



*explore*  
**CAMPING**  
in the EASTERN CAPE

SPEND A FEW NIGHTS UNDER THE STARS



*Yours to Explore*

*Eastern Cape*  
PARKS & TOURISM AGENCY



RECONNECT WITH NATURE

# GO CAMP!

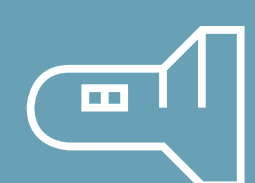
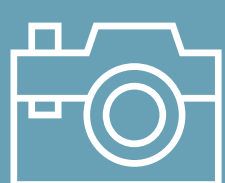
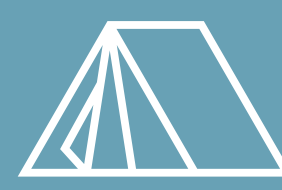
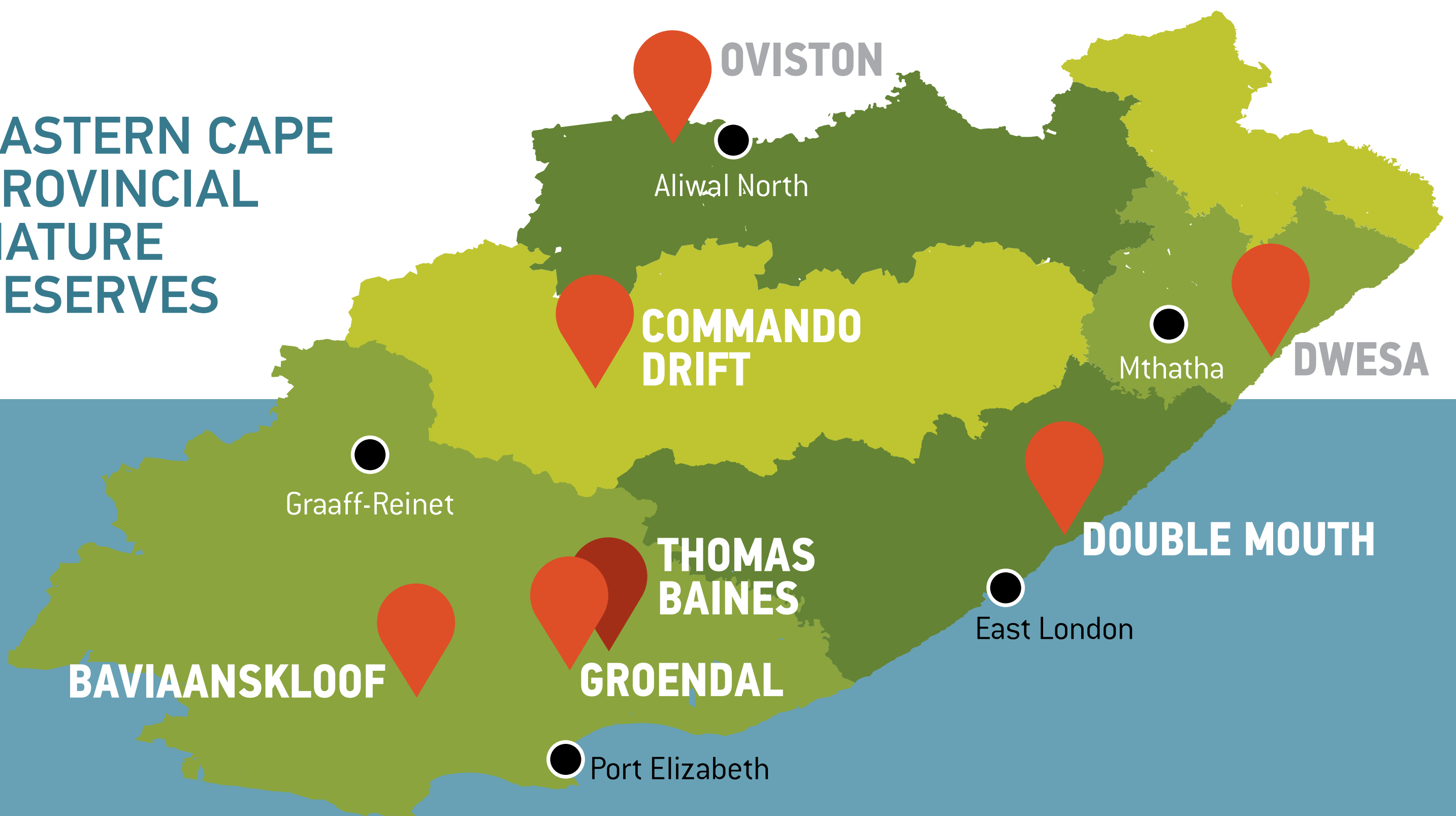


**WE ALL COULD DO WITH SPENDING A FEW NIGHTS UNDER THE STARS!**

Not only is camping great fun, but it also allows us to reconnect to nature with loved ones. And what better way to do this than to explore the many camping options available at the Eastern Cape provincial nature reserves.

If you're not convinced that you're a camper, then take a look at its health-giving properties - for adults and children alike - and you'll be packing to GO CAMP!

**EASTERN CAPE  
PROVINCIAL  
NATURE  
RESERVES**





## BE HAPPY GO CAMP!

More sunlight, fresh air and increased physical activity help the body to create serotonin - that remarkable chemical that makes you happy! And who doesn't need a healthy dose of happiness right now?

## KEEP YOUR BRAIN HEALTHY GO CAMP!

Yes, there are challenges associated with camping that involve problem-solving. How to pitch a tent or deal with situations when easy access to mod cons in familiar surroundings is not an option! New experiences, tackling new challenges and solving problems keeps your brain healthy.



## EDUCATE CHILDREN GO CAMP!

Children are more confident finding their way around a smartphone or iPad than they are navigating a nature trail. Leave the technology behind and help educate your children through the learning opportunities that camping at an Eastern Cape provincial nature reserve provides.

# SLEEP BETTER GO CAMP!

Battling to sleep or wake up in the morning? Escape the artificial light of your computer and cell phone screens. Reset your biological clock by adjusting to the natural light-dark cycle. Not only will you feel so much better – you'll be much better company!



# GET A VITAMIN D BOOST GO CAMP!

During lockdown, we spent too much time indoors. Camping in an Eastern Cape provincial nature reserve means more time in the sun. And more rays mean extra Vitamin D, so important for physical and mental health. (Take care to minimise the risk associated with too much exposure.)

