



be prepared



25th senior scout adventure

8–19 DECEMBER 2026

You are invited to join a select group of local and international Scouts for 11 days of extreme activity on the 2026 Senior Scout Adventure in the Cederberg. The Adventure is South Africa's coolest event on the Scouting calendar. The programme provides unforgettable adventure and



fun in the famous backpacking country of the Cederberg Wilderness Area along rugged, rocky trails.

The adventure combines the best of advanced Scouting to provide you with fun and a real challenge – water activities, rock climbing, paintball, sailing, 4x4 challenge, drone orienteering and many more! This is an unbeatable recipe for fast-moving enjoyment and action.

If you are a senior Scout, 15 years or older on 8th December 2026, and you are looking for high adventure and an outdoor challenge in a famous mountain wilderness, then the Senior Scout Adventure has been designed for you! Come and experience the feeling of adventure and the enjoyment of backpacking and climbing in a vast unspoilt wilderness well known for its unique features like the Maltese Cross and the peaks of Tafelberg and Sneeuberg.



THE CEDERBERG

The Cederberg Wilderness Area will once again be the venue for this wilderness adventure. In past Adventures, the Cederberg has proved to be an attractive venue for Senior Scout Adventure participants.



The area used stretches from Pakhuis Pass in the north to Matjiesrivier in the south ... 75 km long and 30 km wide! The Cederberg is a rugged, unspoilt area of mountains composed of weirdly-weathered sandstone - the colour of the rock

varying from cream through light to dark grey, orange, yellow and red. Giant rocks eroded into the most grotesque shapes and sizes - gorges with sparkling streams - Protea-clad slopes sweeping up to the blue sky - soaring krantzes - waterfalls thundering into mountain pools - sunrise from lofty Sneeuberg - lonely and unique Cedar trees with twisted and gnarled branches etched against the sky - rows of peaks marching away into the distance - sandstone caves where the San painted images of the game they hunted in the valleys below. The whole range is in a leopard conservation area.

You, too, can experience the magic of this magnificent wilderness. Backpack along the hiking trails, swim and relax in the clear water of Clanwilliam dam; imagine your trail camp in the mountains beneath a night sky ablaze with stars; experience comradeship at the end of the day as you chat about the day's adventures.

These experiences - and many more - await you at the Senior Scout Adventure 2026.

The Adventure will live on in your memory as an unforgettable experience.



THE ADVENTURE

On the first day, all scouts assemble at Camp Headquarters. Here you will meet other Patrols, collect your rations for the first few days and prepare for your departure. Thereafter, as a Patrol you will follow a hiking itinerary that takes you backpacking for 7 days along trails and across mountains - camping on the trail or at Activity Centres, climbing peaks, swimming - to reach the various Activity Centres and to participate in their programmes. On the eve of the last day, all Patrols re-assemble at Camping Headquarters for departure the next day.



Patrols will have the choice of various itineraries, each following a different route and incorporating a different "cluster" of Activity Centres. Each itinerary is graded so that Patrols may choose the itinerary that best fits the



interests and physical ability of the patrol. The Patrol itineraries are planned to ensure that each person has the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities.

Expert instructors staff each Activity Centre.

At the Water Activities Centre on Clanwilliam Dam you could enjoy SAILING, CANOEING and WATER SKIING.

Learn amazing facts about the universe and explore the brilliant night sky at the ASTRONOMY Centre. And there's more! Overcome the challenge of the COMMANDO Course. Cook yourself and your friends a delicious meal, as well as mouth-watering deserts, at the DUTCH OVEN COOKING Centre.



Experience the thrills and exhilaration of ROCK CLIMBING on the cliffs of the Cederberg place

Take part in a GOLD RUSH and prospect for gold like the old-timers by learning how to pack burros correctly, how to pan for gold.

Then, of course, is the ever popular PIZZA... say no more... mouth-watering...

LITERATURE

As the Adventure will take place mainly in a Wilderness Area, the number of participants are limited to a maximum of 40 Patrols of 10 persons each - that is, 400 participants in total. Patrols are strictly limited to between 8 and 10 persons each to comply with the Wilderness Area regulations, and no exceptions can be made.

In the past we have had participants who have attended the Adventure who, despite a confirmation as to their fitness, were physically incapable of undertaking even the most moderate of hikes.

Participants need to apply and complete their application online, the standard consent form, which may also be downloaded from www.scouts.org.za/adventure, must be uploaded to the application website as well.

Please apply online at www.scouts.org.za/adventure and follow the link to Adventure Online Application.

The Participants Adventure Guide, giving full details of the Adventure, explains exactly what you may expect from your arrival at Camping Headquarters until your departure and includes a recommended kit list.

These will be e-mailed to all participants in August 2026.

