



HULL COLLEGE PROJECT INFORMATION PACK

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, a waterfall flows over a rocky ledge into a pool of water. To the right, there is a white house with a green roof and a solar panel. The background shows rolling green hills and a blue sky.

Waterberg Construction and Conservation Project



AFRICA

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

TRIP OVERVIEW

AFRICA

Hull College – Booking Reference 4755

Trip Dates:

14th March 2026 – 31st March 2026

Flights:

| Flight No | Flight Date | Dept. | Dept. Time | Arr. | Arr. Time |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| WB711 | 14/03/2026 | London Heathrow (LHR) | 20:30 | Kigali (KGL) | 07:30 + 1 Day |
| WB108 | 15/03/2026 | Kigali (KGL) | 11:50 | Johannesburg (JNB) | 15:40 |
| WB109 | 30/03/2026 | Johannesburg (JNB) | 16:50 | Kigali (KGL) | 20:40 |
| WB712 | 30/03/2026 | Kigali (KGL) | 22:40 | London Heathrow (LHR) | 07:00 + 1 Day |

*Always check the flight timings on your final documents

Baggage Allowance – 1 piece of checked baggage @ 23kgs & 1 piece of hand baggage max dimensions 55cmx38cmx20cms

Project:

Waterberg Construction and Conservation Project



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PROJECT LOCATION

The Waterberg
overview

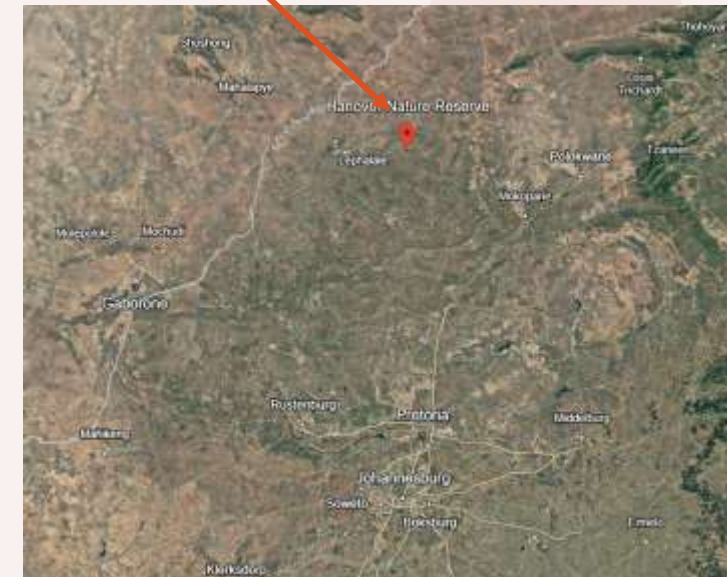
ABOUT THE WATERBERG

AFRICA

Location

The Waterberg construction and conservation project is based in the Waterberg region of South Africa, which is a pleasant 4.5-hour drive from Johannesburg making this project one of the most accessible premier **malaria free** wilderness areas in the country. It borders the Waterberg Biosphere Reserve which was officially declared by UNESCO in 2001 and currently covers an area, in excess of, 4000 km².

The Waterberg region is famed for its mountainous terrain that is dissected by deep valleys and kloofs while flat plateaus characterise most hilltops.



ABOUT THE WATERBERG

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Hanover & SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

A Hub for Conservation, and Education

Nestled in the heart of the Waterberg region, the Waterberg construction and conservation project is a pioneering initiative dedicated to preserving South Africa's rich biodiversity while fostering conservation research and community engagement. Covering over 2,000 acres of pristine wilderness, this collaborative project works in unison with the neighboring SwebeSwebe Wildlife Reserve. Together, these areas form a unified conservation space of 15,000 acres, removing barriers to wildlife movement and creating an uninterrupted haven for flora and fauna.

Our mission extends beyond preservation. We believe in taking direct action to safeguard natural ecosystems, which is why we've invested in integrating cutting-edge conservation technologies, enhancing infrastructure, and building strong partnerships with local and international stakeholders. The reserve is a hub for international academic research and student engagement, offering participants the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to conservation while gaining hands-on experience in a diverse ecological setting.





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ABOUT THE PROJECT

Our conservation work
in more detail

Project Overview – SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

The Waterberg construction and conservation project serves as a living laboratory for conservation research, offering students a chance to work alongside experts in the field.

Participants will play an active role in a variety of immersive construction (build, repairs and maintenance) and conservation activities. Each project offers a unique opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the reserve's ecological goals while developing valuable skills in construction and conservation management.

Beyond conservation, the programme fosters community empowerment and sustainable practices, inspiring future generations to protect this remarkable landscape while equipping participants with valuable skills for careers in construction and conservation.



YOUR PROJECT

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Your Programme – SwebeSwebe

Students will be taught and work alongside the reserve staff and field guides. The following examples depict the day-to-day activities that may be undertaken as part of the construction and conservation project.

- Repairs at overnight huts, Hanover House and the lookout tower
- Building a new outdoor toilet block
- Fence maintenance and road repairs
- New borehole and borehole maintenance
- Converting bow hunting hides into bird and vulture hides
- Game Drive and Bush walks
- Anti-poaching talks and fence walk
- Tracks, Signs and Spoor
- Vegetation Management
- Rhino Monitoring – Awareness



Reserve Management – SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

Objective:

To develop essential skills for reserve management, focusing on infrastructure maintenance and sustainable building practices.

Activity Descriptions:

1. Construction and Conversion:

- Assist in the construction and maintenance of a new toilet block within the reserve.
- Use local tools to convert bow hunting hides into bird hides.