# GET EXERCISE GO CAMP!

All of those zoom calls and webinars have had you seated for too long! Escape unhealthy routine - get up, hit the road and go camp! Explore new surrounds and discover the wonder of exercise on a nature trail in an Eastern Cape provincial nature reserve - some of the most scenic in South Africa.

From the exhilarating Wild Coast to magnificent Baviaanskloof, and all the natural wonders across the forests and valleys of the hinterland, the Eastern Cape provincial nature reserves' beautifully appointed and well-maintained camping and caravanning sites await you. GO CAMP!



# DOUBLE MOUTH NATURE RESERVE

SPECTACULAR SEA VIEWS,  
EASY BEACH ACCESS GO CAMP!



## DOUBLE MOUTH NATURE RESERVE



Nestled alongside the popular holiday town of Morgan Bay, just 50 minutes' drive from East London, Double Mouth Nature Reserve is one of the Eastern Cape's premier coastal camping destinations. Thirty beautiful camp and caravan sites enjoy spectacular sea views and easy access to both the beach and the Quko River Mouth, making this the ideal camp for fishing, diving and water sport enthusiasts. The adjacent estuary and lush forested dunes are home to a large number of bird species, while small game such as bushbuck, blue duiker, mongoose and vervet monkeys are frequent campsite visitors.

Remnants from the shipwreck - Santo Espiritu that ran aground in 1608 just off Black Rock between Haga-Haga - 'money cowries' (cowrie shells used as money to buy goods), carnelian beads (red in colour and were mined in India over a century ago) and Chinese blue and white Ming porcelain shards can be found in the shingle and sand at what has become known as 'Bead Beach', between Black Rock and the Quko River at Double Mouth.

### RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS

Reserve Manager:

071 476 4418 | 087 286 6519

Double Mouth: 087 285 7385

# DOUBLE MOUTH NATURE RESERVE



## GPS COORDINATES

32°43'25.8"S | 28°18'50.4"E

## CAMPSITE

### Double Mouth Campsite:

30 sites

Electrical points and ablution facility with hot water

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: Ablution with hot water

Electricity: Yes (provide own connection)

Braai Facility: Yes

Drinking Water: Yes

Cellular Reception: Yes (close to office)

Wheelchair Access: No

## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

On-site parking

Picnic site with braai facilities

Ablution blocks

## ACTIVITIES

Camping

Caravanning

Hiking

Picnicking

Bird watching

Fishing

Swimming

Surfing

Canoeing

Conferencing

## PLACES OF INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Morgan Bay Cliffs

Gxara Village visits

Climbing and abseiling

Kei Mouth

Morganville Motorcycle Museum

Golf at Kei Mouth Country Club

Cape Morgan Lighthouse

Bushbuck Trail

Bowls at Morgan Bay Bowling Green

Wild Coast Horseback Adventures

Pont at Kei River

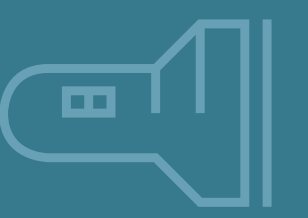
Morgan Bay Hotel

Miarestate

Haga Haga

Double Mouth Photo Frame





## **BIRDS**

Cape gannet  
White-breasted cormorant  
Cape cormorant  
Reed cormorant  
Grey heron  
Black-headed heron  
Little egret  
Cattle egret  
Hadedda ibis  
Cape vulture  
Kelp gull  
African wood owl  
Spotted eagle owl  
African grass owl  
Barn owl  
African fish eagle  
Jackal buzzard

## **ANIMALS**

Bush Pig  
Bushbuck  
Blue duiker  
Mongoose  
Vervet monkey  
Clawless otter  
Dolphin  
Whale  
Porcupine  
Rock dassie  
Black-backed jackal  
Rock monitor lizard  
Great white shark

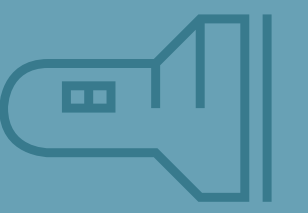
## **PLANTS**

Wild banana (Ikhamanga)  
Milkwood (Umntunzi)  
Sweet thorn (Umnga)  
Fig tree (Umthombe)  
Wild date palm (Isundu)  
Coastal silver oak (Igqange)  
Cat thorn claw tree (Ispingo)  
African potato (Inongwe)





## DOUBLE MOUTH NATURE RESERVE



## DIRECTIONS

80km from East London, via N2 and R349

229km from Mthatha, via N2 and R349

240km from Queenstown via N6, R63, N2 and R349

## PERMITS REQUIRED

Fishing permit (from post office)

Day visit and overnight permit (receipt)

## CLOSEST TOWNS

Morgan Bay: 5km

Kei Mouth: 14km

East London: 90km

Mthatha: 213km

Queenstown: 240km

Port Elizabeth: 400km



## RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

2x4 or 4x4

Sedan



# BAVIAANSKLOOF WORLD HERITAGE SITE

NATURE LOVER'S PARADISE  
GO CAMP!



## BAVIAANSKLOOF WORLD HERITAGE SITE



A UNESCO World Heritage Site as well as a Cape Floristic Region protected area, Baviaanskloof (Valley of the baboons) is a magnificent mountain kingdom spanning 2 040km, boasting seven of South Africa's nine biomes - fynbos, forest, grassland, succulent Karoo, Nama-Karoo, subtropical thicket and savannah.

At the eastern entrance to the reserve is the World Heritage Site Interpretive Centre with dedicated displays that showcase the reserve. Guides are on hand to show visitors around the centre and explain all about the rich biodiversity, cultural heritage and natural wonders that make Baviaanskloof one of the most spectacular regions in the country.

In addition to the scenic splendour of the region, Baviaanskloof is fast gaining recognition as one of South Africa's premier adventure destinations. Traversing this reserve by 4x4 or on mountain bike (permission and support vehicle required), up rugged mountain passes, through rivers and across the plateau, is an unforgettable true wilderness experience.

### RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS

Komdomo Office: 087 286 6494

Senior Reserve Manager: 079 496 7979





**GPS COORDINATES**

33°39'47.2"S | 24°32'29.2"E

**CAMPSITES**

**Komdomo Campsite (3-Star):**

27 sites (Groot River)

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: 2 ablutions

Electricity: Yes

Braai Facility: Yes (bring grid)

Drinking Water: Yes

Cellular Reception: No

Wheelchair Access: No

**Rooihoek Campsite:**

6 sites (Kouga Dam region)

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: Long drop

Electricity: No

Braai Facility: Yes (bring wood)

Drinking Water: Yes

Cellular Reception: No

Wheelchair Access: No

**Doodsklip Campsite:**

5 sites

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: Long drop

Electricity: No

Braai Facility: Yes (bring grid & wood)

Drinking Water: No (bring own)

Cellular Reception: No

Wheelchair Access: No



# BAVIAANSKLOOF WORLD HERITAGE SITE



## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

Komdomo picnic area & bird trail  
Grasnek lookout point  
World Heritage Interpretive Centre  
Smitskraal picnic area  
Poortjies waterfall walk  
Combrink Pass lookout point  
Bergplaas Plateau lookout

## ACTIVITIES

Camping  
Bird watching  
Swimming  
Cycling  
Wildlife photography  
Guided tour of World Heritage Centre  
Guided walk to San rock-art  
Wilderness self-drive along the R332  
Cable way at Holgat pass lookout point  
Hiking:  
• Bergplaas Hiking Trail to Pete's Pools  
• Poortjies Waterfall Trail  
• Komdomo River Trail  
• Maqpeek Hiking Trail

## PLACES OF INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Kouga Dam  
Sarah Baartman gravesite - Hankey  
Fig tree forest at Baviaanskloof  
Padlang  
Grootriverpoort  
Tolbos Farm Stall  
Vero's craft shop  
Willowmore  
Karoo Farm Tour  
Makkedaat Caves  
Largest sundial in Africa  
2nd largest in Southern Hemisphere  
- Hankey





## **BIRDS**

Hottentot buttonquail  
Blue crane  
Knysna woodpecker  
Crowned eagle  
Black harrier  
Orange-breasted sunbird  
African fish eagle  
Knysna turaco

## **ANIMALS**

Eland  
Kudu  
Cape buffalo  
Klipspringer  
Cape mountain zebra  
Bushbuck  
Leopard  
Mountain reedbuck  
Red hartebeest  
Baboon  
Vervet monkey  
Duiker  
Grysbok  
Grey Rhebok  
Aardvark  
Aardwolf  
Cape Clawless Otter  
Honey Badger  
Bush Pig  
Leopard  
Bat-eared Fox  
Caracal

## **PLANTS**

Protea  
Erica  
Cedar  
Pre-historic cycad  
Giant Outeniqua  
yellowwood  
70 succulent species



# BAVIAANSKLOOF WORLD HERITAGE SITE



## DIRECTIONS

234km from Knysna, via N2 and N9

207km from Graaff-Reinet, via N9

120km from Port Elizabeth, via N2, R75, R329 and R332

548km from East London, via N2, R75, R329 and R332

## PERMITS REQUIRED

Entrance & Activity permits (camping/day visit/drive through).

## CLOSEST TOWNS

Patensie to Komdomo office 35km

Humansdorp 79km

Jeffrey's Bay 107km

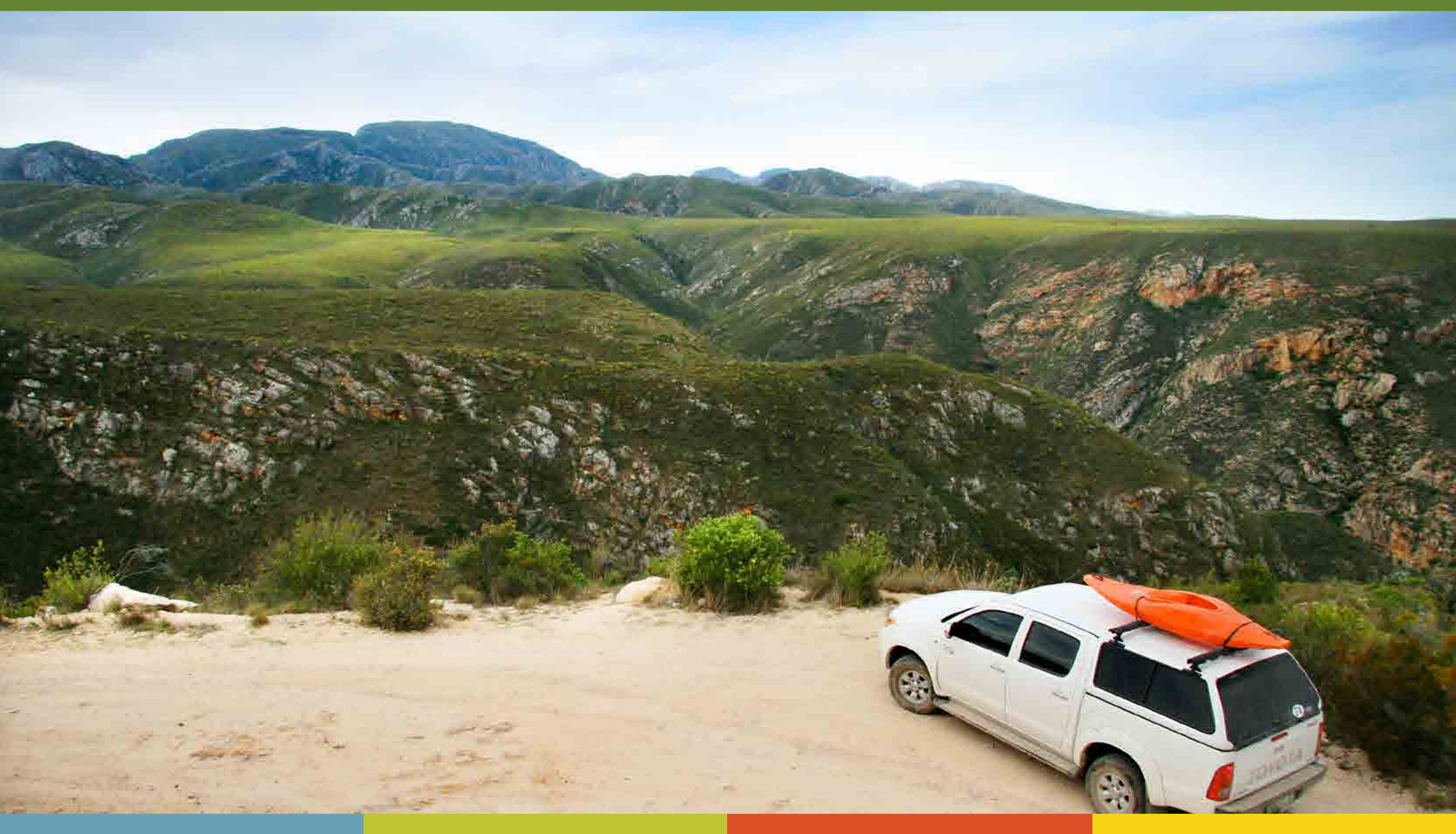
Port Elizabeth 120km

Willowmore to Western Gate 149,5km

## RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

2x4 or 4x4

*(No quad bikes or motocross bikes allowed).*



# GROENDAL NATURE RESERVE

MOUNTAINS, STREAMS, RAVINES  
& MOST POPULAR HIKING SPOT  
GO CAMP!





