



ABERYSTWYTH UNIVERSITY PROJECT PRESENTATION



Waterberg Wildlife & Veterinary Course (Vet Professionals)



GLOBAL reach. **ADVENTURE** for all. **PROJECTS** to inspire.



AFRICA

ABOUT THE WATERBERG

Project overview and
location

Your Conservation Field Trip Explained

- A unique conservation experience based in South Africa
- Live in research camps on a wild African game reserve
- 14-night programme specifically tailored for veterinary students
- Three project locations
- Learn about conservation management
- Project Activities include:
 - Pioneering Conservation Research
 - Conservation Activities
 - Veterinary interventions and activities
- Dedicated vehicles and conservation staff
- The most incredible wildlife experience you will ever have

ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Waterberg Wildlife and Veterinary Course (Vet Professionals) – Location



ABOUT THE WATERBERG

TRUE WILDERNESS

AFRICA



ANY QUESTIONS?

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PROJECT PRESENTATION 5

ABOUT THE WATERBERG

TRUE WILDERNESS

AFRICA



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ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Your Three Project Locations

This unique 14-night project will allow you to experience three different project locations in two neighbouring provinces of South Africa. Starting in the **Highveld region** you will tour South Africa's only faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort. You will also assist with some shelter and community cases, and a K9 conservation unit. You will then travel to **The Waterberg, Limpopo Province** and observe a focused wildlife veterinary practice at **Entabeni Safari Conservancy**, before travelling to **Welgevonden Game Reserve** to experience the core, Big 5 monitoring and conservation experience

Project locations and duration are as follows:

4 Nights

Kyalami, Midrand and surrounding areas – Gauteng Province

3 Nights

Entabeni Safari Conservancy – Waterberg – Limpopo Province

7 Nights

Waterberg Biomonitoring Project – Welgevonden Game Reserve – Waterberg – Limpopo Province



AFRICA

ABOUT THE PROJECT: KYALAMI, MIDRAND AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Our conservation work
in more detail

Kyalami – Johannesburg Wildlife Vet

A registered wildlife veterinary hospital and rehabilitation centre in South Africa, dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing indigenous wildlife.

Led by Dr Karin Lourens, a wildlife vet with 22 years of experience, the non-profit treats small to medium mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and arachnids—free of charge. Their mission combines expert care with conservation, education, and research.

📺 *Featured in a Netflix documentary about a baby pangolin's journey back to the wild.*



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Kyalami – Society for Animals in Distress

Care is provided by vets, vet nurses, animal health technicians, and welfare assistants.

The focus: accessible veterinary care for vulnerable communities and rescue organisations.

Students assist professionals in treating rescued horses, dogs, cats, and small animals—rehabilitated for rehoming.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Kyalami –Pit-Track K9 antipoaching unit

A registered non-profit dedicated to wildlife protection through skilled K9 units and frontline anti-poaching operations.

Students will meet the K9 team, attend a talk on the poaching crisis, watch a live demo, and assist with physio care for working dogs.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Dr Zoe Glyphis – Wildlife Veterinarian – Predator Specialist

Dr Zoe Glyphis has become one of South Africa's leading predator specialists and is on the forefront with veterinary medicine and veterinary assistance of wild dog, hyena and cheetah conservation all over South Africa.

She is helping and assisting several NGO groups and organizations with their efforts to increase predator ranges and to establish safe and genetically viable populations in new conservation areas.



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ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Practical Sessions

- Dart shooting practice
- The kit and clinic of a mobile wildlife vet
- Q & A



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Introduction to Pharmacology



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Possible Lectures & Debate

- Drugs used in wildlife medicine
- Calculating doses in wildlife
- Logistics of wildlife transportation: customised vehicles, crates and equipment
- The Game Trade-Auction and value of livestock
- Game capture systems
- Darting wildlife
- Boma management and rehabilitation
- Orphaned Rhino rehabilitation
- Parasite control
- Managing game reserves and Land Capacity Model
- Species control - predator pits
- State veterinary disease control in practice
- Documentation required: Red Cross Permits





