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The Guardian Saturday 15 January 2011

Inspiring holidays for 2011

OK, we can't promise a new you ... but here's our pick of inspiring ideas for holidays and short breaks guaranteed to point you in a new direction

Human rights education, South Africa

With its brutal history of apartheid and colonialism, there can be few better places than South Africa to get involved in campaigning for human rights. Projects Abroad (01903 708300, projects-abroad.co.uk) has short-term placements in Cape Town which give volunteers the opportunity to work alongside respected humanitarian organisations, while gaining first-hand experience of human rights law in practice. Volunteers will be able to get involved at grassroots level, raising awareness of human rights in a variety of marginalised communities or at-risk groups such as prisoners, children, women and rural communities throughout the Western Cape. Project dates are flexible and last a minimum of a month. Prices start from £1,695pp, not including flights.