OVERBERG GEOSCIENTISTS GROUP (OGG)

(OGG – Reg. No. 275-138 NPO)

GeoExcursion: Greater-Worcester & Hex River Valley Geology, Fold Belt Syntaxis, Hot-springs, Aquifers, Wine & Flower experience

4 – 6th September 2026

This excursion will provide a unique 2,5day experience of the greater Worcester region, including the Greater Brandvlei dam and hot-springs, Doornrivier and Hex River Valley settings. The excursion start-point will be the Stettyn Wine Farm on Saturday 4 September, at 08h30 for 09h00. The Alvi's Drift and Nuy Wine Cellars will be visited during the 3-day event.

The excursion will highlight the juxtaposed southern Cape geological successions, including Malmesbury Basement (>600Ma), Cape Granites (~540My) Cape Supergroup (Table Mountain, Bokkeveld and Witteberg Groups), Karoo (Ecca sediments & Dwyka tillites) and Jurassic/Cretaceous Uitenhage Group rocks (Enon conglomerates). The juxtaposition of these multiple successions covering over 600 million years of geological history, are the consequence of the extensive faulting and folding in the Cape Fold Belt (CFB) Syntaxis zone.

The Southern Cape Mountains Syntaxis zone, also known as the Ceres or Worcester Syntaxis, is a structurally complex region in the Western Cape (RSA), where the north-northwest trending branch of the CFB, meets the east-west trending southern branch. This area (or zone) acts as a hinge or "elbow" of the Cape Fold Belt, resulting in intense folding, faulting, and interference patterns.

The excursion will be led by Jurie Viljoen (Geologist) and Dr Anso Le Roex (Plant Ecologist) who have lifetimes of experience in respect of the geology, structure, soils, and aquifers of the Cape Fold Belt and 'symbiotic' biodiversity of the Cape Floristic Region (CFR). They will be supported by other geological and hydrological experts participating in the excursion.

Registration details and OGG payments are kindly required by end-March to secure participation in the Excursion. The Guidebook and registration fee is R300.00 per person, with no cost to Students and scholars. There will be adequate parking at selected stops, planned for the excursion but sharing of transport to limit the number of vehicles is recommended.

OGG Bank details are as follows: Standard Bank Current Account; Overberg Geoscientists Group NPC; Acc. No. - 10168933800; Branch Code - 051001; Swift Address - SBZA ZA JJ.

Accommodation for the 2-night Excursion will be at the ***Slanghoek Mountain Resort***, an ideal locality and setting to the west of Worcester, with excellent facilities at affordable pricing. Participants must make their own reservations pay their own accommodation costs. Facilities at Slanghoek include camping and cottages; for further details please call the Resort management on 023- 344 3138 Cottage details are in the link below.
https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=6b3c7f64a1&attid=0.2&permmsgid=msg-f:1856808955580776554&th=19c4b5e84528006a&view=att&zw&disp=inlineof the

To register, reserve your place on this Excursion or obtain more details please contact John Bristow (m: 082 571 3004; jwbdia@gmail.com) or Anso LeRoux (anso@pokkraal.co.za).

Brandvlei Hot Springs

Fault Controlled high-temperature (~64º C) upwelling in the Brandvlei Correctional Services Facility south of Worcester.

Image above is pre-1899; image below from 25 February, 2026

Doornrivier Valley, Farm and Mountains in the background

Folded Witteberg Formations south of Worcester

Uitenhage Group, Enon Fm (Nuy, east of Worcester)

Ecca Group, Waterford Fm (near Nuy)

Cederberg Shales (Sandhills, HRV)

Basement of Malmesbury Group shales (south of DeDoorns, HRV)

Hex River Valley (HRV) & Mountains from the north-east (Cape Fold Belt Syntaxis zone)