

# Reserve Map & Species Lists





### Game Reserve Fast Facts

GPS: 34°04'51.78" South | 21°54'40.74" East  
 Reserve Size: 10 800 hectares / 25 920 Acres  
 Perimeter Fence: 74 kilometers  
 Annual Rainfall: 500mm p/a  
 Summer Max & Min Temp: 28°C & 15°C  
 Winter Max & Min Temp: 18°C & 7°C

### Did you know?

Mossel Bay is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as having the second most temperate climate in the world after Hawaii.

George Airport - 55km | Cape Town - 385km | Mossel Bay - 24.7km

# Gondwana

**Our name** derives itself from Gondwanaland the land mass that existed one hundred and twenty million years ago. Gondwanaland is the name given to the more southerly of two supercontinents which were part of the Pangaea supercontinent that existed from approximately 510 to 180 million years ago. The Outeniqua and Swartberg Mountains that the reserve looks upon are the last visible evidence of the former Gondwanaland after the continent split to how we know it today.

**Gondwana's goal** is to increase the biodiversity of its conservation area to provide the Western Cape with a leading eco-tourism destination for the promotion of indigenous flora and fauna. This is achieved through the continued introduction of indigenous game to the reserve, overall land growth, the rehabilitation of wetland areas currently under threat from invasive alien plant species, as well as the ongoing vegetation and fire management to protect the endangered Fynbos.



Pangaea  
223 Million Years Ago



Triassic  
200 Million Years Ago



Present Day



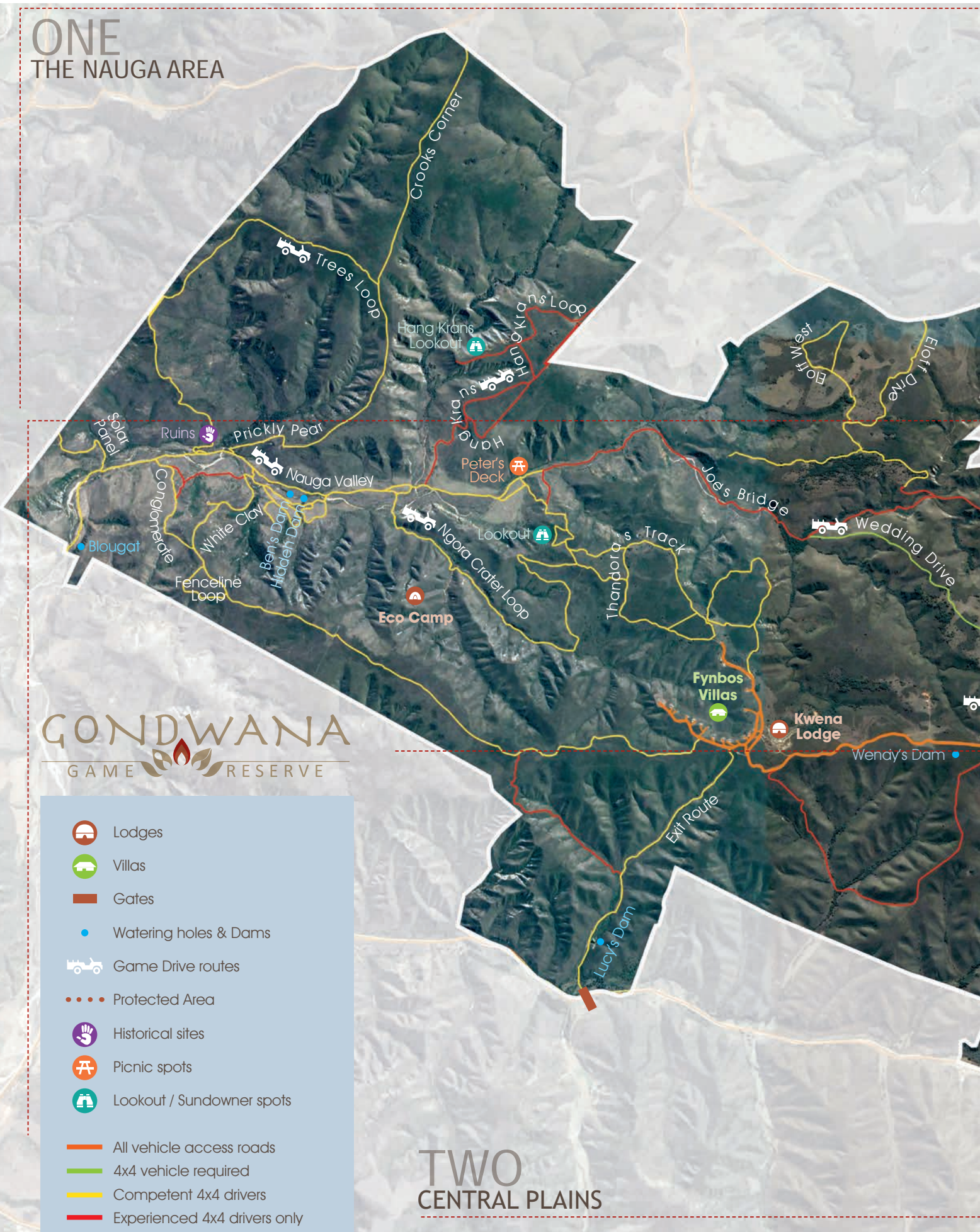
**Gondwana Game Reserve** established the Gondwana Conservation Foundation (GCF) in 2014 as a non-profit organization with the objective to utilize education, training and community involvement to create local employment while actively protecting the endangered wildlife and vegetation within the Southern Cape region.



Gondwana's Alien Invasive Tree Eradication Program is a tangible example of meeting this objective as 90 people are employed from the local community on a full-time basis to remove dense strands of Black Wattle trees. Black Wattle utilizes far greater quantities of water than the indigenous Fynbos vegetation ultimately forming "green deserts" where no other indigenous biodiversity can exist. The alien plant species that once posed the most significant environmental threat to the Reserve has now become one of the largest employment opportunities and community upliftment projects in the region.



