



SCHOLARS AT THE HOEDSPRUIT ENDANGERED SPECIES CENTRE



ABOUT THE HOEDSPRUIT ENDANGERED SPECIES CENTRE

The Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) has established itself as one of the leading private research and breeding facilities for endangered species in the country.

Governed by a progressive and modern management approach, it concerns itself with the breeding and maintenance of several endangered indigenous wildlife species in southern Africa.

The centre places particular emphasis on the breeding and management of cheetah in captivity. The excellent condition of these animals and the premises on which they are maintained reflect the attention to detail, which is the hallmark of this facility.

ABOUT THE SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

Duration

5 nights: A basic conservation programme followed by active participation in practical exercises and teambuilding activities.

Aim

To equip scholars with the aptitude to conserve the wildlife of southern Africa; to build awareness of conservation on a broader global scale; and to facilitate the experience of the beauty and rich diversity of South Africa.



Facilitators

All have a contagious passion for conservation, and are dedicated to sharing their knowledge and expertise about the African bushveld and its inhabitants. Scholars will work side-by-side with the centre's full time personnel, assisting them with feeding and animal care.

Participant Requirements

- Be eager to learn and to participate in HESC's conservation work
- Have a desire to make a difference while gaining invaluable experience and knowledge
- Be prepared to work hard and be a team player
- Be willing to get dirty and work hands-on with the animals in their habitat
- Be prepared to have some fun

"Camp isn't a place you visit, it's a place that becomes part of you." (Unknown)

Accommodation & Facilities

Accommodation at Nungu Camp consists of 6 twin thatched huts (max 2 people per hut, i.e. 10 children and 2 teachers). The camp is situated within the boundary of the Big 5 Kapama Private Game Reserve. Accommodation is simple, clean and comfortable, and each hut is fitted with adequate power points. Three meals per day are prepared by students and their teachers in the camp – a valuable team building experience in itself. There is a fully stocked kitchen with a fridge in the camp, as well as barbeque facilities.

The closest town is Hoedspruit, which is approximately 25 km from the reserve. Town trips can be organised for supplies, banking or internet facilities. Telephone facilities are available (at student's own expense). Basic laundry facilities for hand-washing are available in the camp.

Deliverables

Hands on experience:

- Working with cheetahs, wild dogs, small spotted cats, African wildcats and many more species.
- Preparation of animal food and feeding the animals
- Maintenance
- Cleaning of enclosures

Informal lectures (which precede practical exercises):

- Conservation
- Plants and ecology
- Animal identification
- Astronomy
- Survival

Practical experience:

- Basic survival
- Team building obstacle course

What to pack

- Old clothes
- Insect Repellent
- Torch
- Hat
- Walking boots
- Camera
- Books to read
- Gum boots (if you have)

ITINERARY

DAY 1 - TUESDAY

Arrival
Unpacking & orientation
Introduction
Group selection
Dinner



DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY

08h00 – 12h00

GROUP 1 - Assisting the curator with the cleaning of small animals' water dams and enclosures.

GROUP 2 - Preparing & supplementing the resident cheetahs' food, as well as assisting the curators with feeding the cats.

12h00 – 14h00

Lunch: There will always be plenty of food, with a selection of salads, fruits and other delicious goodies.

It's then time to relax before the afternoon's activities.

14h00 – 17h00

GROUP 1 - Assisting the curators to prepare and supplement the food for the small animals.

GROUP 2 - Assisting the curators to clean the cheetah enclosures, and to give the cats fresh water.

17h00

After an active day, it's time to hit the showers.

18h00

Team building exercise: Build your own pizza. Ingredients will be provided. All you need to bring is your creativity.
It's then TAG time... Predators vs. Prey.

DAY 3 - THURSDAY

08h00 – 12h00

Scholars will be split into their 2 groups and assist with basic maintenance chores.

12h00 – 14h00

Lunch followed by relaxation time.

14h00 – 17h00

Teams will continue with general maintenance chores.

17h00

After an active day, it's time to hit the showers.

18h00

Zulu Night: Come up with your group's own gumboot dance while a traditional braai (with a selection of fresh salads and fruits) is being prepared for you.





DAY 4 - FRIDAY

08h00 – 12h00

GROUP 1 - Preparing & supplementing the resident cheetahs' food, as well as assisting the curators with feeding the cats.

GROUP 2 - Assisting the curator with the cleaning of small animals' water dams and enclosures.

12h00 – 14h00

Lunch followed by relaxation time.

14h00 – 17h00

GROUP 1 - Assisting the curators to clean the cheetah enclosures, and to give the cats fresh water.

GROUP 2 - Assisting the curators to prepare and supplement the food for the small animals.

17h00

Shower hour and personal time.

18h00

Team up and make your own "stokbrood" and enjoy learning about the stars.



DAY 5 - SATURDAY - BASIC SURVIVAL DAY!

08h00 – 12h00

Each team will learn where to find food and water in the bush. They will also have to test their skills at building a shelter and starting a fire.

12h00 – 14h00

Lunch followed by relaxation time.

14h00 – 17h00

Teams will battle through the Obstacle Course.

17h00

Shower hour and personal time.

18h00

Bird Talent Show: Teams will compete in the ultimate Bird Challenge, while dinner is being prepared.

