SCOTLAND'S RURAL COLLEGE
Q&A PRESENTATION

Waterberg
Wildlife & Veterinary Course

AFRICA

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

ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Waterberg Wildlife and Veterinary Course - Location

AFRICA

ABOUT THE WATERBERG WILDLIFE VETERINARY COURSE

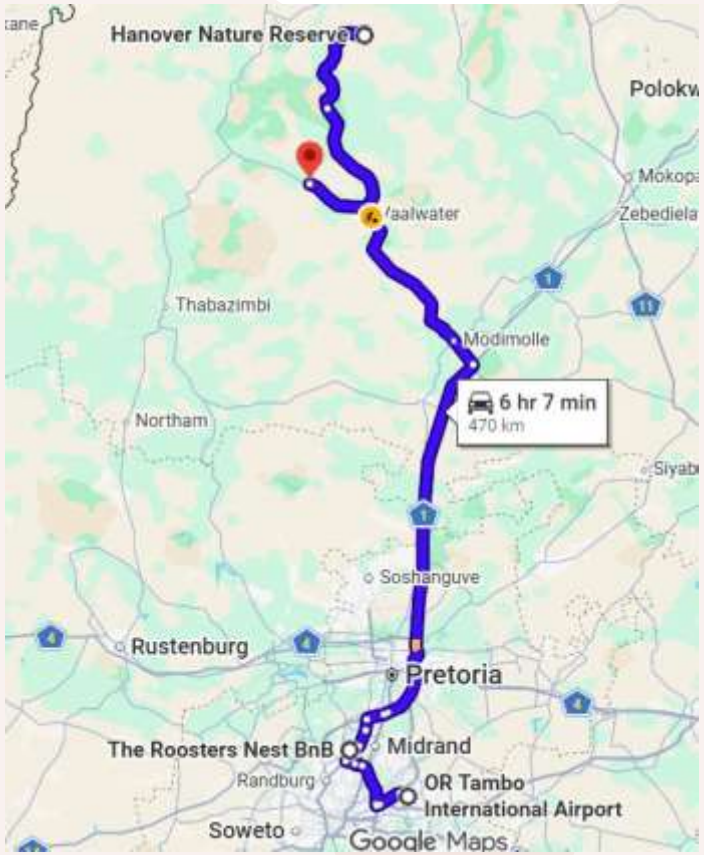
Project overview and location

ABOUT THE PROJECT

AFRICA

Your Three Project Locations

This unique 12-night project will allow you to experience three different project locations in two neighbouring provinces of South Africa. You will first stay in the Gauteng province to before travelling to the north of the country staying at two different reserves in the Waterberg Biosphere – the **Welgevonden Game Reserve** (the core, Big 5 monitoring and conservation experience) and the **SwebeSwebe Game Reserve** (unique to GAPAfrica projects, with no tourist lodges).



Project locations and duration are as follows:

2 Nights

Kyalami, Midrand and surrounding areas - Gauteng Province

4 Nights

SwebeSwebe Wildlife Conservation Project – Hanover Nature Reserve – Waterberg - Limpopo Province

