DE HOOP COLLECTION

Nature and Marine Getaway in the Western Cape



DE HOOP COLLECTION

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Introduction:	The De Hoop Reserve is situated just three hours' drive from Cape Town on the world renowned Garden and Whale Routes - an ideal stop over en route from the Cape Winelands to Plettenberg Bay. It is in the Overberg region near the southern tip of Africa and can be approached from either Bredasdorp or Swellendam. The Overberg area is characterised by quaint towns, a blossoming wine industry and delicious local dishes. The 36 000 hectares of De Hoop conservation area is a World Heritage Site comprising rich biodiversity and over 70 kilometres of pristine coastline. A 19 km vlei (wetland) stretches across the reserve, which is on the Ramsar list of Wetlands of International Importance.
Location:	The De Hoop Nature Reserve is situated east of Bredasdorp. The reserve is about 260 km by road from Cape Town, and may be reached via either Bredasdorp or Swellendam. The last 60 km of either route is along gravel roads and takes an hour to travel. Self-drive from Cape Town: Take N2 to Caledon. From Caledon drive through Napier to Bredasdorp. From Bredasdorp take the R319 to Swellendam. At about 6kms turn right - sign posted De Hoop / Malagas / Infanta. Gravel road for 33kms until you see a sign to the right - BUCHU BUSHCAMP / DE HOOP. It is 7km from this turn off to the Main Gate of the Park and a further 8km to the office. From Swellendam: Drive on N2 for 13km in the direction of Cape Town, turn left onto gravel road, signed Spitskop. Continue on this road for about 45km until you reach a T-junction. Turn left at the T-junction signed Malgas / Infanta and travel approx 2km before you turn right onto the De Hoop Pad signed BUCHU BUSHCAMP / DE HOOP. It is 7km from this turn off to the Main Gate of the Park and a further 8km to the office.
Why stay at De Hoop:	- Ideal stop over along the Garden Route (we suggest a minimum 2 night stay) - Perfect holiday destination for families, couples, groups, honeymooners and wedding parties - World-class whale watching in Season - Paradise for keen bird enthusiasts - De Hoop Reserve has around 260 bird species - Cape Nature's Flagship Reserve
Whale Season:	Every year, some 40% of the world's Southern Right Whales come to these shores to breed and De Hoop Nature Reserve is an important destination for these creatures. Females and their calves swim in the clear waters, while males put on spectacular displays. These endangered mammals ensure that the De Hoop Reserve in South Africa is one of the world's best land based whale-watching areas. As a marine reserve and World Heritage Site, De Hoop guarantees a safe nursery for these pods of visiting cetaceans. They come so close to the shore that visitors can relax on the unspoilt sand dunes, watching in awe as these beautiful creatures calve, blow, breach and belly-flop. Season runs from: End of May through to November. In season 500-600 whales will call De Hoop home. Sightings of 50-75 during height of season.
Climate:	The reserve has a Mediterranean climate and receives most of its rain during winter (May-Aug). Relatively warm off-shore waters result in mild winters and warm summers, with a mean annual temperature of 17,5°C. Rain falls throughout the year, with a peak in August and an average of 380 mm per year. Weak fogs also occur. The most frequent summer winds are east, west and south-east. In winter, westerly and south-westerly winds prevail and speeds may reach 60 km/h or more.

Game:	- Mammals – over 86 species - most common: eland, bontebok, baboon, Cape mountain zebra, grey rhebuck, duiker, steenbok etc. - Marine life: Southern Right Whales, dolphins and seals occur in the waters off the coast (3 nautical mile protected marine reserve) - Birds – over 259 species - some of which include: Cape griffon vultures, ostriches, African oyster catcher and many more.
Activities:	- Fantastic land based whale watching - Walking trails - Mountain biking - Guided Bird walks, Marine Walks, Star Gazing, Boat Cruises, Quadbike Tours - Tennis court (Opstal) - Swimming pool (Opstal) - Boules court (Opstal) - Guided Eco-Quad Biking

Gate hours and conservation fee:	- Conservation fee is payable at the gate on arrival. Please ask about the current price when booking. - Gates open at 07:00 and close at 19:00 - Check in time is at 14:00 and check out at 10:00
Restaurant:	The Fig Tree Restaurant at the Opstal camp is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner and picnic hampers for guests can also be pre-ordered.
Shop:	The Curio Shop (same venue as Reception) sells curios, snacks and limited food supplies.
Fuel:	The nearest fuel station is 15km from the reserve at Ouplaas and operates from Monday to Friday.
What to Bring:	Comfortable walking shoes, sun hat, sun glasses, binoculars, camera and memory cards, light neutral coloured clothing , bathing suit, warm jackets are essential (May – October), a small torch.
Reception and information:	Reception and general information can be found at the Opstal Camp. All activities can be booked at Reception and generally depart from the meeting tree. Please confirm departure point at reception when booking your activity.



