



# SOUTH EASTERN REGIONAL COLLEGE Q&A PRESENTATION



## Waterberg Biomonitoring Research



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

## Waterberg Biomonitoring Programme – Location



A large rhinoceros and its calf are the central focus of the image, standing in a lush green savanna. The rhinoceros is on the right, and the calf is on the left, both facing towards the left. In the background, there are several tents with green and grey roofs, suggesting a camp or safari lodge. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with a clear sky and vibrant green grass.

**AFRICA**

# **ABOUT THE WATERBERG BIOSPHERE**

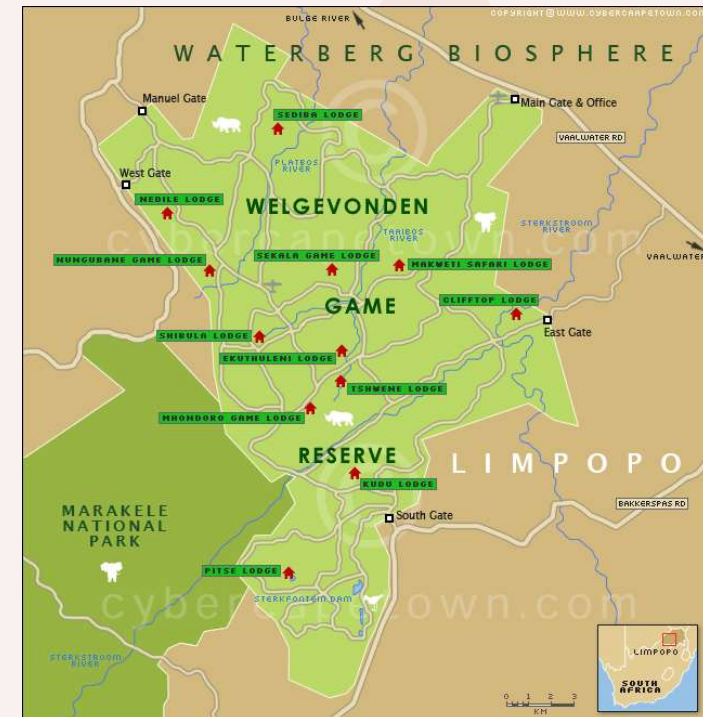
Project overview and  
location

# ABOUT WELGEVONDEN

AFRICA

## Welgevonden Game Reserve

- 36,000 Hectare Privately Managed Game Reserve
- Forming part of the Waterberg Biosphere
- 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



A large rhinoceros and its calf are the central focus of the image, standing in a lush green savanna. The rhinoceros is on the right, and the calf is on the left, both looking towards the camera. In the background, there are several tents with green and grey roofs, suggesting a camp or lodge. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with a clear sky and a mix of green grass and brown earth.

**AFRICA**

# **ABOUT THE PROJECT: WELGEVONDEN GAME RESERVE**

Our conservation work  
in more detail

## Your Conservation Programme – Biomonitoring Research Team

As part of your project, you will 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
- Alien plant species eradication
- Vegetation Condition and biomass Assessments
- Waterberg Biodiversity Project Data Collection with experts in their fields

A large rhinoceros and its calf are the central focus of the image. The adult rhino is on the right, and the calf is on the left, both looking towards the camera. They are in a grassy savanna area. In the background, there is a camp with several tents and a dirt path. The scene is set in a natural, outdoor environment with trees and a clear sky.

**AFRICA**

# **ABOUT THE PROJECT: HANOVER**

Our conservation work  
in more detail

## Project Overview – Hanover Nature Reserve

- Alien Plant Mapping
- Grass Surveys
- Butterfly Surveys
- Possible Bird Ringing
- Mini SASS in the river
- Giraffe Monitoring
- Game Counts
- Scorpion Hunt
- Invert Sweeps





**AFRICA**

# **ACCOMMODATION & LIFESTYLE**

Living in the African Bush

# 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

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## Hanover Nature Reserve Accommodation

Students and academic groups will be accommodated at our purpose-built Camp Letimoga in 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 cosy 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.



## Food at the Project

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.

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.



