



FLY INTO ACTION



BATS WITHOUT BORDERS

YOUR FUNDRAISING
GUIDE

With your help, we can...

protect more bats, support more applied research, conservation action, and much needed in-country capacity strengthen to ensure sustainable conservation.



Get in touch:

info@batswithoutborders.org





Introduction

We're so pleased that you want to raise money for Bats without Borders. With your help, we will be able to do more to help African bats, people and nature. We're a small charity, so all the money you raise goes straight to the heart of bat conservation in southern Africa.

Whether you're looking for inspiration, advice on how to advertise your event, or information on how to get the money to us, you'll find everything you need within this guide.

We'd love to hear about your plans and we want to support you all the way, so please drop us an email to let us know what you're up to and if you are happy for us to help publicise your fundraising adventures.

To get in touch please contact us on:

info@batswithoutborders.org





What we do

Here at Bats without Borders, we're just mad about bats (affectionately known as #skypuppies) and we're working with people on the ground in southern Africa to help protect them.

The 130+ bat species in southern Africa are threatened by habitat loss, climate change and persecution by humans. Some bat species are now as endangered as the black rhino (critically endangered). It's time to stand up and support these fabulous creatures and help them hold onto their position across Africa's diverse and rich ecosystems.

We believe community engagement and education is the key to conservation, helping communities gain the tools and knowledge to protect and safeguard bats and our ecosystems.





Bat conservation facts

Did you know... globally 22% of mammal species are bats?

#BatFacts

1,460+ bat species

THE NUMBER OF BAT SPECIES IS GROWING ALL THE TIME.
SOME AREAS (SUCH AS CENTRAL AFRICA) ARE
PREDICTED TO HAVE MANY UNDISCOVERED SPECIES.



250+ bat species in Africa

IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WE HAVE 130+ BAT SPECIES

Africa....



IS LARGELY A BAT CONSERVATION-VOID!



How your money is spent

£20 | \$25 | R447 could buy a head torch for a student doing fieldwork

£50 | \$62 | R1,120 covers travel costs to a wildlife club to run educational activities

£100 | \$125 | R2,238 will support a new bat group to purchase much-needed resources for community engagement

£250 | \$310 | R5,596 helps us provide bat monitoring kits to local community bat groups

£500 | \$620 | R11,192 will contribute towards the provision of bat training for nature reserve rangers

£1,000 | \$1,242 | R22,384 would support one of our funded Conservation Interns to carry out a research project - supporting early career conservationists to develop their careers





Fundraising ideas

The sky is the limit! There are endless exciting fundraising possibilities. We've listed a small number here to get you started...

Enter an event - run, bike, kayak or swim for sponsors. Perhaps do it wearing bat wings!

Moonlight walk - share your enthusiasm for bats by hosting a bat walk and looking out for “skypuppies”. Even if you don’t see any, everyone will love getting out and learning about bat habits!

Halloween party - get spooky, get batty and have a bash. You can sell tickets or ask for donations. We love the theme ‘bats aren’t scary but extinction is’. You can engage people about the threats to bats in an informal and fun way. Best fancy dress prize, batty cupcakes or bat-friendly tequila-inspired cocktails.

There are lots of great ways to have fun!





Fundraising ideas

Build and sell bat boxes - if you have time and woodwork skills, you could put them to good use making homes for bats. They are a great product to make for yourself and or to sell to your friends.

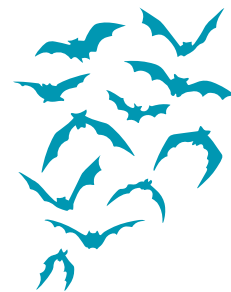
Get crafty - is there anything you love making? Can you make felt bat decorations? Glow in the dark modelling clay badges? Whatever it is, it has value and people will love that it's made by you.

Litter pick - get dressed up as a bat and get sponsored to pick up some litter. It'll benefit your community, it'll benefit your feeling of pride and it'll benefit Bats without Borders.

Play a round of "bat and ball" - host a rounders match, cricket match or any sport with a bat. Ask for donations and get batting.

Remember, we want you to have fun too so this is a great opportunity for you to hang out with your friends, make new friends, and give yourself an boost about what a great thing you're doing.