ACTIVITIES

Guided Bird Walk

(duration +-2 hours)

A wonderful walking experience with a qualified field guide focused on the identification and behaviour of the prolific birdlife found in De Hoop Nature Reserve. Length of walk dependent on fitness levels of participants. Depart from the meeting tree at the Opstal at 6am October - March and 8am April - September.

Guided Mountain Bike Trail

(duration 2 – 3 hours)

Get the chance to cycle among herds of eland, bontebok and other game species with a qualified field guide who will share his knowledge of less obvious natural and historical aspects of De Hoop. Depart from reception at various times. To be booked and confirmed at reception.

Stargazing & Star Identification

(duration 1 hour)

Experience the magnificent stars and constellations that the clear De Hoop night sky has to offer. Learn about the various star signs and other interesting facts about the sky. Meet at the Fig Tree Restaurant at 8pm in winter and 10pm in summer. Times may change according to season and weather conditions. Please discuss and confirm with the guide.

Guided Eco-Quad Bike Trails

The duration of the activity could be anything between one and a half to two hours. The purpose of the activity is for it to be an awareness of the natural environment and an ecologically friendly slow paced biking experience. The route will give guests the opportunity of viewing spectacular Fynbos and absorbing breath-taking vistas over the De Hoop Vlei. The activity will be guided by trained De Hoop Collection guide.

Interpretive Marine Walk

(duration +-2 hours)

A walking trail exploring coastal rock pools and sandy beaches while a qualified guide points out interesting marine life forms. Also a great way to experience the Southern Right Whales in the bay between June and December. Depart an hour before low tide from the meeting tree. Times of daily low tide should be confirmed with reception the day before.

GUIDED ECO BOAT CRUISE

(duration 1.5 -2 hour)

Explore the Vlei and enjoy bird, game, otter and even porcupine sightings with our eco cruise experience. Cruises are held daily at 8am and 5pm during summer or can be booked by arrangement. Morning cruises include tea, coffee as well as pastries and croissants with jam and cheese. Guests opting for the evening cruise can enjoy house wines, local beers, juices and savoury snacks. Please not that this excludes spirits and speciality wines.
RATE: R295 per person







ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION AT DE HOOP COLLECTION

OPSTAL CAMP – comprises of the following:

De Hoop Village



Number of cottages	9	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	3	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 x Double 1 x Twin 1 x Bunk	**Lounge and kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes		
1 Bathroom	Shower Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area	**Remember 2 people can have sole use of cottage.**	

Opstal Houses



Number of cottages	4	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	3	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 x Double 2 x Twins	**Lounge and Kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes		
1 Bathroom	Shower and bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area	**Remember 2 people can have sole use of cottage.**	

Equipped Cottages



Number of cottages	7	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	2 bedrooms One with 3	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 X double 1 X twin (2 X twin + 1 double in 3 bedroom units)	**Lounge and Kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes		
1 Bathroom	Shower Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area	**Remember 2 people can have sole use of cottage.**	

Vlei Cottages



Number of cottages	3	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	2	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 x Double 1 x Twin	**Lounge and kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes		
1 Bathroom	Shower Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area	**Remember 2 people can have sole use of cottage.**	

"Everyone needs to get to De Hoop at some time. It's such a special place for so many reasons. The Nature Reserve is unique and offers some very different experiences. The Marine Walk (2 hours with a guide) was a highlight at low tide and is highly recommended. The accommodation varies from caravan sites to the very upmarket original Manor House. We stayed at The Vlei Suite which was really luxurious without being over decorated. Spacious with king size 4 poster bed, full bathroom and a lounge area opening up to a wonderful view of the huge Vlei. Really superb! Meals were excellent...."