## GROENDAL NATURE RESERVE



The 45 000ha Groendal wilderness area protects the water catchment of the Swartkops River (KwaZungha River) and forms part of the spectacular Baviaanskloof World Heritage Site. Although it is situated just 50km from central Port Elizabeth, it is characterised by unspoiled landscape including deep kloofs, gushing streams, ravines and crystal-clear pools. At the centre of the reserve is the tranquil Groendal Dam. Encompassed by the towering Groot Winterhoek Mountain Range, the reserve was first proclaimed a wilderness area in 1976, making it one of the oldest protected areas in the Eastern Cape. Groendal is important to our cultural heritage, as the protected San rock-art in the area provides an invaluable record of the earliest inhabitants of this region.

Groendal is one of the most popular hiking destinations in the Nelson Mandela Bay area. The predominantly fynbos vegetation is home to a diverse range of bird and animal species.

### **RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS**

Groendal Office: 087 086 2499

Reserve Manager: 071 609 1383

Section Ranger (alternative): 073 378 4324



# GROENDAL NATURE RESERVE



## GPS COORDINATES

33°40'37.5"S | 25°12'45.2"E

## CAMPSITES

### Rooikrans Campsites (3-Star):

8 sites

Bathrooms: Yes

Electricity: Yes

Braai Facility: Yes

Drinking Water: No

Cellular Reception: No

Wheelchair Access: No

## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

Picnic site with braai facilities

Lapa

## ACTIVITIES

Camping

Picnicking

San rock-art

Old graves and monument

Hiking:

- 16km Blindekloof Trail to Crystal Cavern Pool & short 4km circular trail
- 32km Upper Blindekloof Trail (advanced - 2 days sleep tent or cave)
- Emerald Pool Trail to Groendal Dam (cross Swartskop River to Eel Cave)
- Dam Trail through riverine forest along KwaZunga River through Aquilakloof

## PLACES OF INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Drostdy Museum - Uitenhage

Auto Pavilion Museum - Uitenhage

Island Nature Reserve

Addo Elephant Park

Baviaanskloof World Heritage Site

Rock-art / Kwa-Zunga catchment

Addo Elephant National Park

Zipline and quadbike in Addo

Baviaanskloof World Heritage Site





## BIRDS

Buttonquail  
Fish eagle  
Knysna turaco  
Francolin  
Partridge  
Yellow-billed duck  
Black duck

## ANIMALS

Baboon  
Common duiker  
Cape grysbok  
Bushbuck  
Grey rhebok  
Mountain reedbuck

## PLANTS

Fynbos  
Indigenous forest  
Valley bushveld scrub  
Sneezewood (*Ptaeroxylon Obliquum*)  
Pork bush (*Portulacaria Afra*)  
Big karee thorn (*Lycium Astrinum*)  
Bitter aloe (*Aloe Ferox*)  
Cycads  
Real yellowwood (*Podocarpus Latifolius*)  
White stinkwood (*Celtis Africana*)  
White ironwood (*Vepris Undulata*)





## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

SAPS: 041 996 3438 / Ambulance: 10177  
Search and Rescue: 072 324 4985 | 073 755 2250  
Emergency Automobile Service: 0800 003 066

## DIRECTIONS

19km from Uitenhage, via Doornhoek Rd  
60km from Port Elizabeth via R75, Doornhoek Rd  
265km from Knysna, via N2  
305km from East London, via N2

## PERMITS REQUIRED

Entrance permit / Activity permit / Accommodation permit



## CLOSEST TOWNS

Uitenhage 10km  
Port Elizabeth 50km

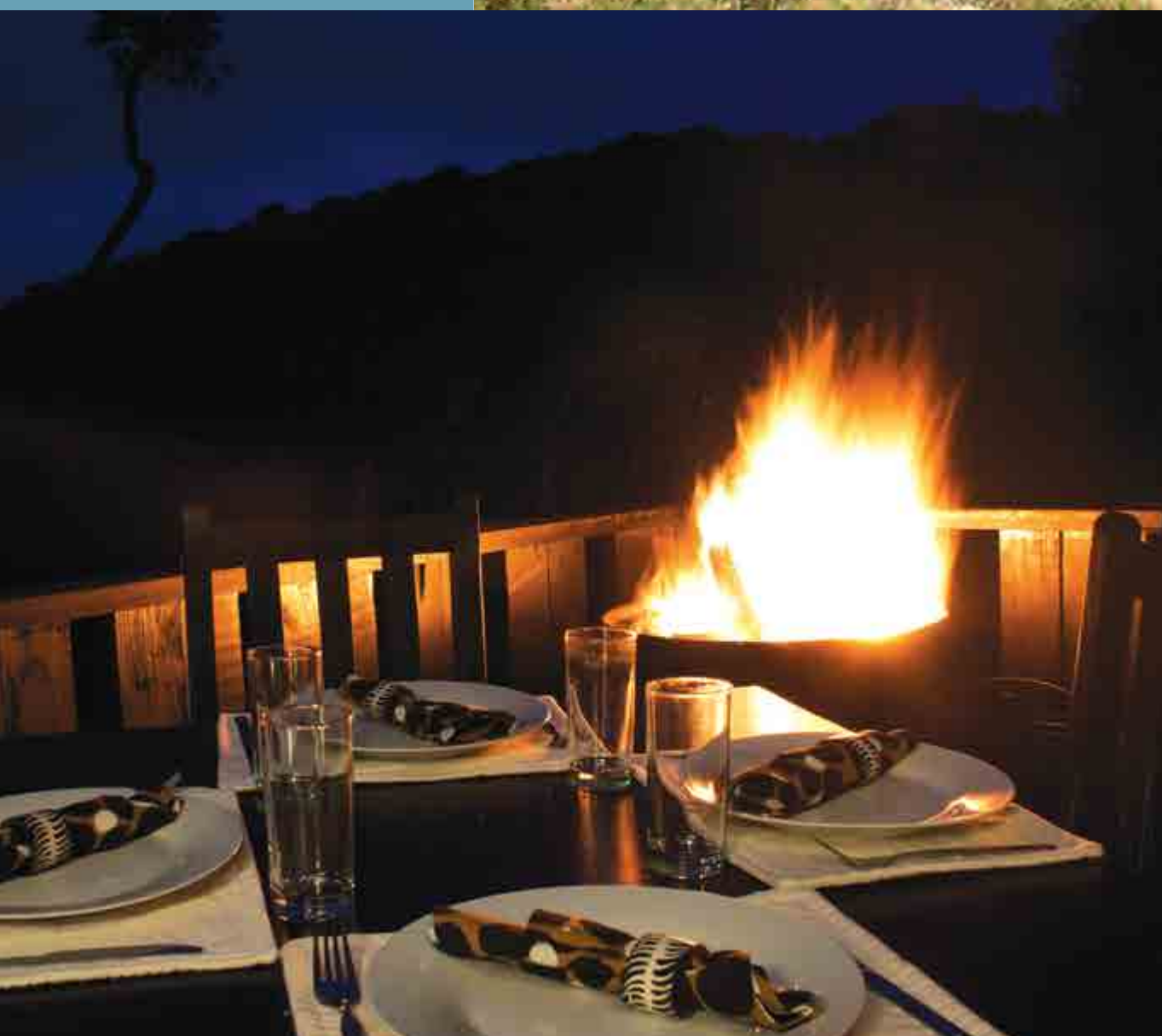
## RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

