




GAMKASKLOOF ('DIEHEL')

Swartberg Nature Reserve

	RESERVATIONS	087 087 8250
	087 087 3943	(office hours)
NATURE RESERVE		
	OFFICE HOURS	07h30 - 16h00 Mon-Fri 09h30 - 12h30 Saturdays Public holidays
	CHECK-IN	CHECKOUT
OVERNIGHT BOOKINGS	14h00 - 16h00	10h00
	CHECK-IN	CHECKOUT
DAY VISITORS	08h00	18h00
	GATE TIMES	07h30 - 16h00
	Please phone the office before 13h00 if arrival time will be later than 16h00.	

Swartberg is a World Heritage Site. Numerous rock paintings and artefacts found in caves all over the reserve, show that the area was frequented by San people for many centuries. European farmers arrived in the 1700s, establishing small settlements and building roads, including three historic routes connecting the Great and Klein Karoo: Toorwaterpoort railway, Meiring's poort road, and the untarred Swartberg Pass, built by Thomas Bain, which takes vehicles over the Swartberg mountains and reaches a height of 1585m above sea-level.

The remote and isolated Gamkaskloof valley has a rich ecological, archaeological and cultural history. A small settlement was established there in 1830 by farmers of European origin. Entirely self-sufficient, the community of Gamkaskloof lived in isolation for over a century, completely cut off from the outside world. The first road into Die Hel, as it is known, was only built in 1962. As well as being part of the World Heritage Site, it was declared a Cultural Historical Site and deserves special care to ensure it is preserved for future generations. Gamkaskloof features several historic houses and outbuildings, and an old Norwegian mill.



NEAREST TOWNS:
Prince Albert ±86km
Oudtshoorn ±100km

From Cape Town, take the N1 to Worcester and then take the turn-off to the R60. Follow that road as it changes to the R62 at Montagu and keep following it until you reach Calitzdorp. There are two options from here. The first has more gravel:

- 1 In Calitzdorp, from the petrol station on the main road, take the second street on your left to a gravel road that will take you to Living Waters and Calitzdorp dam. This gravel road takes you to Kruisrivier and Groenefontein side junction. At the junction there will be Cango Caves signage, then take the left turning to the north (Matjiesrivier) and to the Swartberg Pass.
- 2 Alternatively, follow the R62 all the way to Oudtshoorn. Turn left off the R62 on to Baron van Reede. Follow the road west towards the Cango Caves. Just before the Cango Caves, turn left again on to the Swartberg Pass road.

The turnoff marked Gamkaskloof/The Hell is near the summit of the Swartberg Pass. From here you still have a 57 km gravel road into Gamkaskloof itself.

 **It can take up to 3 hours to travel from Oudtshoorn or Prince Albert to Gamkaskloof.**

To view in Google maps, go to <https://www.google.com/maps> and insert these coordinates: **33°21'44.9"S 21°37'22.6"E** Then select "search" for the map to display.



SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION UNITS

11 COTTAGES



GAS



SOLAR POWER



FRIDGE

[Solar power]



GAS HOB



GAS GEYSER



SHOWER



TOILET



BEDDING
+ TOWELS



COOKWARE



TABLEWARE



BRAAI
WITH GRID



NO POWER
POINT

SEMI-DETACHED COTTAGE

ANDRIES MARAIS HOUSE

CAPACITY 5

BEDROOMS 4



DOUBLE
BDR 1



SINGLE
BDR 2



SINGLE
BDR 3



SINGLE
BDR 4

WILLEM MARAIS

CAPACITY 2

BEDROOMS 1



2 SINGLE
BDR 1

STAPPIES CORDIER

CAPACITY 2

BEDROOMS 1



DOUBLE
BDR 1



UNIVERSAL
ACCESS

MARAIS CORDIER

CAPACITY 6

BEDROOMS 3



DOUBLE
BDR 1



2 SINGLE
BDR 2



2 SINGLE
BDR 3

FREEK & MARTHA

CAPACITY 4

BEDROOMS 2



DOUBLE
BDR 1



2 SINGLE
BDR 2

Located close to a dam, this traditional cottage with stepped gable is attached to 'Piet & Bellie'.

PIET & BELLIE

CAPACITY 3

BEDROOMS 2



2 SINGLE
BDR 1



SINGLE
BDR 2

SANKIE MARAIS

CAPACITY UP TO 8

BEDROOMS 4



DOUBLE
BDR 1



3/4
BDR 2



2 SINGLE
BDR 3



2 SINGLE
BDR 4



SPLASH POOL

SNYMAN HOUSE

CAPACITY 6

BEDROOMS 3



3/4
BDR 1



2 SINGLE
BDR 2



2 SINGLE
BDR 3



DOUBLE SLEEPER
COUCH
IN LOUNGE
[Bring own bedding]



SPLASH POOL

LENIE MARAIS

CAPACITY 5

BEDROOMS 3



DOUBLE
BDR 1



2 SINGLE
BDR 2



SINGLE
BDR 3



SPLASH POOL

SCHOOLMASTER'S HOUSE

CAPACITY 3

BEDROOMS 2



2 SINGLE
BDR 1



SINGLE
BDR 2



SPLASH POOL

KOOT KORDIER HOUSE

CAPACITY 6

BEDROOMS 2



DOUBLE
BDR 1



2 SINGLE
BDR 2



2 SINGLE
IN LOUNGE

The bathroom is set a few metres away from the house.