Trip Advisor Review Excerpt from February 2015

NOTE: Rooms can be booked by different parties, or for exclusive use

Opstal Manor House



Number of cottages	1 House	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms in Manor House	3	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	Partially
Bedroom layout	1 x Double 2 x Twins	**Lounge and kitchen**	Lounge but no Kitchen- Rate includes meals	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes		
3 Bathrooms	En suite Shower, Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	No		

Melkkamer Manor House



Number of cottages	1 House	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	4	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	Partially
Bedroom layout	2 doubles 2 x twins	**Lounge and kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes	**Electricity**	Generator
4 En suite Bathrooms	Shower and Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area		

Did You Know? “De Hoop Nature Reserve forms part of the world’s smallest and most threatened plant kingdom - the Cape Floral Kingdom.”

Melkkamer Vlei Cottage



Number of cottages	1 House	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	4	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	2 doubles 2 x twins	**Lounge and kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	No	Electricity	Gas
2 Bathrooms	Shower Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area	**Remember 2 people can have sole use of cottage.**	

Melkkamer Foremans Cottage



Number of cottages	1 House	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms per cottage	3	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 doubles 2 x twins	**Lounge and kitchen**	Yes with dining area	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	No	Electricity	Generator
1 Bathroom	Shower and Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	Outdoor dining and BBQ area	**Remember 2 people can have sole use of cottage.**	

"The entire length of the De Hoop coast is a Marine Protected Area where fishing is not permitted and visitors may not disturb or remove marine organisms. Hence, you are likely to see the finest examples of inter-tidal ecosystems in the Western Cape when snorkeling in De Hoop's large, clear rock pools. ...."

CapeNature.co.za

Opstal Vlei Suite



Number of cottages	1 Room	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms	1	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	Yes
Bedroom layout	1 double	**Lounge and kitchen**	No kitchen. Rates include Dinner & Breakfast	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes	Electricity	Yes
1 Bathroom	Shower and Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	No	Fridge	Yes

Opstal Stable Suite



Number of cottages	1 Room	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms	1	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 double	**Lounge and kitchen**	No kitchen. Rates include Dinner & Breakfast	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes	Electricity	Yes
1 Bathroom	Shower and Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	No	Fridge	Yes

"...This was our second visit to De Hoop Nature Reserve. We returned because we enjoyed the freedom to walk around the reserve and to see bontebok, eland, ostrich and cape mountain zebra . The bird life is wonderful and on this visit we saw blue crane. The beach with its sand dunes is also stunning. ...."

Trip Advisor Review Excerpt from March 2015

Otter Suites



Number of cottages	3	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms	1	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 double	**Lounge and kitchen**	No kitchen. Rates include Breakfast & Dinner	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes	Electricity	Yes
1 Bathroom	Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	No	Fridge	Yes

Dassie Suite



Number of cottages	1	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost & pre-arrangement
Bedrooms	1	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	1 double	**Lounge and kitchen**	No kitchen. Rates include Breakfast & Dinner Seating area with fireplace	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	Yes	Electricity	Yes
1 Bathroom	Shower and Bath Toilet Towels Amenities	**BBQ area**	No	Fridge	Yes

"Wonderful place to relax and commune with nature. Their marine walk along the beach front and Rock pools with a guide at low tide, was the highlight of our stay there. The accommodation is most comfortable and one feels very much at home in the well appointed cottages. The restaurant was excellent and the staff most attentive. "

Trip Advisor Review Excerpt from October 2015

Campsite Rondawels



Number of Rondawels	5	**In room safe**	No	**Babysitting**	Yes at extra cost and pre-arrangement
Bedrooms	1	Telephone	No	Wheelchair Friendly	No
Bedroom layout	Twin or double - advise requirement	**Kitchen**	**Toaster,kettle and Mini Bar Fridge only. Wash up facilities and stove at Campsite**	**Ceiling fans**	No
Children	All ages welcome	Hairdryers	No	Electricity	Yes
Bathrooms	Communal bathroom	**BBQ area**	Yes with outside seating		

