



CAPENATURE

MARLOTH NATURE RESERVE



Thank you for choosing **Marloth Nature Reserve** as your preferred destination.

Marloth Nature Reserve is hidden away in the imposing Swellendam Mountains, between Swellendam, Ashton, Barrydale and Suurbraak. Swellendam is the third oldest town in South Africa and has many interesting cultural and historic features. The peaceful reserve, which is 14 123 hectares in size, is managed together with 16 532 hectares of privately owned land, and is a **World Heritage Site**.

The reserve's vegetation is predominantly mountain fynbos, with patches of forest. There are several species of protea and more than 25 species of erica, most of which flower in November. Marloth, like the rest of the southern Cape, has hot summers and cold winters. The higher mountain peaks are occasionally dusted in snow during the cold winter months.

Inside the property



LOCATION

GPS: 34 0 6.54 S 23 24 8.30 E



ACCOMMODATION UNITS

Suikerbekkie cottage

Suikerbekkie cottage accommodates a maximum of four people in two bedrooms. One bedroom has a double bed while the other room has a double bunk. Bedding and towels are provided. The cottage has a fully equipped kitchen with fridge, stove/oven, microwave, toaster and cutlery/crockery. The bathroom is equipped with hot and cold water with shower and flush toilet. There is an inside fireplace and an outside braai area. Guests will need to stock up in Swellendam, as there is no shop on site.

Inside fireplace and outside braai area available.

Bushbuck cottage

Bushbuck cottage is a fully equipped self-catering cottage. It is perfect for a weekend getaway or as an overnight stop before starting the five-day Swellendam Trail. Bushbuck cottage sleeps six people in three separate rooms. One bedroom has a double bed, while the other two rooms have two single beds. Guests will need to stock up in Swellendam, as there is no shop on site.



HOUSEKEEPING

Use biodegradable cleaning materials and take your refuse away with you at all trail huts. (*PLEASE NOTE:* Servicing means change of linen and towels and or refilling compost only, this will only be done if the client permits)



CHECKOUT

Gate hours: 07:30 – 16:00 Office hours: **Mon – Fri** 07:30 – 16:00

Accommodation

Arrival: after 14:00 but before 18:00 Departure: not later than 10:00.



SMOKING

All CapeNature properties are non-smoking. Please keep in mind the risk of a wildfire when smoking outside.



TOWELS

Fresh linen and towels will be supplied, but general cleaning is however not included in this service but if you require it, please let the office know.



FURNITURE

Please do not move any of the furniture around.



BATHROOMS

Warm and cold water. Shower and basin, flush toilet.



TRASH LITTERING

Please keep the surrounds and facilities clean.



KITCHEN

Refer to checklist in kitchen.



SECURITY & DOORS

All windows and doors have security bars and doors. Please lock doors and close windows when you leave the cottage.



WIFI-INTERNET

Visitors have access to the CapeNature Guest Wi-Fi network. Users will be credited with 30min free roaming time. Thereafter, they will be rerouted to the payment portal, where additional data can be purchased. Please check with the office if you have any questions.



ELECTRICITY

Do not leave outside lights burning all night.

FIRE

- Please do not take hot coals from the outside braai area into the cottage for use in the fireplace.
- Collection of firewood is not allowed.
- Make sure all fires are extinguished before you leave or go to sleep.
- Only make fires in demarcated areas. The vegetation is extremely flammable and uncontrolled fires are devastating to the environment and costly to manage.

Life on the Reserve



BIRD WATCHING

Avid birders should be on the lookout for the reserve's 114 species, including the African fish eagle, black eagle, wood owl, red-winged francolin, tambourine dove, four different species of woodpecker, and the Cape vulture.



PICNICKING

There are picnic tables and demarcated fireplaces at the reserve entrance and at Glensroom, as well as a picnic area adjacent to the parking lot at the start of the picturesque Duiwelsbos waterfall hike. All picnic areas have panoramic views of the imposing mountain ranges above.



MOUNTAIN BIKING

There are routes, mainly jeep routes and gravel roads on the reserve, including on the adjacent plantation for mountain bikers but are not clearly demarcated with signage.



HIKING AND WALKING

Marloth offers various day trails, ranging from easy, short walks of 2 kilometers, to more strenuous, longer hikes ranging from 9 to 21 kilometers.