AFRICA

ABOUT THE PROJECT: ENTABENI SAFARI CONSERVANCY

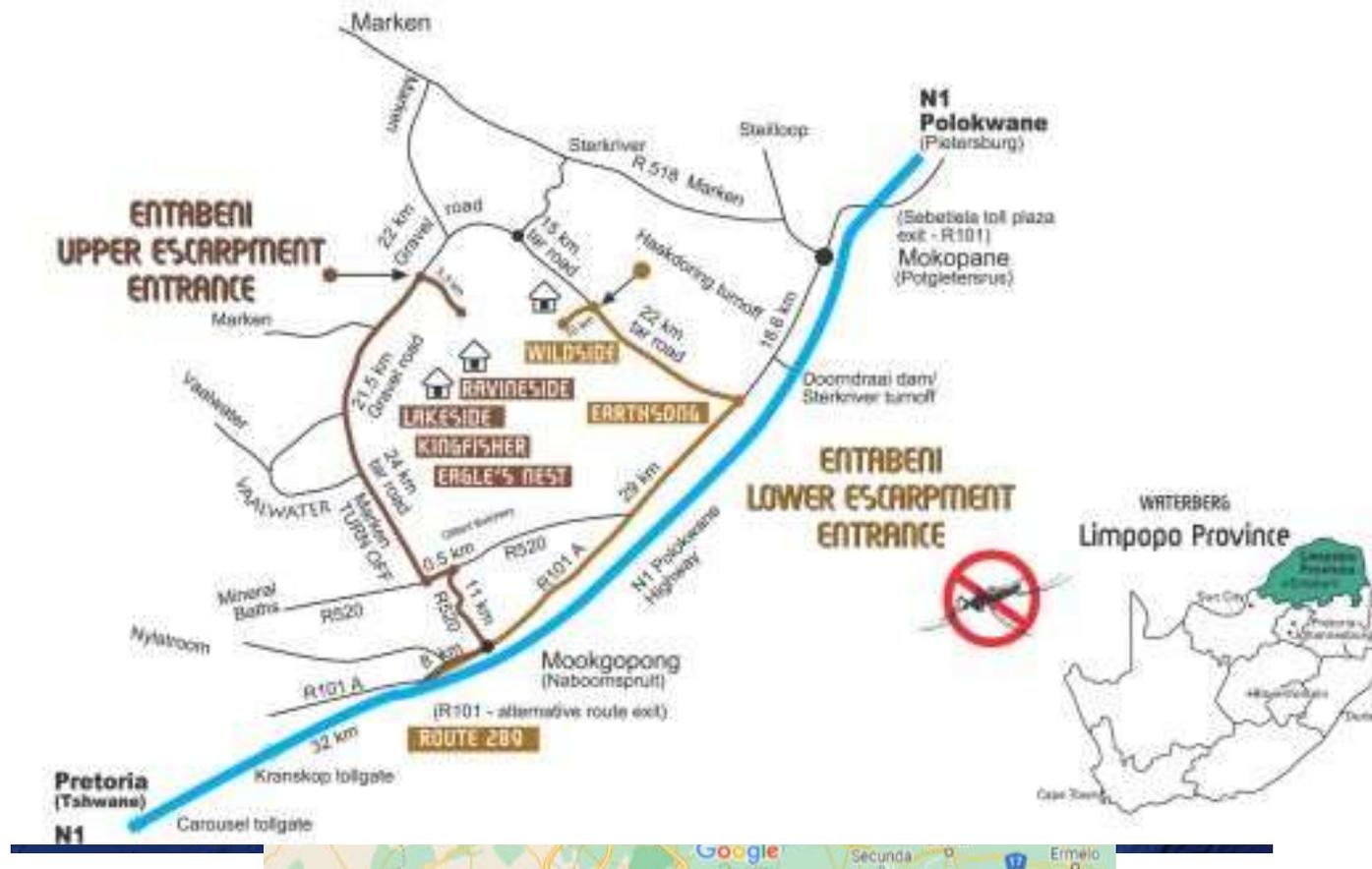
Our conservation work
in more detail

ABOUT ENTABENI

AFRICA

Entabeni Safari Conservancy - Location

- South Africa a world leader in conservation
- Malaria free Waterberg Plateau



ABOUT ENTABENI

AFRICA

Entabeni Safari Conservancy

- 22 000 Hectare Privately Managed Game Reserve
- Forming part of the Waterberg Biosphere (662 059 ha)
- Work alongside the conservation team including:
 - Wildlife Vets
 - Conservation Researchers
 - Ecologists
 - Anti Poaching Unit
- Located in a Malaria free zone
- Proclaimed Protected Conservation Area
- Savannah Eco System
- Student Camp Accommodation



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Dr Pierre Bester – Wildlife Veterinarian – Rhino Expert

He has a mixed animal practice (small and large domestic as well as wild) where the scope of his work includes the immobilisation, treatment, and translocation of African wildlife; specialising in rhino.