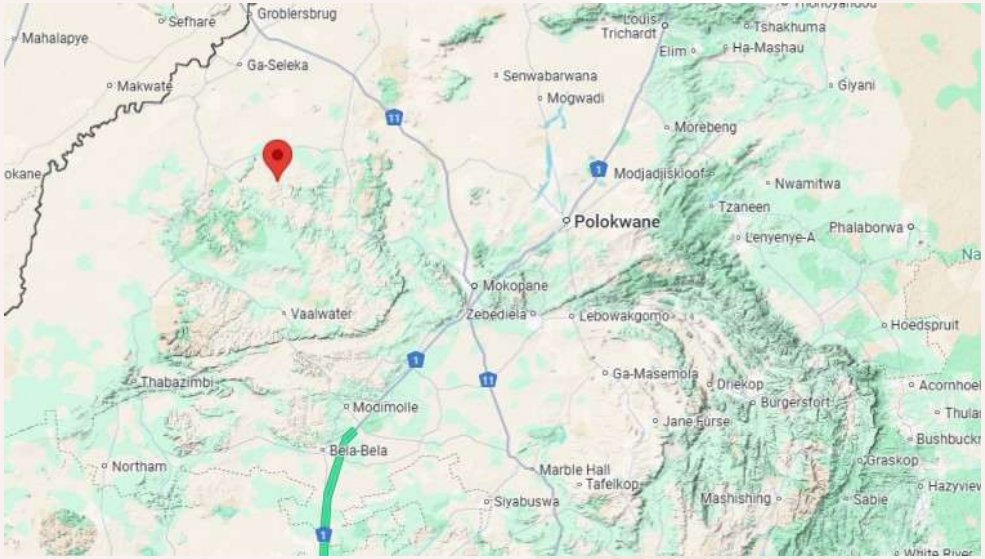
6 Nights

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

ABOUT SWEBESWEBE

Hanover & SwebeSwebe Nature Reserve

- 9,000 Hectare Privately Managed Reserve
- Forming part of the Waterberg Biosphere
- Unique to GAP Africa Projects
- No tourist lodges
- One of the newest reserves in South Africa
- Work alongside the conservation team including:
    - Conservation Researchers
    - Ecologists
- Located in a Malaria free zone
- Proclaimed Protected Conservation Area
- Research Camp Accommodation

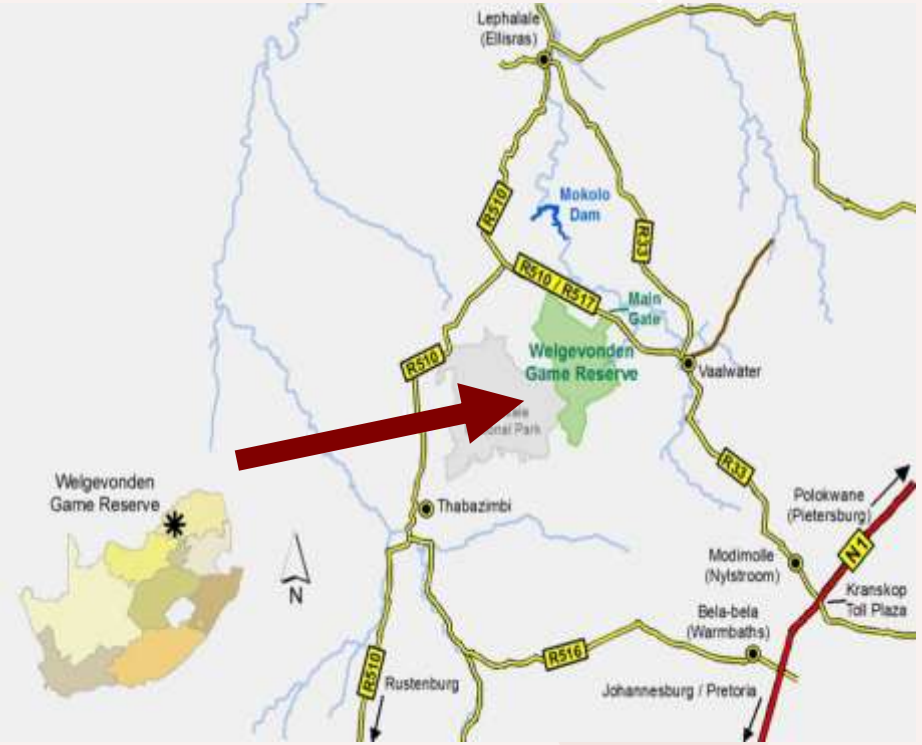


ABOUT WELGEVONDEN

AFRICA

Welgevonden Game Reserve

- 36,000 Hectare Privately Managed Game Reserve
- Forming part of the Waterberg Biosphere (over 662 059 ha)
- Work with the biomonitoring team alongside:
    - Wildlife Vets
    - Researchers
    - Ecologists, Conservation and Operations Teams
    - Anti-Poaching Unit
- Proclaimed Protected Conservation Area
- Savannah Biome
- Dedicated to balancing biodiversity protection with responsible tourism.
- The reserve's management focuses on habitat restoration, anti-poaching initiatives, and ongoing wildlife research to ensure a sustainable future for its unique ecosystem.



