



Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve has a magical, fairytale quality, leaving visitors with the lasting impression that they have stepped into another world. Hikers walk in the dappled light of the precious indigenous forest, and swim in the cool tea-coloured river water while shaded by ancient trees. Grootvadersbosch is one of the lesser known reserves in the Western Cape. For those who love its air of self-contained mystery, this is how it should be. Day walks, mountain biking trails, and the Boosmansbos Wilderness Area offer an array of challenges for those who want to immerse themselves in the Wilderness. This is an excellent birding destination with more than 196 bird species regularly spotted. Hikers are likely to bump into bushbuck and spot baboons and smaller animals. A rare highlight would be a sighting the forest emperor butterfly or a subspecies of the elusive ghost frog, as they can only be found in this forest. CapeNature offers a variety of accommodation options, from comfortable and well-equipped cabins to a range of camping styles, from basic to glamping.

#### FROM CAPE TOWN (N2 or NI):

Proceed through Swellendam and Buffeljags River. Approximately Ikm after the BP garage (on the right side), turn left at the Suurbraak/ Barrydale signboard. Drive through the little town of Suurbraak. Continue with the road. It will eventually become a gravel road. Go straight over the intersection, and continue until a T-junction. Turn left at the T-Junction. Continue with this gravel road and keep left at a fork in the road (Grootvadersbosch direction signs present). Do not turn off, as the road ends at the entrance gate to the reserve.

#### FROM PORT ELIZABETH/GEORGE (N2):

Two kilometres before Heidelberg (Engen Stop), turn right at the Barrydale – Tradouws Pass signboard. Continue with this road (R322) that leads through the town. Do not turn off into any street. Continue straight through with the R322. Continue through town and over a railway crossing. The R322 eventually becomes a gravel road. Approximately 4km from where the gravel road started, turn right at the Grootvadersbosch sign on the R322. Continue with this gravel road and keep left at a fork in the road (Grootvadersbosch direction signs present). Do not turn off, as the road ends at the entrance gate to the reserve.

To view Grootvadersbosch in Google maps, go to <u>https://www.google.com/maps</u> and insert these coordinates: 33°59'08.4"S 20°49'24.7"E Then select "search" for the map to display.



# **SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION UNITS**



Built in 2016 and situated on a ridge, with forest on either side. The cabins are arranged in two rows, with the higher cabins having expansive views of the valley, while the lower cabins look on to indigenous forest. Built on an existing footprint, which used to be the site of the forestry staff accommodation, the cabins were made from reclaimed materials from the site to have a low impact on the area.





Scolopia is a wooden house located 500m from the reserve entrance on the edge of the indigenous forest and near the start of a day hike.

[Solar power]

**KITCHEN** 



# **CAMPING & GLAMPING**

**CAMPING STYLE OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE** 

### **BASIC CAMPSITES A1-A5**



Sites allow for parking of campervans. caravans and motor homes.

Kindly note that there are size restrictions which may be imposed on camping vehicles and equipment.

Please contact the reserve office for further information.

**CAMPSITES A and B have a view** of indigenous forest with opportunities for bird watching.

#### **CAMPSITES A AND B SHARE THESE FACILITIES:**

- Children's play area/jungle gym
- **Communal ablution and scullery** facilities



#### 9 **DECKED CAMPSITES** B1-B9

**FIRE PIT** 



SINK

Sites for pop-up tents, each complemented with individual spacious wooden decks and screens for privacy.

Also suitable for small to medium sized camping trailers, 4x4 trailers and trailer tents.







WOOD FIRED

HOT TUB

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POWER POINTS



**POWER POINT** 

**INCLUDING USB** 



FIRE PIT

WITH GRID







TOILET







• Tents are structured and pitched on decks

4

- Situated apart from the main campsite (no shade)
- The 5 sites are screened off by a wooden fence divider
- Fully furnished for maximum comfort and convenience

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**TABLEWARE** 

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FRIDGE

• Each site has a wood fired hot tu

Single bed (L 1900mm) suitable for an adult with a pull-out bed (L 1700 mm) to accommodate a person with a maximum weight of 70kg