He's been involved with the immobilisation and translocation of thousands of rhinos, as well as countless other species.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Learning about a Veterinarians role in the field



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ABOUT THE PROJECT

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The Rhino Orphanage

The Rhino Orphanage was the first-ever specialised, non-commercial centre dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, raising and release of orphaned rhinos back into the wild.

Although new-born rhinos can weigh up to 50kgs, they are essentially “helpless” and require protection so that they may survive and ultimately thrive.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Research – Habitat and Prey Selection: Predators



ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

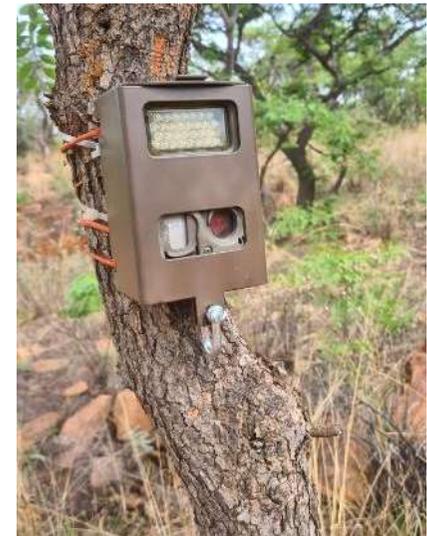
Research – Elephant Monitoring & Fertility Study



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Camera Trap – Research and Study



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Anti-Poaching Unit



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Night Game Drives



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Rhino – Fitting of Prosthetics



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Rhino – Sinus Infection



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Community – GAP Donation Bags





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ABOUT THE PROJECT: WELGEVONDEN GAME RESERVE

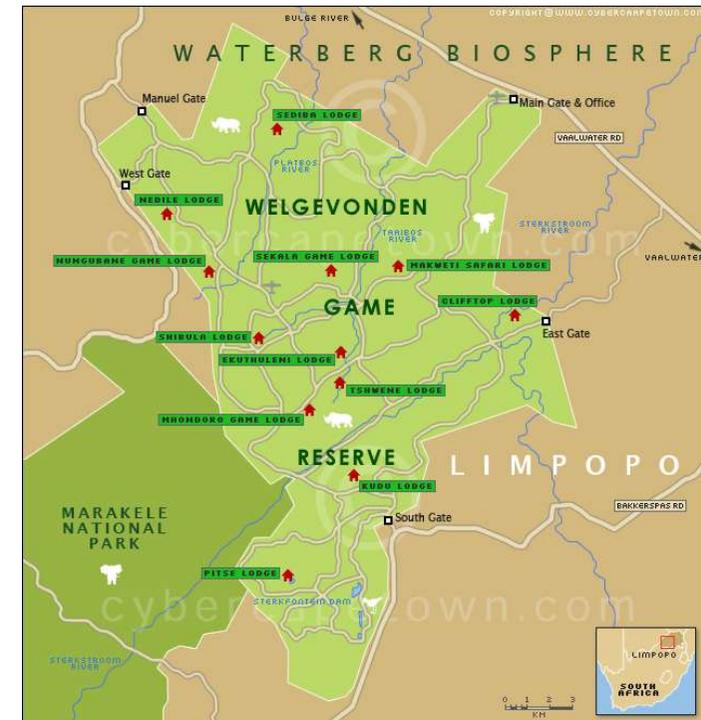
Our conservation work
in more detail

ABOUT WELGEVONDEN

AFRICA

Welgevonden Game Reserve

- 36,000 hectare Privately Managed Game Reserve
- Forming part of the Waterberg Biosphere (4,000sq/km)
- Work alongside the conservation team including:
 - Wildlife Vets
 - Conservation Researchers
 - Ecologists
 - Anti Poaching Unit
- Located in a Malaria free zone
- Proclaimed Protected Conservation Area
- Savannah Eco System
- Research Camp Accommodation



ABOUT WELGEVONDEN

AFRICA

Home to the BIG 5



ANY QUESTIONS?

