Virginia Tech RSAP Summer 2019
Johannesburg | Cape Town | Saldanha Bay

Each year, Solstice partners with a select number of universities to create one-of-a-kind, fully customizable study experiences around the world. With careful guidance from CLI’s team of American and international educators, Virginia Tech RSAP students will gain invaluable insight into South Africa’s distinctive history and the inner workings of some of its most relevant industries.

Solstice provides three core services: (1) assistance in developing your program itinerary; (2) comprehensive pre-departure support (see www.studycli.org/rsapafrica19); and (3) facilitation of all logistical provisions (e.g., domestic and international airfare, buses, hotel accommodations, restaurant recommendations and bookings, activity planning, and Solstice program leaders).

Please note that while the spirit of the below schedule will remain unchanged, certain aspects — in consultation with VT faculty leaders — are subject to be updated. Company and university visits are typically scheduled one to four months prior to program start date. As a result, our proposal may include a few placeholders for unspecified visits. Each will be specified in the months leading up to May 2019, and this process will be completed in close collaboration with Virginia Tech faculty leaders. Solstice maintains a strong track record of providing engaging and impactful company visits to both highly localized firms as well as multinational corporations. As always, please contact us anytime if you have questions, requests, and/or suggestions during the program planning and implementation process.

*Our team looks forward to welcoming VT RSAP back to South Africa in 2019!*

**May 19 - May 24: Johannesburg | Innovation in the Heart of South Africa**

**Day 1 | Sunday, May 19 (Washington, DC to Johannesburg)**
All Day  
Fly from Washington, DC to Johannesburg, South Africa

**Day 2 | Monday, May 20 (Johannesburg)**
Evening  
Arrive in Johannesburg and transfer to our group’s hostel
*While traveling into Johannesburg, engage in a comprehensive orientation session to understand and conceptualize the journey ahead, and share program goals and expectations amongst your fellow travellers.*

**Day 3 | Tuesday, May 21 (Johannesburg)**
Early Morning  
Explore the Apartheid Museum and learn about South Africa’s complex 20th century history

Late Morning  
Visit the township of Soweto with a local guide

Noon  
Group buffet lunch at Sakhumzi Restaurant; then continue exploring Soweto

Afternoon  
Company visit to USK Engineering for a hands-on demonstration

Evening  
Enjoy small group dinners on your own
Day 4 | Wednesday, May 22 (Johannesburg)
Morning    Visit the Civil Engineering department of University of Johannesburg for a presentation and cultural exchange with local students
Noon       Group lunch on campus
Afternoon  Attend a company site visit to ABB Longmeadow
Evening    Enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 5 | Thursday, May 23 (Day Trip to Pretoria)
Morning    Travel to Pretoria (~1.5 hours) for an engineering site visit to a diamond mine
            Travel into the depths of a mine to learn about the history of South African diamonds, and to see how the mining industry and its technology has advanced.
Afternoon  Free time for lunch and exploration in downtown Pretoria
Evening    Return to Johannesburg and enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 6 | Friday, May 24 (Johannesburg)
Morning    Engineering office and site visit to GIBB for a presentation on current projects, followed by a group lunch
Afternoon/Evening    Free time in Johannesburg!

May 25 - June 1: Cape Town | Engineering and Wildlife in the Coastal City

Day 7 | Saturday, May 25 (Johannesburg to Cape Town)
Morning    Fly nonstop from Johannesburg to Cape Town (~2 hours); check into your hostel
Afternoon  Group lunch, then ride the aerial cableway to the top of Table Mountain
            Experience amazing views from the heights of this iconic flat-topped landmark overlooking the city. Table Mountain predates the Andes, the Alps, the Rocky Mountains, and the Himalayas.
Evening    Free time and small group dinners along the Cape Town Waterfront

Day 8 | Sunday, May 26 (Cape Town)
Morning/Afternoon  Attend a full day safari tour at a nature reserve just outside of Cape Town
            Experience one of Africa’s natural game reserves while traveling through the park in a 4x4 Jeep with an expert ranger as your guide. The park is home to hundreds of diverse species, including the big five. An experience to remember!
Evening    Return to the hostel for rest and small group dinners on your own
Day 9 | Monday, May 27 (Cape Town)
Morning: Company visit to PRDW Engineering
Noon: Group lunch nearby
Afternoon: Attend an engineering site visit in downtown Cape Town
Evening: Enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 10 | Tuesday, May 28 (Cape Town)
Morning: Visit Cape Town University’s New Engineering Building for a guest lecture and cultural exchange activities
Noon: Group lunch with students on campus
Afternoon: Hike up to Lion’s Head for stunning panoramic views of the surrounding African landscape
Evening: Enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 11 | Wednesday, May 29 (Cape Town)
Morning: Company visit to Sutherland Engineering
Afternoon: Head to Boulders Beach to see South African penguins!
*Beginning with only two pairs of mating penguins in 1982, this beach is now home to over 3,000 South African penguins. Take advantage of this unique opportunity to interact with local wildlife.*
Evening: Enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 12 | Thursday, May 30 (Day Trip to Saldanha Bay)
Morning: Attend a site visit to Vaalmac Engineering in Saldanha Bay (~1 hour)
Noon: Group lunch by the bay
Afternoon/Evening: Return to Cape Town; enjoy small group dinners on your own

Day 13 | Friday, May 31 (Cape Town)
Morning/Afternoon: Free time on your last day in Cape Town
Evening: Enjoy a festive farewell group dinner and reflection with your peers and program leaders!

Day 14 | Saturday, June 1 (Cape Town to Washington, DC)
All Day: Fly back to the USA