YOUR PROJECT

AFRICA

Your Conservation Programme – Wildlife Rehabilitation

As part of your project, you will have the opportunity to attend lectures with two veterinary professionals as well as undertake some practical sessions. Topics include, but are not limited to:

Lectures

- Reserve history
- Anti-poaching
- Fire to herbivore driven system
- Priority species
- Large predator management
- Managing wildlife reserves & land capacity model
- Boma management
- Fenced reserve population management
- Conservation in Africa
- Wildlife poaching
- Wildlife diseases
- Rhino wounds and case studies
- Wildlife capture systems - Darting wildlife
- Drugs used in wildlife medicine
- Dosage calculation for wildlife
- Logistics of wildlife transportation – vehicles, crates & equipment
- Boma management and rehabilitation
- State veterinary disease control in practice
- Wildlife trade auction & value of livestock

Practical Sessions

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

YOUR PROJECT

AFRICA

Your Conservation Programme – Biomonitoring Project

As part of your project, you will have the opportunity to attend lectures with two veterinary professioanls be heavily involved with the day-to-day field work conducted by the biomonitoring team. Activities include, but are not limited to:

- Game transects – estimates of numbers, body condition and herd structure
- Telemetry tracking of collared animals
- White Rhino monitoring and condition scoring
- Camera Trap Surveys (Black Rhino and other cryptic animals)
- Nocturnal species ID and night game drive
- Wildlife breeding management (buffalo, rhino & big cats)
- Mortality/kill recording
- Visit temporary holding bomas (enclosures)
- Animal tracking
- Waterberg Wild Dog Project
- Collecting fecal samples for research
- Local wildlife auction (Only on certain weekends)
- Alien plant species eradication
- Vegetation Condition and biomass Assessments
- Waterberg Biodiversity Project Data Collection with experts in their fields

AFRICA

ACCOMODATION & LIFESTYLE

Living in the African Bush

ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

AFRICA

Roosters Nest

The group will be accommodated in twin bedded accommodation with ensuite bathrooms. The guesthouse is set in beautiful, tranquil surroundings and boasts a beautiful lush garden with a pool and trampoline.

You will be offered traditional South African meals and hospitality.

Food at the Project

All meals will be provided; 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

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's 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 for some well-deserved relaxation. Ingredients for meals are provided, and students cook together, creating a vibrant and social camp atmosphere.

ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

AFRICA

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, storage fridge and laundry.

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.

ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE

AFRICA

Food at the Project - SwebeSwebe and Welgevonden

Ingredients for three meals a day are provided, on a self cook basis. Students will take part in communal cooking and keeping the kitchen tidy. This creates a vibrant and social camp atmosphere.

All meals are provided in the communal dining room; there is an outside area for dining as well. Bring your own snacks.

Meals will either be served at the facility or in the field 'picnic' style, this depends on activities either planned or unscheduled.

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.

MEALS

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Sample Menu – Self-Prepared Projects

You will work in small groups to plan, self-prepare, cook and clear up after your evening meal. You will need to agree a group rota to cover:

- Agreeing the menu for the next day
- Preparing the ingredients (including the night before if anything needs defrosting)
- Cooking dinner
- Washing up and cleaning the kitchen and dining area
- Storing leftovers

Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Examples will include: • Cereal • Porridge • Toast (margarine, peanut butter, jam) • Fresh fruit • Yoghurt • Assorted egg dishes	Selection of: • Wraps or sliced bread • Fillings such as cheese, ham, salad • Boiled eggs • Fresh fruit • Crisps • Snack bars	Example menus could include: • Spaghetti bolognese • Pasta dishes • Beef lasagne • Chicken pieces, rice and veg • Chicken and veg stir-fry with rice • Pork sausages, veg and mashed potato • Chicken or beef kebabs with mixed salad and rolls • Braais - chicken, wors, or kebabs

We must know of any dietary requirements and allergies at least 6 weeks before departure.