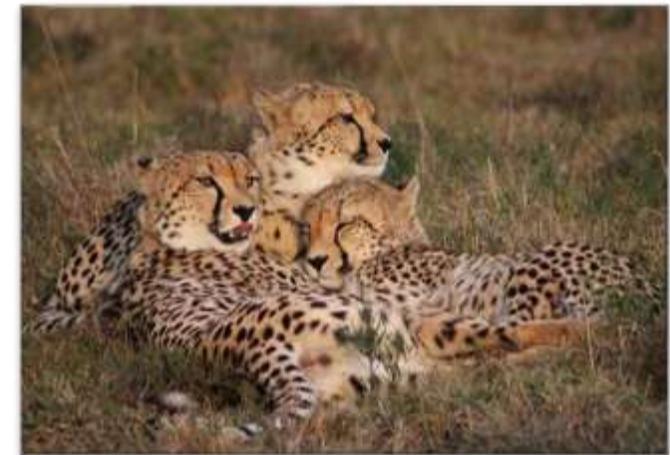
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ABOUT WELGEVONDEN

AFRICA

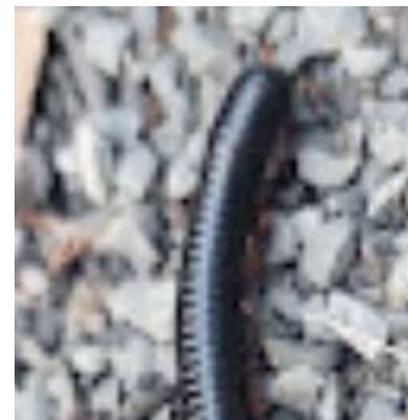
Home to over 60 Species of Mammal



ABOUT WELGEVONDEN

AFRICA

Many Reptile, Insect and Bird Species



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Welgevonden Game Reserve

- Introduction to Welgevonden Game Reserve and its Research and Ecological Biomonitoring
- Introduction to Wildlife Veterinary work in the Context of African Wildlife (Dr Peter Caldwell - Wildlife Specialist Veterinary Surgeon)
- Time spent with the research team conducting ecological biomonitoring,
- Wildlife conservation, research and veterinary work (Dr Peter Caldwell)
- Build up to possible intervention and planning

It's important to remember that wildlife does not work to an agenda, therefore activities may change at short notice!

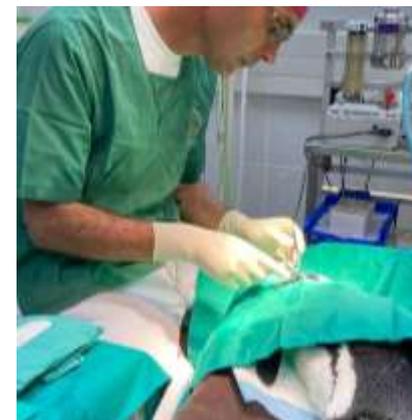


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Dr Peter Caldwell – Wildlife Specialist Veterinary Surgeon

Dr. Peter Caldwell is a leading wildlife veterinarian based in Pretoria who runs a small-animal clinic and travels widely to treat endangered species. A cheetah specialist, he serves as the primary vet and advisor for Welgevonden Game Reserve. He is deeply involved in conservation and research, particularly in fertility control and disease management, and is regularly consulted by reserves and conservation organisations.



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Welgevonden Veterinary Intervention

A veterinary management procedure will be scheduled during your visit, potentially involving rhino DNA collection, ear-notching, collar work, fertility treatments, or animal capture for translocation. Injured priority species will be treated if needed. Students may assist as ground crew or veterinary helpers, but procedures are not guaranteed, as wildlife is unpredictable and animals are only sedated when necessary.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Monitoring the Welgevonden Rhino Population

Behavioural observations, photos and GPS locations are recorded to document where the animals are occurring; keeping tabs on the localities and activities of White and Black Rhino on the reserve.

Importantly also monitor body condition, injuries, mating, calving, behaviour, herd structure etc.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Bush Skills – Bush Walks, Tracking Wildlife



ANY QUESTIONS?

