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MAR!NE VETERINARY SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION COURSE

2027 DATES

MV1 – 15 May to 27 May

MV2 – 21 Aug to 2 Sept

Please note: We use the US Dollar as our base rate, so the EUR price may change at any time due to exchange rate fluctuations.

COST

\$3 590 - US Dollar

€3 150 - Euro

Eight spaces are available per group (to give you the best experience possible!) We work on a first come first served basis. [Complete the application form](#) to register your interest in the Live4Now Veterinary Sciences Course.

ABOUT THE MAR!NE VETERINARY SCIENCE PROGRAMME

The **Mar!ne Vets Programme** is designed for **veterinary students, professionals, and wildlife enthusiasts** eager to gain **practical exposure** to marine veterinary science. Over the course of **two unforgettable weeks**, you'll **learn from expert marine veterinarians, biologists, and conservationists**, gaining valuable insights into their work and the unique challenges of caring for marine wildlife.

Your package includes **accommodation, meals, ground transport, and all scheduled activities**, ensuring a seamless and immersive learning experience.

Please note: Due to the ever-changing nature of wildlife and weather, the order of activities in the itinerary may shift to give you the **best possible experience**.

COURSE OUTLINE



DAY 1 - ARRIVAL & ORIENTATION

You arrive at Cape Town International airport in the afternoon. Welcome to South Africa! You'll arrive at **Cape Town International Airport** in the afternoon, where our team will meet you and transfer you to your accommodation in **Simons Town**. After settling in, we'll host an **orientation session** to introduce you to the program, discuss safety protocols, and give you an overview of the exciting two weeks ahead.



DAY 2 & 3 - CAPE RADD: RESEARCH & DIVER DEV.

Over the next two days, you'll immerse yourself in marine research with the **Cape RADD** team:

Day 2: Begin with a **microscope workshop** focused on shark blood parasites, followed by an **afternoon snorkelling session** where you'll see these incredible animals in their natural habitat.

Day 3: Take part in a **fish dissection** workshop in the morning, then dive into an **AI (Artificial Intelligence) workshop** in the afternoon, exploring innovative ways technology is being used in marine conservation.



DAY 4 - AQUARIUM & WATERFRONT EXPERIENCE

Spend the day at the **Victoria & Alfred Waterfront**. Enjoy a **behind-the-scenes tour** of the world-class **Two Oceans Aquarium** before having the afternoon free to explore the vibrant shops, markets, and restaurants. It's the perfect opportunity to pick up gifts for friends and family back home.



DAY 5 - SANCCOB: SEABIRD RESCUE & REHABILITATION

Today is all about seabirds at **SANCCOB** – the **Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds**. You'll:

Attend a **lecture by the on-site vet** (if available) on what it's like to work with seabirds, including fascinating case studies.

Tour the **hospital facilities** and learn about the centre's vital role in rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing endangered seabirds, especially the **African penguin**.

If available, you'll also observe or participate in a **necropsy session** for a deeper understanding of seabird health challenges.



DAY 6 - WILDLIFE REHABILITATION & PENGUIN COLONY

Spend the day at a **wildlife rehabilitation centre**, where you'll:

Tour the facilities and learn about the unique challenges faced by injured and orphaned wildlife in the Western Cape.

Participate in **necropsies** on interesting species (if available).

In the afternoon, visit the **Stony Point Penguin Colony**, home to one of the largest populations of endangered **African penguins**, and learn more about their conservation.



DAY 7 & 8 - MARINE DYNAMICS, APSS & COMMUNITY VETERINARY CLINIC

Over two incredible days, you'll join the **Marine Dynamics** team in

Gansbaai: Embark on a "**Marine Big 5**" **boat trip** (weather permitting) to search for whales, dolphins, sharks, seals, and penguins.

Visit the **African Penguin & Seabird Sanctuary (APSS)** and assist with conservation efforts.

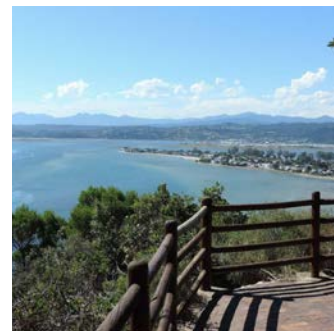
Take part in **blood work analysis** and contribute to research projects.

Spend time at the **Community Veterinary Clinic (CVC)**, where you'll gain insight into the challenges of veterinary care in coastal communities.



DAY 9 - GARDEN ROUTE GAME RESERVE

No trip to South Africa would be complete without a safari! Today you'll travel to a **Big 5 game reserve**. Arrive in time for an **afternoon game drive** and spend the night at the lodge, listening to the sounds of the wild – maybe even the roar of lions under the stars.



DAY 10 - GAME DRIVE, KNYSNA & PLETTENBERG BAY

Start the morning with another **game drive** through the reserve before continuing along the **Garden Route** to **Plettenberg Bay**. On the way, stop at the famous **Knysna Heads** – a spectacular natural landmark known as the "Jewel of the Garden Route."



DAY 11 - COASTAL HIKE & MARINE STRANDINGS NETWORK

Begin the day with a **5km hike** along the **Robberg Peninsula**, guided by a marine biologist who will share fascinating insights into local marine ecosystems. In the afternoon:

Attend a **lecture on the Plett Marine Animal Stranding Network** and their vital role in marine animal rescue.

Learn about the **recent rabies outbreak in Cape fur seals** and its conservation implications.

If available, you'll observe or assist in a **necropsy session**.



DAY 12 - ESTUARY SNORKEL & COASTAL CONSERVATION

Spend the day exploring the **Keurbooms Estuary** with the **Conserve Eden research team**:

Snorkel through this unique ecosystem while collecting data to contribute to ongoing research projects.

In the afternoon, head to the beach for discussions on **urban ecology impacts, coexistence with beach-breeding birds, plastic pollution**, and **marine strandings**. You'll also search for and record marine life sightings along the shoreline.

DAY 13 - DEPARTURE

Sadly, it's time to say goodbye. After breakfast, we'll transfer you to **George Airport** for your flight back to **Cape Town International Airport**, where you'll connect with your onward international flight. We're confident this **Marine Vets experience** will leave you with unforgettable memories, invaluable skills, and a deeper passion for marine veterinary science that will benefit you throughout your career.

