



3 October 2017

Dear co-excavator

2018 STEINAECKER'S HORSE GOMONDWANE EXCURSION: KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Herewith the invitation for 2018. Please note that the project has been extended for a further two years.

WARNING: Archaeological research is no game. It is hard work and because we have only two weeks we can't get behind with the work on site.

It is important that you react quickly to this invitation, so that the group can be finalized as soon as possible.

"First come, First Serve" – the sooner you pay your deposit, the quicker you will know for sure that you can go along. Remember it is the deposit that guarantees your spot not only a positive answer. Your complete application form must also be sent to Prof Anton van Vollenhoven. No exception!

As we are making use of the tourist accommodation, your monthly payments must be up to date, because we have no extension to transfer this money to the Park. If your payment is not up to date, we unfortunately will have to replace you with a better paying customer.

Remember – your full deposit reserves your spot, but a cancellation will mean that you will lose already paid fees. The total group contributes to all the expenses. If we do not get someone to fill your spot we might keep you responsible for the total costs. If we do get someone to fill your spot, you will still lose your deposit and pro-rata payments – see our rules and regulations in this regard.

The site for 2018 is the Gomondwane outpost where Capt. Gaza Gray was in command. It used to be a shop owned by Sardelli the Greek. It is 17km as the crow flies from Lower Sabie (about 35 km via road).

The application form is very important. Please complete it and return it.

DATE OF EXCURSION: Sunday 5 August - Saturday 18 August 2018 (you can also opt to only attend for one week)

Please confirm in writing to Prof Volla – antonv@archaetnos.co.za – he will be responsible for all the arrangements.

Please complete the attached form and e-mail it back.

If you want to participate, your deposit and application form must be returned as soon as possible. Deposit can be paid in the relevant account and proof must be sent to Prof Volla (e-mail or fax). If you cannot go it will be appreciated if you still return your form with a negative answer as it helps with our planning.

Costs of Excursion:

The most important information that you want to know.

- a. As we do not know what the fuel price will be, we may have to ask for an additional amount closer to the time. This however was not done during the past five years. We however need enough vehicles as we need to take tents and other camping and kitchen equipment.
- b. Accommodation – we camp in Lower Sabie. And everything needs to be paid for at ordinary tourism tariffs.
- c. Daily tariff as well as accommodation for our game guard.
- d. Brunch, a light lunch and dinner is included. When on the road, lunch is excluded. We also have one supper at the camp restaurant for your own cost.
- e. The second group will join us on Friday 10 August 2018. The first group will return home on Sunday 12 August 2018.

We have made provision for three vehicles. The budget is:

Full excursion: R 6 400.00 (this only is a 6,25% increase from 2016)

One week: R 3 200.00 ((this only is a 6,25% increase from 2016)

The booking must be confirmed shortly and the deposit paid. Therefore please pay your deposit as soon as possible.

The amount budgeted is well thought through and a good indication of the costs. It might still differ because of the fuel price. **Remember the costs do not include the exchange of people over the weekend – that can only be determined when we have the names of the full group. And of course we will again be asking who have vehicles to assist with this. (This means that if you go for two weeks, your travel is included. If you go for one week it only includes travel to or from the park, depending on whether you go for week 1 or 2. We do however assist with travel arrangements for the weekend change in personnel).**

What do you get for the amount:

- More or less like in 2016. We have a brunch, light lunch and dinner every day during the week. When we are on the road, lunch is not included.
- It includes transportation except for the weekend exchange. Coffee and tea will be available, but the rest of the drinks are for your own account. You must bring your own drinks and snacks and some other camping gear which will be sorted later when the full group has been selected.
- Accommodation (camping stands).
- Fee for our guard.
- Firewood for cooking purposes.

The deposit must be paid as soon as possible, but at least by **30 April 2018** (the sooner you pay, the sooner your place is booked):

Full excursion: R 1 600.00

One week: R 800.00

Arrangements can be made to lower the deposit and increase the monthly payments – just ask.

Bank details are as follows (please ensure that you use the correct information as it is extremely difficult to sort out once monies have been paid into a wrong account):

Account name:	Archaetnos
Bank:	ABSA
Type of account:	Savings
Branch number:	632005
Account number:	907 392 5220
Fax to:	086 520 4173

Your payment, with the completed form and proof of payment must reach Prof Anton van Vollenhoven.

Any communication regarding the payments must be done with Prof Anton.

The deposit date is important. After that, if necessary, additional invitations will be sent out and you might lose your place.

The rest of the amount can be paid at any time, but on the last from May 2018 to July 2018 (6 months):

Full excursion – R 1600.00 per month

One week – R 800.00 per month.

If you wait longer, your instalment will increase. If you pay your deposit sooner, you may immediately start with monthly payment, meaning that the amount per month will decrease. Arrangements can be made separately.

Risks for 2018:

- The increased fees for the guard will only be available in April – might be as high as 20%.
- Transportation is a problem. The increase/decrease of fuel will sort this out, but nearer to the time.
- Again we ask if there is someone that is prepared to make his vehicle available for the excursion and the exchange group. We will facilitate this process, but those needing to exchange will make their own arrangements.
- We must remember that the full kitchen must travel with us. Therefore we will make use of three trailers. If you have a big trailer available, please inform Prof Anton.
- The group will be between 8 and 12 people per week – therefore please don't take any unnecessary items. The space for packing is limited, because we must take camping gear.

- We as well as SanParks prefer that our group move in a convoy. Our budget is also calculated on this base. If there is a life threatening reason why someone must drive his own car it can be discussed, but the full excursion costs will still be payable as we need our number of vehicles to get all equipment to site.

Communication:

All further communication and feedback regarding the 2018 excursion will be dealt with by means of e-mail. Make sure that I do have your latest e-mail address. We will again establish an e-mail group which makes communication much easier.

It is important to know that feedback and inputs are regarded as useful. It will be appreciated if you react quickly to our e-mails, if necessary. Without reaction we do not know if everyone understands and the planning cannot be concluded. So, thanks for your inputs which we will receive. We appreciate it a lot.

Any further enquiries, please contact the project leader – Prof Anton van Vollenhoven.

Contact numbers:

Prof Anton van Vollenhoven:

Cell: 083 291 6104 / Fax: 086 520 4177

e-mail: antonv@archaetnos.co.za



Prof. AC van Vollenhoven

Project Leader