Guide qualification (FGASA), Wilderness First Aid, MORE Birding, 4 x 4 Driving

MORE Extra (Intake on enquiry):

- 1 to 4 weeks – depending on the number of modules chosen
- Possible modules: CyberTracker Tracks & Signs; Specialist Birding; Snake Handling; Wildlife Photography

FGASA NQF2 Nature Site Guide Theory Online Course

- Online course – 17 modules
- Complete the theory portion of your course on our easy-to-navigate e-learning platform, with access to our FGASA Trainers for online assistance
- All 17 Modules will be done online
- Included will be recorded lessons as well as live Q&A sessions with trainers where needed
- This course is to support you during your FGASA Theory that you will still do directly with FGASA online NOTE: You will still be required to do the practical time in the bush

CAMP LIFE

NJM Campus

The MORE Field Guide College camp is our students' home in the bush, providing a welcoming living and study environment. Accommodation in two-sleeper tent suites on stilts is comfortable – each with electricity, twin beds, personal cupboards, an ensuite bathroom, and a shaded study deck. The main camp area offers a leisure room, with games equipment, as well as a fully stocked library. There is a pool for cooling off and relaxing around in the summer months and an open-air boma, with a firepit, to gather in and swap stories during the evenings.

Students are provided with three wholesome meals a day; and have access to Wi-Fi in the camp. Our college ensures all students feel at home whilst away from home.