explore

CAMPING

in the EASTERN CAPE

SPEND A FEW NIGHTS UNDER THE STARS
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

- Oviston
- Commando Drift
- Thomas Baines
- Groendal
- Double Mouth
- Dwesa
- Bavianskloof
- Graaff-Reinet
- Mthatha
- Aliwal North
- East London
- Port Elizabeth

GO CAMP!

RECONNECT WITH NATURE
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!
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
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

GPS COORDINATES
32°43'25.8"S | 28°18'50.4"E
### BIRDS
- Cape gannet
- White-breasted cormorant
- Cape cormorant
- Reed cormorant
- Grey heron
- Black-headed heron
- Little egret
- Cattle egret
- Hadeda 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
- Blue-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!
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
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

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

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

GPS Coordinates:
33°39'47.2"S 1 24°32'29.2"E

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
Padlangs
Grootriverpoort
Tolbos Farm Stall
Vero’s craft shop
Willowmore
Karoo Farm Tour
Makkedaat Caves
Largest sundial in Africa
2nd largest in Southern Hemisphere
- Hankey
BAVIAANSKLOOF WORLD HERITAGE SITE

**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!
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
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
GROENDAL NATURE RESERVE

**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)
GROENDAL NATURE RESERVE

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!
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
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!
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
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
THOMAS BAINES NATURE RESERVE

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
- Grassly Fynbos
- Grassveld and Bush Clump
- Savannah
COMMANDO DRIFT NATURE RESERVE

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

GPS Coordinates
32°04'37.4"S 1 26°01'46.4"E

Commando Drift Nature Reserve
BIRDS
Blue crane
Hadeda 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!
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
CAMPSTIE

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 INTEREST/ATTRACTIONS

Gariep dam wall
Bethulie railway bridge
Oviston tunnel
Anglo Boer War sites
Orange fish tunnel
Philippolis Old Jail
Jobhuis - contemporary art
Blokhuis

GPS COORDINATES
30°36’51.0″S | 25°54’40.9″E
**BIRDS**

- Verreaux’s eagle
- Blue crane
- Steppe buzzard
- Helmeted guinea fowl
- Giant kingfisher
- African fish eagle
- Blue crane
- Burchell’s 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
- Burchell’s 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
- Doctylopaas
- 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
Gariep Dam 47km
Steynsburg 77km
Burgersdorp 70km
Aliwal North 130km
Colesberg 85km

RECOMMENDED VEHICLE

2x4 or 4x4
Sedan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESERVE</th>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>NO. OF UNITS</th>
<th>CAPACITY/UNIT</th>
<th>OFF-PEAK RATE</th>
<th>PEAK RATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BAVIAANSKLOOF</td>
<td>Komdomo Campsite (3-Star)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R460/night</td>
<td>R482/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAVIAANSKLOOF</td>
<td>Rooihoek Campsite</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R413/night</td>
<td>R437/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAVIAANSKLOOF</td>
<td>Doodsklip Campsite</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R413/night</td>
<td>R437/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMANDO DRIFT</td>
<td>Caravan Site (with plug points)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R196/night</td>
<td>R220/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMANDO DRIFT</td>
<td>Campsite (with plug points)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R183/night</td>
<td>R207/night</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOUBLE MOUTH</td>
<td>Double Mouth Campsite</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R271/night</td>
<td>R362/night</td>
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<tr>
<td>DWESA-CWEBE</td>
<td>Dwesa Campsite (3-Star)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R281/night</td>
<td>R305/night</td>
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<tr>
<td>GROENDAL</td>
<td>Rooikrans Campsite (3-Star)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R56/adult R26/child</td>
<td>R75/adult R32/child</td>
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<tr>
<td>OVISTON</td>
<td>Ihodi Campsite (3-Star)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4 persons max</td>
<td>R183/night</td>
<td>R207/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS BAINES</td>
<td>Settlers Dam Campsite (3-Star)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6 persons max</td>
<td>R310/night</td>
<td>R335/night</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOOK ONLINE**

www.bookonline.ecpta.co.za

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

**WHATSAPP** +27 (0) 82 452 5078

**EMAIL** reservations@ecpta.co.za