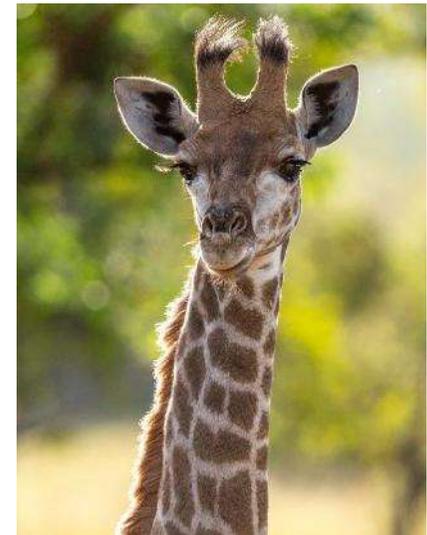
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Monitoring Herbivore Condition and Health



ANY QUESTIONS?

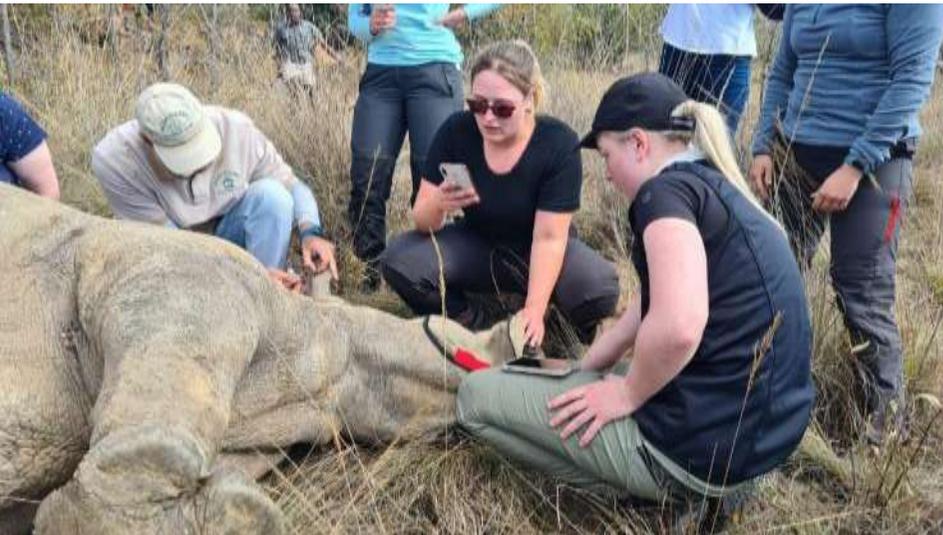
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Rhino – DNA Collection, ID and Ear Notching



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Elephant Immobilisation & Collar Change



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Lion immobilisation & collaring/removal



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Cheetah Relocation – Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT)



ANY QUESTIONS?

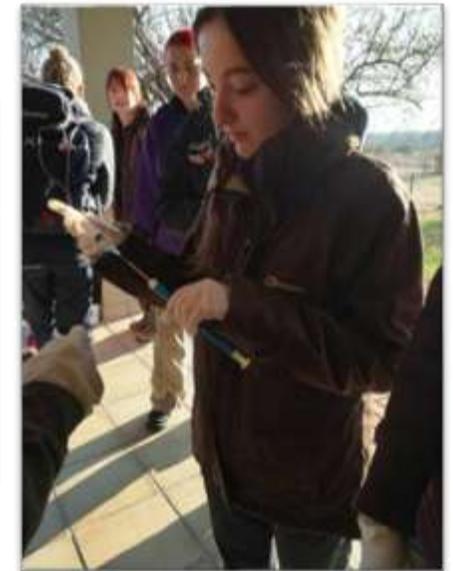
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Elephant Fertility Management



ABOUT THE PROJECT

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Waterberg Wild Dog – Boma Visit



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ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

Life in the African Bush

Gauteng – Fair Glen Guest House

You will be staying in twin bedded accommodation with en-suite facilities.

There is a swimming pool and outdoor seating area and the guest house has WiFi.

The guest house offers comfortable areas to relax and unwind and is based in an equestrian-themed suburb.

Ideally situated for the visits to the Johannesburg Wildlife Vet Practice and Animals in Distress.

Food at the Project

All meals will be provided at Fair Glen Guest House; a packed lunch will be provided if the group are not returning to the accommodation at lunch time.