A downloadable Patrol Leaders Handbook will be available on-line, also in August 2026.

An Itinerary Selection Form should be completed from 1 November 2026 and returned to the Adventure Secretary at adventure@scouts.org.za.



Both books contain the proposed itineraries and together with other members of the patrol, the Patrol Leader will be required to choose between various predetermined itineraries. Each of the itineraries has been planned so as to ensure that all participants get the opportunity to experience a diverse range of activities while also ensuring that the popular activities - such as Dutch Oven Cooking, Pizza and Water Activities - are visited by most patrols.



VERY IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING ITINERARIES

Itineraries will be allocated to fully paid up patrols, at the discretion of the Adventure Organiser, strictly in the order in which patrols send in their itinerary choice forms to the adventure secretary at adventure@scouts.org.za or once their fees have been paid in full.

See section on Camp Fees for payment and banking details.

Itinerary selection opens on 1 November 2026 for fully paid up Patrols. It is therefore in your own interests to ensure that all Patrol members are fully paid up by that date.



If more entries are received than can be accommodated on the Adventure, entries accompanied by the initial "Save-a-Place" deposit will be accepted in the order in which your online application was made.

The "Save-a-Place" deposits will be returned to any Patrols that are not accepted.



INFORMATION

Scouters

You owe it to the seniors in your Troop to provide them with challenging activities - something that will provide them with a tough challenge over and above your normal Troop programme. In all probability your seniors have attended several Troop Camps. Now they need the BIG experience and here it is!

Adventure Dates

The Senior Scout Adventure will be held in the Cederberg from 8-19 December 2026

Requirements

Members of Scout SA and other Scout and Guide Associations are invited to attend. Participants must :.....

Be of at least Discoverer badge standard.

Be over the age of 15, but not yet turned 18 on 8 December 2026.

Be physically fit.

Adult Patrols, where all participants are over the age of 18, are welcome to enter as well.

As this is a Senior Scout event and also physically demanding, Scouts under 15 years of age will not be accepted (aside from extremely exceptional circumstances).

Closing date for entries

The Closing date for entries is 31 July 2026.

Please apply online at www.scouts.org.za/adventure by no later than 31 July 2026. Earlier notification of your intention to enter a Patrol or a number of Scouts or individuals would be appreciated.

Size of Patrols

The maximum number of participants in a Patrol, including the Mountain Ranger, is 10. This is to conform to the Wilderness Area regulations. The minimum number of participants in a Patrol is 8.

If you haven't enough senior Scouts to make up a Patrol, approach other Troops in your District to make up numbers - there are probably senior Scouts in other Troops who want to participate.

Applications from individuals or smaller groups of scouts will be accepted, and we will do our best to place them in congenial Patrols with a competent leader.

Composition of Patrols

If there are vacant slots in Patrols, in the interests of Scout brotherhood it is a condition of entry that Patrols must be prepared, if requested by the Adventure Organiser, to accept any Scout(s) allocated to their Patrol. In such cases, every effort will be made to keep personal friends, and Scouts from the same Troop, or geographic area, together.



MOUNTAIN RANGERS



Experience has shown that the selection of a proficient adult hiker with knowledge of the Cederberg to support the Patrol is the hallmark of success.

This Adventure will once again have 'Mountain Rangers' to support the Patrols and they will adopt either the role of consultant or the actual Patrol Leader.

The latter leadership role was a strategic change made by the Adventure organisers in 2012. All Adventure Patrol leaders must be older than 16, have their First Class and be recommended as a suitable leader by their Troop Scouter as "competent to lead the Adventure Patrol".

NB. For further details on Patrol composition please read:-

<https://cederbergadventure.co.za/staff/downloads.html>

Mountain Rangers will have Scouts under their care and guidance and they should not only be able to manage Scouts, but set a first rate example in character, co-operation, cheerfulness and high camping and Scouting standards,

be physically able to enjoy rugged hiking and camping in the mountains for 12 days. Mountain Rangers are classified as Staff and will pay the reduced Staff fee subject to the Patrol composition available at the above link on the Adventure website. They will be vetted by the organisers after completing the necessary Mountain Ranger online application and the special Mountain Ranger application form which can be downloaded from the Adventure website under the "Join as Staff > Downloads" tab.



STAFF

A number of vacancies exist on the staff for Scouters and ex-Scouts, 18 years or older. A reduced Adventure fee is payable to cover the cost of food, scarf, T shirt and badge. There is a special fee for self catering staff. Those interested in joining the staff are requested to apply online at www.scouts.org.za/adventure.

ADVENTURE FEE

The fee covers special trail rations and other food for 11 days; the use of all equipment and consumables used in the Adventure activities; transport from Cape Town to the Cederberg and return (450km); all internal transport at the Adventure; all Wilderness Area and other camping fees; and the special Adventure scarf, badge and T-shirt.

