



MORE
 NJ MORE
 FIELD GUIDE
 COLLEGE

NJ MORE FIELD GUIDE COLLEGE - FACT SHEET

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ABOUT US

NJ MORE Field Guide College is a FGASA*-endorsed training institute 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

NJ MORE maintains an exceptional pass rate, with students under the tutelage and guidance of the industry’s finest:

Gawie Grobler, Group Safari Manager – Qualifications: Professional Field Guide (Level 3), Professional Trails Guide (Level 3), Tracker(Level 3), SKS (Birding) Guide, FGASA Trails Guide Mentor, FGASA Assessor, FGASA Ethics Committee member

Head Trainer: Mike Meidlinger - Qualifications: Bachelor of Education (UNISA) – Senior Phase and further Education and training FGASA Professional Field Guide, FGASA Professional Trails Guide, FGASA SKS Birds, FGASA SKS Astronomy, ETPD – SETA Assessor

Nikki Meiring, Camp Manager - Qualifications: NQF2 Nature Site Guide, Health and Safety Officer, Lodge Management, ETD Practitioner, Front Office & Operations Management, Facilitating Training, Skills Development and OHS.

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

~ Together, the team conveys a well-rounded understanding of the environment, wildlife, field guiding, and safari hospitality.

OUR HISTORY

The founding of NJ MORE Field Guide College was inspired by passionate conservationist Nick John More (1967–2013). It fulfils his wish to continue the legacy of three generations of More nature ambassadors, dedicated to protecting our environment, and to share 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 NJ 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. Students have a clear demonstration of these commitments being based at a privately managed section, within the ‘Marakele’ National Park – ‘place of sanctuary’ in the Tswana language.

OUR LOCATION

Marataba is a privately managed, 21 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 of the Big Five, along with smaller and rarer species, like the highly-endangered pangolin, are to be 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 NJ 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

NJ 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 FGASA Apprentice Field Guide, FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling, CyberTracker Tracks & Signs and Wilderness First Aid Level 2 certificates, with other essential skills
- Top performing students, who meet the criteria are considered for permanent employment with MORE Family Collection

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

- 6 months – with the option of additional work experience (3 / 6 months)
- Open to both South African and international citizens, 18 years and older
- Qualifications include FGASA Apprentice Field Guide, FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling, CyberTracker Tracks & Signs and Wilderness First Aid Level 2 certificates, with other essential skills
- Interested graduates are assisted with securing an internship at a top lodge

> Short Courses

NJ 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 FGASA Apprentice Field Guide, Tracking, Specialist Birding, Rifle Proficiency and Wilderness First Aid Level 2 certificates, Hospitality training, and other essential skills

NJ 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*, FGASA Advanced Rifle Handling*, CyberTracker Tracks & Signs, Specialist
- Birding, Snake Handling and Wildlife Photography certificates, with other essential skills

**Conditions apply*

NJ MORE Apprentice Trails Guide (May & November intakes):

- 1 month
- Open to both South African and international citizens, 18 years and older
- Qualifications include a FGASA Apprentice Trails Guide* certificate, with mentoring, hours on foot, Big Five encounters and other essential experience

**Conditions apply*

NJ MORE 60-Day Apprentice Field Guide Course

- Course duration is a maximum of 60 days, however this may vary due to public holidays, etc
- Embark on an unforgettable
- adventure in the African bush, while gaining invaluable knowledge about wildlife and nature.
- Open to both South African and international citizens, 18 years and older
- Qualifications include FGASA Apprentice Field Guide, Wilderness First Aid Level 2, NJ MORE Birding, 4 x 4 Driving

NJ 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 Apprentice Field 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 is the first level of FGASA qualification to start your career as a Field Guide
- NOTE: You will still be required to do the practical time in the bush

CAMP LIFE

The NJ MORE camp is students' home in the bush, providing a welcoming living and studying environment. Accommodation in two-sleeper tent suites on stilts is comfortable – each with electricity, twin beds, personal cupboards, an en-suite bathroom, and a shaded study deck.

The main camp area offers a leisure room, with games equipment, as well as a PC and fully stocked library. There is a pool, too 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 and cell phone reception in the camp. Our college ensures all students feel at home away from home.