Twaalfuurkop Peak

Trail distance: 12.4 km

Estimated time: 6 hours

This challenging hike starts from the reserve office parking to Doctorsbos and to the Plaat, and then climbs to the mountain Peak of Twaalfuurkop (1426m), offering breathtaking views of Misty Peak (1710m) the Langeberg West Mountains, the Ruensveld and even the Indian Ocean. We suggest hiking in a hiking group of a at least three persons for safety reasons. Be prepared for rapid climatic changes and extreme weather conditions. Please note that this route may be closed by management due to extreme weather conditions and condition of trail.

Duiwelsbos Waterfall

The trails of Duiweslbos and Koloniesbos lead into shady green indigenous forest where there are numerous species of indigenous trees and cool streams and pools. The Duiwelsbos trail ends at a waterfall and pool. The former mentioned trail is popular with both local and international tourists, due to the indigenous forests, short distance and waterfall. The flow of water from this waterfall depends on the amount of rainfall in the mountain catchment area. Both indigenous forests are visible from the N2 national road and Bontebok National Park

Plaat Loop

Trail distance: 12km Estimated time: 3 hours

The Plaat Loop is a moderate hike with inspiring views and plenty of cool mountain streams to swim in along the trail.

Appelsbos Loop

Trail distance: 21 km

Estimated time: 5 -6 hours

This trail start from the Marloth office and traverses the Plaat to the Appelsbos and Wamakersbos Areas and returns to the Duiwelsbos picnic area, and then along a route to the office parking.

Multi-day hiking

The Swellendam Hiking Trail is one of South Africa's top ten hikes and undiscovered by many younger generation hikers, due to the closure of the trail for many years,. During 2010 and 2012, devasting wild – fires caused extensive destruction or damage to trail huts. The route is 4 nights and five days to complete and is physically demanding, and should only be attempted by fit hikers. Hiking trips should be planned and booked in advance, due to limited hikers per trail section per day. The first section of the trail starts at the Marloth office and traverses the southern slopes and crest to the Boskloof site below Herrmitage Peak and then to Goedgeloof, Protea Valley and Wolfkloof.





TO ENSURE THAT ALL VISITORS HAVE A PLEASANT STAY, THE FOLLOWING IS NOT PERMITTED:

- Music and rowdy behavior
- Pets (No Dogs/Cats)
- Disturbance to plants and animals
- High noise levels after 22:00
- Firearms
- Picking of flowers or collecting of seeds
- Fires except in designated areas



FAUNA

Marloth's original forests covered a much larger area, but they were exploited by the local furniture and wagon industries over the years, leaving only a few isolated patches of forest in damper areas today. Typical forest species include yellowwood, stinkwood, Cape beech, wild olive, assegaaibos, cherrywood and hard pear.

The nature reserve is home to many small mammals, including the grey rhebok, klipspringer, common duiker, baboon, caracal, mongoose, porcupine, dassie and hare. Marloth also has leopard, but they are rarely seen. The area is rich in birdlife, with 114 species recorded, including the African fish eagle, black eagle, wood owl, red-winged francolin, tambourine dove, and four different species of woodpecker. Hikers should be on the lookout for snakes, such as puff adder, Cape cobra and mountain adder.



FLORA

The floral diversity of Marloth Nature Reserve is unmatched across the Western Cape and the fact that it is named after a pioneering botanist says much about the vegetation in this 14 123 hectares of pristine mountain tract.

As a filming location, this area consists mostly of mountain fynbos, including several species of protea and more than 25 varieties of erica. Patches of afromontane forest are also existent in the valleys and gorges of the reserve.

Discover the Region



NEAREST TOWNS

Swellendam



SUPERMARKETS

Checkers, SuperStore, Choppies



RESTAURANT & BARS

- The Old Goal Restaurant
- Republic Swellendam Restaurant
- La Bella Alliance Restaurant
- The Garden Shack Restaurant
- Woodpecker Restaurant
- Barrels & Blues Restaurant
- KFC
- Rolandale Restaurant



LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

- Berry picking
- Sulina Fairy Sanctuary
- Rain Forest day spa
- Wildberry Estate tasting
- BonteBok National Park
- Bukkabury Pottery studio

• Lavender Farm

In Case of Emergency



MARLOTH DUTY OFFICER

082 496 2450 or 087 087 87 3039



SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICE

10111 or 028 544 8102



AMBULANCE

10177



HOSPITAL

028 514 8450



IN CASE OF VENOMOUS SNAKE BITES

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