All types of vehicles



# DWESA-CWEBE NATURE RESERVE

A RANGE OF HIKING TRAILS THROUGH  
THICK COASTAL FOREST GO CAMP!



## DWESA-CWEBE NATURE RESERVE



Straddling the impressive, 140km Mbhashe River on the Wild Coast, the Dwesa and Cwebe Nature Reserves are situated in one of the Eastern Cape's most unspoilt coastal conservation areas. Birdlife at these reserves is truly incredible. More than 200 terrestrial and coastal species have been recorded including the globally threatened spotted ground thrush, which breeds here. The coastal mangroves hold the only protected breeding population of mangrove kingfisher in South Africa. Featuring a range of low-, medium- and high-impact hiking trails through thick coastal forest, this is the ideal setting for visitors wanting to get back to nature.

While similar in vegetation, the two reserves nonetheless have individual identities. Dwesa, the larger of the two, features a bigger variety of game, while Cwebe boasts a more diverse habitat, from forest and grassland to lush mangroves.

A short walk through the dune forest reveals a perfect, unspoiled shelly beach with fascinating rock pools. The campsite is sheltered by the forest and bluff. Spectacular views from Kobole Point and of the nearby waterfall are definite highlights.

### **RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS**

Admin Office: 087 286 6536

Reserve Manager: 079 496 7923

# DWESA-CWEBE NATURE RESERVE



## GPS COORDINATES

32°15'14.9"S | 28°52'36.5"E

## CAMPSITE

### Dwesa Campsite:

40 sites

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: 1 ablution & bush showers

Electricity: No

Braai Facility: Yes

Drinking Water: Yes

Wheelchair Access: No

*No campsites at Cwebe.*

## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

Braai site

## ACTIVITIES

Swimming

Hiking

Mountain biking

Bird watching

Camping & caravanning

Fishing

Forest walks

Cycling

Guided and non-guided game viewing (only designated private tour guide)

Explore:

- O' Bell Shipwreck site (1916)
- Mbashe River Estuary
- Kobolo Viewpoint - game viewing
- Dwesa Point - game viewing
- Magonya Hills - whale & dolphin watching
- Mendu point - whale & dolphin lookout
- Mbanyana Falls (Cwebe)
- Coastal indigenous forest

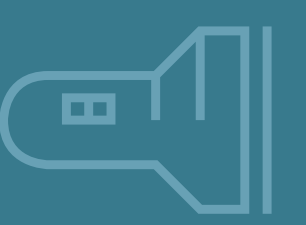
## PLACES OF INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Nqabara River Mouth

King Hintsa gravesite

Collywobbles Cape vulture colony





## BIRDS

Spotted ground thrush  
Red-necked spurfowl  
Lemon dove  
Trumpeter hornbill  
Crowned hornbill  
Knysna turaco  
Olive woodpecker  
Forest buzzard  
Crowned eagle  
Rufous-breasted  
sparrowhawk  
African wood owl  
African black  
oystercatcher  
Narina trogon  
Kelp gull  
Black headed heron  
Mangrove kingfisher

## ANIMALS

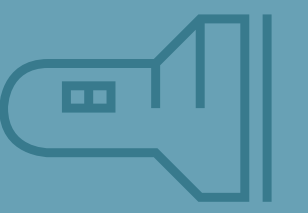
African buffalo  
Burchell's zebra  
Eland  
Crocodile  
Blue duiker  
Caracal  
Spotted genet  
Black-backed jackal  
Dolphin  
Whale

## PLANTS

Coastal coral tree  
Big num-num  
Cape box  
Common cabbage tree  
Forest num-num  
Natal box  
Stink ebony  
Forest false nettle  
Forest iron plum  
Real yellowwood  
Cape plane  
Common yellowwood  
Quinine tree  
River euphorbia  
White milkwood  
Sweet thorn  
Red pear  
Forest bushwillow  
Cross berry  
Red-stem corkwood  
Dog ash  
Woolly cape bush  
Dog plum  
Forest knob wood  
Small bone-apple  
Spiny gardenia  
Weeping bride's bush  
Bitter aloe  
Red beech  
Cape ape  
Laburnum  
Skunk bush  
Dune myrtle  
Cheesewood  
Large-leaved dragon tree







## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police Station: 047 576 9296

Madwaleni Hospital: 047 564 1207

## DIRECTIONS

80km from Idutywa, via R408

160 from Mthatha, via N2 and R408

233km from East London, via N2 and R408

## PERMITS REQUIRED

Entry permit

Fishing permit (subsistence and recreational-catch and release fishing is allowed)

Cycling, birding and hiking permit

Transport permit (for hunting clients)

Hunting permit and hunting license (for hunting clients)