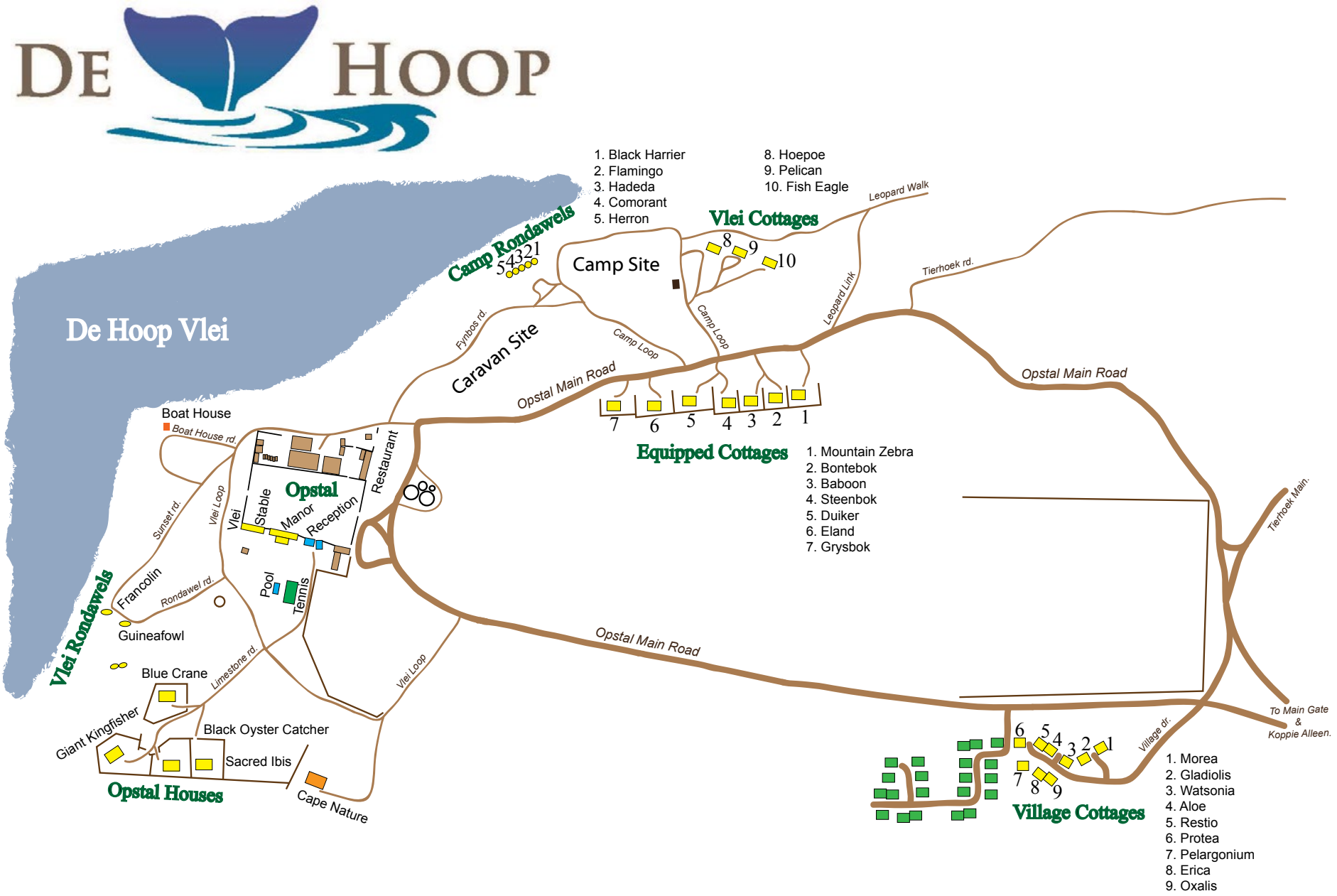
" From the elevated shoreline of De Hoop Marine Protected Area at Koppie Allen between 50 and 75 Southern Right Whales may be easily viewed during the height of the breeding season."

photodestination.co.za/southern-right-whales.html



Reservations and Sales & Marketing contact information:	Reservations, Sales & Marketing: Email: res@dehoopcollection.co.za Telephone: +27 21 422 4522 / 021 422 4090 Contact: Samantha Hughes Alternative emails: natalie@dehoopcollection.co.za nicola@dehoopcollection.co.za Public Relations: Email: theresa@theresagibbonpr.co.za Telephone: 082 820 8437 Contact: Theresa Gibbons UK Office : Email: tesna@luxuryrepcollection.com Telephone: 079 20 197 192 Contact: Tesna Simonsen George	At De Hoop: Email: manager@dehoopcollection.co.za Telephone: 028 542 1253. De Hoop Mobile: 071 260 7805 Contact: Hendrik Arendse (General Manager) Connect with us Online: www.dehoopcollection.co.za www.facebook.com/dehoopcollection twitter.com/DeHoopReserve