# ONE THE NAUGA AREA



## GONDWANA GAME RESERVE

-  Lodges
-  Villas
-  Gates
-  Watering holes & Dams
-  Game Drive routes
-  Protected Area
-  Historical sites
-  Picnic spots
-  Lookout / Sundowner spots
-  All vehicle access roads
-  4x4 vehicle required
-  Competent 4x4 drivers
-  Experienced 4x4 drivers only

# TWO CENTRAL PLAINS

Reserve Size:  
10.800 hectares / 25 920 acres  
Perimeter fence: 74 km



# THREE PROTEA FOREST



# FOUR THE PROTECTED ENDANGERED SPECIES AREA

Entrance Gate  
GPS point:  
34°04'51.78"S ; 21°54'40.74"E





*A Fynbos Wilderness  
unlike any other*

The Southern Cape of South Africa is home to one of the most critically endangered vegetation types on earth - FYNBOS. The Cape Floristic Kingdom is the smallest and most critically endangered of the six floristic kingdoms in the world and is endemic to the Southern Cape of South Africa. Gondwana and the GCF focus on the rehabilitation and promotion of biodiversity for all eco systems in the Southern Cape.





## What is Fynbos?

Fynbos is neither a type of Protea nor a single kind of bush. It is the term given to a collection of plants that are dominated by shrubs and comprises of species belonging to Southern Africa's southwestern and southern regions adjacent to the coast.

Three shrubland types can be broadly categorized as belonging to the fynbos region. These are: true fynbos, renosterveld and strandveld.



**Fynbos** grows on sandy, infertile soils, poor in nutrients, that are not suitable for agricultural crops. Fynbos is dominated by restios, ericas, proteas and bulbs

**Renosterveld**, a shrubland, grows on relatively rich soils; hence, most of it, especially on the coastal forelands, has been ploughed for wheat and other artificial pastures. Due to excessive exploitation from agriculture Renosterveld is critically endangered and only small fragments remain.



**Strandveld** also a shrubland, grows in alkaline sands along the dry coasts of the region. Shrubs, small trees and succulents dominate the vegetation type. Because of its succulent nature, this shrubland rarely burns.

## A Threatened Species

67% of South Africa's threatened plants occur in the fynbos biome. This is due to the limited distribution of the species. 596 fynbos species only occur in one place, such as a single mountain top peak, valley or wetland.

Habitat loss is historically the single largest cause of species extinction in Fynbos.



**Cape Sugar birds** are the most important bird pollinators of fynbos proteas. Fynbos is home to three specialist nectarivorous birds: the orange breasted sunbird, the malachite sunbird and the lesser double-collared sunbird.



# Geology & Soils



## Fire & Fynbos

It is no exaggeration to say that without fire there would be no fynbos!

Fynbos and Renosterveld can survive fire in three main ways:

- **Resprout after fire** - "sprouters"
- **Protect their seed from fire** - "non sprouters"
- **Evade fire** by growing in rocky places - "evaders"

The best way for seed to be protected against fire is for it to be underground. Special fleshy attachments on the seeds of certain species encourage ants to carry them underground into their nests.

## Geology & Soils

Fynbos soils are infertile due to the nutrient deficient rocks from which they derive. The dominant rocks associated with these poor soils are quartzite and sandstone. Most fynbos soils are whitish, acidic sands (having a low PH) that are both shallow and rocky.





# Wetlands

In developing Gondwana, every attempt was made to reduce potential impact on the environment. Areas of indigenous vegetation were protected and left untouched.

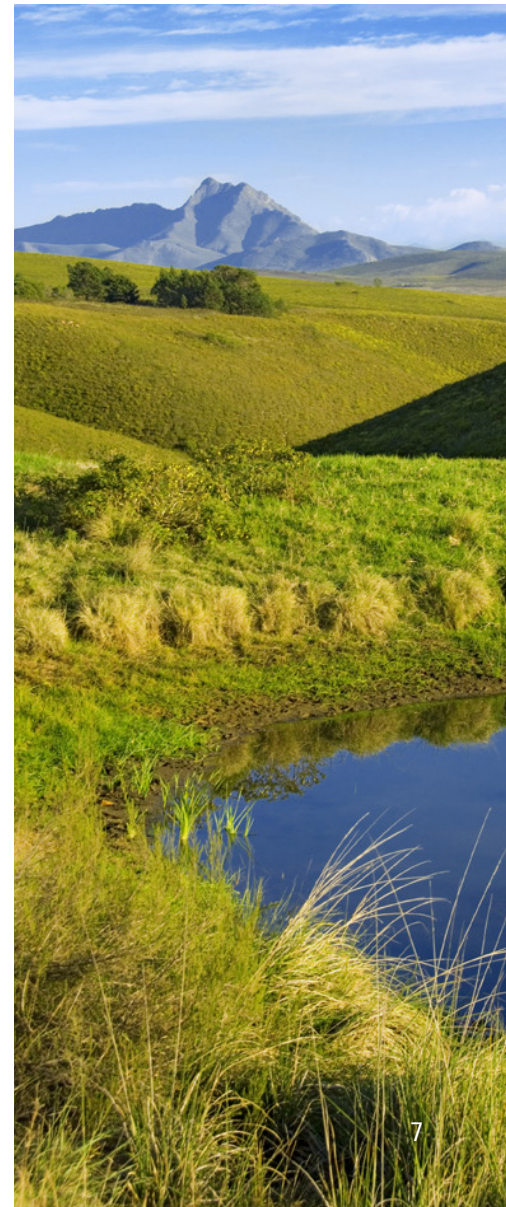


## Wetlands

Wetlands occur throughout the different types of fynbos and renosterveld, providing habitats for plants and animals that occur nowhere else in the world. They have soils that are at least periodically saturated with water, during which time they have little to no oxygen. Their plants have specialized root systems that allow them to survive water-saturated conditions with low oxygen levels.

## Functions of Wetlands

- Improve water quality
- Contribute to the performance of surface and subsurface aquatic systems through the retention and slow release of waters during low flow periods
- Provision of habitat for wetland-associated animals.
- Provision of corridors for movement across natural terrestrial areas.





