



Cultural Activities: Wilderness Rites of Passage, Homestays & Cultural Visits

Throughout the Sibanye Summer Program, participants will engage in true immersion experiences and develop authentic and meaningful relationships with our local host community. In addition to our Global Citizenship and Project Development Course, where visiting foreign participants are learning and working side by side with local South African participants in small groups, Sibanye also offers the opportunity to participate in a Wilderness and Africa Rites of Passage experience, to spend time with a local homestay family, and to visit important cultural sites while learning about our host country of South Africa.

Wilderness Rites of Passage Experience:

In today's fast paced world, we often times do not stop to reflect and consider who we are, what we have to offer to the world, and where we are heading. The broad goal of Sibanyes Rites of Passage Experiences is to create the time and space to explore these questions as a community of youth. Together with our South Africa peers, Sibanye participants will pass through a variety of facilitated processes and activities that aim to bring the group together through genuine and authentic conversation, and, furthermore, foster insight and self awareness that allow us to more fully realize our individual and collective potential. During the summer program, there will be two wilderness retreats that will be run in collaboration with our main local partner organization, Usiko. The first will take place at the beginning of the program and is focused on welcoming the group and opening ourselves to the collective journey we are going to walk together. The second is at the end of the program and will be focused on concluding and reflecting on our journey as well as better understanding how we can integrate and embed our experience in our lives moving forward.

Homestays:

Although Sibanye Summer Program Participants will live together in a home base accommodation, Sibanye participants will also have the opportunity to spend time with a local homestay family, including staying overnight with the family at different points during the program. All the families are located in our host community of Jamestown, Stellenbosch, South Africa and have a long term and trusting relationship with Sibanye. All the families are very welcoming and the homestay experience is one of the most best ways to trully experience and learn about the South African culture. Should Sibanye participants like to continue their experience after the official program end date (August 3), our primary accommodation option is for you stay on with your homestay family.

Cultural Visits:

Last but not least, throughout the summer program, participants will visit important cultural sites and engage with the local cultural through unique activities. These visits range from visiting Robben Island and learning about the Apartheid, to attending local Theatre Performances, Art Exhibits and Concerts, to visiting a local mosque and learning about the Cape Malay culture.

Sibanye's cultural series is aimed at fostering greater insight and awareness of the South Africa culture and its different forms of expression.