Threatened or Protected Species permit for the hunting of African buffalo

## CLOSEST TOWNS

DWESA: Willowvale 50km / Idutywa 80km / Mthatha 160km

East London 230km / Port Elizabeth 550km

CWEBE: Mthatha 104km

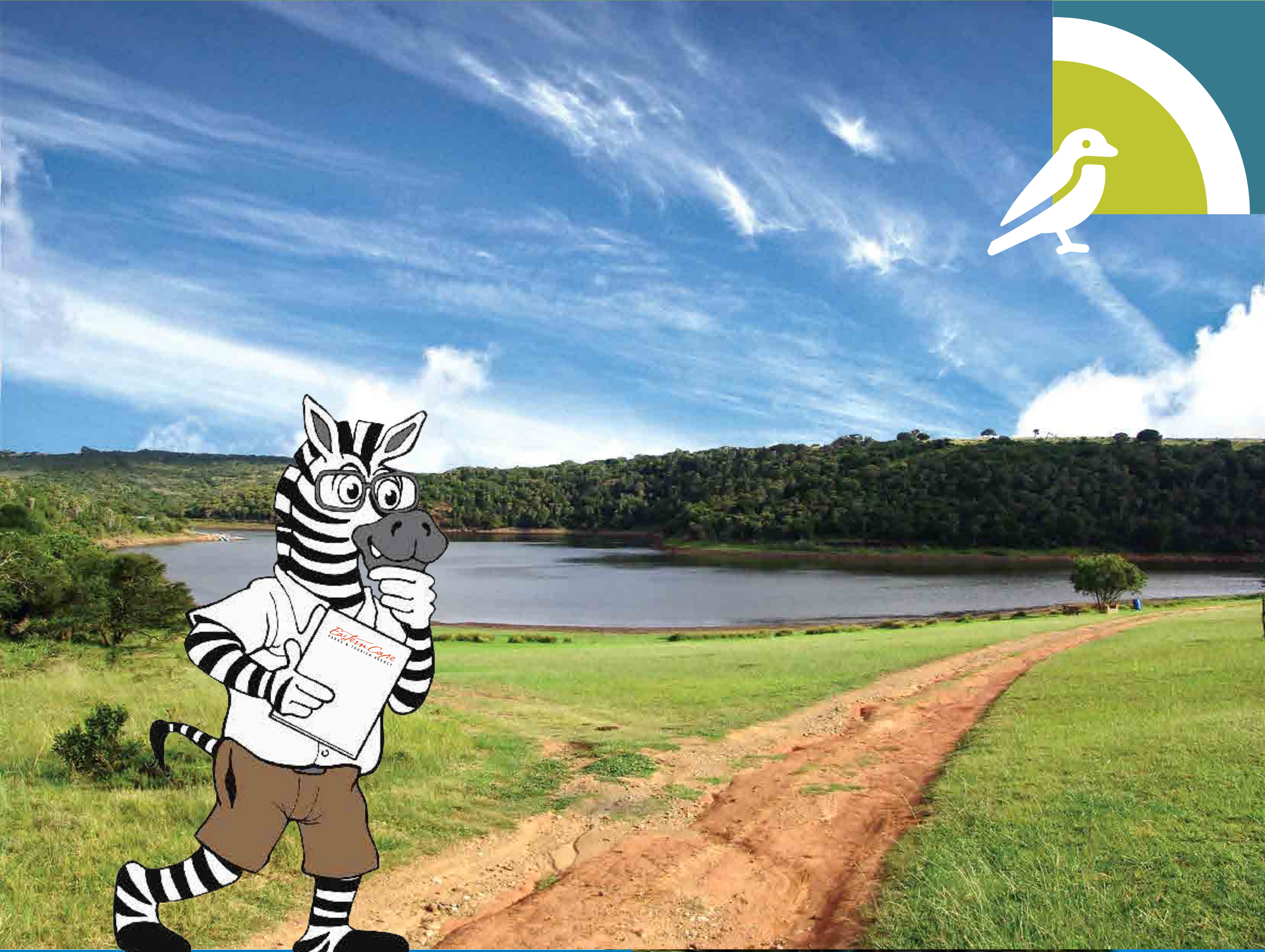
## RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

2x4 or 4x4



# THOMAS BAINES NATURE RESERVE

RUSTIC CHARM ON THE BANKS OF  
SETTLERS DAM GO CAMP!



## THOMAS BAINES NATURE RESERVE



Just 12km outside Makhanda, Thomas Baines Nature Reserve is an ideal destination for those wanting to explore the rich historical, cultural and geological history of South Africa's famed Frontier Country. Originally established as a municipal nature reserve in 1961, it was declared a provincial nature reserve in 1980. The reserve comprises a number of farms bordering and incorporating Howison's Poort Reservoir and Settlers Dam - both important water sources for Makhanda.

The 1 000-hectare reserve teems with birdlife, and the 15kms of dirt tracks make for excellent game drives, nature walks and mountain biking. Look out for eland, zebra, red hartebeest, warthogs and monkeys as you negotiate the reserve's lush fynbos and Albany thicket landscapes. Scenic but basic, non-powered campsites on the banks of Settlers Dam offer a rustic charm, in close proximity to excellent fishing, sailing and hiking sites.

The reserve is named after the famous 19th century artist, who left a valuable record of the rich diversity of flora and fauna in the region, including the now extinct Quagga.

### RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS

Reserve Manager: 079 496 7979

Section Ranger: 079 423 3492

Office: 087 285 7399 / 7398 / 7397

# THOMAS BAINES NATURE RESERVE



## GPS COORDINATES

33°39'47.2"S | 24°32'29.2"E

## CAMPSITE

### Settlers Dam Campsite

#### (3-Star):

5 sites

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: Ablutions

Electricity: Yes

Braai Facility: Yes (bring wood)

Drinking Water: Yes

Cellular Reception: Yes

Wheelchair Access: Yes

## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

Picnic site

Conference hall

## ACTIVITIES

Bird watching

Hiking

Cycling

Camping

Picnicking

Teambuilding

Self-drive game viewing

Fishing

Canoeing (bring own canoe & safety gear)

## PLACES OF INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Makhanda - Host: National Arts Festival

Albany Museum

Observatory Museum

Settlers Monument

Sunshine Coast - beautiful beaches





## **BIRDS**

African fish eagle  
Crowned eagle  
Jackal buzzard  
Knysna turaco  
Fiery-necked nightjar  
Trumpeter and crowned hornbill  
Black and grey cuckoo-shrike  
Fork-tailed drongo  
Wagtail  
Starling  
Flycatcher  
Malachite sunbird  
Canary species  
Weaver species  
Bulbul species  
Honeyguide species  
Woodpecker species  
Swallow species  
Dove species  
Cuckoo species  
Owl species

## **ANIMALS**

Warthog  
Vervet monkey  
Blue duiker  
Aardwolf  
Eland  
Kudu  
Red hartebeest  
Mountain reedbuck  
Common duiker  
Wildcat  
Plains zebra

## **PLANTS**

Kowie Thicket  
Bhisho Thornveld  
Suurberg Shale Fynbos  
Suurberg Quartzite Fynbos  
Southern Mistbelt Forest  
Xeric Kaffrarian Thicket (Valley Bushveld),  
Xeric Succulent Thicket (Succulent Valley Bushveld),  
Riparian Forest  
Riparian Thicket  
Afro-montane Forest  
Grassy Fynbos  
Grassveld and Bush Clump  
Savannah



# COMMANDO DRIFT NATURE RESERVE

SPECTACULAR CLIFFS, NUMEROUS  
HIKING TRAILS, DIRECT ACCESS TO  
DAM GO CAMP!



