

discovereden.co.za

BOOK NOW

MORE INFO

ECOLOGY PROGRAM DATES

14 June to 29 June / 12 July to 27 July / 09 August to 24 August

PROGRAM COSTS

\$ 3 590 – US Dollar / **€ 3 150** – Euro

Please note: we use the US Dollar as our base currency, as such the EUR price may change at anytime due to exchange rate fluctuations.

Only 8 spaces are available in each group, to give you the best experience possible! We work on a first come first served basis, so book early to avoid disappointment!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST

ABOUT THE ECOLOGY PROGRAM

The **Discover Eden Conservation Ecology Program** is specifically designed for those who are either studying or working in the ecological sciences, including zoology, botany, environmental science, animal science or biological sciences.

This activity packed program addresses topics such as **ecology, biodiversity, conservation, sustainability, game reserve management, ornithology, marine biology, herpetology** and **botany** amongst others. Meet professionals out in the field and learn from their vast experience.

Food, accommodation and ground transport are all included in this package.

Please note: Due to the unpredictability of nature and the weather, the days and activities stated below may be switched around or substituted to give you the best experience possible.

COURSE OUTLINE

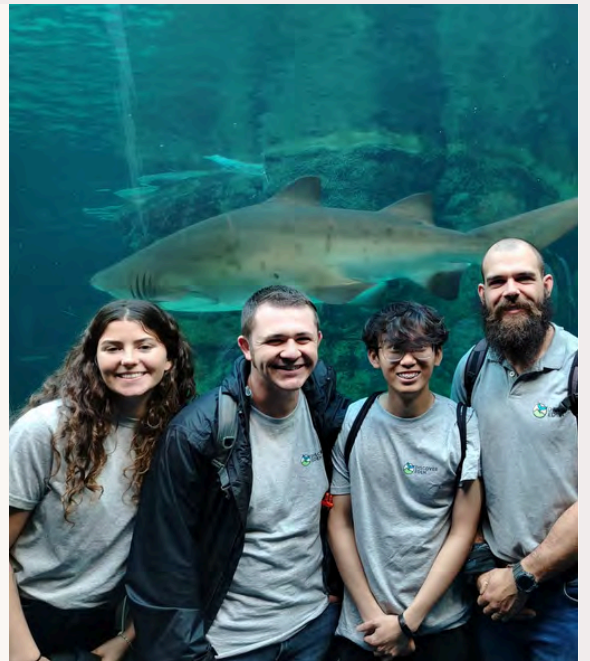
DAY 1 ARRIVE

Your friendly Discover Eden Guide will pick you up at **Cape Town International Airport** in the Western Cape Province. We will then make our way to our overnight accommodation at a guest house in a quiet residential suburb, a scenic drive from the airport. You will be able to freshen up before dinner and chat, getting to know your fellow students who are on the tour with you.



DAY 2 TWO OCEANS AQUARIUM

Today you will partake in an **orientation** where we will explain everything that lies ahead. After the orientation you will go to the **Two Oceans Aquarium** where you will be taken on a special 'behind the scenes' tour of the aquarium by one of the aquarium biologists, after which you will have time to explore at your own pace. You will have the rest of the afternoon to explore the famous **Victoria and Alfred Waterfront**, one of South Africa's most visited cultural and historical attractions.



DAY 3 BOTANIST & BOTANICAL GARDENS

You will spend a full day with a botanist in the **Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens**, also known as the most beautiful gardens in South Africa and acclaimed as one of the great botanical gardens of the world. You will get a full tour of the gardens and receive lectures on different aspects of botany and Fynbos, the special vegetation found in the Cape area.



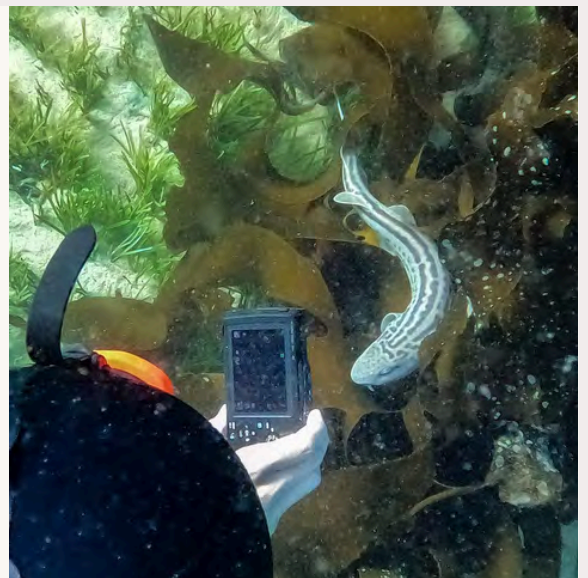
DAY 4 NPO DAY

You will spend the day with staff from two impressive conservation non-profit organisations, learning about some of the programs they run, engaging with some of the country's top **conservation professionals**, and being exposed to the importance of NGO's roles in the conservation sector. The day will include some lectures on existing projects but also some field work to help make a difference at a local scale.



DAY 5 WORK WITH MARINE BIOLOGISTS

Get to know the ins and outs of the special southern Cape oceans by spending a day immersed in marine learning. Expect some introductory lectures and some **hands-on in the water field work!** The team of marine biologists will get you up to speed on some of the long-term projects they run, before kitting you out and getting you nice and wet.



DAY 6 STONEY POINT & GANSBAAI

Today you will make your way to Gansbaai. On the way you will stop over at a **penguin colony** where you will be given a talk by a marine specialist about **marine conservation** relating to endangered seabirds. You also visit an animal rehabilitation centre situated in a biosphere reserve, learning about the important work they do. Afterwards you will spend the afternoon collecting and identifying shark and ray egg cases with the team at Gansbaai.