UNIVERSAL ACCESS

ONLY AT

#### I BEDROOM





SINGLE DAY BED WITH PULL-OUT 2<sup>ND</sup> BED **IN LIVING AREA** 





INDUCTION STOVE



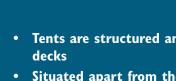
MICROWAVE





COOKWARE TOASTER

**KETTLE** 



Red alder | Stinkhout | Sequoia | Boekenhout | Yellowwood

## ACTIVITIES



**DAY WALKS** 

**Bushbuck and Grysbok** Trails

From 10 – 15km



#### **BIRD WATCHING**

SWIMMING

2 bird hides More than 196 bird species regularly spotted at the reserve

Swimming pool at

cabins (cabin and

camping guests only)



#### **OVERNIGHT HIKING**

In the adjoining Boosmansbos Wilderness

#### **CYCLING**

- 6km cycle trail on the reserve
- MTB trails available on the adjacent **Grootvadersbosch Conservancy Area** (requires a permit, available from the **Conservancy Office**)

#### **OUTDOOR GYM CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND**

- Both at the Tourism complex swimming pool area.
- Only children's playground at the campsite swimming pool area.



### **BOOSMANSBOS WILDERNESS AREA** ADJACENT TO GROOTVADERSBOSCH

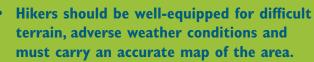


Hikers should be well-equipped for difficult terrain, adverse weather conditions and must carry an accurate map of the area.









- As this is a Wilderness Area, there are multiple unmarked paths and hikers may choose their own routes.
- The circular two-day route of 27km is a popular option. This trail, most of which is an old jeep track, leads up to Loerklip with a basic shelter being provided at Helderfontein. No toilet facility is provided. The trail then winds back down Saagkuilkloof. If heavy rains are experienced during the hike it is advisable to return via the Loerklip path as the Duiwenhoks River may be in flood.



Hikers should note that all refuse must be carried out and that fires are not permitted.

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL

### **HIKING SAFELY**

- Wear comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen and a hat.
- Do not hike alone.
- Stay in a group and on the trails.
- Carry enough food and water with you.
- Make sure you know what the weather conditions are before you depart.
- Take a warm jacket/raincoat in winter.
- Make sure you have a relevant map of the area.
- Take a field medical kit with you for emergencies.
- Obey all signage.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE WELCOME **CENTRE STAFF ONCE YOU** HAVE COMPLETED YOUR HIKE, SO THAT THEY KNOW YOU ARE SAFELY OFF THE TRAILS.

### **CHECKLIST: WHAT TO BRING**





**IRON + IRONING BOARD** 





HAIRDRYER

BABY COT



THERE IS NO GROCERY SHOP ON THE RESERVE. FOOD, BEVERAGES AND OTHER PROVISIONS MUST BE BOUGHT BEFOREHAND.



Please bring CHARCOAL or ECO LOGS for your braai. These items are also available for purchase at the Reserve.

### **GROOTVADERSBOSCH RULES**

#### PLEASE REMEMBER

You are in a nature reserve. No animals or plants may be damaged, removed or disturbed in any way.



There are baboons on the reserve. Safeguard your food and valuables. **DO NOT LEAVE DOORS AND WINDOWS OPEN OR ANY FOOD ITEMS IN SIGHT** when not at the cabins and camp, caravan and tented sites. Baboons will cause major damage.



The reserve gate is locked from 18h00 to 07h00. Please be inside reserve before the gate closes.



The tap water is naturally brown and not polluted; however, it is advisable to boil it before drinking.



Card Facilities are available dependent on signal. CASH IS ACCEPTED.



Visitors are liable for any loss or damage to reserve property due to negligence.



Keep the surrounds and facilities clean.



Prevent soil erosion by avoiding walking off the trails.



Make sure that all fires are extinguished before you leave or go to sleep.



Cell phone reception is sporadic on the reserve. In the event of an emergency, contact the manager/officer on duty on 082 496 2451.

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED



LOUD MUSIC & Rowdy Behaviour



DISTURBING OF







RE-ARRANGING FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT OR TAKING IT OUTDOORS



COLLECTING FIREWOOD



FEEDING OF ANY Animals



SMOKING IN UNITS



**PICKING PLANTS** 

#### ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE [OVERNIGHT GUESTS]

ARRIVAL: 14h00 - 16h00



THIS IS YOUR ENTRY PERMIT



RETURN ALL KEYS TO THE WELCOME CENTRE ON DEPARTURE

On the day of departure all overnight visitors must vacate the self-catering units and campsites by 10h00, with the exception of visitors staying at the Basic Campsites A1-A5, who need to leave the campsites by 12h00.

All overnight visitors are welcome to remain in the reserve until the gates close.





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