## COMMANDO DRIFT NATURE RESERVE



Roughly 60km from Cradock, in the heart of Eastern Cape hinterland, lies the Commando Drift Nature Reserve with its central geographical feature, the impressive Commando Drift Dam. Fed by four rivers, the dam ensures an abundance of wildlife, including the endangered mountain zebra. Among the most striking features of the reserve is a series of spectacular dolerite and sandstone cliffs, as well as numerous popular hiking and off-road trails, including the Bushman and Endurance hiking trails and Palingkloof jeep track.

A great biking destination, the mountain bike trail has a circular route and a number of alternative trails. It is fairly easy, but includes some challenging hills, rocky terrain and a few devil thorns!

The reserve offers scenic chalets, campsites and direct lake access, making this a great option for the avid fisherman. Snow has been recorded in the surrounding mountains in winter months, so be prepared for cold!

### RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS

087 286 6404



## COMMANDO DRIFT NATURE RESERVE



### GPS COORDINATES

32°04'37.4"S | 26°01'46.4"E

## CAMPSITES

### Commando Drift Campsite:

2 sites

### Commando Drift Caravan Park:

2 sites

Carrying Capacity: 6 pax max

Bathrooms: 1 ablution

Electricity: Yes

Braai Facility: Yes (bring grid)

Drinking Water: Yes

Cellular Reception: Poor

Wheelchair Access: No

## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

Picnic site with braai facilities

Fishing

## ACTIVITIES

Hiking

Bushman Trail (6km)

Endurance Trail (28km circular)

Fishing

Boating (own boat)

Self-drive game viewing

Camping

Picnicking

Hunting

Birding

Rock-art paintings

## PLACES OF INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Cradock - Schreiner House

Olive Schreiner Museum

Golf Club

Tarkastad - 4x4 trail

Commando Drift Dam

Rock-art

Bushman Trail

Cradock Four Garden of

Remembrance in Lingelihle

Mountain Zebra National Park

Tarkastad rock engravings in

Grootvlei

Tarkastad War Memorial







## **BIRDS**

Blue crane  
Hadedda ibis  
White-necked raven  
Black crow  
Olive thrush  
Red-winged starling  
African fish eagle  
Cape turtle dove  
Egyptian goose



## **ANIMALS**

Black wildebeest  
(White-tailed gnu)  
Cape mountain zebra  
Bontebok  
Ostrich  
Kudu  
Aardvark  
Warthog  
Springbok  
Steenbok  
Grey rhebok  
Black-backed jackal  
Porcupine  
Springhare  
Rock hyrax  
Caracal  
Common duiker



## **PLANTS**

Sweet thorn  
Blue bush  
Glossy currant  
Bitter aloe (Aloe Ferox)  
Kei apple





## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police: 10111

Emergency Services: 10177

Cradock Hospital: 048 881 2123

## DIRECTIONS

60km from Cradock, via R61

51km from Tarkastad, via R61

289km from Port Elizabeth, via N10

307km from East London, via N6, R61

## PERMITS REQUIRED

Threatened or Protected Species (TOPS) permit

Hunting permit

Fishing permit (available at reserve office)



## CLOSEST TOWNS

Cradock 55km

Tarkastad 35km

Queenstown 125km

## RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

2x4 or 4x4



# OVISTON NATURE RESERVE

BUCK- & BIRD-RICH KAROO  
LANDSCAPE ON THE BANKS OF  
GARIEP DAM GO CAMP!



## OVISTON NATURE RESERVE



Initially established to preserve the False Upper Karoo vegetation and to support a breeding programme for buck, the 16 000ha reserve is one of the Eastern Cape's best-kept secrets. It is a secluded, peaceful reserve situated on the southern shores of the Gariep Dam – South Africa's largest standing body of fresh water. A visit to the quiet waterside village of Oviston in the Little Karoo is well worthwhile – spend afternoons fishing and boating on the dam and enjoy a self-drive game drive through this awesome reserve. The Karoo climate is characterised by blazing hot days, followed by cool evenings and extraordinary sunsets. The landscape of wide-open grasslands, little 'koppies' and deep blue skies is a photographer's dream.

Gariep Dam is perfect for watersports, boating and swimming and is an excellent fishing destination. Anglers can hope to land Largemouth Yellowfish, Orange River Mudfish, Moggel and Sharptooth Catfish. The highlight of a day at the reserve is a sunset cruise on the peaceful dam.

### **RESERVE CONTACT DETAILS**

Office: 087 285 7390

Reserve Manager: 066 484 8364

Fax: 087 287 9293

# OVISTON NATURE RESERVE



## GPS COORDINATES

30°36'51.0"S | 25°54'40.9"E

## CAMPSITE

### Ihodi Campsite (3-Star):

2 sites

Carrying Capacity: 4 pax max

Bathrooms: 1 ablution

Electricity: No

Braai Facility: Yes (bring wood)

Drinking Water: Yes

Cellular Reception: Yes

Wheelchair Access: No

## DAY VISITOR FACILITIES

Ihodi Campsite

Game viewing routes

Red hartebeest hills

## ACTIVITIES

Fishing

Cycling

Birding

Hiking

Hunting (permit required)

