



Stewardship Nature Reserves



CapeNature

BOLAND

Platbos Nature Reserve



The Slanghoek Mountain Resort lies in a picturesque valley, surrounded by the majestic Slanghoek Mountains from which the resort derives its name. The valley's geographic position, varied soils and microclimate are reflected in the unique character of Slanghoek's internationally renowned and prize winning wines.

A 74 hectare portion of the farm was set aside in 2007 under a Biodiversity Agreement with CapeNature in order to conserve the endangered vegetation type Breede Alluvial Fynbos.

There are critically threatened seasonal meandering streams. These streams are rocky, boulder bed, seasonal streams, and because they are small and shallow, and meander over lower gradients they

support a different plant community from the larger river corridors. The banks of the streams are peaty sands held together by plant roots. *Geissorhiza geminata*, is listed in the Red Data Book of threatened plants as "Endangered"; it is restricted to similar streams in the upper Breede River valley and in the Koue Bokkeveld, areas which have been heavily transformed by agriculture.

Activities:

Hiking to the waterfall, fishing in the dam and an educational Fynbos Trail.

Contact details:

www.slanghoekresort.co.za

Tel: 023-344 3138



BOLAND

Welbedacht Nature Reserve



Welbedacht is declared as a Nature Reserve due to its high diversity of habitats as well as its geographical location:

Welbedacht covers the remaining corridor between Tulbagh Alluvium Fynbos, located in seasonal wetlands in its lower areas and the upper portion bordering onto the Groot Winterhoek Mountain Reserve with its Breede Shale and other types of Mountain Fynbos. In between these areas are large Renosterveld elements and a huge number of Red Data species that were recorded by the Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers (CREW).

Activities:

Accommodation: Welbedacht has a cluster of (self-catering) chalets and a retreat spread out along the reserve. All its cottages have a braai outside and a fireplace inside, fans for hot nights and all braaiwood, linen and towels are provided. All units also have, besides fireplaces, electric heaters during the winters as well. Each cottage is very private, surrounded by large pine trees with shady porches overlooking Tulbagh valley and the surrounding mountains. Each also has a private splash-pool built into the porch.

Transport: No 4 x 4 is needed, all private roads to the cottages are paved or graded for normal commuter type vehicles.

Game viewing: There is a 15 Hectare game area which has Springbok, Bontebok, a variety of other small game and Zebra.

Hiking, Fishing, Birdwatching & Swimming: Within and throughout the reserve are hiking trails ranging from 20 minutes to full-day trips and our Mountain dam, great for swimming, is a 10 minute walk or 500m drive through the reserve and our Bush-dam (inside the game-camp itself) is stocked with Bass, Tilapia and Cape Curper for the fishing enthusiasts. This one is about 300m in the opposite direction.

In the vicinity: Horseriding & Winetasting on neighbouring farms, Chocolate tasting and numerous excellent restaurants in Tulbagh town (about 9 km from Welbedacht)

Contact details:

www.welbedachtfarm.co.za

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BOLAND

De Rust

Lying on the moist southern slopes of the Groenlandberg in the Grabouw area, the reserve is a large, continuous area of pristine mountain fynbos, categorised by Kogelberg Sandstone Fynbos (draft conservation status 'Critically Endangered', Threatened Ecosystems in South Africa, draft Report 2008), Western Coastal Shale Band Vegetation ('Least Threatened', 2004) and Elgin Shale Fynbos ('Critically Endangered', 2004) of which the reserve protects one of only two large areas (>100 ha) in the Elgin Valley.

The slopes of the Groenlandberg forms a valuable edaphic interface (shale- sandstone) under high rainfall conditions, along with an upland – plateau gradient. This could be very valuable in terms of climate change as the area is likely to be a climate refugium.

The reserve harbours a number of Red Data Book plants, such as *Erica cruenta* (shale endemic) and the recently re-discovered (2009), thought to be extinct, *Erica patens*. The reserve forms a corridor linking the Groenlandberg and the main Elgin Basin lowlands, the continuity of fire management, maintenance of edaphic interfaces and upland gradients are important reasons to conserve the upper Shale Fynbos area.

