

Kloofing Routes — HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND NATURE RESERVE

ACCESS

Parking is available opposite the Cape Canopy Tours facility adjacent to the ablutions. Both kloofing routes start with a walk from the parking area along a footpath which is signposted and meets up with the management track to Landdroskop. Follow the management track to the point where signs will diverge the kloofers to the kloofing routes.

KLOOFING RULES

- Start early – kloofers may not set out from the starting point later than 9:00. The entry gate closes at 16:00 and all kloofers must exit before 19:00.
- You must have a *Special Use Kloofing Permit*.
- Groups must be guided by a registered and experienced kloofing guide. Enquire about contacts for guides.
- No children under 12.
- **Bookings and permits are essential:**
Tel 087 087 8250 or reservation.alert@capenature.co.za
- Maximum capacity for each kloofing route per day is 30 people.
- Access will not be permitted in these cases:
 - after the cut-off time of 9:00;
 - to clients without approved kloofing guides;
 - once capacity is reached;
 - during high risk times (fire, flooding).

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

- Reserve office hours are 8:00 to 16:00 weekdays only.
- The entrance gate is open from 7:30 to 16:00.
- Emergency personnel are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- The route is open from 1 November to 30 April.

WHAT TO BRING

- Your *Special Use Kloofing Permit*.
- Suitable kloofing shoes, a swimsuit, quick-drying shirt and swimming shorts. Cotton is not advised. Remember, this is a wet hike.
- A light wetsuit is recommended – 80% of the kloofing requires swimming and you will remain wet throughout.
- At least one proper dry bag, waterproof for 14m drops into water, with warm jackets or tops for the group.
- Bring a change of clothes along and leave it in the car for after the hike.
- A minimum of 2 litres of drinking water per person is advised.
- Lunch and energy snacks in sealed bags.
- Waterproof sunblock. There are patches of shade to rest under, but for most of the walk you might be exposed to the sun.

- Waterproof camera/video camera. Views are incredible and you will want pictures of you and your friends doing the jumps.

