

Is wits.ac.za legit? TrustSniffer's high-trust assessment: 90/100

wits.ac.za

Verdict

90

OUT OF 100

HIGH TRUST

wits.ac.za appears legitimate.

Our checks found nothing pointing to fraud. Ordinary care still applies when you pay or sign in.

Not Scam

Safe for Login

Low Risk

Assessed 2026-08-13 by automated analysis. Classification confidence 75%.

What this site appears to be

Official university homepage (University of the Witwatersrand) offering navigation to study information, news, events, research, contact details and policies. Contains institutional phone numbers, physical address and a chat widget.

Evidence status and limitations

Evidence completeness: UNKNOWN

- The real-world operator identity was not independently verified.
- Module-level completeness metadata is unavailable for this legacy report.

At a glance

The checks that decide most of this verdict.

Malware engines	None flagged it VirusTotal	CLEAR
Google Safe Browsing	Not listed Google	CLEAR
Abuse reports on the host	0 reports AbuseIPDB; shared hosting inflates this count	NOTED
Domain age	29 years old Registered history	CLEAR
Web archive	Archived since 1998 5000 snapshots	CLEAR
Certificate	Encrypted connection Issued by HARICA OV TLS RSA	NOTED

The page as captured

No screenshot is retained for this report.

Key findings

- Automated classification: Not Scam.
- Domain age: more than 10 years (registration continuity).
- Public web-archive history exists since 1998.
- No flags from the reputation services TrustSniffer consulted at assessment time.

Full analysis

Overview

The website presents itself as the institutional homepage of the University of the Witwatersrand, providing information about study and admissions, faculties, research, news, events, staff, alumni, giving, library services, campus visits, contact channels, and university policies. Its apparent purpose is to provide public university information and facilitate institutional services rather than offer financial investment products.

Scam/Impersonation Risk

No contradictions were observed: there were no confirmed phishing, impersonation, or malicious-reputation findings. The homepage identifies itself as Wits University and provides institutional navigation, physical contact details, phone numbers, news, events, and policy content consistent with a public university. Automated interaction testing identified hidden forms and a heuristic association with “t.me.” These are soft technical signals attributed to automated testing rather than confirmed harmful page behavior; the reviewed page contained no login form, no password submission to an external destination, no wallet activity, no credential-harvesting indicators, and no confirmed brand-impersonation finding. The overall evidence is therefore consistent with an established, low-risk website, while the real-world operator identity remains likely rather than independently verified.

EVIDENCE

- Domain registration continuity: registered in 1998 and approximately 28.51 years old.
- Historical coverage: 5,000 archive snapshots spanning 1998–2024, with 27 years tracked.
- The homepage contains no detected red-flag content and presents university-specific sections including “Study at Wits,” “Research and Innovation,” “News,” “Apply,” “Library,” and “Contact.”
- External reputation checks recorded 0 malicious detections, 0 suspicious detections, and no confirmed adverse-list or phishing result for the site.

Regulatory Verification Notes

The site presents a public-university business model centred on education, research, institutional services, donations, and related administrative activity. The reviewed content does not present a financial-services licence or licence number; that is a regulatory-disclosure point to clarify only if a proposed interaction involves a regulated service, and it is not evidence of scam activity in this context. Institutional contact details, policies, admissions material, and public-facing social links provide substantive evidence connecting the site to the University of the Witwatersrand, but the identity-verification status is “likely,” so these signals do not

independently prove the legal operator behind every transaction or service encountered through the domain. No matching broker warning was identified in the available third-party context.

EVIDENCE

- Hosting and network telemetry: served from AS2018, TENET (The UNINET Project) - TENET (The UNINET Project), ZA.
- Transport security: TLS certificate issued by HARICA OV TLS RSA, validation level OV, subject organisation University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, valid to 2027-02-13.
- The homepage provides institutional phone numbers, a physical address, contact functionality, and links to about, study, contact, library, and application pages.
- The page title is "Home - Wits University," and the site links to Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest profiles associated with the university.

What to Verify Next

Before credential or payment interactions, an organisation should independently confirm that the relevant page belongs to the University of the Witwatersrand through a separately sourced institutional contact route. For admissions, donations, or other payment-related activity, the applicable fee, refund or return terms, payment-protection arrangements, and the receiving entity should be checked on the relevant official page and, where material, confirmed through an offline institutional channel. Any service presented as regulated should be checked against the appropriate regulator's public register rather than inferred from the university's institutional status.

EVIDENCE

- The homepage links to dedicated "Apply," "Study at Wits," "Contact," "About," and policy content that can be used to cross-check the relevant service.
- The site's visible forms were identified as search, contact, and chat functions; no sensitive form was identified on the reviewed homepage.
- The university's physical address and telephone details are available on the site for independent cross-checking.

Summary Verdict

Available evidence is consistent with an established, apparently legitimate university website and supports a high-trust, low-risk posture. No scam or impersonation contradiction was identified, although the available evidence does not independently prove the real-world operator identity.

Infrastructure Integrity

The site resolves to a single direct hosting address on TENET infrastructure in South Africa and is not fronted by a detected CDN or WAF. This provides less intermediary shielding than a mainstream edge-protection deployment, but the resolved infrastructure is attributable to an identified academic-network provider and does not, on the supplied evidence, alter the overall trust assessment.

Closing Assessment

Normal informational use is proportionate; before submitting credentials or making payments, the relevant institutional identity, service terms, and payment protections should be confirmed through independent official channels.

Written analysis generated 2026-08-13 by the TrustSniffer Analysis Engine from the evidence in this report.

What the analysis found

No rule findings contributed to this verdict.

Identity verification

Status	LIKELY
Identity score	76/100
Identity verification confidence	76%

- Identity verified on page
- Trusted social count=2

Identity verification measures whether the site can be independently connected to a real-world brand or person. It is separate from the classification confidence.

What TrustSniffer observed

First-party facts recorded during the assessment of wits.ac.za.

- The request stayed on wits.ac.za. It was not redirected to another domain. CLEAR
- The earliest public archive of this site is from 1998-02-07. CLEAR
- It is hosted on TENET (The UNINET Project), from a server in ZA. NOTED

Domain intelligence

Registrar	Not available
Hosting	TENET (The UNINET Project) - TENET (The UNINET Project), ZA
Country	ZA
Server IP	146.141.13.50
Name servers	Not available
SSL issuer	HARICA OV TLS RSA
SSL expiry	2027-02-13
Domain age	28.51 years (continuous registration)
Domain expiry	Not available
Archive first seen	1998-02-07
Archive snapshots	5000

About this assessment

A trust score summarises the evidence TrustSniffer could collect about wits.ac.za at assessment time. It is a starting point for your own judgement, not a guarantee: a high score means the signals were consistent with a legitimately operated site, a low or critical score means several risk patterns were present.

TrustSniffer assesses a website from the evidence it can collect at a point in time: domain registration and age, hosting and certificate, the content the site served, and third-party reputation feeds. A score is a summary of that evidence, not a guarantee and not a legal finding. There is no human rating and no user review in it. A site can change after it is assessed.

This report online: <https://trustsniffer.com/report/wits.ac.za> · assessed 2026-08-13