



Frequently Asked Questions

Please find below the answers to some of our most frequently asked questions prior to booking. If you have other questions or need further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us on info@saworldvets.com / sosmers@icloud.com (emergencies)

You will also receive a collection of documents (including a “General information”, indemnity form etc.) on confirmation of your booking which will include further information on clothing, needed medication/ vaccinations etc.

More information will also be provided in the documents that you will receive once your place on a course is confirmed (i.e. after your deposit has been received).

1. Can non-veterinary students apply for an SA WorldVets course?
2. What is the best way to get from OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg to Hoedspruit?
3. Can you please supply more details about the available accommodation?
4. Do you cater for different dietary preferences?
5. How large a deposit is needed to secure my place on a course?
6. Is the course fee due in full when I place my booking?
7. How far in advance is the remaining course fee due?
8. What are the payment options?
9. Are there any vaccines or prophylactic medication needed before my trip to South Africa?
10. What are the course fees for 2021?
11. What is included and what is excluded from the course fee?
12. Is there a discount for group bookings?

1. Can non-veterinary students apply for an SA WorldVets course?

Yes, SA WorldVets cater for anyone who has a love and passion for Africa and its iconic wildlife. Whilst SA WorldVets courses cater predominately for veterinary students, we do accept non-veterinary students to our courses. Please note that non-veterinarians/veterinary students will be unable to perform veterinary procedures.

2. What is the best way to get from OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg to Hoedspruit?

There are two options to get from OR Tambo to Hoedspruit, Limpopo – the closest town to SA WorldVets.

The first is to book a connecting flight to Eastgate Airport, just outside of Hoedspruit with South African Express Airlines. SA WorldVets will then collect you from the airport and transport you to Shabeni Lodge where you will be staying.

Please ensure sufficient time between your arrival from your international flight and your transferring flight to Hoedspruit to ensure that you do not miss your second flight.

A cheaper alternative to the connecting flight is to book a seat on the Kruger Park Shuttle or Ashtons Shuttle Service.

SA WorldVets will be happy to book your seat on one of the above shuttles on your behalf, so please contact us directly on info@saworldvets.com if you would like to make use of the shuttle. Please keep in mind that shuttle seats are limited so they need to be booked in advance to ensure a seat.

Cost with Kruger Park Shuttles is usually 130\$ return tickets.

3. Can you please supply more details about the available accommodation?

SA WorldVets students predominately stay at Shabeni Lodge. The lodge has four spacious individual chalets, each accommodating four students, and each chalet is en-suite (which means one bathroom per four students in a fully booked course). In order to cater for the majority, separate male and female accommodation is provided.

In addition to the four chalets, the main lodge building houses the kitchen, a communal dining room and a large patio with an outdoor fire pit where students spend most of their evenings, talking under the evening stars by a roaring fire after a busy day in the bush.

Shabeni Lodge is situated on the Shabeni Game Reserve which is home to a variety of antelope species and other small game such as vervet monkeys, baboons, caracal, servals, genets, civets, porcupines, honey badgers etc. Leopard are also occasionally seen on the farm.

4. Do you cater for different dietary preferences?

Yes, SA WorldVets cater to most dietary preferences. Please inform us at the time of booking if you have any dietary preferences to ensure that we can cater appropriately.

Please note that this is not limited to informing us whether you are vegan, vegetarian etc. but also to individual dietary preferences such as no red meat, fish etc.

5. How large a deposit is needed to secure my place on a course?

A 500\$ deposit is required to book your place on one of the SA WorldVets courses. Please take note that SA WorldVets works on a strictly first come first served basis and without your deposit, we will be unable to guarantee your place on one of our courses.

6. Is the course fee due in full when I place my booking?

No, only the 500\$ deposit is due when you place your booking (booking will not be confirmed without this deposit). The remaining course fee is due one calendar month prior to the start date of your course (i.e. if your course starts on the 24th April, the outstanding amount needs to be paid before the 24th March).

7. How far in advance is the remaining course fee due?

The remaining course fee is due one-two calendar months prior to the start date of your course (i.e. if your course starts on the 24th April, the outstanding amount needs to be paid before the 24th March).

8. What are the payment options?

There are two payment options, namely payment via EFT to the SA WorldVets First National Bank account or via Paypal.

9. Are there any vaccines or prophylactic medication needed before my trip to South Africa?

Please discuss your visit to South Africa with your personal physician and always follow their recommendations for recommended vaccinations and needed medication.

Malaria is endemic to the Lowveld of Mpumalanga and Limpopo (where SA WorldVets is based) so please consult a health-care professional for the latest advice and recommendation on an appropriate malaria prophylaxis for your visit to South Africa.

Rabies does occur in wild animals so there is a risk that you could be exposed to this disease and Rabies vaccination is routinely recommended for those working with animals in South Africa. Please discuss this risk with your personal physician and follow their recommendations.

10. What are the course fees for 2021?

The course fee for the SA WorldVets signature course will be 3200\$ in 2021. Group booking discount to be discussed with Susan Osmers via mail.

11. What is included and what is excluded from the course fee?

The course fee includes:

Transfers to and from Hoedspruit Eastgate Airport or the Ashton's Shuttle Service Drop Off

All transfers from the lodge for daily wildlife work as well as to all organised excursions

Excluded from the course fees:

12. Is there a discount for group bookings?

There is a \$150 discount per student for group bookings (a group booking is classified as 5 students booking at the same time for the same course).