DAY 6 - SUNDAY - DEPARTURE DAY



COSTS:

2017: R1584.00 per participant for 5 days, including teachers/ facilitators; No STO rate available

PROGRAMME DATES 2017:

Programme 1	24/01/2017	29/01/2017
Programme 2	21/02/2017	26/02/2017
Programme 3	21/03/2017	26/03/2017
Programme 4	18/04/2017	23/04/2017
Programme 5	16/05/2017	21/05/2017
Programme 6	13/06/2017	18/06/2017
Programme 7	11/07/2017	16/07/2017
Programme 8	08/08/2017	13/08/2017
Programme 9	05/09/2017	10/09/2017
Programme 10	03/10/2017	08/10/2017
Programme 11	31/10/2017	05/11/2017



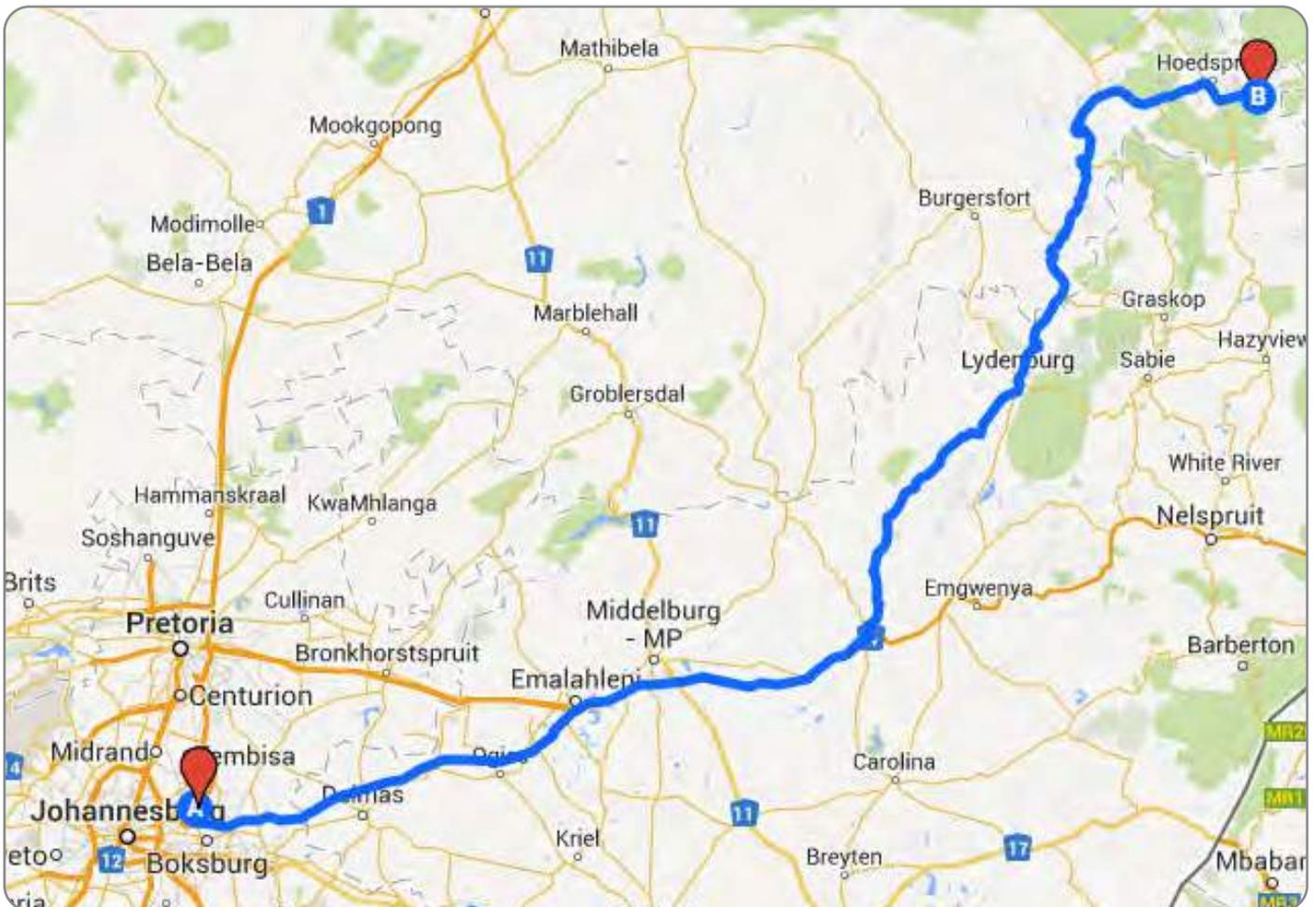
"Summer camp is a gift we can give our children that they will benefit from and remember forever." (Jeff Merhige)

CHERYL COETZEE - DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Pastoral Care, Leadership & Outreach Head of Life Sciences

"Thank you so much for the most incredible few days! All the kids really loved being there and thank you for allowing them to be part of such a wonderful place and experience. I am really going to do my best to be back next year. It is so wonderful to see how passionate everyone is about the animals in your care. Well Done HESC! I posted lots of photos on my facebook page and have had so many wonderful responses. HESC has a wonderful team of people - a huge thank you to everyone. I feel very privileged to have been given this experience.

Thanks a million!"



LOCATION

The HESC is located in the Limpopo Province in Hoedspruit, South Africa.

The drive is approximately 4 ½ hours from Johannesburg on tarred main roads.

CONTACT

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