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PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Travel details

FLIGHT INFORMATION

AFRICA

Departure from the United Kingdom | Arrival to South Africa

Flights

Flight No	Flight Date	Dept.	Dept. Time	Arr.	Arr. Time
QR030	04/05/2026	Edinburgh (EDI)	15:10	Doha (DOH)	00:10 + 1 Day
QR1363	05/05/2026	Doha (DOH)	01:10	Johannesburg (JNB)	08:40

*Always check the flight timings on your final documents

Baggage Allowance – 1 piece checked baggage @ 23kgs, 1 piece hand baggage max dimensions 50x37x25cm

Johannesburg OR Tambo Airport

Clear immigration & collect baggage to clear customs.
Meet GAP representative by the statue in the arrivals hall.
Transfer to Roosters Nest, Midrand (45 minutes).
Supermarket stop off.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

AFRICA

Departure from South Africa | Arrival to United Kingdom

Flights

Flight No	Flight Date	Dept.	Dept. Time	Arr.	Arr. Time
QR1378	17/05/2026	Johannesburg (JNB)	20:40	Doha (DOH)	06:00 + 1 Day
QR029	18/05/2026	Doha (DOH)	08:10	Edinburgh (EDI)	13:40

*Always check the flight timings on your final documents

Baggage Allowance – 1 piece checked baggage @ 23kgs, 1 piece hand baggage max dimensions 50x37x25cm

Return Journey

Transfer from Welgevonden Game Reserve.
Check in at the Qatar Airways check-in desk.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

AFRICA

Cabin Baggage

Rucksack (not trolley suitcase)
No larger than 50x37x25cm

Hold Baggage

One piece maximum 23kg

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

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

AFRICA

Travel Documents

- Final Documents Issued 21/04/2026
- Emailed to your personal and/or college email address
- Print and take copies
- Boarding passes issued at the airport
- Passports!

