



SNAKE AWARENESS, BASIC SNAKEBITE FIRST AID TREATMENT AND VENOMOUS SNAKE HANDLING COURSE



A BBBEE Level 4 company

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Saturday 24 June 2017 – Southern Cross School – Hoedspruit.

For directions: <http://southerncrossschool.co.za/directions/>

Program

The course starts at 09:00 sharp with a Snake Awareness, Spider Awareness and First Aid for Snakebite/Scorpion sting lecture that lasts around 3 hours. It includes, snake awareness, biology and behaviour, myths, identification, basic first aid for snakebite and scorpion sting, medical treatment of snakebite and is followed by a written test.

We will break at around 13:00 for lunch and snake handling, for those doing it, will start at around 14:00 (these times are suggested and not exact).

Snake handling, depending on the group size takes around 1½ - 2 hours.

Snakes used for the handling session vary but we usually make use of the following: Puff Adder, Cape Cobra, Forest Cobra, Snouted Cobra and Rinkhals.

African Snakebite Institute will supply all equipment needed for delegates to use during the snake handling session (hooks, tongs, buckets and tubes)

Other equipment needed: As you will be writing a test just before the lunch break, please bring a pen and notepad (for those who wish to take notes). No prior studying or snake knowledge is necessary for the test and the format is multiple choice.

Dress code: Those doing the venomous snake handling should wear long trousers and closed shoes. On hot days please bring along a hat.

Important:

- 1). No spectators are allowed during the Snake Awareness session. This includes children. Spectators (including children) are welcome to watch the venomous snake handling session from a safe distance but please ensure that spectators, especially small children, do not interfere with the training in any way.
- 2). Photographs will be taken during the course and will be made available via Dropbox. Participants and spectators are also welcome to take photographs of the handling session but video recording is not permitted.
- 3). Cell phones: The use of cell phones for text messages and calls is not permitted during the awareness or handling courses and may only be left on for emergency calls.

Please note:

1). Delegates that do the venomous snake handling will have to sign an indemnity prior to the practical session. Those below 21 years of age will have to have a parent or guardian sign the indemnity.

Costs

The ***Snake Awareness/Scorpion Awareness and Venomous Snake Handling*** course costs R1500.00 per person and includes coffee/tea and a light lunch.

For those who want to do the ***Snake Awareness/Scorpion Awareness and First Aid for Snakebite/Scorpion sting*** section without handling, the cost is R880.00 per person.

Scholars under 18 years of age pay a reduced fee of R990.00 for the full course or R550.00 for Snake Awareness.

The full amount will have to be paid prior to the course to secure your attendance. Employees of game lodges and corporate companies can provide an official order.

Credentials

Johan Marais is a **FGASA** approved service provider and accredited by **ISZS** (the ***International Society of Zoological Sciences***). He also does snake awareness and snake handling courses for **NOSA, Travel Doctors** and **Inhemaco**. This course is also registered with the ***Health Professions Council of South Africa*** and registered health professionals earn 4 CPD points. Successful candidates are awarded a certificate in ***Snake Awareness and Venomous Snake Handling***. This course is also recognised by the Directorate of Nature Conservation, Gauteng for those applying for a problem snake removal permit. For more information you can also go to www.africansnakebiteinstitute.com.

Equipment

Snake tongs, snake hooks, scorpion torches, posters and some of Johan's books will be available for sale on the day. Delegates that have any of my books are welcome to bring them along for an autograph.

To book please complete a course booking form and E-mail both the booking form and proof of payment to admin@africansnakebiteinstitute.com