How to set it up

PICK AN EVENT YOU'RE GOING TO ENJOY

We want you to have fun and are incredibly grateful you have chosen us as your charity to raise money for. With so many great options of activities out there, it can be tricky to decide what event to do. So when weighing up your options, ensure it is something that you will benefit from the challenge or have fun doing!

Pick something that works with your lifestyle. It might be something you have always wanted to do or something you just love doing and know will work.

CHOOSE A DATE

Unless you're joining an organised event like a run, think about a date that works best for you. Does a weekend work best? For example, is it best to bring cakes to work on a Friday or a Monday? A birthday or an "international day"?

SET YOURSELF A REALISTIC FUNDRAISING GOAL

Know that every cent or penny you make will make a huge difference, so set yourself a goal and try to smash it. Setting a goal will help motivate you, especially when you know the money will go to support African bat conservation.

It might be worth talking to your employer and seeing if they will match or contribute to your fundraising goals.

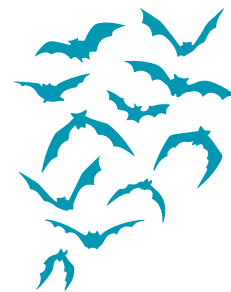
GET SNAPPING

If you can, we'd love some photos of your event. Please share them far and wide, tag us in them or email them to us at:

info@batswithoutborders.org



How to promote it



So you've decided on an event that excites you, you've got a date set... It's time to let people know what's going on because echolocation just isn't going to work!

Social Media

Social media is a fantastic way to get your message out to friends/family, and friends of friends/family. Choose an engaging photo (photos really help with the visibility of a post, Facebook for example will show image-based posts to more people) and write a bit of text explaining what you're doing and why (or even do a short video to explain what and why you are fundraising). Tell them how much you love bats and why this is important to you. You can then share a link to a fundraising platform (such as 'Give as you live') making fund collection really easy (more on that later....).

And don't forget to tag us

- Facebook @batswithoutborders
- Instagram @batswithoutborders
- Twitter @bats_w_borders

[#givingbacktobats](#)

Word of Mouth

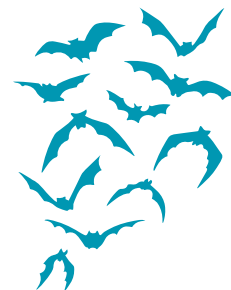
Invite your buddies along, they'll be able to hear your enthusiasm for your favourite cause and they'll want to get involved to support you.

Community

Share with your network and community, maybe posters up at school or work. You could post something on a community notice board or let the local press know.



More about the funds



GIFT AID

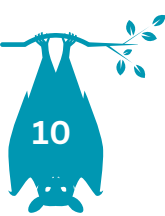
Free money - Yes please! If you're fundraising in the UK and your donors are UK taxpayers, HMRC will give us an extra 25p for every £1 raised. That is a lot of pennies! Remind your donors to tick the Gift Aid box when making a donation on your online fundraising page.

COLLECTING SPONSORSHIP

Setting up a fundraising page couldn't be easier. We are set up as a charity on 'Give as you live' so you can set up your fundraising page and link straight to Bats without Borders. This will allow you to share it straight to your social media accounts so you can let everyone know what you're up to and start collecting those donations.

If you're collecting monetary donations on the day, you can then pay the money into your account and make a direct donation to Bats without Borders - either via 'Give as you Donate' or by making a bank transfer, whichever you prefer.

If you need any help at all with setting up a fundraising page or making a donation please get in touch we'll be there to help you all the way.



A wee word on safety

Your safety should always come first, so please carry out a risk assessment, which will help you consider all the potential risks and hazards and how to minimise them before undertaking your fundraising activity/event.

While we are very grateful that you are kindly fundraising on our behalf, Bats without Borders can't take responsibility for any accident or injury sustained during your fundraiser.

PERFORMING A RISK ASSESSMENT

We want your fundraising activity to go smoothly and to help you do this we suggest you perform a risk assessment to map out potential risks that might arise as you undertake your fundraising activity.

Where you can remove risk, do it. When you can't, reduce it.





THANK YOU!!!

Thank you very much for considering us as your charity! We are incredibly grateful for any fundraising you can do for us, whether it is joining 'Friends of Bats without Borders' or taking an active role in fundraising.



THANK YOU!

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For any comms support, please contact **Ruth Fraser**

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