## 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
<p>Examples will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cereal</li><li>• Porridge</li><li>• Toast (margarine, peanut butter, jam)</li><li>• Fresh fruit</li><li>• Yoghurt</li><li>• Assorted egg dishes</li></ul>	<p>Selection of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wraps or sliced bread</li><li>• Fillings such as cheese, ham, salad</li><li>• Boiled eggs</li><li>• Fresh fruit</li><li>• Crisps</li><li>• Snack bars</li></ul>	<p>Example menus could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spaghetti bolognese</li><li>• Pasta dishes</li><li>• Beef lasagne</li><li>• Chicken pieces, rice and veg</li><li>• Chicken and veg stir-fry with rice</li><li>• Pork sausages, veg and mashed potato</li><li>• Chicken or beef kebabs with mixed salad and rolls</li><li>• Braais – chicken, wors, or kebabs</li></ul>

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

A large rhinoceros and its calf are the central focus of the image, standing in a lush green savanna. The rhinoceros is on the right, and the calf is on the left, both facing towards the left. In the background, there is a camp with several tents, some with green roofs and others with grey roofs. The scene is set in a natural, open landscape with scattered trees and a clear sky. A large, semi-transparent circular graphic is overlaid on the right side of the image, partially covering the rhinoceros and the background.

**AFRICA**

# PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Travel details

## Departure from the United Kingdom | Arrival to South Africa

### Flights

Flight No	Flight Date	Dept.	Dept. Time	Arr.	Arr. Time
BA1395	07/06/2026	Belfast (BHD)	13:00	London Heathrow (LHR)	14:30
BA55	07/06/2026	London Heathrow (LHR)	19:00	Johannesburg (JNB)	07:00 + 1 Day

\*Always check the flight timings on your final documents

**Baggage Allowance** – 1 piece checked baggage @ 23kgs, 1 piece hand baggage max dimensions 56x45x25cm

### Johannesburg OR Tambo Airport

Clear immigration & collect baggage to clear customs.  
Meet GAP representative by the statue in the arrivals hall.  
Transfer to Welgevonden Game Reserve (4 hours).  
Supermarket stop off.



## Cabin Baggage



Rucksack (not trolley suitcase)  
No larger than 56x45x25cm

## Hold Baggage



One piece maximum 23kg

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

## Departure from South Africa | Arrival to the United Kingdom

### Flights

Flight No	Flight Date	Dept.	Dept. Time	Arr.	Arr. Time
BA54	21/06/2026	Johannesburg (JNB)	21:15	London Heathrow (LHR)	07:30 + 1 Day
BA1394	22/06/2026	London Heathrow (LHR)	13:15	Belfast (BHD)	14:40

\*Always check the flight timings on your final documents

**Baggage Allowance** – 1 piece checked baggage @ 23kgs, 1 piece hand baggage max dimensions 56x45x25cm

### Return Journey

Transfer from Hanover Nature Reserve.  
Check in at the British Airways check-in desk.





## 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	
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1. What documents should I receive from Gap Africa?	2
2. What travel documents are required?	2
3. What should I bring?	2
4. What should I wear?	3
5. What should I do if I have an incident or issue during the trip?	3
6. What should I do if I get sick or injured during the trip?	3
7. What should I do if I get lost or separated?	3
8. What should I do if I get injured or sick?	4
9. What should I do if I get lost or separated?	4
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100. What should I do if I get injured or sick?	4

**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.

GLOBAL reach. ADVENTURE for all. PROJECTS to inspire.

<https://gapafricaprojects.com/26-4791/>

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**AFRICA**

# **USEFUL INFORMATION**

Recommended Kit List and  
other Useful Information

## 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
- Sunscreen and Sunglasses
- Personal medical items
- First aid kit
- Toiletries
- Tick / Insect repellent
- Water bottle
- Good torch

### Other useful items:

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Power bank

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

### First Aid Kit

It is strongly advisable that you pack your own mini first-aid kit of everyday essentials. This should include:

- Paracetamol / Ibuprofen (or equivalent)
- Antihistamines (eases a reaction to any bites or stings)
- Antiseptic cream (e.g. Savlon/Germolene/Sudocrem)
- Bite and sting cream
- Plasters
- Imodium (anti-diarrheal medication)
- Dioralyte (fast-acting oral rehydration treatment designed to replace fluids and body salts (electrolytes) lost during diarrhoea or vomiting)
- Tick remover



## Practical Advice

### Power / Electricity

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



### Drinking Water:

Drinking water is available at the project; always make sure you keep hydrated and have packed an insulated water bottle. We recommend taking concentrated squash as the water will taste different from home.