The rehabilitation of certain areas, in addition to the management of others, could result in significantly enhanced conservation status for the vegetation in this area. The lower Elgin Shale Fynbos fragment (30.9ha) could be used as a site for re-introduction of rare, endemic species such as *Leucadendron globosum*.

Activities:

Hiking, wine tastings, mountain biking and concerts

Contact details:

www.cluver.com

info@cluver.com

Tel: 021-844 0605

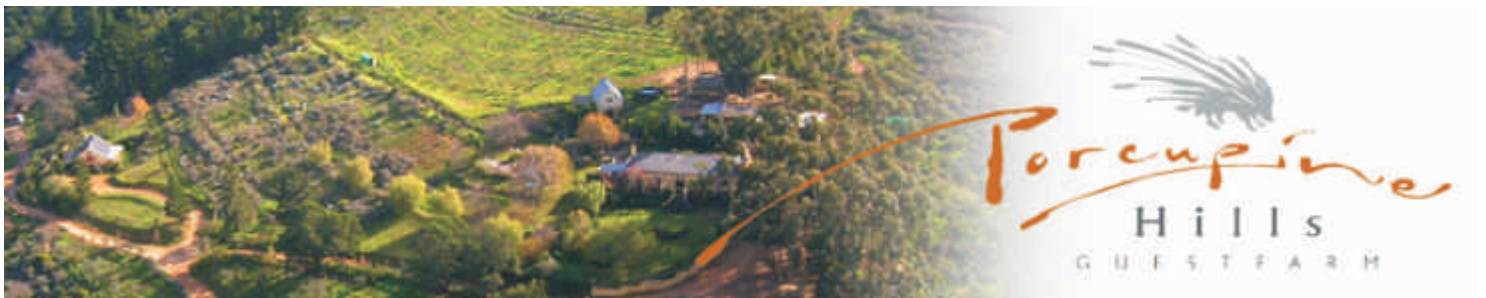


BOLAND

Porcupine Hills



Porcupine Hills Olive and Guest Farm is situated within the Groenlandberg Conservancy, in the Overberg. Although the 220 hectare property is a designated private nature reserve, Porcupine Hills is also a working olive farm and we pressed our first oil in the fall of 2004. The guest cottages are situated throughout the property and are each entirely private and unique. We work hard to insure that the reserve, the farm and the guest facilities come together peacefully and productively. There are two rivers running through the property, the Botriver and the Kloof River. In addition to the colonial style main residence, there are five cottages on the property.



Activities:

There is much to do within the reserve - one of the best things to do is absolutely nothing. There are mountain bike trails and hiking trails, horseback riding, swimming (either in your private pool or in the stunning river pools), guided nature walks, and generally enjoying the peaceful surroundings of the area. Additionally, excursions can easily be arranged to nearby Hermanus, known as the on-shore whale watching capital of the world.

Franschhoek is also a popular destination with guests, offering some of South Africa's most prestigious wine estates and arguably the best cuisine in the country. Porcupine Hills is just minutes away from one of the largest dams in the Cape, Theewaterskloof, where guests can windsurf, swim, and play golf with extraordinary views of the mountains.

Contact details:

Murray and Fiona Weiner: P O Box 107, Elgin, 7180, South Africa

www.porcupinehills.co.za • info@porcupinehills.co.za

Tel: 028-284 9066 • Fax: 086-609 8525

BOLAND

Bontebok Ridge Nature Reserve

- Identified as 100% irreplaceable by CAPE
- Identified to have critical habitat fragment in lowlands project and presence of rare and threatened species. Rare & Endangered species present.
- Gradient process present on the property and adjacency to proclaimed provincial reserve network
- Keen and willing landowners who are members of Renosterveld Conservancy.