Dietary Requirements

Provision can be made for Vegetarian & Vegan diets and for those who have a medical condition such as Coeliac disease that requires a Gluten Free Diet and for those with severe allergies to dairy, eggs or nuts.



ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

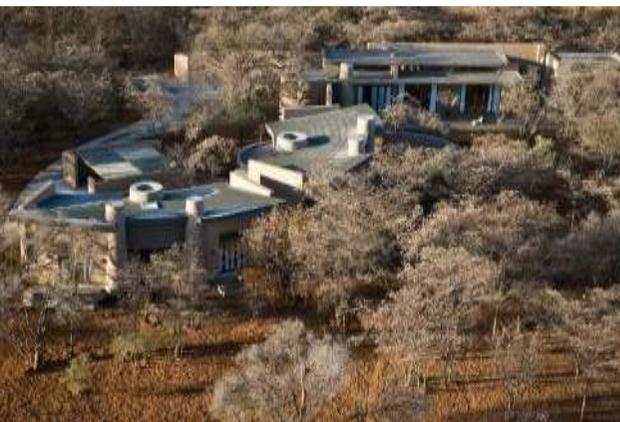
AFRICA

Waterberg – Entabeni Accommodation

You will stay in twin bedded rooms with ensuite facilities.

There are 4, 5 and 6 bedroom units each of which has an open plan layout with lounge and dining area and a fully equipped kitchen.

Evenings are spent at leisure around the campfire.

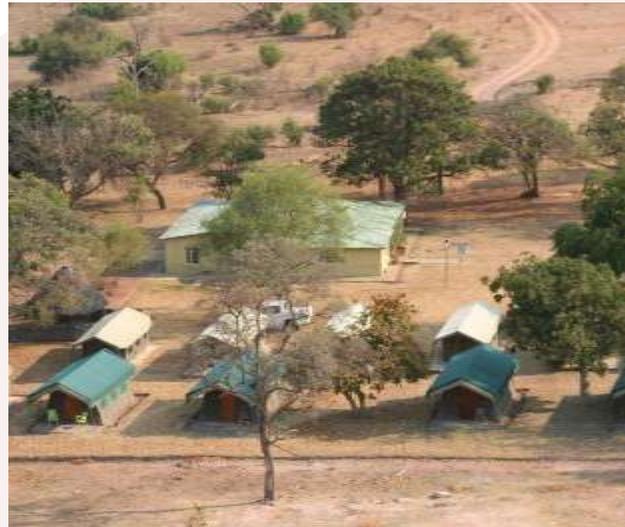


Waterberg – Welgevonden Accommodation

The student centre and camp is based on the reserve and boasts ten tents that sleep two people per tent in single beds, each tent also has lighting and electricity supply.

There are communal hot and cold showers and regular flushing toilets. The communal facilities include a lecture room, canteen, lounge, entertainment area and storage fridge.

The centre also has access to Wi-Fi and the camp is fenced off inside the boundaries of the reserve. Most evenings are spent at leisure around the camp.



Food at the Project – Entabeni and Welgevonden

Three meals are provided daily on a self-cook basis. The evening meal is prepared by the group in small teams. Students are responsible for the communal cooking and washing up.

Evening meals and breakfast are served at the facility and lunch is normally brought into the field and taken picnic-style in the bush.

Dietary Requirements

Provision can be made for Vegetarian & Vegan diets and for those who have a medical condition such as Coeliac disease that requires a Gluten Free Diet and for those with severe allergies to dairy, eggs or nuts.





AFRICA

BOOKING YOUR ADVENTUR

The next steps to the trip of a
lifetime!

WHY SHOULD I TRAVEL?

AFRICA

What do previous travellers say about the Wildlife and Veterinary Course (Vet Professionals)?



"Staying at Welgevonden really developed my knowledge of animal behaviours."



"Everything exceeded my expectations, and the trip was life-changing."



"The staff were amazing, we got the opportunity to take part in practicals and demonstrations."

Reference: GAP Africa Projects Post Project Trip Questionnaire 23/24

WHY SHOULD I TRAVEL?

AFRICA

What do previous travellers say about the Wildlife and Veterinary Course (Vet Professionals)?



"It has inspired me to look into overseas **volunteering** opportunities next year."