# SPECIES LIST

## MAMMALS

### Herbivores

- Bontebok (*Damaliscus pygargus*)
- Bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*)
- Bushpig (*Potamochoerus larvatus*)
- Buffalo, Cape (*Syncerus caffer*)
- Duiker, Grey (*Sylvicapra grimmia*)
- Eland (*Tragelaphus oryx*)
- Elephant, African (*Loxodonta africana*)
- Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*)
- Grey Rhebok (*Pelea capreolus*)
- Grysbok, Cape (*Rhaphiceros malnotis*)
- Gemsbok (*Oryx gazelle*)
- Hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibious*)
- Impala (*Aepyceros melampus*)
- Klipspringer (*Oreotragus oreotragus*)
- Kudu (*Tragelaphus stripsiceros*)
- Red Hartebeest (*Alcelaphus buselaphus*)
- Roan (*Hippotragus equinus*)
- Rhinoceros, White (*Ceratotherium simum*)
- Sable (*Hippotragus niger*)
- Springbok (*Antidorcas marsupialis*)
- Waterbuck (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*)
- Wildebeest, Blue (*Connochaetes taurinus*)
- Zebra, Burchell's (*Equus burchelli*)
- Zebra, Cape mountain (*Equus zebra*)



Lion (*Panther leo*)

### Carnivores

- Caracal (*Caracal caracal*)
- Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*)
- Fox, Bat-eared (*Otocyon megalotis*)
- Fox, Cape (*Vulpes chama*)
- Genet, Small spotted (*Genetta genetta*)
- Honey Badger (*Mellivora capensis*)
- Jackal, Blacked back (*Canis mesomelas*)
- Leopard (*Panthera pardus*)
- Lion (*Panther leo*)
- Mongoose, Large grey (*Herpestes ichneumon*)
- Mongoose, Small grey (*Herpestes pulverulentus*)



Eland (*Tragelaphus oryx*)



- Mongoose, Water (*Atiax paludinosus*)
- Mongoose, Yellow (*Cynictis penicillata*)
- Otter, Cape clawless (*Aonyx capensis*)
- Polecat, Striped (*Ictonyx striatus*)
- Serval (*Leptailurus serval*)
- Striped Polecat (*Ictonyx striatus*)
- Wildcat, African (*Felis silvestris*)

## Insectivores

- Aardwolf (*Protelis cristata*)
- Fox, Bat-eared (*Otocyon megalotis*)
- Shrew, Reddish grey musk (*Crocidura cyanea*)

## Bats

- Bat, Cape serotine (*Neoromicia capensis*)
- Bat, Geoffroys horseshoe (*Rhinolophus clivosus*)
- Bat, Shreiber's long fingered,  
Common Bent-wing (*Miniopterus schreibersii*)
- Bat, Egyptian free tailed (*Tadarida aegyptiaca*)



Caracal (*Caracal caracal*)

## Rodents

- Gerbil, Cape (*Gebilliscus afra*)
- Molerat, Common (African)  
(*Cryptomys hottentotus*)
- Mouse, Four striped (*Rhabdomys pumilo*)
- Porcupine, (*Erethizon dorsatum*)
- Rat, Vlei (*Myomyscus unisulcatus*)

## Hares

- Hare, Cape (*Lepus capensis*)
- Hare, Scrub (*Lepus saxatilis*)

## Primates

- Baboon, Chacma (*Papio ursinus*)
- Monkey, Vervet (*Cercopithecus aethiops*)



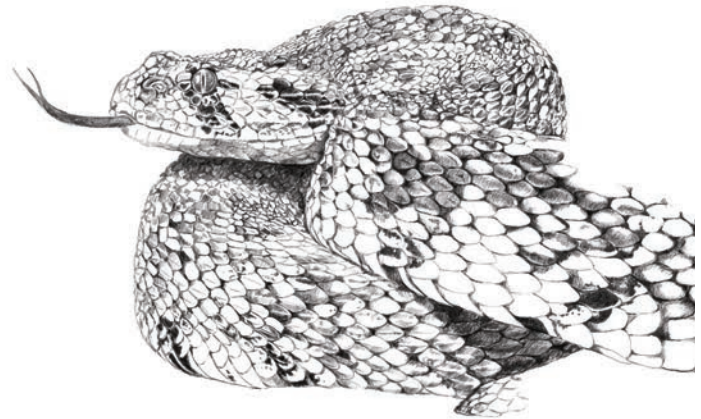
Porcupine, (*Erethizon dorsatum*)



# REPTILES

## Snakes

- Adder, Common (rhombic?) night (*Causus rhombeatus*)
- Adder, Puff (*Bitis arietans*)
- Egg-eater, Common (*Dasypeltis scabra*)
- Cobra, Cape (*Naja nivea*)
- Skaapsteker, Spotted (*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)
- Slug Eater, Common (*Duberria lutrix*)
- Snake, Aurora house (*Lamprophis aurora*)
- Snake, Boomslang (*Dispholidus typus*)
- Snake, Brown house snake (*Boaedon capensis*)
- Snake, Cross-marked whip (*Psammophis crucifer*)
- Snake, Mole (*Pseudaspis cana*)



Adder, Puff (*Bitis arietans*)

## Lizards

- Agama, Southern rock (*Agama atra*)
- Chameleon, Cape dwarf (*Bradypodion pumilum*)
- Chameleon, Little Karoo dwarf (*Bradypodion gutturale*)
- Gecko, Large spotted, marbled leaf-toed (*Afrogecho porphyreus*)
- Lizard, Cape crag (*Pseudocardylus microlepidotus*)
- Lizard, Cape girdled (*Cordylus cordylus*)
- Lizard, Cape grass (*Chamaesaura anguina*)
- Lizard, Cape rough scaled (*Ichotropis capensis*)
- Skink, Cape (*Trachylepis capensis*)

## Tortoises & Terrapins

- Terrapin, Marsh (*Pelomedusa subrufa*)
- Tortoise, Leopard (*Stigmochelys pardalis*)
- Tortoise, Angulated (*Chersina angulata*)
- Tortoise Parrot beaked, padloper, (*Homopus areolatus*)

