



The primary purpose of the Rim of Africa is to create a platform for transformative experiences in nature that link cultural practices to conservation. Galeo lives by the mantra that if society doesn't experience value in conserving nature, then there's no meaningful way of conserving it. Large scale landscape hiking and direct exposure to nature is one way of achieving this.

The founders hope that one day it becomes a protected environment for future generations to enjoy. They believe that the future of the trail rests on it becoming an integral part of the communities through which it passes and delivers benefits. It's envisaged that in time it becomes one giant conservancy with a minimum 1km wide buffer surrounding the trail route, to be secured through servitude, stewardship agreements or direct land purchases where possible.

I can attest to the fact that, having walked the Rim of Africa a hiker's perception of place, and appreciation of the sensitive ecological systems all around becomes heightened. This exposure stimulates innate senses through affinities we have with nature and contributes to what Galeo calls the "ecological moment" -that instant where a hiker suddenly comes to appreciate his or her connection to the greater landscape, its fauna, flora and heritage. **W**

The Rim of Africa

About the trail: A mountain trail with incredible vistas and remote wilderness camps. There are 8 stages - each can be walked independently or as a combination. Shortest is 4 days and longest is 7 days. Most popular combo is stage 1 and 2 making up a 12 day trail. Can be done in groups or as individuals. Minimum group size 8 and maximum 12. A good level of fitness is required.

To Book : Tel 082 888 8181

Email: walks@rimfoafrica.co.za

Cost: Self guided hike R170 pppd including all permits and camping access. Backpack R960 pppd includes transfers, catering, guides, trail gear, tents, porters, maps preparation guide, take home gifts and unique experience. A 12-day trail of 130km is R11 800 and includes guides, meals, portage, tents, camping gear, maps, preparation guide, trail gifts and transfers returning to Cape Town.

Traveller's Tips: Best time is in spring - October. Take ultra-light gear, down jacket, good sleeping bag and camping mattress. Good hiking boots essential. Washing off is a bucket beside a stream or in the shade of a tree. Once you register for a trail you get a 32pg booklet with a training program and list of everything you need.