"Being up close and **assisting** with an intervention will stay with me forever."



"I am more **self-aware**. I also feel more **confident** about my future plans."

Reference: GAP Africa Projects Post Project Trip Questionnaire 23/24

WHAT'S INCLUDED

AFRICA

What is Included?

- Flights
- Transfers to/from project
- Accommodation
- Three meals per day (self prepared)
- All activities as part of the project
- Airport meet/greet
- 24/7 In country support



NOT Included

- Personal Travel Insurance *
- Meals on travel days – before arriving & after departing from project
- Any activities not specified as part of the project
- Visas/travel documents
- Tips

* We recommend that you take out travel insurance as soon as your booking is confirmed.

THE NEXT STEPS

AFRICA



Project dates & key deadlines

Confirmed travel dates:

Depart UK: 05 July 2026 | Arrive SA: 06 July 2026

Depart SA: 20 July 2026 | Arrive UK: 21 July 2026

Trip cost:

£2595.00* Based on a group of 18 (confirmed once flights have been held)

Key deadlines are:

- Return online booking form by 24/11/2025
- Deposit payment, £300.00 by 02/12/2025
- 50% instalment payment of £1147.50 to be paid by 16/03/2026
- Balance payment of £1147.50 to be paid by 11/05/2026
- 22/06/2026 e-Tickets & final documents will be issued

BOOKING YOUR ADVENTURE

AFRICA

Booking Form

- Please submit by 24/11/2025
- No deposit required at this stage of booking
- Passport fields not mandatory

Key deadlines are:

- Deposit of £300 to confirm placement
- Instalment payment of 50% due 16 weeks before departure
- Balance payment due 8 weeks before departure

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BOOKING FORM

(NB: Your name should be given as displayed on your passport)

Title *

Name *

Date of birth *

Address *

Telephone *

Mobile *

Email 1 *

Email 2 *

(NB: Please note that all booking correspondence will be sent via Email)

Passport no.

Passport Issue Date

BOOKING YOUR ADVENTURE

AFRICA

Group Web Page

<https://gapafricaprojects.com/26-4820/>



Booking Form

<https://gapafricaprojects.com/booking-form-26-4820-abw-wgv-aberystwyth-university/>



BOOKING FORM

Your Global Adventure Starts here!

Please use the form below to submit your provisional booking to your selected project. You have the option to pay your initial deposit with the submission of your booking form, or we will contact you for payment once your project placement has been secured.

If you'd like to contact us to ask any initial questions or find out more about what project you'd like to go on and when, you can get also get in touch using our short enquiry form, or by calling +44 (0) 207 193 7819.

(NB: Your name should be given as displayed on your passport)

Title *

Name *

Date of birth *

Address *

City/Address

Address Line 2

Sustainability & Social, Economic Responsibility

Local employment from rural communities – our project partners employ a high percentage of staff from local communities. They advocate training to advance careers in hospitality, wildlife and conservation.

Low environmental impact camps – our project bush camps are built with minimal impact on the environment. Resources from the surrounding area are utilised for buildings, water is (where possible) pumped from local river sources and green energy supplies, such as solar are championed.

Community donations and support – we encourage all our international study groups to be proactive in donation collections and arrange for excess baggage for said donations to be taken out to South Africa in support of the local communities.

Move Africa, supporting young females – 3 in 10 girls in South Africa miss a week of school every month because they cannot afford basic sanitary products. Our project partners work with Move Africa alongside their partner NGOs, to distribute menstrual cups to the local communities and provide education workshops.

Rhino Art – Project rhino realises the enormous responsibility the youth have to ensure our wildlife is protected for many generations to come. They ensure they can reach and educate as many kids as possible through Rhino Art, using art workshops to teach about conservation. This initiative is supported by our local project partners.

Food/crop education – our project partners encourage food and crop education to rural communities, where cost of living to low income families and distance travelled to obtain basic resources can prove problematic. Projects include community allotments and providing education on best practice for crop rotations, harvest seasons and nutrition.

Recycling workshops – Litter, and in particular plastics, is a major issue and threat to the ecosystem in Southern Africa. Rural communities have limited waste removal available and it is therefore a problem escalating at an alarming rate. Recycling workshops are provided through local schools to help educate children on the importance of correctly disposing of litter and recycling plastics.



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