# Amphibians

## Frogs

- Frog, African clawed, Common platanna (*Xenopus laevis*)
- Frog, Clicking stream (*Strongylopus grayii*)
- Frog, Arum lily (*Hyperolius horstockii*)
- Frog, Common river (*Amieta angolensis*)
- Frog, Boettger's dainty, common caco, (*Cacosternum boettgeri*)
- Frog, Painted reed (*Hyperolius marmoratus*)
- Frog, Rattling (*Cophixalus crepitans*)
- Frog, Striped stream (*Strongylopus fasciatus*)
- Toad, Karoo (*Bufo garipeensis*)



## TREES & SHRUBS

- Aloe, Bitter (*Aloe ferox*)
- Aloe, Krantz (*Aloe arborescens*)
- Blue kuni bush (*Rhus glauca*)
- Brown gonna (*Passerina filiformis*)
- Bush tick berry (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*)
- Common cabbage trees (*Cussonia spicata*)
- Common guarri (*Euclea undulata*)
- Common saffron (*Elaeodendron croceum*)
- Common spike-thorn (*Gymnosporia Buxifolia*)
- Common wild current (*Searsia pyroides / Rhus pyroides*)
- Glossy current (*Searsia lucida / Rhus lucida*)
- Iornwood (*Olea capensis*)
- Karoo num-num (*Carissa haematocarpa*)
- Olive, False (*Buddleja saligna*)
- Olive, Sand (*Dodonaea viscosa / angustifolia*)
- Olive, Wild (*Olea Europaea*)
- Real yellowwood (*Podocarpus latifolius*)
- Red current (*Rhus chirindensis*)
- Rub-rub berry (*Rhus incisa*)
- Sagewood (*Buddleja salviifolia*)
- September bush (*Polygala myrtifolia*)
- Star-apple (*Diospyros simii*)
- Poison peach (*Diospyros dychrophylla*)
- Sweet thorn (*Acacia Karoo*)
- Wild camphor bush (*Tarchonanthus camphoratus*)
- White milkwood (*Sideroxylon inerme*)
- Wild peach (*Kiggelaria africana*)



Star-apple (*Diospyros simii*)



September bush  
(*Polygala myrtifolia*)



## Protea Family

- Protea, King (*Protea cynaroides*)
- Protea, Sugarbush (*Protea nitida*)
- Protea, Sugarbush (*Protea coronata*)
- Protea, Sugarbush (*Protea eximia*)
- Protea, Sugarbush (*Protea neriifolia*)
- Protea, Sugarbush (*Protea repens*, Suikerbos)

## Cone bush

- Cone bush (*Leucadendron salignum*)
- Cone bush (*Leucadendron xanthoconus*)
- Cone bush (*Leucadendron meridianum*)
- Cone bush (*Leucadendron laureolum*)

## Pincushion

- Pincushion (*Leucospermum cuneiforme*)
- Pincushion (*Leucospermum praecox*)
- Pincushion (*Leucospermum cordifolium*)

## Erica - Heath

- Heath (*Erica hispidula*)
- Heath (*Erica pulchella*)
- Heath (*Erica transparens*)
- Heath (*Erica seriphiifolia*)
- Heath (*Erica coccinea*)
- Heath, Hangertjie (*Erica plukenetii*)
- Heath (*Erica discolour*)
- Heath (*Erica versicolor*)
- Heath, Green (*Erica sessiliflora*)
- Heath, Water, water-bos (*Erica curviflora*)
- Heath, Water, waterheide (*Erica caffra*)



Protea, Sugarbush (*Protea eximia*)



## Metalasia

- Metalasia, Blombos (*Metalasia densa*)
- Metalasia, Blombos (*Metalasia muricata*)
- Metalasia, Blombos (*Metalasia pungens*)

## Arctotis

- Arctotis, Renostergosblom (*Arctotis acaulis*)
- Arctotis, Renostergosblom (*Arctotis incise*)

## Restio

- (*Chondropetalum ebracteatum*)
- Calopsis, Besemgoed (*Calopsis paniculata*)
- Reed, Silver, Silverriet  
(*Thamnochortus cinereus*)
- Cape Thatching Reed, Horsetail Restio (*Chondropetalum ebracteatum*)

## Other

- Redhot Poker (*Kniphofia uvaria*)
- Belladonna, Maartblom (*Amaryllis belladonna*)
- Pondblossom, Waterblommetjie  
(*Aponogeton distachyos*)
- Rush iris, Blombiesie (*Bobartia orientalis*)
- Freesia, Flissie (*Freesia alba*)
- Babiana, Bobbejaantjie (*Babiana*)
- Nebelia (*Nebelia paleacea*)

## Everlasting

- Everlasting, Vlaktetee (*Syncarpha gnaphalodes*)
- Everlasting (*Syncarpha paniculata*)
- Everlasting (*Syncarpha argyropsis*)
- Everlasting (*Syncarpha canescens*)
- Cape snow (*Syncarpha Vestita*)