## 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.true Traveller.com/?tag=4480>

## 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>

## 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>

### Malaria:

The project is located in a malaria free area.

<http://www.sa-venues.com/malaria-risk-areas.htm>

### 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.

# USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

## Climate

## Welgevonden

7	8	9	10	11	12	13
						
23° 2°	22° 2°	22° 3°	21° 4°	22° 3°	22° 4°	22° 6°
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
						
23° 7°	22° 6°	20° 3°	22° 4°	23° 3°	23° 4°	22° 6°

# USEFUL INFORMATION

AFRICA

## Climate

## Hanover Nature Reserve

14	15	16	17	18	19	20
						
25° 9°	25° 9°	23° 6°	24° 6°	25° 6°	25° 6°	25° 8°
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
						
25° 5°	22° 8°	22° 9°	21° 6°	23° 5°	22° 4°	21° 6°

## What To Expect 'Weatherwise' From May To August

Be prepared for the chilly nights and crisp mornings during autumn and winter in South Africa.

Staying warm will be key to you enjoying your experience.

As the sun dips, the temperature will drop and can go down to near or below freezing, resulting in frost.

It is recommended that you layer smartly: avoid cotton next to the skin as it traps moisture and makes you colder. Keep spare socks and gloves in a sealed plastic bag to ensure dryness.

If you feel the cold, pack appropriately!



## 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 in main towns, although local communities only take cash.

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



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

## 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.

## Phones & Internet

Mobile phone coverage is generally good at Welgevonden Game Reserve and okay at Hanover Nature Reserve if using a local SIM, although there may be some areas on the reserve where there isn't any coverage.

Limited Wi-Fi is available at Welgevonden Game Reserve, 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

- 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>

Holafly

 <b>Unlimited data</b> Enjoy unlimited data while traveling to numerous destinations worry-free. <a href="#">Learn more</a>	 <b>Keep using your favorite apps</b> Get that safe ride home, find that great restaurant, and pin the local attractions, all while staying connected with your loved ones.	 <b>Keep your WhatsApp number</b> You can call and message all your contacts on WhatsApp, like you're in the same country. Don't lose touch with family and friends.
 <b>24/7 Customer Support</b> In need of assistance? Our 24/7 chat support is just a message away to keep you connected and help you with everything you need.	 <b>Fast and Reliable Internet Connection</b> Connect to the best networks at your destination and get internet that's both reliable and fast.	 <b>Enjoy dual SIMs</b> Enjoy the flexibility of our digital eSIM while keeping the option to use your original SIM as usual whenever you need it.

## 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 for Next of Kin

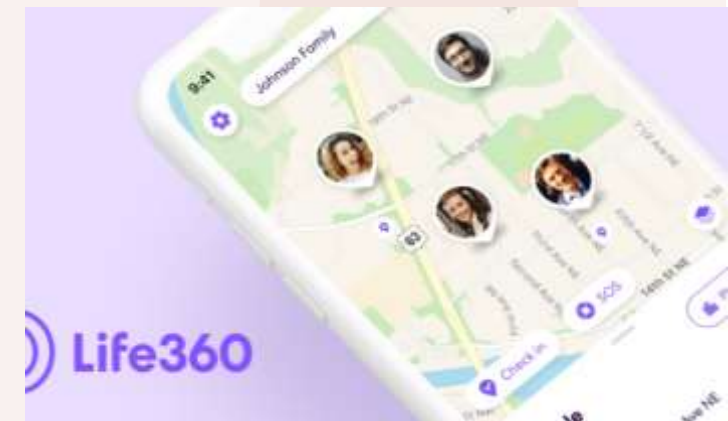
We recommend that Next of Kin also download and set up the following app, we have found this to be useful in knowing where are students whilst on the trip!

Flightradar24 – 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

iNaturalist – App





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Explore our network of Global Adventure Projects:



[GLOBALADVENTUREPROJECTS.COM](http://GLOBALADVENTUREPROJECTS.COM)