KLOOFING SAFETY

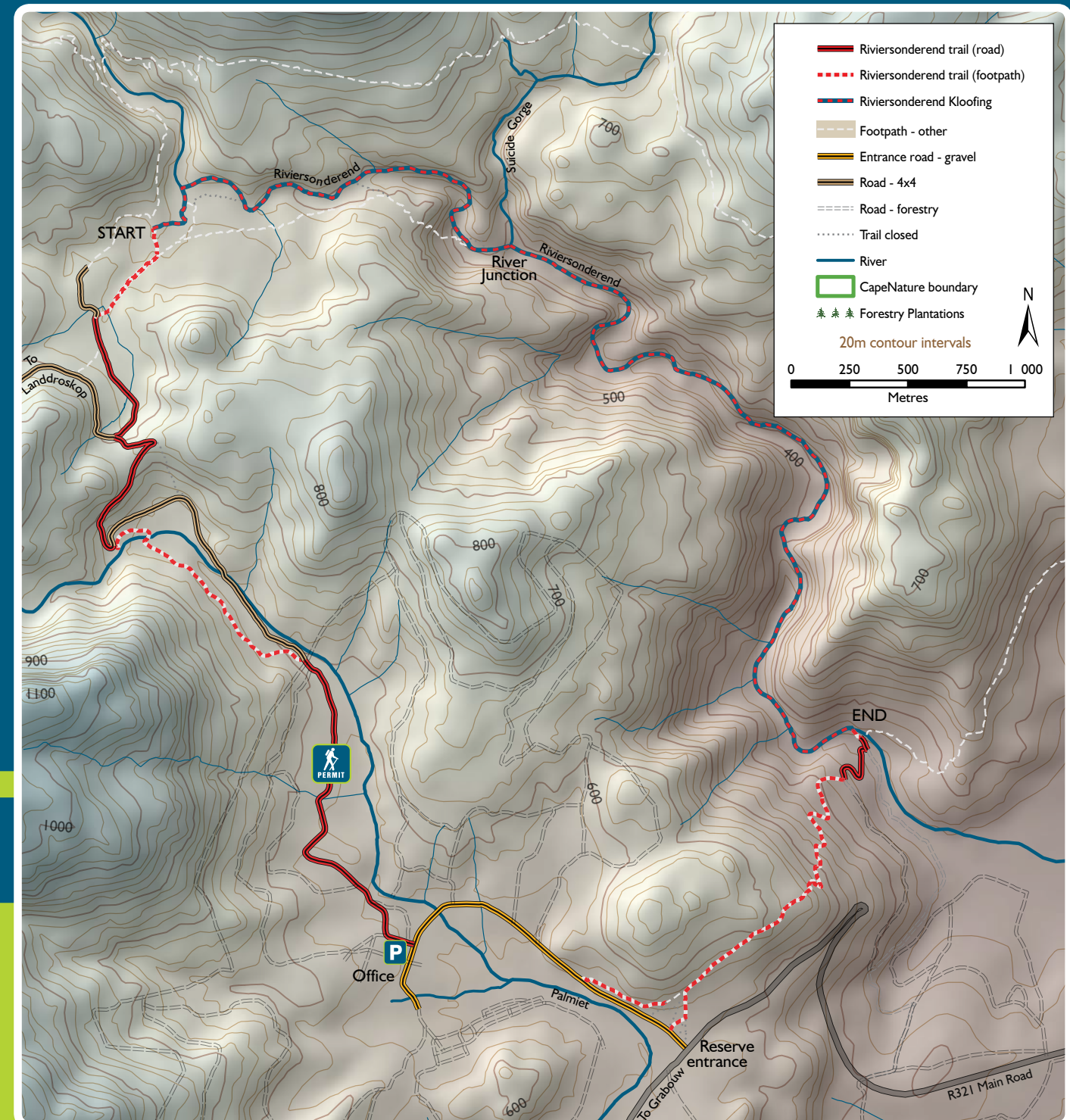
- Kloofing is strenuous and jumps can be dangerous. Only do these routes if you are a fit and experienced kloofer. Go with someone who has done the route at least twice before.
- Weather can turn quickly in the mountains. Check the weather forecast and do not start if rain or poor weather conditions might set in. The Conservation Manager may close routes if unsafe conditions arise.
- Wear a wetsuit and carry food, emergency gear and warm clothing in a waterproof pack.
- Once you're in the gorges, the only way out is to continue down the river, so be prepared for a long day. Tell someone where you are going and your expected time of return. **THERE IS NO CELLPHONE RECEPTION** in the kloofs, so your group is self-reliant.
- Never jump without testing the water. Cape mountain water is very dark due to the natural tannins in the water, and underwater hazards can be invisible. Never assume that a pool that was clear of obstacles before is still safe, large rocks and branches are regularly moved around by water.
- Land feet first, legs together, and don't have your arms open or extended during the landing. Never, ever dive.
- When booking a guided trip, ensure that your guides are qualified and check whether wetsuits are provided.
- If there is rain, beware of flash floods. The river can rise metres in minutes.

Riviersonderend Route

DIFFICULT

Beginners should start with the 14.4km Riviersonderend kloofing route, which begins just off the main Landdroskop Jeep Track. There are no abseils and the highest compulsory jump is seven metres.

