

General Information

The workshop will take place at the University of Fort Hare in Alice, in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. You will be accommodated at Kings Lodge, www.kingslodgehogsback.co.za, in the nearby town of Hogsback. Hogsback is a small town popular with artists and adventure seekers: www.hogsbacktourism.co.za. It has a population of approximately 300 permanent residents.

As Hogsback is at relatively high altitude it can get chilly in the evenings, and has high rainfall. Please bring appropriate clothing to cover both hot and cold weather, in the range 10C – 30C.

The caterers have been informed to take care of special dietary needs, e.g., Halaal food, gluten intolerance etc.

Programme

The programme of the workshop is attached. At a glance, the following is pertinent information:

Technical:

- The technical programme runs all day Monday through Wednesday at the University of Fort Hare (Alice).
- There are colloquia slots where student delegates are strongly encouraged to present an overview of their research project in a brief 5 min slide show of not more than 5 slides. Please prepare this.

Social:

- There will be an opening function on Sunday 27th September at 6:30 pm in Kings Lodge, which will include the official launch of the South African stamp to celebrate the IYL. Afterwards we invite you to join us for a “Sunday Roast” that evening as our opening dinner. There will also be a “light art” event by artist Marcus Neustetter.
- There will be a closing social on Thursday 1st October from 5 pm in the Kings Lodge restaurant. This will be a traditional South African braai.
- The evenings of Monday through Wednesday are free nights – you will have to visit a local restaurant for dinner or arrange to eat at the hotel, at your own cost. It is an opportunity to have informal discussions with others from the workshop in smaller groups.

Excursion Day:

Some options run in parallel so you will have to decide which to go for. You may also elect to enjoy the town and take a walk through it yourself.

Note: Please print this and bring with you to the workshop

- There will be a 4 hour guided walk by a professional guide (Siyabulela), leaving the hotel at 9 am. You will require walking/hiking shoes as the walk takes in the surrounding nature (waterfalls, pools, forests etc.). There is no cost for this.
- We will provide a shuttle to the Eco Shrine, The Edge and Crystal Corner, leaving the hotel at 2 pm. The cost to visit these sites (entrance fees) will be about R100 in total and the trip will take about 2 hrs.
- There will be a tour of the University of Fort Hare, with transport departing from Kings Lodge at 9 am. The tour will take in the museum, celebrating the many African leaders who studied at the university, as well as the solar energy research facilities and the science centre for community outreach. The entire tour will take approximately 3 hrs.
- There is an option to take part in some adventure sport with a bike-abseil-hike combo organized by Hogsback Adventures. This excursion will take approximately 4 hrs and will cost R450 pp.

Logistics

Local transport will be provided from East London airport to Hogsback on Sunday 27th September, departing the airport at 12:30 pm. Return transport will also be provided on Friday 2nd October departing Hogsback at 4:30 am (for the 8 am flights) and 8:30 am (for the noon flights). If you deviate from these times you will have to make your own arrangements. The trip takes approximately 2 hrs.

Daily transport will be provided between Kings Lodge and the U. Fort Hare venue. The journey is scenic and takes approximately 30 min. If you like cycling then this is a heavenly route.

For emergencies please call me (Andrew Forbes) on +27 82 823 1836 or Golden Makaka on +27 71 897 3486.