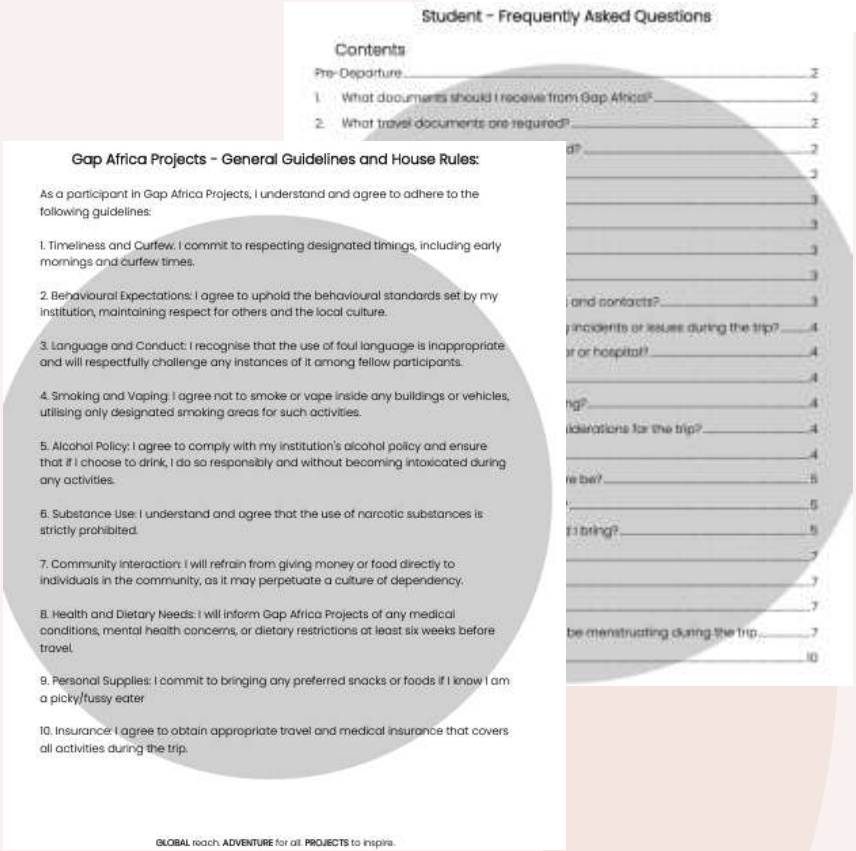
TRIP DOCUMENTS

AFRICA

Group Web Page & Travel Documents

FAQs and House Rules

- Student Frequently Asked Questions - Click to Download
- Student Guidelines and House Rules - Click to Download



Student - Frequently Asked Questions

Contents

Pre-Departure 2
1. What documents should I receive from Gap Africa? 2
2. What travel documents are required? 2

Gap Africa Projects - General Guidelines and House Rules:

As a participant in Gap Africa Projects, I understand and agree to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Timeliness and Curfew: I commit to respecting designated timings, including early mornings and curfew times.

2. Behavioural Expectations: I agree to uphold the behavioural standards set by my institution, maintaining respect for others and the local culture.

3. Language and Conduct: I recognise that the use of foul language is inappropriate and will respectfully challenge any instances of it among fellow participants.

4. Smoking and Vaping: I agree not to smoke or vape inside any buildings or vehicles, utilising only designated smoking areas for such activities.

5. Alcohol Policy: I agree to comply with my institution's alcohol policy and ensure that if I choose to drink, I do so responsibly and without becoming intoxicated during any activities.

6. Substance Use: I understand and agree that the use of narcotic substances is strictly prohibited.

7. Community Interaction: I will refrain from giving money or food directly to individuals in the community, as it may perpetuate a culture of dependency.

8. Health and Dietary Needs: I will inform Gap Africa Projects of any medical conditions, mental health concerns, or dietary restrictions at least six weeks before travel.

9. Personal Supplies: I commit to bringing any preferred snacks or foods if I know I am a picky/fussy eater

10. Insurance: I agree to obtain appropriate travel and medical insurance that covers all activities during the trip.

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https://gapafricaprojects.com/26-4768/

AFRICA

USEFUL INFORMATION

Recommended Kit List and other Useful Information

AFRICA

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)
- Hiking boots/comfortable walking shoes 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
- Surgical gloves
- Sunscreen and Sunglasses
- Personal medical items
- First aid kit
- Toiletries
- Tick / Insect repellent
- Water bottle
- Good torch

Other useful items:

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Power bank
- Stethoscope

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

Health Risks

Immunisation:

When entering South Africa, no international immunisation is required. However, a yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers if they enter South Africa within 6 days of leaving an infected country.

Our advice: Visit your local (travel) doctor to get up-to-date information about requirements when travelling.

DTP inoculation (diphtheria, tetanus and polio) is essential. Please visit the following web page for advice from the UK Foreign Office:

https://travelhealthpro.org.uk/country/201/south-africa

Drinking Water:

Drinking water is available at the project; always make sure you keep hydrated.

HIV/Aids in South Africa:

As in other countries, HIV/Aids is a serious concern in South Africa and one you must be aware of. You should always be careful when dealing with an injured person to avoid the risk of infection. Always take necessary precautions and avoid sexual contact.