## Scabious

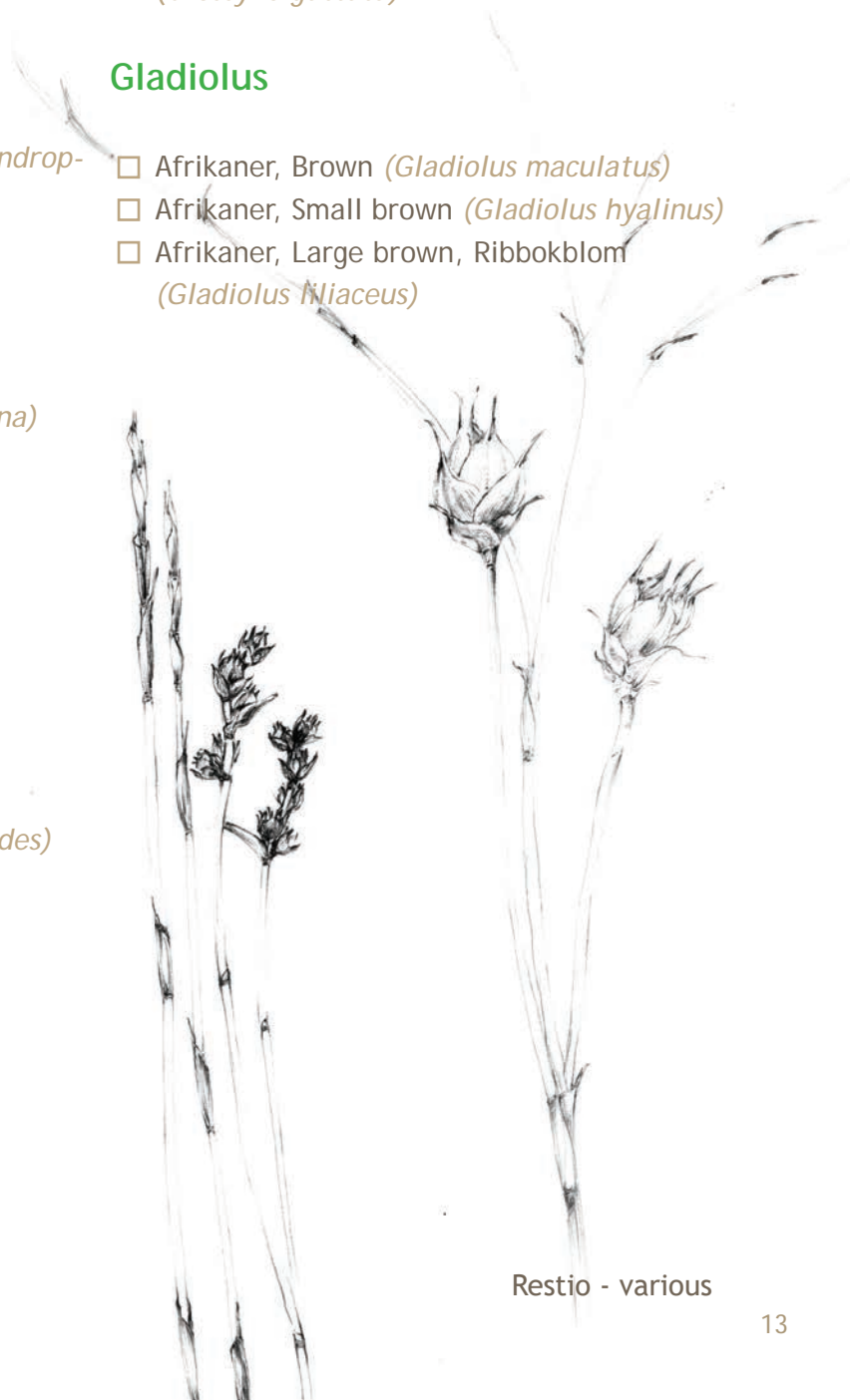
- Scabious, Bitterbos (*Scabiosa columbaria*)
- Scabious (*Scabiosa incisa*)

## Lily

- Lily, April fool, Veldskoenblaar  
(*Haemanthus sanguineus*)
- Lily, Arum, calla, varklelie,  
(*Zantedeschia aethiopica*)
- Lily, Chandelier, Koningskandelaar,  
(*Brunsvigia orientalis*)
- Lily, Kapok (*Lanaria lanata*) Perdekapok
- Lily, Paintbrush, Misryblom
- Lily, Malgas (*Ammocharis longifolia*)  
(*Haemanthus coccineus*)
- Lily, Parasol, Sambreelblom  
(*Crossyne guttata*)

## Gladiolus

- Afrikaner, Brown (*Gladiolus maculatus*)
- Afrikaner, Small brown (*Gladiolus hyalinus*)
- Afrikaner, Large brown, Ribbokblom  
(*Gladiolus liliaceus*)



Restio - various



# BIRD LIST

## Water Birds

- |                          |     |                            |                          |     |                                   |
|--------------------------|-----|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 226 | Coot, Red-knobbed          | <input type="checkbox"/> | 686 | Cisticola, Levillant's            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 428 | Cormorant, Reed            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 131 | Coucal, Burchell's                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 429 | Cormorant, White-breasted  | <input type="checkbox"/> | 192 | Dove, Namaqua                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 427 | Darter, African            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11  | Francolin, Cape                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 31  | Duck, African black        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5   | Francolin, Grey-winged            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 23  | Duck, yellow-billed        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 635 | Grassbird, Cape                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 24  | Goose, Egyptian            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 622 | Greenbul, Sombre                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 27  | Goose, Spur-winged         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 111 | Mousebird, Red-faced              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 416 | Grebe, Little              | <input type="checkbox"/> | 110 | Mousebird, Speckled               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 455 | Hamerkop                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 687 | Neddicky                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 450 | Heron, Black-crowned night | <input type="checkbox"/> | 180 | Pigeon, African olive             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 442 | Heron, Black-headed        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 697 | Prinia, Karoo                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 441 | Heron, Grey                | <input type="checkbox"/> | 783 | Robin, Karoo scrub                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 429 | Kingfisher, Giant          | <input type="checkbox"/> | 952 | Sisken, Cape                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 91  | Kingfisher, Malachite      | <input type="checkbox"/> | 195 | Spurfowl, Cape                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 428 | Kingfisher, Pied           | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12  | Spurfowl, Red-necked              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 291 | Lapwing, Blacksmith        | <input type="checkbox"/> | 787 | Stonechat, African                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 282 | Plover, Three-banded       | <input type="checkbox"/> | 841 | Sugarbird, Cape                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 25  | Shelduc, South African     | <input type="checkbox"/> | 824 | Sunbird, Amethyst                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 462 | Spoonbill, African         | <input type="checkbox"/> | 831 | Sunbird, Greater double-collared  |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 827 | Sunbird, Malachite                |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 820 | Sunbird, Orange-breasted          |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 830 | Sunbird, Southern double-collared |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 755 | Thrush, Olive                     |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 889 | Waxbill, Common                   |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 848 | Weaver, Cape                      |
|                          |     |                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | 674 | White-eye, Cape                   |