## INTEREST/ ATTRACTIONS

Gariep dam wall

Bethulie railway bridge

Oviston tunnel

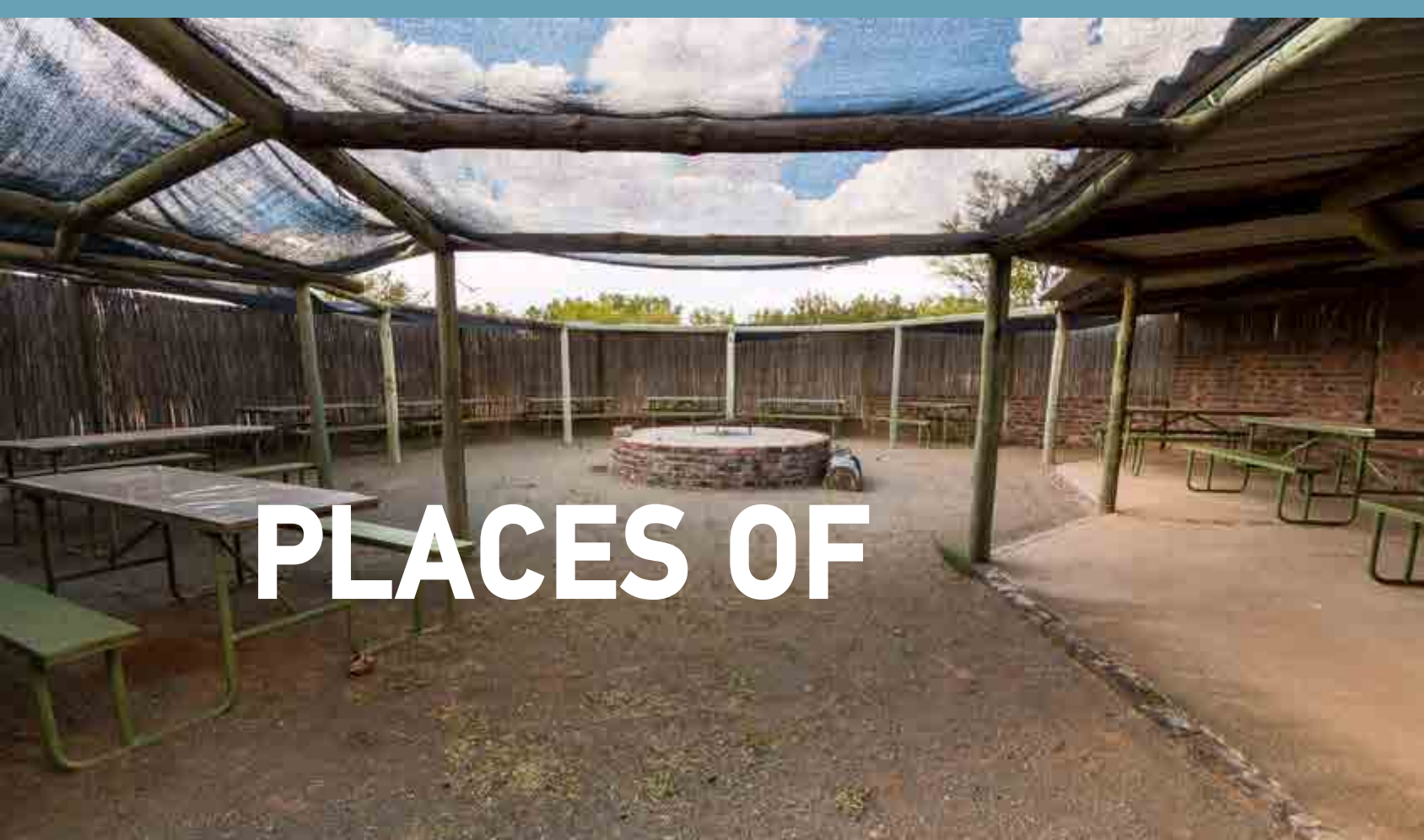
Anglo Boer War sites

Orange fish tunnel

Philippolis Old Jail

Jobhuis - contemporary art

Blokhuis



## PLACES OF





## **BIRDS**

Verreaux's eagle  
Blue crane  
Steppe buzzard  
Helmeted guinea fowl  
Giant kingfisher  
African fish eagle  
Blue crane  
Burchells starling  
Pintailed whydah  
Secretary bird  
Blacksmith plover  
Pied crow  
House sparrow  
Glossy starling  
Yellow-eyed canary  
African hoopoe  
Grey heron  
Red bishop  
Red warbler  
Garden weaver  
Masked flycatcher  
Fiscal shrike  
Fiscal pigeon  
Rock spotted eagle owl  
Laughing dove  
Dikkop  
Spotted wagtail  
Cape crowned plover  
Bokmakierie  
Darter barbet  
Crested weaver  
Cape mousebird  
Cattle egret  
Greater flamingo  
Kori bustard

## **ANIMALS**

Buffalo  
Kudu  
Eland  
Burchells zebra  
Red hartebeest  
Black wildebeest  
Gemsbok  
Springbok  
Steenbok  
Mountain reedbuck  
Vervet monkey  
Chacma baboon  
Caracal  
Black-backed jackal  
Aardvark  
Mongoose  
Blesbok  
Cape rabbit  
Springhare  
Bat-eared fox  
Porcupine  
Warthog  
Duiker  
Aardwolf  
African wild cat  
Meerkat  
Cape fox

## **PLANTS**

Acacia karoo  
Wild lettuce  
Boetebos  
Doctyloopsis  
Rooibessiebrak  
White goosefoot





## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Fire Brigade: 1023

SAPS Venterstad: 051 654 0091

Burgersdorp Hospital: 051 653 1881

Burgersdorp/Venterstad Ambulance: 10177

## DIRECTIONS

130km from Aliwal North, via R701

217km from Bloemfontein, via N1

413km from East London, via N6

440km from Port Elizabeth, via N10

## PERMITS REQUIRED

Entry permit

Transport permit (for hunting clients)

Hunting permit and hunting license (for hunting clients)

Threatened or Protected Species permit for the hunting/culling of black wildebeest

## CLOSEST TOWNS

Venterstad 12km

Bethulie 50km

Gariiep Dam 47km

Steynsburg 77km

Burgersdorp 70km

Aliwal North 130km

Colesberg 85km

## RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

2x4 or 4x4

Sedan



## RATES

RESERVE	SITE	NO. OF UNITS	CAPACITY/ UNIT	OFF-PEAK RATE	PEAK RATE
BAVIAANSKLOOF	Komdomo Campsite (3-Star)	27	6 persons max	R460/night	R482/night
BAVIAANSKLOOF	Rooihoek Campsite	6	6 persons max	R413/night	R437/night
BAVIAANSKLOOF	Doodsklip Campsite	5	6 persons max	R413/night	R437/night
COMMANDO DRIFT	Caravan Site	2 (with plug points)	6 persons max	R196/night	R220/night
COMMANDO DRIFT	Campsite	2 (with plug points)	6 persons max	R183/night	R207/night
DOUBLE MOUTH	Double Mouth Campsite	30	6 persons max	R271/night	R362/night
DWESA-CWEBE	Dwesa Campsite (3-Star)	40	6 persons max	R281/night	R305/night
GROENDAL	Rooikrans Campsite (3-Star)	8	6 persons max	R56/adult R26/child	R75/adult R32/child
OVISTON	Ihodi Campsite (3-Star)	2	4 persons max	R183/night	R207/night
THOMAS BAINES	Settlers Dam Campsite (3-Star)	5	6 persons max	R310/night	R335/night

# BOOK ONLINE

[www.bookonline.ecpta.co.za](http://www.bookonline.ecpta.co.za)

OR CONTACT RESERVATIONS +27 (0)43 492 0883/4

WHATSAPP +27 (0) 82 452 5078

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