Trail in	Kloofing	Trail out	TOTAL
4.7km	6.1km	3.6km	14.4km / 7-8 hours

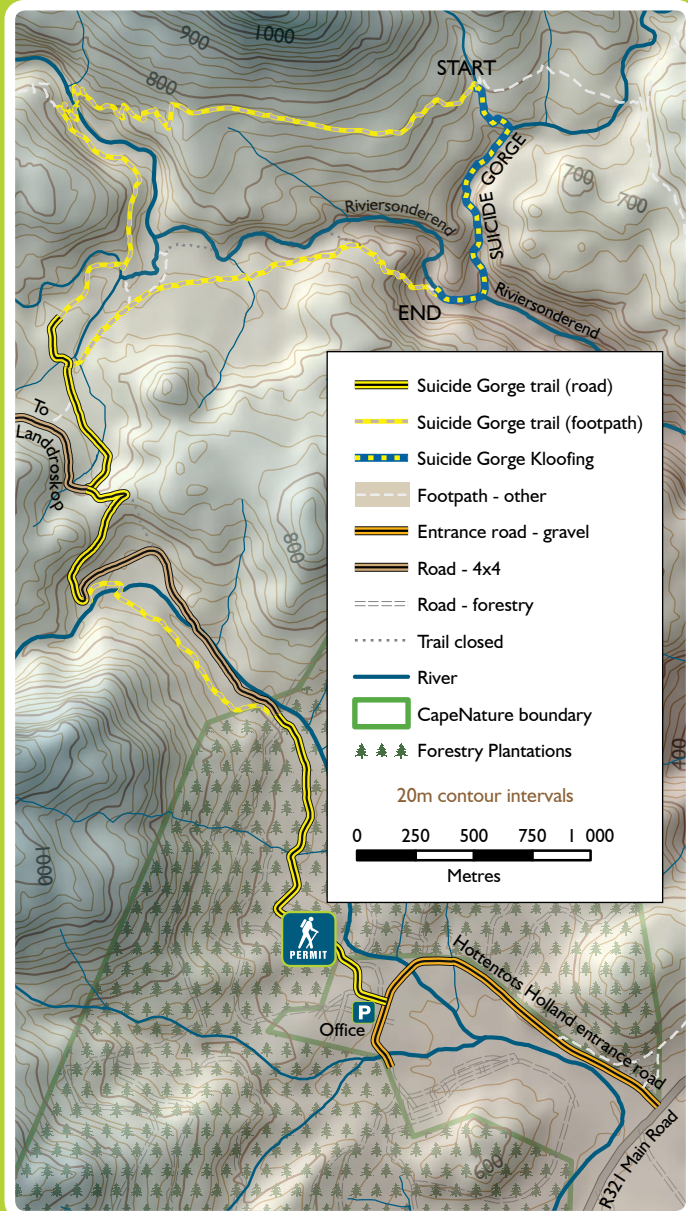


Suicide Gorge Route

DIFFICULT/EXTREME

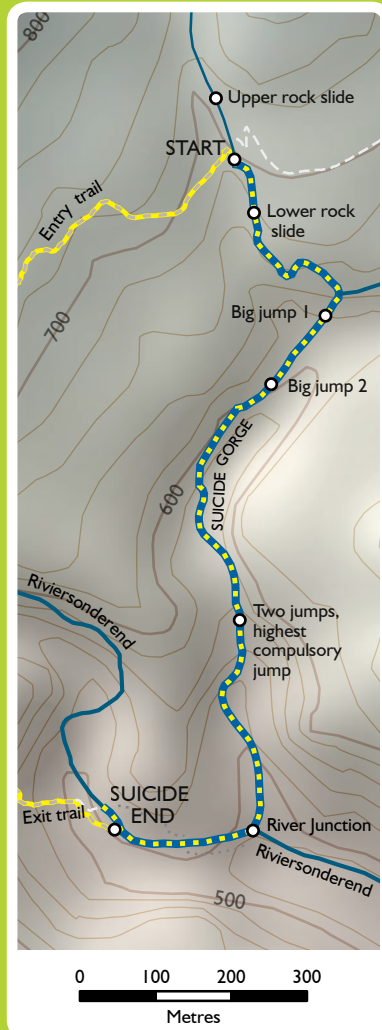
Suicide Gorge is for experienced kloofers who are not afraid of heights. It starts with a two-hour hike high into the mountains, and an optional waterfall slide. Then it's steep downhill for 1.3km with jumps up to 14m high and plenty of swims. The route can take 12 hours. The kloofing section is only 1.3km but consists of 80% swimming – start early to ensure you finish before dark.

Trail in	Kloofing	Trail out	TOTAL
8.4km	1.3km	6.5km	16.2km / 10-12 hours



SUICIDE GORGE EXIT:

At the major river junction DO NOT continue down river, but turn right and follow the Riviersonderend River for 200m upstream where you will find the Suicide Gorge exit trail on your left.



EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Hottentots Holland Conservation Manager
082 413 5258

The Conservation Manager's cell phone will be answered by the on-call staff member on duty.

Wilderness Search and Rescue
(021) 937 0300

Wilderness Search and Rescue number is operated by the METRO rescue control room. Please only use this number for mountain and wilderness rescue emergencies.

PLEASE REMEMBER
Your safety is your responsibility

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

All persons entering this conservation area and using its facilities do so entirely at their own risk. The Western Cape Nature Conservation Board and/or its employees and/or agents and/or its successors in title shall not be liable for any damage, loss, theft, injury, accident or death suffered by any person, howsoever caused. Right of Admission Reserved.

FIRE LIABILITY

Fire is a major environmental, human and livelihood threat. Anyone caught lighting, using or maintaining a fire or attempting to light, use or maintain a fire in areas other than those demarcated by the Nature Reserve Manager will be in contravention of the National Veld and Forest Fire Act (101 of 1998) and will be liable for a fine as well as all costs incurred to extinguish the fire. PLEASE BE FIREWISE.

Kloofing Routes



Hottentots Holland
NATURE RESERVE



CapeNature

www.capenature.co.za