## Nocturnal Birds

- |                          |     |                        |
|--------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 173 | Nightjar, Fiery-necked |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 165 | Owl, Spotted eagle     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 272 | Thick-knee, Spotted    |

## Fynbos & Shrub Birds

- |                          |     |                        |
|--------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 703 | Apalis, Bar-throated   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 863 | Bishop, Southern red   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 864 | Bishop, Yellow         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 559 | Bokmakierie            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 557 | Boubou, Southern       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 956 | Bunting, Cape          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 945 | Canary, Brimstone      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 939 | Canary, Cape           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 946 | Canary, White-throated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 944 | Canary, Yellow         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 797 | Chat, Familiar         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 795 | Chat, Karoo            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 681 | Cisticola, Grey-backed |



Malachite sunbird  
(*Nectarinia famosa*)





Harrier, Black (*Circus maurus*)

## Birds of Prey

- 384 Buzzard, Forest
- 387 Buzzard, Jackal
- 383 Buzzard, Steppe
- 352 Eagle, African fish
- 397 Eagle, Martial
- 414 Falcon, Lanner
- 377 Goshawk, African
- 368 Harrier, African marsh
- 369 Harrier, Black
- 372 Hawk, African harrier
- 403 Kestrel, Rock
- 348 Kite, Black-shouldered
- 400 Secretarybird
- 382 Sparrowhawk, Black

\*Numbers refer to Roberts Plate Reference



# BIRD LIST

## Forest Birds

- 67 Barbet, Acacia Pied
- 569 Batis, Cape
- 621 Bulbul, Cape
- 117 Cuckoo, Black
- 125 Cuckoo, Diderick
- 112 Cuckoo, Jacobin
- 123 Cuckoo, Klaas's
- 116 Cuckoo, Red-chested
- 587 Cuckooshrike, Black
- 187 Dove, Cape Turtle
- 185 Dove, Laughing
- 183 Dove, Lemon
- 188 Dove, Red-eyed
- 191 Dove, Tambourine
- 542 Drongo, Fork-tailed
- 547 Flycatcher, African, Paradise
- 763 Flycatcher, spotted
- 622 Greenbul, Sombre
- 80 Hoopoe, African
- 96 Kingfisher, Brown-hooded
- 540 Oriole, Black-headed
- 772 Robin, Chat, Cape
- 156 Turaco, Knysna
- 57 Woodpecker, Cardinal
- 56 Woodpecker, Ground

## Open Grassland Birds

- 194 Bustard, Denham's
- 206 Crane, Blue
- 445 Egret, Cattle
- 20 Guineafowl, Helmeted
- 198 Korhaan, Southern, Black
- 297 Lapwing, Crowned
- 717 Lark Cape, Clapper
- 745 Lark, Large-billed
- 740 Lark, Red-capped
- 921 Longclaw, Cape
- 1 Ostrich, Common
- 926 Pipit, African
- 931 Pipit, Long-billed
- 927 Pipit, Plain-backed



Cape Sugar Bird (*Promerops cafer*)



- 15 Quail, Common
- 470 Stork, White
- 792 Wheatear, Capped

## Flight Birds

- 598 Martin, Brown-throated
- 614 Martin, Rock
- 616 Saw-wing, Black
- 602 Swallow, Barn
- 608 Swallow, Greater-striped
- 607 Swallow, Pearl-breasted
- 603 Swallow, White-throated
- 145 Swift, Alpine
- 150 Swift, Little

## General Birds

- 576 Crow, Cape
- 577 Crow, Pied
- 582 Fiscal, Common
- 762 Flycatcher, Fiscal
- 461 Ibis African, Sacred
- 458 Ibis, Hadeda
- 181 Pigeon, Speckled
- 578 Raven, White-necked
- 909 Sparrow, Cape
- 907 Sparrow, House
- 814 Starling, Common
- 812 Starling, Pied
- 803 Starling, Red-winged
- 914 Wagtail, Cape

## Rocky Area Birds

- 746 Thrush, Cape rock
- 747 Thrush, Sentinel rock



Cape Sugar Bird (*Promerops cafer*)



# The Past

Between 195 000 and 125 000 years ago, an ice age covered much of the planet with thick sheets of ice. The human race, which had been growing in numbers and spreading, was almost completely wiped out. But not quite, for in a milder, sheltered part of the coast of South Africa, the conditions were perfect for an abundant supply of both protein and carbohydrates to sustain the few who found themselves there.

This mild location was Mossel Bay, and some of the earliest evidence of intelligent men and women has been found here. The cave system at Pinnacle Point (now a golf estate 15 minutes from Gondwana Game Reserve) was their home, and they became skilled at both gathering shellfish on the coast in the area revealed between high and low tides, as well as digging for the nutritious bulbs, tubers and corms of the fynbos and renosterveld plants that flourish in the area.

Interestingly, as a result of the high Omega content of their shellfish diet, the inhabitants of Mossel Bay developed large brains and increased intelligence, which is why evidence has been discovered here of people making advances long before anywhere else. The local inhabitants found a way to use fire to refine their stone spearheads to sharp blades as far back as 165 000 years ago, as well as developing the technology required to embed these blades into bone and wood to make effective spears. They also began to use pigment for decoration around this time.

It is to this remnant of people that we owe our own existence today for the human population was reduced from thousands to mere hundreds. As conditions gradually improved groups of survivors journeyed north to Europe and on around the world. Some remained in Africa, and spread throughout the continent. Eventually two groups developed who inhabited the southern tip of the country (The Cape) more than a thousand years before the first European settlers arrived. These two groups were the Khoikhoi and the San. Collectively, they are known as the Khoisan. Although linked by their name and the sound of their language, they come from two very different cultures.