2. Repairs and Maintenance:

- Complete repairs to the 100 year old Hanover House.
- Repair and maintain the overnight huts and lookout tower.



Reserve Management – SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

3. Water System Maintenance:

- Inspect and repair water systems, ensuring a reliable supply for wildlife and reserve operations.
- Create a new borehole and undertake borehole maintenance .
- Develop strategies to reduce water waste and optimise usage.

4. Brick making:

- Develop knowledge and learn techniques for brick making.
- Application of knowledge for brick making to use for building repairs and maintenance on the reserve.

Learning Outcomes:

- Acquire practical skills and new techniques in infrastructure and resource management.
- Learn sustainable construction practices and their benefits to a reserve.



Eco System: Practical Management – SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

Objective:

To develop essential skills for reserve management, focusing on infrastructure maintenance and sustainable living practices.

Activity Descriptions:

1. Road Building:

- Construct and maintain roads to improve accessibility within the reserve.
- Use environmentally friendly materials and methods to minimize habitat disruption.

2. Repairs and Maintenance:

- Repair and maintain the reserve fences to ensure effective wildlife management.
- Identify and address and local repairs that would assist in the practical management of the reserve.



Eco System: Practical Management – SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

3. Bird and Vulture hide:

- Use local tools to convert bow hunting hides into bird hides.
- Assist in the completion of the vulture hide.

4. Gardening (Vegetable Garden and Orchard):

- Construct raised beds and drainage channels to support sustainable food production.
- Assist in the maintenance of the vegetable gardens and orchards, using tools to assist in pruning and weeding.

Learning Outcomes:

- Acquire practical skills in infrastructure and resource management.
- Learn sustainable agricultural practices and their ecological benefits.
- Contribute to maintaining essential reserve operations.



YOUR PROJECT

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Conservation Research

Students will be taught and work alongside the field guides and conservation team. The following examples depict the day-to-day activities that may be undertaken as part of the project.

- Game Drives
- Bush Walks
- Anti-poaching talk and fence walk
- Tracks, Signs and Spoor
- Vegetation Management
- Rhino Monitoring – Awareness



YOUR PROJECT

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Other Possible Activities: Non-Research

Beyond research, students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in unique and enriching experiences :

San Rock Art Talk and Trail:

Learn about the fascinating history and cultural significance of ancient San rock art, followed by a guided trail to a rock painting site for an up-close exploration.

Stargazing:

Experience the breathtaking clarity of the southern hemisphere's night sky, free from light pollution, and discover the stories and science behind its constellations.

Fresh Water Swimming:

Enjoy the serenity of our 20 km stretch of pristine riverine habitat, with scenic swimming spots perfect for relaxation and connection with nature.

Potjie Cooking Competition:

Embrace South African tradition with a lively potjie (cast-iron pot stew) cooking competition. Students will team up to prepare their own creations over open fires.





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ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

Living in the African Bush

ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

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Emerald Guest House, Johannesburg – First Night

- As you arrive in South Africa mid-afternoon, you will be staying for one night in Johannesburg, at the Emerald Guest House. This is close to the airport
- Rooms will be shared, and a buffet dinner and breakfast will be included.
- You will leave the hotel nice and early the next morning, arriving at Hanover Nature Reserve by lunchtime.



ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

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SwebeSwebe – Hanover Nature Reserve Accommodation

Students and academic groups will be accommodated at our purpose-built camp on Hanover Nature Reserve, designed to provide comfort and foster community living.

The camp features shared twin and triple rooms with communal ablution facilities. At the heart of the camp is a spacious communal area, equipped with a shared kitchen and dining space, which also serves as a hub for relaxation, lectures and group activities.

For evening gatherings, there is a cozy firepit/boma area where students can unwind and cook meals over the fire under the stars. On weekends, groups are welcome to enjoy the main farmhouse and pool area.



ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

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Food at the Project

Three meals are provided daily on a self cook basis, prepared communally by the group. Students will take part in communal cooking and keeping the kitchen tidy.

All meals are provided, there is an outside area for dining as well.

Meals will either be served in the communal dining room, the outside dining area or in the field 'picnic' style, this depends on activities either planned or unscheduled.

The research team often work 6 days a week so time off is often limited to Sundays only.

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.





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USEFUL INFORMATION

Inclusions/Exclusions &
Recommended Kit List

WHAT'S INCLUDED

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What is Included?

- Flights
- Transfers to/from project
- Accommodation
- Three meals per day
- 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

* Provided by the college – please confirm with your college the details of the insurance provided.

Suggested kit list

To allow for ease of transfer to the project a soft holdall/ soft suitcase is preferred.

- Short and long sleeve t-shirts
- Long work trousers and shorts (or work/zip-off trousers)
- Construction shoes/boots to work in every day
- Waterproof jacket
- Sweatshirt/Fleece (Winter months pack plenty)
- Padded jacket/windbreaker (Winter months) although it can get very cold on an open vehicle even in summer
- Socks
- Underwear
- Change of casual clothes for evenings
- Sandals / comfy shoes to wear after work hours
- Warm hat (Winter only) / Hat for sun protection (all year)
- Gloves for warmth (Winter only)
- Working gloves
- Daypack rucksack
- Swimwear
- Beach Towel
- Sunscreen and Sunglasses
- Personal medical items
- First aid kit
- Toiletries
- Tick / Insect repellent
- Water bottle

Other useful items:

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Power bank
- Good torch

* All work clothes should be neutral or earth tones for working in the bush. No skimpy or bright-coloured clothing to be worn



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