DAY 7 GANSBAAI & SHARKS

Spend time with **marine biologists** who work for an organisation that is heavily involved with marine conservation in their area. You could take part in activities such as a marine Big 5 boat trip, **shark tagging** from shore, a **snorkeling** survey or a dissection, an estuary survey or other **conservation-based activities**. (Please note that these activities are dependent on weather, tides and availability)



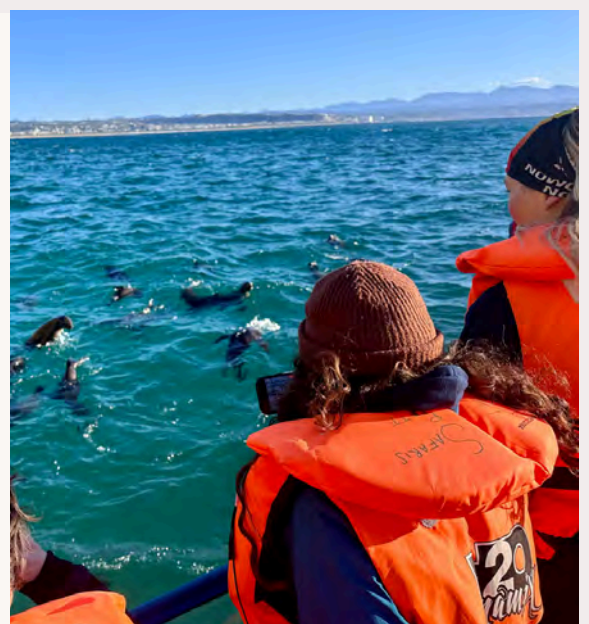
DAY 8 PENGUIN & SEABIRD SANCTUARY & DRIVE TO PLETT

In the morning you will be visiting a world class **African penguin and seabird sanctuary**. Here you will be given a tour of the centre and given a talk by one of the conservationists about the endangered African penguin and other seabirds that they have under their care. You will assist in the morning routine at the centre and watch the penguin feeding. In the afternoon you will head to **Plettenberg Bay**.



DAY 9 BOAT TRIP & COASTAL CONSERVATION

In the morning we go to sea again, this time to visit one of the largest **Cape fur seal** colonies along our coastline. While out at sea be on the lookout for whales, sharks, dolphins, penguins and seabirds. In the afternoon spend time with Discover Eden researchers exploring local projects in and around the region. Survey beaches for stranded animals, learn about issues facing **beach breeding birds**, and collect **marine debris data**.



DAY 10 RAPTOR RESCUE & KAYAK UP KEURBOOMS

Spend the morning at a **bird of prey** centre where you will be given a guided tour of the centre and learn about the rescue and rehabilitation of these incredible creatures. After lunch you will get the chance to **kayak** up the beautiful **Keurbooms River**. Assist with collecting **bird distribution data** and if you are lucky you may even get to spot the Cape clawless otter!



DAY 11 REPTILE SANCTUARY & ROBBERG HIKE

In the morning you will get to grips with some **scaly friends**! A half-day well-spent learning about the various reptile species in this part of the world. Learn how to handle and examine these slithery specimens. In the afternoon, hike the magnificent **Robberg Peninsula** and learn about its unique geology, history and ecology. Spot **Great white sharks** from land and see the seal colony from a completely different prospective. Run down some rolling dunes, get dive bombed by Kelp gulls, and finish with an optional sundowner watching the sun set over the bay.



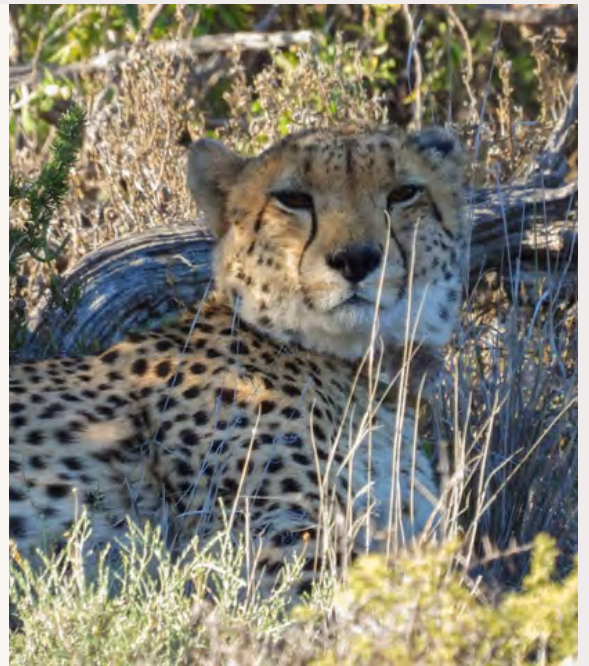
DAY 12 FIRST DAY ON THE GAME RESERVE

After a relaxed breakfast you will be making your way to a **game reserve** where you will be spending the next few days learning about the conservation efforts it takes to successfully run and maintain a game reserve. During your drive you will drive through the beautiful **Outeniqua Mountains**, **Swartberg Mountains** and get for first glimpse of the amazing **Karoo** landscape.



DAY 13 TO 15 WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ON A GAME RESERVE

You will spend the next few days living on the game reserve learning about and helping out in **conservation efforts** on the reserve. These efforts could include aspects such as the **monitoring** of certain species, checking of **camera traps**, **bird identification** and **ringing**, **vegetation** management, habitat utilization and identification of **animal tracks** to mention a few. Track dangerous game on foot and learn about cutting edge conservation efforts taking place.



DAY 16 DEPARTURE

Today is a sad day as we have to say goodbye. After breakfast we will take you to George Airport where you will start to make your way back home. We are sure this experience will benefit you throughout your career and will never be forgotten.