Bartolomeu Dias, a Portuguese discoverer, was the first European known to set foot on South African soil when he arrived at Mossel Bay in 1488. The first indigenous people he encountered were nomadic herders who had lived in the Cape for over a thousand years, the Khoikhoi. The local people were startled by the sudden appearance of the Europeans and fled inland, taking their cattle with them. The two groups were unable to communicate with one another and misunderstanding arose when the newcomers helped themselves to water from a water hole. The Khoikhoi, also now known as “Cape Herders” considered the water to be their property. Their practice was to share water with anyone who requested it in a polite manner, and who offered a gift. The Europeans were unaware of this custom and helped themselves. This lack of communication and understanding hampered relationships between the two groups for many years.

The European travellers gave the name ‘Hottentot’ to the people who already lived in the Cape. However, the herders called themselves Kwena or Khoikhoi (meaning ‘real man’ or ‘real person’). These nomadic herders were a hierarchical people, with the wealthy owning large herds of long-horned cattle, fat-tailed sheep and goats. They were served by those who owned no stock. They also employed herders to care for their animals, rewarding them with the occasional lamb. The Khoikhoi rarely killed their herd animals, but made use of their milk, and would hunt for meat amongst the herds of antelope and other animals that inhabited the land around them. They would feast on red hartebeest, bontebok, eland, Cape mountain zebra, grey rhebok, bushbuck, porcupines and other endemic animals. It was only when a large animal was killed, such as a hippo or elephant, that they would kill a domestic animal as part of a ceremonial celebration.

The Khoikhoi had to move continually to find adequate grazing for their animals, so they needed accommodation that was mobile in nature. In spite of this, they lived in large village groups with more than one hundred inhabitants. Both men and women were involved in building these homes. The men would cut flexible young trees and plant them in a circle in the ground, then bend them at the top and fasten them together to form a dome. The women and children, meanwhile, would gather reeds, which they would painstakingly sew together to form mats. These reed mats were then flung over the dome structure and fastened to it. The dry reeds would allow a breeze to blow through the homes in the heat of summer.





When it rained, the reeds would swell and protect the interior, keeping it relatively dry, and when it was cold the Kwena would line the interior of the huts with animal skins to keep them warm. The dwellings were solid and practical.

When the Kwena needed to move for fresh grazing, they would roll up the mats covering their homes and take them with them. Sometimes they would move the dome-like structures too, but if they knew they would be returning to the area in the near future, they would leave these behind and simply build more in the new location.

Kwena Lodge was inspired by these Khoikhoi villages, with its simple dome-shaped huts with grass roofs for each guest room. We wanted the lodge to tread lightly on its environment like the Kwena did, as if it could be dismantled and moved if the need arose. We utilized worn dirt and wood chip paths to lead from hut to hut rather than decking and many of the décor accessories are items the Kwena could have found on the land to utilize, such as wooden stumps for side tables and bar stools, cow hides for rugs and covers, and we made a decorative screen in the Kwena Lodge bar of bone, shell, hide, and quills, which all would have been found as they moved through the area. The photographs of the long-horned Watusi African cattle in the dining and lounge areas also pay homage to the Cape Herders who grazed the ancient lands of Gondwana.

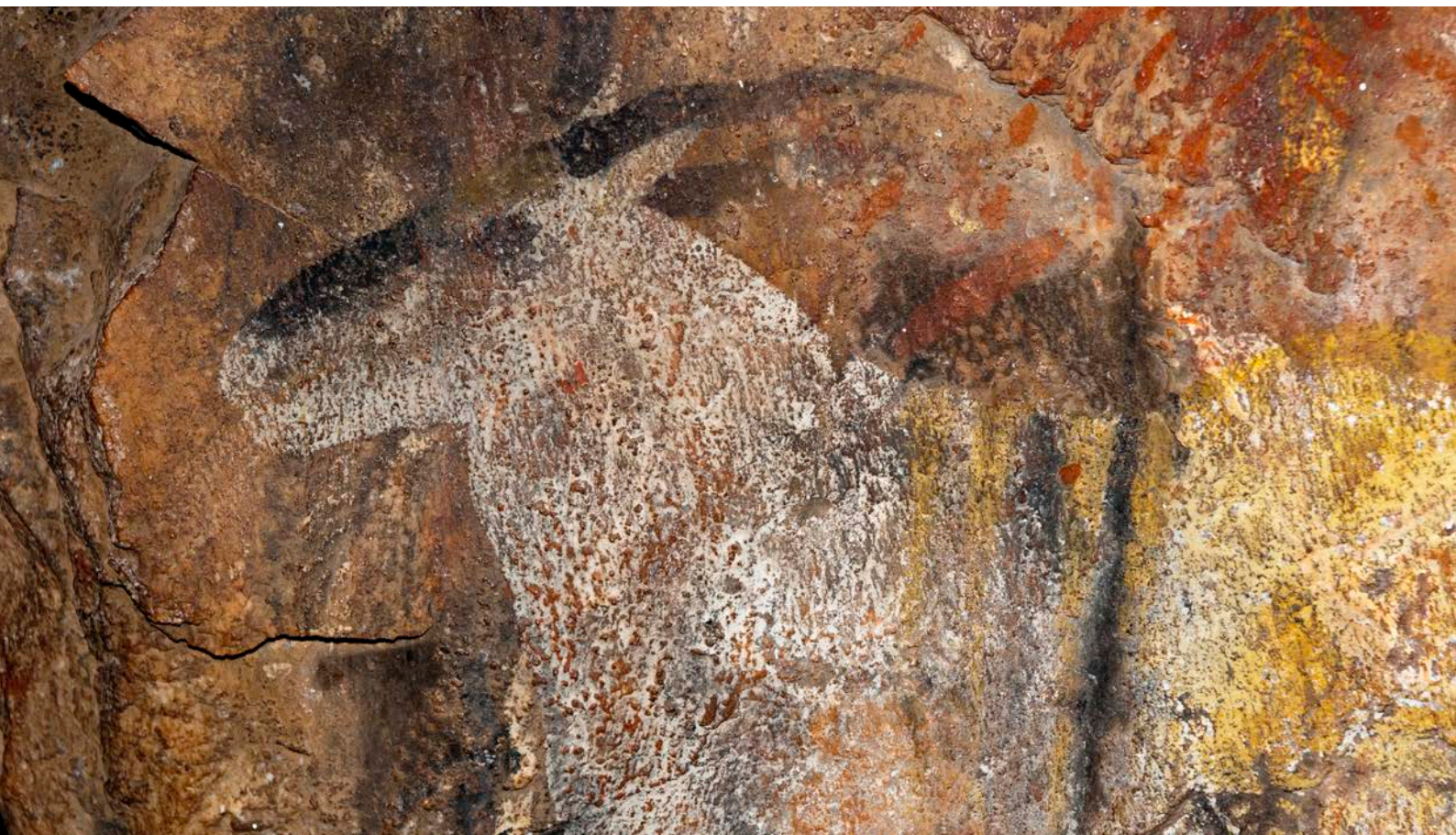
It was only in 1655 that a Dutch expedition discovered a different group of people whom they described as being 'of small stature, subsisting very meagrely, quite wild, without huts, cattle or anything in the world, clad in small skins like these Hottentots and speaking almost as they do'. These are the San people to whom the Dutch gave the name of Somquaas or Bushmen.

