



# DE HOOP NATURE RESERVE



**RESERVATIONS** 087 087 8250



**087 087 4004** (office hours)

NATURE RESERVE



**OFFICE HOURS** 07h00 - 18h00  
Monday-Friday



**CHECK-IN** 14h00 - 16h00  
**CHECKOUT** 10h00

OVERNIGHT BOOKINGS



**CHECK-IN** 08h00  
**CHECKOUT** 16h00

DAY VISITORS



**GATE TIMES** 07h30 - 16h00



The glittering jewel of De Hoop is one of Cape Nature's flagship reserves and has a well-deserved reputation as a truly magical wilderness. The reserve lies at the southernmost tip of Africa, where mountains meet the sea and create a fusion between freshwater and marine habitats that support a staggering array of terrestrial and aquatic life. Encompassing roughly 34 000 hectares, this World Heritage Site is one of the largest natural areas managed by CapeNature.

Annually, between July and November, southern right whales make their epic journey back to the safety of these rich waters to mate and calve. The famed Whale Trail Hike is revered as one of the most meaningful ways to experience this extraordinary phenomenon, with Cape Nature offering slack-packing at its most idyllic. De Hoop defies superlatives – it must be experienced to be truly understood



Once you enter the reserve, follow the public entrance signs at the Y-junction to the office. Whale Trail hikers can go straight to their first overnight hut (Potberg hut). Your portage boxes will be available for you to start packing. Once all hikers have arrived, briefing will be at the Whale Trail office from 14h00 - 15h00.

To view De Hoop in Google maps, go to <https://www.google.com/maps> and insert these coordinates: 34°22'29.15"S 20°31'59.75"E Then select search for the map to display.



# ACTIVITIES



**BIRD  
WATCHING**



**SWIMMING**



**HIKING**



**WHALE  
WATCHING**



**WILDLIFE  
WATCHING**



**MOUNTAIN  
BIKING**

# DE HOOP RULES

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED



**PICKING PLANTS**



**TAKING OF STONES, SHELLS,  
OR LIVE ORGANISMS**



**GRAFFITI AND OTHER  
DISFIGUREMENTS**



**TAKE ANY SIGNAGE  
AS SOUVENIRS**



**LITTERING**



**FIRES IN THE VELD**



Anything that is found on the trail, which might belong to a hiker, must be handed in at the office.



NB: You are welcome to pick up any litter for disposal in designated bins.



# PLEASE REMEMBER

The management of the tourism activities and accommodation facilities of the cottages and camping sites at De Hoop Nature Reserve (excluding the Whale Trail) is handled by De Hoop Collection: <http://www.dehoopcollection.com/>. De Hoop Collection has something for everyone at De Hoop, from families travelling on a tight budget to couples seeking a comfortable and affordable breakaway. There is a wide range of accommodation, ranging from camping and caravanning sites, to more affordable self-catering chalets, to luxurious self-catering and five-star fully catered lodges.

Other overnight stay options in De Hoop Nature Reserve include the Lekkerwater Beach Lodge and the Morukuru Ocean House:  
<https://morukuru.com/accommodations/morukuru-ocean-house>.



The nearest shop and fuel supply is at Ouplaas (Wydgeleë), 15km from the reserve.



Cell phone signal is sporadic; you will get signal mainly on the higher parts of the mountain, on the hard dunes and along the coast.



The Denel Overberg Testing Range occasionally uses the eastern sector of De Hoop Nature Reserve for missile testing. CapeNature receives limited notice of these tests. Although we try to minimise disruption to our hikers, it may be necessary for us to evacuate groups from the Whale Trail while the tests are being conducted.

## ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

ARRIVAL:  
**14h00 - 16h00**

Please remember that you are in a nature reserve. No fauna or flora may be damaged, removed or disturbed in any way. Cell phone reception is poor on the reserve. In the event of an emergency, contact the reserve office on **+27 (0)28 542 1114/5**.



BOOKING  
CONFIRMATION  
**THIS IS YOUR  
ENTRY PERMIT**



**PROOF OF PAYMENT  
FOR PORTAGE**



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