

LET'S CLEAN UP!

International Coastal Cleanup Day

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DAY began more than 30 years ago when communities rallied together with the common goal of collecting trash on their coastlines. It usually takes place on the 3rd Saturday in September and it encourages people to go out and clean up their beaches. This year it is celebrated on 19 September 2020.

The day encourages us to limit the litter and waste problem on our beaches by cleaning up the trash that has washed up on our shores and that has been left by visitors. Ocean trash affects the health of wildlife, people and local economies. Trash in the water and on the shore can be mistaken as food by wildlife, or entangle animals with lethal consequences. With an estimated total of 6,35 billion kilograms of trash, most of it plastic, dumped into the world's oceans every year, the impact on our oceans can only be imagined. There are studies that show that the ocean has six times more plastic than phytoplankton per weight and fifty times more plastic than zooplankton.

The top 3 items collected worldwide during the annual International Coastal Cleanup includes cigarette butts, food wrappers and plastic beverage bottles. For 34 years, the No.1 littered item found during ICC had been cigarette butts but in 2019, plastic wrappers became the No.1 littered item recorded at total of 4,771,602 items being picked up by volunteers. Cigarette butts were not far behind with a total of 4,211,962 picked up as part of the total 9 422 199 kgs of trash collected worldwide.

TOP 3
TRASH ITEMS



AVOID BEING TRASHY

DISPOSE OF WASTE RESPONSIBLY



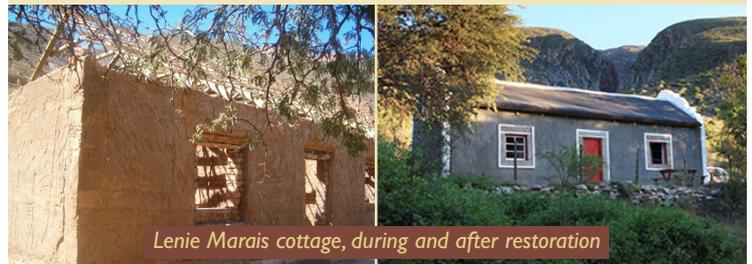
Celebrating our Cultural Heritage

HISTORY PRESERVED IN GAMKASKLOOF

THIS HIDDEN PARADISE VALLEY was declared a Cape Floral Region Protected Areas World Heritage Site and was declared a national monument in 1997. It is an area of ecological, archaeological, cultural and historical importance and is managed by CapeNature as part of the Swartberg Nature Reserve, situated between the Great Karoo and Klein Karoo.

It is said that the remote and isolated valley of "The Hell" earned its seemingly derogatory name from a stock inspector called Piet Botha in 1940 who grew to hate the long and arduous journey he had to make regularly to inspect livestock. Apparently, he was heard to exclaim on such occasions: "It's Hell!" Another explanation for the name was explained by Dr Sleight – he said that the front floor of all sailing boats sloped and had a big gradient. This part of the boat was used as prison. In Afrikaans a gradient is called a "helling" and in short they started saying they are going to "hel". The gradient of the mountains in the area gives you the same view as with a sail boat and this is most probably why they gave it the same name. Due to its inaccessibility, "The Hell's" original inhabitants were isolated for over a century; the only access by foot or donkey. All goods carried into or out of the valley had to be carried by way of the tortuous trails through the Gamka River gorge, which cuts through the mountains on its way from the Karoo to the sea.

CapeNature carefully restored 11 of the original cottages to ensure that their legacy is preserved for future generations. Great care was taken to ensure that only wood indigenous to that area was used and that the original building materials were replicated to keep it authentic. Bricks, exactly to the size of the original, made of a mixture of clay and lime (and very little cement) were manufactured on site and dried in the Karoo sun.





CapeNature Presents

#LoveNature

LEARNING TO

CAPENATURE FREE WEBINAR 23 SEPTEMBER 2020 | 17h00 – 18h30

Nature has a story to tell...

Please join us in celebrating **HERITAGE DAY** by learning about our natural heritage.

<p>17h00</p> <p>Doctor Nature on call: Medicinal plants</p>	<p>18h00</p> <p>Finding the Two River Redfin</p>
<p>17h20</p> <p>All about Gills Platanna</p>	<p>17h40</p> <p>Where is Waldo? A look at the Boosmans shrew</p>

TO RSVP: **REGISTER HERE**

Registration closes at midnight on 22 September 2020.

WIN a prize of a 2 night stay at either the Swartberg or Rocherpan Nature Reserves. Draw to take place at 18h20.

Place: Zoom
Enquiries: learning@capenature.co.za