Activities:

Accommodation; functions; hiking, game drives, cycling, birdwatching; fishing; botanising; 4x4 trail;

Products: Venison meat

Contact details:

www.bontebokridge.co.za

trturner@iafrica.com

Mobile : +27 82-576 9657 (Tom Turner)

Mobile : +27 82-77 88 66 4 (Frank Turner)

Tel : +27 21-864 1169 (Frank and Sue Turner)



BOLAND

Elandsberg Nature Reserve



- Identified as 100% irreplaceable by CAPE
- Identified as a critical habitat fragment in lowlands project and presence of rare and threatened species. Rare & Endangered species present.
- Gradient process present on the property and adjacency to proclaimed provincial reserve network
- Keen and willing landowners who are members of Renosterveld Conservancy.

Activities:

Accommodation; functions, hiking, game drives, cycling, birdwatching; botanising; fishing

Contact details:

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BOLAND

Simson-Simons Nature Reserve (Fynbos Estate)

- The entire area of natural veld of the Paardeberg is a conservation priority, this property is key in the consolidation of the natural veld.
- The natural area of the property consists of 258ha of Boland Granite Fynbos (Endangered) –and a small edge of Swartland Granite Bulbveld (Critically Endangered) , the property also contains CAPE – West Coast Renosterveld Remnants and is classified as 100% irreplaceable. The site is also a Jarman Site.
- The property forms an essential part of the proposed protected area of the Paardeberg in every aspect of ecological management especially fire and alien eradication.
- There is an Upland- Lowland gradient identified by CAPE, the only viable one on the Paardeberg

Activities:

Accommodation; hiking, cycling, birdwatching; botanising; functions; winemaking;

Contact details:

Fynbos Mountain Retreat
Diana Simson and Johan Simons

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Tel: +27 (0)22 487 1153

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BOLAND

Rhinoceros Hill Nature Reserve

- The site contains Swartland Granite Renosterveld which is Critically Endangered, Swartland Granite Fynbos Endangered, Swartland Shale Renosterveld Critically Endangered.
- Core Site identified by Lowlands Renosterveld Project
- 100% irreplaceable - CAPE
- 2nd Priority after Agtergroenberg in Boland Mountain biodiversity plan.

Activities:

Hiking, birdwatching;

Products: Wine tasting

Contact details:

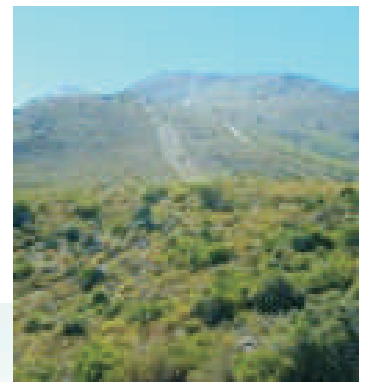
Black Pearl Wines

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BOLAND

Foxenburg Nature Reserve

- Identified as 100% irreplaceable by CAPE
- Identified as a critical habitat fragment in lowlands project and presence of rare and threatened species. Rare & Endangered species present.
- Gradient process present on the property and adjacency to proclaimed provincial reserve network
- Keen and willing landowners who are members of Renosterveld Conservancy.

Activities:

Accommodation; hiking, birdwatching; fishing; botanising;

Products: Olives & Olive Oil; Goat's cheese, milk, yoghurt; Oyster mushrooms;

Contact details:

Foxenburg Estate (Jan/Marianne Hemmes)

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Cell. 082 600 5689



Bakkrans Contract Nature Reserve



Bakkrans Nature Reserve is a remote wilderness, characterized by rugged mountain ranges and a wide variety of plant species, indigenous game, birds and other wildlife. Its earlier human history is captured in rock paintings that are thousands of years old. Artefacts that are estimated to be $\pm 100\,000$ years old have been found here.

Bakkrans Nature Reserve borders on the Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve, forming an important strategic link in the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor. Existing protected areas are often too small to maintain viable ecosystems and evolutionary processes. The inclusion of this property into the corridor is the progression of conservation efforts to connect fragments of natural habitat and link the Cederberg Wilderness, Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve and the Tankwa Karoo National Park, thereby creating a network of protected areas and landscape management systems.