SPLASH POOL

SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION UNITS



BUSH SHELTER

CAPACITY 12 
BEDROOMS 1

Rustic accommodation featuring dormitory-style sleeping quarters and basic amenities. Reconnect with nature without roughing it.



GAS



SOLAR POWER



FRIDGE
[Solar power]



GAS HOB



GAS GEYSER



2 SHOWERS



2 TOILETS



NO POWER
POINT



12 SINGLE BEDS
[with mattress]



NO BEDDING
OR TOWELS



COOKWARE



TABLEWARE



BRAAI
WITH GRID

ACTIVITIES



HIKING & WALKING

DAY VISITORS
require a hiking
permit



PICNICKING



MOUNTAIN BIKING

on provincial roads



ANGLING

at the Gamka River

ALL VISITORS require a
permit for angling in
the Western Cape
(freshwater and dams)



BIRD WATCHING

Download the
Klein Karoo
Bird List here

HIKING AND ANGLING PERMITS

Hiking permits are obtainable online: <https://www.capenature.co.za/permits/hiking-permits>

Freshwater angling permits are available online: <https://www.capenature.co.za/permits/angling-licences>

Hiking permits are also available from the CapeNature office in Oudtshoorn:

Queens Hotel Complex, 5 Baron van Reede Street, Oudtshoorn

33°35'29.72"S 22°12'7.10"E

CHECKLIST: WHAT TO BRING



BOOKING CONFIRMATION

This is your entry permit



FOOD + DRINKS



ICE



TORCH



MATCHES



CHARCOAL



WATER BOTTLE



INSECT REPELLANT



SUN HAT



SUNSCREEN



WALKING SHOES



SWIMMING COSTUME



SWIMMING TOWEL



**WARM JACKET/
RAINCOAT (Winter)**



BINOCULARS



SLEEPING BAG + PILLOW



**BUSH SHELTER
GUESTS ONLY**



TOWELS



THERE IS NO GROCERY SHOP ON THE RESERVE. FOOD, BEVERAGES AND OTHER PROVISIONS MUST BE BOUGHT BEFOREHAND.



BRAAI WOOD & FIRELIGHTERS ARE FOR SALE AT THE CURIO SHOP BETWEEN 08:00 AND 16:00. The curio shop also stocks merchandise such as t-shirts, books, water bottles, postcards etc. Card facilities are available.

GAMKASKLOOF RULES

PLEASE REMEMBER



All visitors to the reserve are required to undergo a mandatory COVID-19 screening process.



GUEST LIABILITY

Visitors are liable for any loss or damage to reserve property due to negligence.



Keep the surrounds and facilities clean.



BRAAI PLACES ONLY

Due to the risk of veld fires, fires may only be made in designated fireplaces.



FIRE INDEX

On days where the fire danger index is orange or red, braai fires are only permitted after 19:00 to reduce risk.



Please do not take hot coals from the braai into the cottages, for the coal stoves.



Make sure that all fires are extinguished before you leave or go to sleep.



There is no cellphone reception. In the event of an emergency please contact the officer on duty at the office.



There is no wi-fi at the accommodation units.



The closest petrol station is at Prince Albert, about 65 km away and with a driving time of ±2 hours.

THE FOLLOWING ARE PROHIBITED



PETS



LITTERING



PICKING PLANTS



LOUD MUSIC & ROWDY BEHAVIOUR



COLLECTING FIREWOOD



FEEDING OF ANY ANIMALS



DISTURBING OF ANY WILDLIFE



MOVING OF FURNITURE, INSIDE OR OUTSIDE THE UNITS



SMOKING IN UNITS



RECHARGING DEVICES ON FRIDGE PLUG

Unplugging the fridge or adding an adaptor to the existing plug causes the fridge batteries to drain completely and the fridge cannot stay cold.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

[OVERNIGHT GUESTS]

ARRIVAL:
14h00 - 16h00



THIS IS YOUR
ENTRY PERMIT



RETURN ALL KEYS TO THE
OFFICE ON DEPARTURE

On the day of departure, overnight visitors must check out of their accommodation by 10h00, but are welcome to remain in the reserve until the gates close.



DRIVE SAFELY

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



CapeNature I



@capenature I



/capenature I



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