Sun:

South Africa has a warm sunny climate, you should wear sunscreen and a hat whenever you are out of doors during the day, particularly between 10am and 4 pm – regardless of whether there is cloud cover or not. Whatever your complexion you can still get sunburned if you are from a cooler climate. Sunglasses are also recommended as the glare of the African sun can be very strong.

Malaria:

The project is located in a malaria free area.
http://www.sa-venues.com/malaria-risk-areas.htm

USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

Insurance

Personal travel insurance is compulsory. Travel insurance does not need to be expensive and there are many good deals available for backpackers etc. Always be sure to check the insurance details to make sure you are covered for Covid 19, theft, loss, illness and injury. Check to see if your medical benefits are paid out as they incur or on your return home.

You should select 'Adventure Pack' as this will cover you for the type of activities you will undertake during your trip.

https://www.truetraveller.com/?tag=4480

Travel Adapter

It is important you take the right travel adapter so you can charge your phone, and other devices, whilst away.

Passport Requirements

It can take up to 6 weeks to obtain a passport – remember to start this process in plenty of time.

Your passport needs to be valid for at least 30 days beyond your intended stay and have at least two blank pages.

Stay safe overseas – KBYG

The better prepared you are when you travel abroad the safer you will be. The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office offers 'Know Before You Go' travel advice, including simple precautions you can take before and during your trip.

To find out more, check out their website:

https://www.gov.uk/browse/abroad/travel-abroad

Visa Requirements

A visa is not required for British Passport holders, all other nationalities should check the requirements via the website below, if required a visa can be obtained from the South African High Commission.

http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries

USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

Climate

Midrand

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
23°	23°	23°	23°	23°	23°	23°
13°	12°	11°	12°	12°	11°	11°

USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

Climate

SwebeSwebe and Welgevonden

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
26°	26°	25°	26°	26°	26°	26°
12°	13°	12°	12°	11°	11°	10°

10	11	12	13	14	15	16
24°	25°	25°	24°	24°	25°	26°
9°	10°	10°	10°	9°	9°	10°

17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26°	26°	25°	25°	24°	22°	23°
10°	10°	10°	8°	6°	5°	6°

USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

Climate

Limpopo Province

January is the hottest month in Limpopo with an average temperature of 23°C (73°F) and the coldest month is June at 13°C (55°F). The wettest month is November with an average of 100mm of rainfall.

Have a look at the accuweather website for more information, link below:

https://www.accuweather.com/en/za/polokwane

Tipping

Whilst there is no obligation, it is a nice gesture to show your appreciation for the rangers and housekeeping staff by leaving a small tip/donation for the staff at the reserve when you leave; any amount is always appreciated.

On day trips/excursions it is also a nice gesture to show your appreciation for the guide.

Currency & Credit Cards

The currency for South Africa is the South African Rand (ZAR). Foreign exchange may be arranged at the airport or in major centres. It is not recommended that travellers carry large sums of cash, keep a reasonable amount on hand and primarily use credit cards.

All major credit cards are widely accepted at shops in large towns, the reserve and the cultural tour company do not have credit card facilities.

Wise Travel Card offers up to £500.00 with no transfer fee for Gap Africa Project Travellers:

wise

https://wise.prf.hn/l/XZJx9gq

USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

Phones & Internet

Mobile phone coverage is good at Roosters Nest in Midrand and generally good at SwebeSwebe and Welgevonden Game Reserve, although there may be some areas on the reserve where there isn't any coverage. Using an eSIM or purchasing a SIM card at the airport is another option.

Some Wi-Fi is available at the accommodation however internet speeds are not up to international urban standards but are effective for communication.