Make sure that you apply online at www.scouts.org.za/adventure

- All payments are made electronically (EFT) and the reference is the Group name if payment is for the whole Patrol or surnames if payment is for individuals.
- Cash is not accepted. Payments are not accepted by Regional Headquarters.
- Please email proof of payment to adventure@scouts.org.za.

The fee for Scouts South Africa members/participants is R6,500.

The fee for Namibian, Lesotho, Eswatini, Botswana and Zimbabwe participants is R6,700.

The fee for foreign participants from WOSM country C is R7,500.

The fee for foreign participants from WOSM country D is R8,200.

See <https://treehouse.scout.org/dashboard/participation-fees> for your country code.

A 50% deposit is payable by 31 July 2026 for all participants. The remaining 50% is due by 30 September 2026.

Banking Details

Bank : Standard Bank
Branch Code : 025309
Account Name : National Senior Scout Adventure
Account Number : 070408335
Swift Code: : SBZAJJ

Withdrawal

In the case of withdrawal of applications to attend after payment of the initial booking deposit, the following schedule applies:

Withdrawal between 1 September 2026 and 30 September 2026: refund of half of the deposit paid, less a R50 Admin fee.

Withdrawal between 1 October 2026 and 31 October 2026: no refund of the initial deposit, but a refund of the balance paid, less a R50 Admin fee.

Withdrawal after 31 October 2026: no refund of amounts paid.

Should a suitably qualified substitute be found to fill the place vacated by the withdrawal, there will be no loss of the deposit or other monies paid.



TRANSPORT and ACCOMMODATION



Transport

Arrangements for transport in Cape Town to / from the airport, bus terminal or train station will be clarified closer to the time..

Time of arrival and departure

Individual arrangements should be made to travel to and from Cape Town.

The departure of the coaches will be staggered with the first coach planned to leave from

Cape Town city center for the Cederberg at 06:00 hours on 8 December 2026. **PLEASE**

NOTE: Final times will be advised at a later date.

The coaches will return from the Cederberg to the Cape Town Epping Market at approximately 17:00 hours on 19 December 2026.

Please do not book flights out of Cape Town before 20:00 on 19 December 2026.

Patrols from up-country, travelling using their own



transport, may wish to proceed directly to Camping Headquarters in the Cederberg.

If so, you should aim to arrive no later than 11:00 hours on 8 December 2026.

A road map will be available on our website in due course.

The first meal supplied will be supper on the 8 December 2026.

For the Scouter: An operational plan for organising your expedition

Show this booklet to your senior Scouts - and their parents - in your Troop and make them enthusiastic about attending. Raise the project at your next Group Committee Meeting. Ask the Committee to subsidise your entries, where necessary, so that no Scout is deprived of the opportunity to attend this highlight in his Scouting career.

Send out a newsletter or include news and details about the Adventure in the next issue of your Group magazine to obtain parent support.

If you haven't enough senior Scouts yourself, raise the possibility of sending a District Patrol at your next District meeting, or with other Scouters in your Province.

Appoint an able adult to assist the Scout leader with the organisation of the Patrol before the Adventure.

Make your travel plans early (if by train, road or air) to Cape Town and return.

APRIL: Apply online at www.scouts.org.za/adventure and pay the 50% deposit per person for your Patrol(s) by 31 July 2026. See section on Camp Fees for banking details.

AUGUST: Start training your Patrol NOW for this super-activity. Develop teamwork and refine their backpacking and camping skills by holding overnight hikes.

On or before 30 September 2026, ensure:-Final balance of payment is made for each Participant..

Good preparation and fitness will greatly add to their enjoyment of the adventure.

SEPTEMBER: Participant's Personal Particulars including next-of-kin and Consent form completed in full and uploaded to Adventure online applications at www.scouts.org.za/adventure.

NOVEMBER: Examine the itineraries contained in the Patrol Leaders Handbook and Participants Adventure Guide with the members of your Patrol. Download the itineraries form and enter your choice of itineraries in order of priority and send the form to the Adventure Secretary at adventure@scouts.org.za from 1 November 2026. It is first come first served for teams that are fully paid up.

Organise more ambitious backpacking trips to get your Patrol fit - with heavy packs up to 20kg in weight.

DECEMBER: Hold a Parents / Supporters Evening as a great send-off for your Patrols.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY: Organise a Parents / Supporters evening to tell them about the Adventure, show slides / photographs and thank them for their support.

Photographic acknowledgements:

All photographs used in this publication are acknowledged, with thanks, by the Organisers of the Senior Scout Adventure and having been submitted by participants of Adventure Photographic Competitions.