The significance of Bakkrans as a nature reserve is also highlighted by its position within the ecotone between the Fynbos and Succulent Karoo biomes, contributing to the safeguarding and maintenance of ecological processes and patterns, creating a buffer to climate change by allowing species to migrate.

Asteraceous Mountain Fynbos, Central Mountain Renosterveld and Lowland Succulent Karoo vegetation of the reserve supports various geophytes, vygies and daisy species. Good winter

rains give life to an abundant display of numerous and colourful spring flowers. The reserve is also home to the endangered Cape Mountain Leopard and Cape Mountain Zebra.

Activities:

- Accommodation: comfortable, self catering veld cottages, furnished to reflect the lifestyle of pre colonial herders
- Guided tours specially packaged with themes such as: Cederberg Tracking, Cederberg Rock Art, Nature Trails, Spring Flowers, to name a few.
- Scenic and game drives - opportunity for photography, bird watching, game tracking, walking, star gazing, plant and flower spotting. Night drives can be taken to track leopards and other nocturnal animals.
- Geology & Rock Art Trail – view fossils of the very first tiny trees that grew in this area ± 360 million years ago and visit rock art sites
- Leopard Trail - observe the research site (cameras) of the Cape Leopard Trust, as well as an old stone cage that was used in earlier years to capture leopards. Bakkrans was the very first research site of the Cape Leopard Trust, where they also photographed their first leopard.

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Cederberg Oasis Contract Nature Reserve



Our central location makes it the perfect gateway to explore the unique and beautiful wilderness. Our valley offers Fynbos and Karoo vegetation, sandstone and shale formations. The valley surrounded by mountains gives you the stargazing of starry nights, with the Southern Cross, Taurus, Magdalenian cloud, Pleiades, Orion and Scorpio.

Cederberg Oasis is vitally important as a Contract Nature Reserve within the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor (GCBC). Existing protected areas are often too small to maintain viable ecosystems and evolutionary processes, highlighting the significance of partnerships with private landowners and the dual management of private property as protected areas.

The strategic position of the Cederberg Oasis as a piece within the GCBC puzzle allows for the connection of protected areas such as the Cederberg Wilderness, Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve and Tankwa Karoo National Park, spanning the sensitive ecotone between the Fynbos and Succulent Karoo biomes. In this manner, ecological processes and patterns are safeguarded and maintained, in turn creating a buffer to climate change by allowing species to migrate.

As a Nature Reserve, Asteraceous Mountain Fynbos, Central Mountain Renosterveld and Lowland Succulent Karoo, which support a variety of geophytes,

vygies and daisy species indicative of this unique transition zone, are protected. River corridors that are included in this network of protected areas are important for the conservation of the threatened Clanwilliam yellowfish, while the property forms part of the range of the Cape Mountain Leopard.

Activities:

Accommodation facilities vary from Backpacking in B&B style to the original self catering old farmhouse.

- 7 Private campsites are also available.
- Our café offers the usual drinks, chips, chocolates and ice, as well as ice-cream during summer.
- Restaurant: Chantel, owner and cook in the fully licensed restaurant, will prepare you the best steak ever. Day visitors are also welcome for breakfast (until 11h00) or sandwiches the rest of the day. We also cater for people staying at other accommodation facilities.
- Hiking: You can ask Gerrit, owner and manager, to point out the different star constellations at night and he will draw you one of his maps to explore some of the day hikes in the area.

Contact details:

Gerrit & Chantal Karsten

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Dwarsrivier Contract Nature Reserve



Dwarsrivier is situated within the central Cederberg. The property has been in the Nieuwoudt family since 1893, and is currently occupied by fifth generation Nieuwoudts. Dwarsrivier is well known as a tourist destination for outdoor enthusiasts, as well as producing wine at the highest altitude in South Africa. The farm consists of 5500 ha, of which 52 ha is under vineyard plantation.

