



No two days at Hoedspruit Reptile Centre are the same therefore your schedule will be changeable and flexible as events and structure will vary from week to week based on bookings. Nevertheless, every student will experience at the very least the following during their time at the Centre:

- The normal day to day routine at the Centre
- An excursion into the wilderness to see reptiles in the wild
- Any courses/tours/programmes booked during the duration of their stay
- Preventative medicine and medical care for animals that require it at the Centre
- A community outing
- Developing an enrichment protocol for a reptile species at the Centre and implementing it
- Presenting a short lecture about reptiles to the staff and your colleagues at the Centre
- Various lectures on reptile husbandry, physiology and behaviour will be given throughout their stay

Whenever possible students will be allowed to attend reptile rescues and relocations as well as management of rehabilitation cases.

A rough schedule would be as follows:

#### **Day 1**

##### *Welcome/Settle In*

- Arrive at your new home at the Centre, where you will be given a brief introduction, shown around the house and allowed to settle in.
- Once you have unpacked, grabbed some lunch and relaxed, you will be given a basic orientation of the workings at the Centre, meet all involved and get to know your way around. Basic rules and regulations will be discussed, and a brief tour of the facility given.
- You will learn what Hoedspruit Reptile Centre stands for and what our missions are.

## **Day 2**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 3**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with more advanced duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 4**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with more advanced duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 5**

### *Community Outing*

This is a day where you will be helping with or attending community outreach work. This may be part of our Snake Education and Community Awareness Programme or another conservation effort. The aim is to assist us in teaching people about reptiles and learning from people's attitude towards reptiles. Community outings can occur at local schools, hospitals, orphanages or with general public.

## **Day 6**

### *Rest Day*

Time for some much needed, well deserved rest. You can relax around the pool, go for a hike on a nature trail, visit one of the tourism attractions or do some shopping in town, the choice is yours.

## **Day 7**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with more advanced duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 8**

### *Field Excursion*

Spend the day out in the wilderness looking for reptiles in their natural environment and enjoying the bush and nature.

## **Day 9**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with more advanced duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 10**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with more advanced duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 11**

### *Presentations Day*

Each person does their presentation about their chosen animal. Presentations need to have accurate information about the animal. They must carry some educational value that helps with understanding the animal and thus helping to conserve and save the animal.

## **Day 12**

### *Enrichment Day*

Implement the enrichment protocol that you have researched and developed and present findings to your peers and Centre staff.

## **Day 13**

### *Daily Duties*

Help with more advanced duties in and around the Centre:

- Daily assessment, cleaning and maintaining of enclosures.
- Upgrading of enclosures.
- Administration duties such as maintaining animal records.
- Health and wellness checks of all animals.
- Food preparation and feeding of animals.
- Medical work with sick or hurt animals.
- Animal enrichment.
- Attend any courses/programmes/lectures being given at the Centre.

## **Day 14**

### *Depart*

The unfortunate time for us to say our goodbyes has arrived. The morning offers a last chance to spend time with animals at the Centre, collect your certificates and reference letter and do any last-minute souvenir shopping.