

# Buffelskloof

Nature Reserve & Herbarium

## **Use and housekeeping of the Buffelskloof Research & Education accommodation and public facilities standard operating procedure.**

### **Staff:**

Housekeeping staff clean rooms with appropriate protective gear, including gloves and face masks.

Staff only enter accommodation after 2 weeks of monitoring for any signs/symptoms of Covid-19.

### **Cleaning:**

- Cleaning all hard surfaces (e.g. floors, desks, countertops, tables) with a standard disinfectant, bleach solution, or mixture containing at least 70% alcohol.
- Cleaning all soft or porous surfaces (e.g. carpets, rugs, drapes) with appropriate cleaning products and/or placing in sunlight for a minimum of 2 hours at a time.
- Washing of all bed linens and towels with a disinfecting laundry detergent, including, bedspreads, and blankets provided but not used will be done after check-out.
- All crockery, cutlery, glassware will be washed in hot soapy water.
- Units will be left unoccupied for 72 hours in between check-out and check-in.

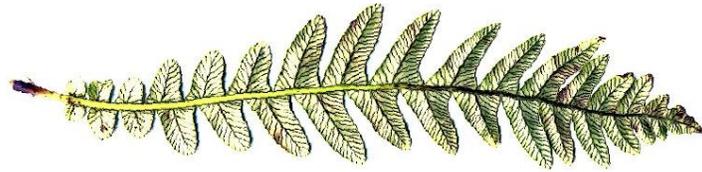
### **Personal hygiene:**

Hand sanitizer dispensers are provided in communal areas.

It is the responsibility of the persons entering the property to practise good personal hygiene at all times especially if they make use of the accommodation or ablution facilities.

Persons using the accommodation facilities are to air the property during their stay and must disinfect objects often touched such as keys; light switches; door handles and taps with sanitizers provided.

Contact with persons should be kept to a minimum, adhering to current social distancing guidelines.



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All persons are required to have their temperature taken on the day of arrival, no person may enter with a higher than normal body temperature.

All persons are required to complete a contact list for contact tracing purposes.

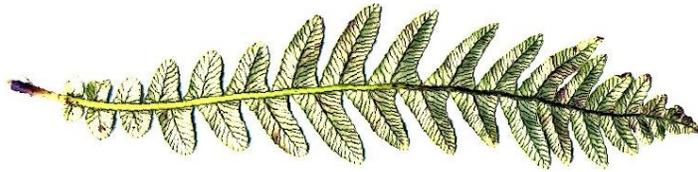
Use of the accommodation and facilities is done at the risk of each individual.

### What to do if a visitor/researcher develops or arrives with COVID-19 symptoms:

- If a person arrives with symptoms of COVID-19 they should be advised to return home (where possible) and/or self-isolate in accordance with current Government guidance.
- If a person has acute breathing difficulties call 082911 and notify the host/manager.
- If a person has developed symptoms during the stay, it must be declared during and/or when leaving.
- It is understood that if anyone staying in the property contracts the virus they will immediately inform their host/manager who can inform them of the next steps to be taken.

### Steps that should be taken on hearing of an infection:

- If the property has a communal entrance/communal stairwell, corridor etc a fully protected housekeeper (gloves & apron) should attend as soon as possible and use disposable materials to wipe down all door handles, entrance systems, stairwell bannisters, light switches to try and minimise risk of spread to neighbours.
- If the property has main door entrance and therefore no further risk to neighbours then the guest should just follow standard self-care methods and in addition, refrain from putting out any rubbish. All rubbish should be double bagged and stored safely for 72 hours before being thrown out. Alternatively, it should be placed in a suitable outdoor bin for removal. Once a property is vacated post infection, appropriate cleaning procedures will be followed.



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## Further information on COVID-19

You might see various references to Coronavirus, such as SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19. The virus itself is called SARS-CoV-2 and is responsible for causing the COVID-19 disease. COVID-19 is shorthand for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (when the disease was first discovered).

SARS-CoV-2 virus is an enveloped virus, and to successfully kill the virus, products must be used that are effective on 'enveloped viruses'. SARS-CoV-2 is passed through respiratory secretions and faeces and can live on different surfaces for different lengths of time. When you touch a surface with virus on it, you can transfer that virus to your hand, which in turn may be ingested by you (through touching your face, rubbing your eyes, etc).

Information and knowledge is evolving all the time, but currently it is thought that the virus can live for up to:

- 2–3 hours in the air
- Up to 4 hours on copper
- Up to 24 hours on cardboard, glass and metal.
- Up to 2 or 3 days on plastic and stainless steel.

Coronaviruses are part of a family of enveloped cells, which means that they are wrapped in a protective layer of lipids (fat) and proteins. Washing your hands with soap, or disinfecting them with hand sanitizer, is an effective way to dissolve the viruses' protective envelope which then exposes and kills the virus.

Further studies to help us understand more about how the virus transmits across surfaces are being conducted every day, so it is important to keep up to date and follow the guidance. You can keep up to date through The National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) <https://www.nicd.ac.za> or the WHO <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>.