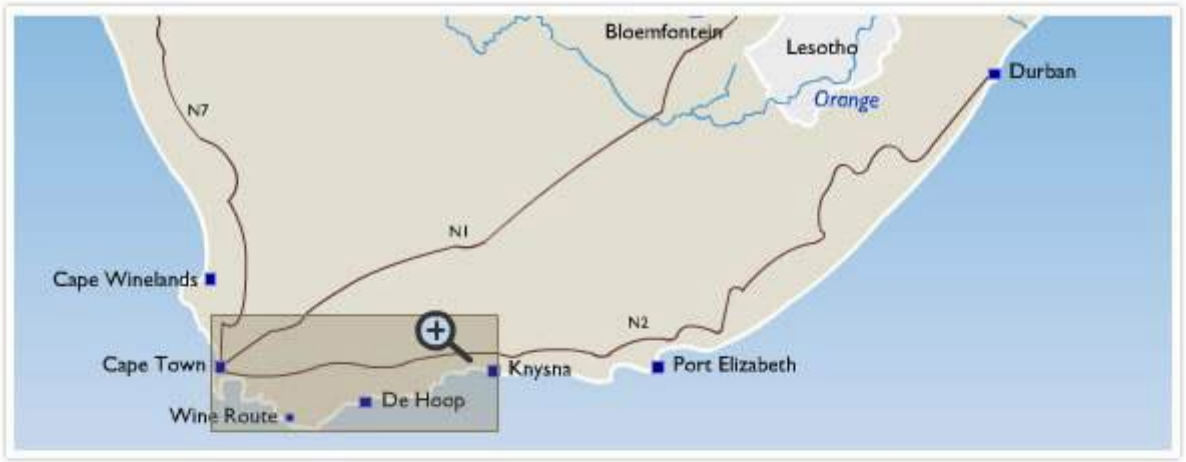
DE HOOP


1. Black Harrier
2. Flamingo
3. Hadeda
4. Comorant
5. Herron
8. Hoepoe
9. Pelican
10. Fish Eagle
Camp Rondawels
5 4 3 2 1
Vlei Cottages
8 9 10
Leopard Walk
De Hoop Vlei
Camp Site
Tierhoek rd.
Leopard Link
Camp Loop
Fynbos rd.
Caravan Site
Camp Loop
Opstal Main Road
Opstal Main Road
Boat House
Boat House rd.
Restaurant
Opstal
Stable
Manor
Reception
Vlei
Vlei Loop
Sunset rd.
Equipped Cottages
7 6 5 4 3 2 1
1. Mountain Zebra
2. Bontebok
3. Baboon
4. Steenbok
5. Duiker
6. Eland
7. Grysbok
Tierhoek Main.
Francolin
Rondawel rd.
Pool
Tennis
Vlei Rondawels
Guineafowl
Opstal Main Road
Blue Crane
Limestone rd.
Vlei Loop
To Main Gate
&
Koppie Alleen.
Giant Kingfisher
Black Oyster Catcher
Sacred Ibis
Opstal Houses
Cape Nature
6 5 4 3 2 1
7 8 9
Village dr.
Village Cottages
1. Morea
2. Gladiolis
3. Watsonia
4. Aloe
5. Restio
6. Protea
7. Pelargonium
8. Erica
9. Oxalis








Bloemfontein
Lesotho
Durban
Orange
N7
N1
N2
Cape Winelands
Cape Town
Knysna
Port Elizabeth
De Hoop
Wine Route


SWELLENDAM 53km
HEIDELBERG
HEIDELBERG
MALGAS
Breede River
BREDASDORP 50km
WYDGELEE
POTBERG
Soutrivier
WITSAND
Cupidoskraal
INFANTA
Tierhoek
Hamerkop
Vaalkrans
Noetsie
Lekkerwater
Stilgat
MELKKAMER AREA
THE OPSTAL AREA
KOPPIE ALLEEN
DE MOND
Marine Protected Area
Mountain bike trail
Whale trail
Walking trail
Camping
Cottages
Picnic site
Information