Dwarsrivier Contract Nature Reserve is an important strategic link in the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor. Existing protected areas are often too small to maintain viable ecosystems and evolutionary processes. Dwarsrivier consolidates the borders of the Cederberg Wilderness, and links this World Heritage site with the Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve in the eastern Cederberg. The connection of natural habitat fragments and resultant creation of a protected area network and landscape management system is only possible through partnerships with private landowners, which are vitally important for the security of these natural habitats.

The vegetation consists of Mountain Fynbos, with the Cederberg Mountain Fynbos Broad Habitat Unit covering the entire property, which is unique to the area. A total of seventy rare and endangered species occur within the neighbouring Cederberg Wilderness, highlighting the conservation significance of Dwarsrivier Contract Nature Reserve. These include species *Leucodendron concavum*, *Serruria leipoltii* and *S.flava*.

Activities:

- Accommodation: Sanddrif Holiday Resort – 16 fully equipped chalets and 30 + campsites
- Cederberg Cellars
- Hiking: Wolfberg Arch and Cracks, Maltese Cross, Lots Wife and Window Rocks
- Maalgat swimming hole
- Cederberg Observatory
- Mountain Biking: Wolfberg Mountain Bike Trail, Lot's Wife Mountain Bike Trail

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Nuwerust Rest Camp

Nuwerust Rest Camp is situated in the Breëkkrans river valley, surrounded by the rugged southern Cederberg mountains. The property offers an unforgettable wilderness experience for nature and outdoor lovers.

Nuwerust is afforded nature reserve status due to its strategic importance in terms of surrounding properties, and its contribution to the maintenance of ecological processes and patterns.

As a Contract Nature Reserve, Nuwerust forms part of the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor, which traverses the ecotone between the Fynbos and Succulent Karoo biomes, creating a network of protected areas which includes the Cederberg Wilderness, Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve and the Tankwa Karoo National Park. This network of protected areas and landscape management systems allows for the conservation and maintenance of ecological processes and patterns, creating a buffer to climate change by allowing species to migrate.

The property contributes to the conservation of Asteraceous Mountain Fynbos, Central Mountain Renosterveld and Lowland Succulent Karoo, which supports various geophytes, vygies and daisy species, which are indicative of this unique transition zone. River corridors that are included in this network of protected areas are important for the conservation of the threatened Clanwilliam yellowfish, while the property forms part of the range of the Cape Mountain Leopard.

Activities:

- Accommodation: Fully equipped cottages and camp sites with own braai facilities. Two ablution blocks with hot water.
- Lapa with DSTV and communal braai, swimming pool and river.
- Functions at Lapa
- Hiking, rock climbing, mountain biking, fishing, rock art, farm animals,

Contact details

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Fax 0866617337



Zuurfontein Contract Nature Reserve

Cedar Rock Reserve, is situated within the Cederberg mountains, and offers wide open spaces of unspoilt wilderness area. The road leading to the reserve once served as the main wagon supply route between Citrusdal and Clavinia.

Cedar Rock Contract Nature Reserve forms a vital link within the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor, which forms a network of protected areas including the Cederberg Wilderness, Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve and the Tankwa Karoo. Existing protected areas are often too small to maintain viable ecosystems and evolutionary processes. The inclusion of private property such as Cedar Rock into the corridor contributes to the connection of fragments of natural habitat, allowing for the conservation and maintenance of ecological processes and patterns over a climatic gradient.

The property is situated within the Succulent Karoo, one of only two Global Biodiversity Hotspots in South Africa, while areas of sandstone formation support drier Mountain Fynbos. Cedar Rock Private Nature Reserve provides a refuge for endangered species such as Cape Mountain Zebra and Cape Mountain Leopard.