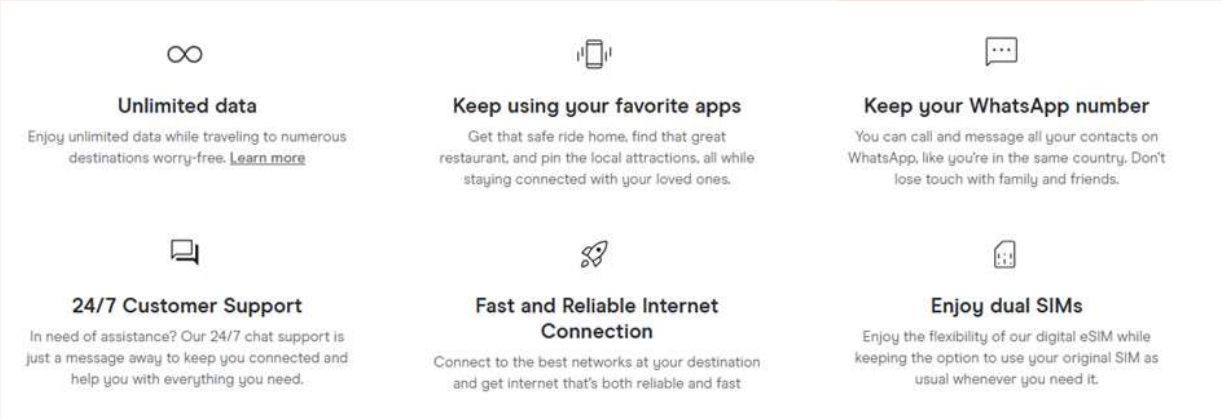
We have partnered with Holafly eSim provider 5% discount use code GAPAFRICAPROJECTS.

Benefits of an eSIM

Holafly

- Unlimited Data Plans
- Uses both Vodacom and MTN the two major networks in South Africa
- Keep your WhatsApp number
- Immediate Delivery

https://shorturl.at/sxE29



USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

Trip Clothing

Online shop available for trip clothing:

GAP Trip Hoodie

GAP Africa Polo Shirts

GAP Africa Caps

GAP Africa Beenie

GAP Africa 500ml Bottle

https://hyvfsu-vu.myshopify.com/

SIZES	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL	5XL
A - Half Chest	49	51	56	61	65	69	73	78	83
B - Body Length	64	67	70	73	76	79	82	86	90
C - Sleeve Length	57.5	59	60.5	62	63.5	65	66.5	68.5	70.5

All garment measurements are shown in centimetres (cm). Garment sizes are approximate and for guidance only.

SIZES	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL	4XL	5XL
To Fit Chest Size	34 inch	36 inch	40 inch	44 inch	48 inch	52 inch	56 inch	60 inch	64 inch

USEFUL APPS

AFRICA

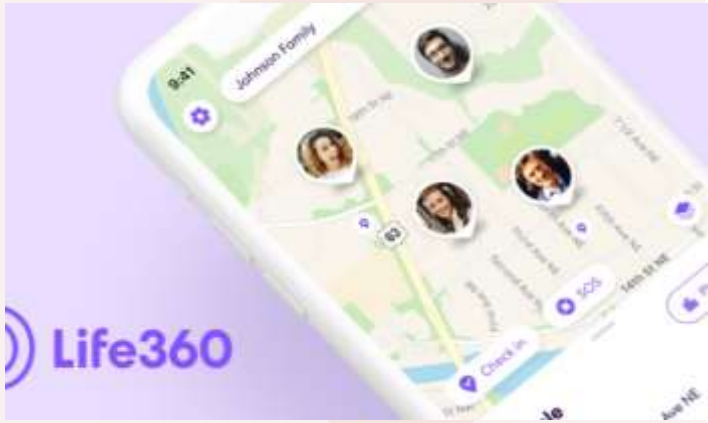
Useful Apps for Next of Kin

We recommend that Next of Kin also download and set up the following app, we have found this to be useful in knowing where are students whilst on the trip!

Flightrader24 – very useful for tracking flights, showing departure times, any delays and flight location in travel.

Life360 – is great for following them on their journey.

Merlin Bird App



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

Explore our network of Global Adventure Projects:

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ASIA

EUROPE

SOUTH AMERICA

UNITED KINGDOM

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