Activities:

- Accommodation: Luxury “solitude” stone chalets
- Spring Flowers
- Hiking
- Rock art
- Game viewing and bird watching

Contact details:

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Die Poort Private Nature Reserve

DIE POORT
Private Nature
Reserve

Die Poort is an ideal retreat, for peaceful and isolated tranquillity in a magnificent mountain and river environment. The farm, at the end of a cul-de-sac, overlooks and includes the Gamka River where it leaves the Swartberg Mountain range after its journey of 23 km through Gamkapoort, the last 5 km of which fall within the boundaries of Die Poort. We are the southern neighbours of Gamkaskloof, also known as "The Hell," although separated by 14 km of Gamkapoort.

Die Poort, as part of Matjiesvlei, displays a biodiversity that has been preserved to a large extent. Such biodiversity includes three world-famous plant biomes i.e. Succulent Karoo, Fynbos and Thicket. Moreover, the farm borders on an internationally-acknowledged and declared World Heritage Site (one of six in South Africa) that includes the Swartberg Nature Reserve and adjacent protected areas, totalling some 180 000 ha. At the instigation of the Gouritz Initiative, Die Poort was one of the first privately-owned properties, in 2007, to have concluded a biodiversity agreement with CapeNature. This is part of their Conservation Stewardship Programme, in terms of which we commit ourselves contractually to preserve 97% of the farm's biodiversity, about 1220 ha out of the total of 1253 ha. In terms of conservation legislation, Die Poort was also declared a private nature reserve, in 2001.

In addition to the main house, there are 3 historic, self-catering guest cottages, resembling the type of dwellings in Gamkaskloof. Each has its own charm and beautiful view of the surrounding mountains and the river. Step back in time to the simpler way of life and truly unwind from the busy city life. It is an experience you will long remember. Among possible activities on the farm – in addition to just soaking up the tranquil atmosphere - are hiking, swimming, canoeing, mountain biking and bird watching. In 2003, part of the Land Rover G4 Challenge was held on the farm.



Aardvark Nature Reserve

The Aardvark Nature Reserve is a Biodiversity Agreement Conservation Area that falls Inside the SKEP Central Little Karoo Priority area. The reserve forms part of an extension further into the Little Karoo from the Langeberg via Doringkloof and Springefontein.

The Aardvark Quartz Gannaveld is unique for the property because of its species composition. Generally the reserve is in excellent condition, with intact biogenic crust, and many palatable species, with no obvious signs of disturbance. The Adamskraal Gwarrieveld, threatened elsewhere due to overgrazing, is also present in pristine condition.

Activities:

The reserve has a Tourism section which offers the following:

- Four star country house accommodation and meals
- Self-catering accommodation in the training centre
- Short hiking routes
- Guided nature drives and nature walks
- Guided horse rides
- Mountain bike routes
- Camping facilities
- Short courses on nature topics on request

Apart from its fabulous diversity in plant life, the reserve offers a variety of 187 bird species. Mammals range from the ever-present aardvark and aardwolf to springbok, kudu, red hartebeest, gemsbok and eland.

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OVERBERG

Platbos

- The structure of Platbos forest is unique. The almost entirely closed upper canopy is not high, being between 4-6m to a maximum of ~10m, yet it has all the characteristic structural features of a true forest.
- The tree species composition is unique, with the Afromontane species of *Celtis africana* and *Olinia ventosa* each contributing more than 12m²/ha of basal area, followed by *Sideroxylon inerme* at >8m² (this being a lowland species, and in the Cape Region mostly on coastal sands). These three species make up >32m²/ha of a total of 56.49m²/ha and are therefore the dominant canopy trees.
- The dominant vegetation type here is Southern Coastal Forest, which is currently classified as Near-Threatened under the National List of Threatened Terrestrial Ecosystems. Platbos will contribute 0.003% to the conservation of this vegetation type.
- Platbos is one of the few remaining forest patches on lowlands within the Southwestern Cape Province, as well as in South Africa as a whole.
- This forest is the southern and western limit for Bushbuck.
- The unique forest structure, position in the landscape, and unusual assemblage of Afromontane Forest species, Coastal Forest species, and Strandveld elements make Platbos ecologically valuable.

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