The San were hunters, not herders, and they lived in small groups comprising fewer than fifty people. They shared all they owned other than a few personal possessions and saw themselves as equals within the group. The arrival of the Khoikhoi with their animals put pressure on the livelihood of the local San hunters. Relationships between the two groups were therefore not always friendly.

The European settlers found the clicking language of the San and the Khoikhoi very difficult to learn and so, by the early 19th century, many of the Khoikhoi herders adopted the Dutch language, giving the first indication of cultural change. Inevitably cultures mix as time goes by. In the 21st century, there are people who proudly claim Khoikhoi ancestry and increasingly understand it as an important part of their identity. The Kwena live on in their descendants today.

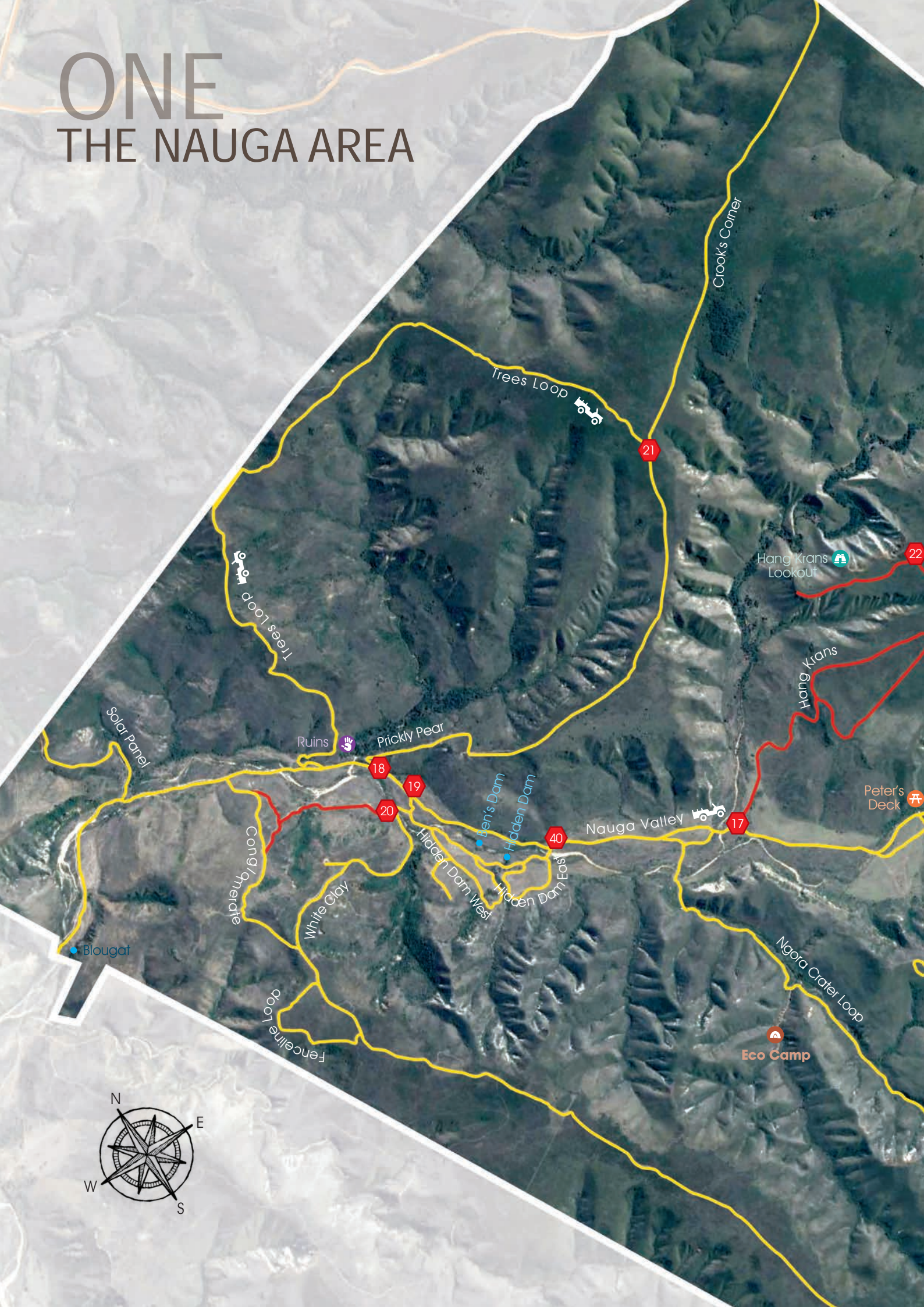
~~

We would like to thank Mandy Hackland, an author and family member, for helping put this history of early man in our area together using the following reference: The Cape Herders, A History of the Khoikhoi of Southern Africa. Emile Boonzaier, Candy Malherbe, Penny Berens, Andy Smith; David Philip Publishers, 1996, Cape Town, 2015 Copyright protected.





# ONE THE NAUGA AREA



Crook's Corner

Trees Loop 

21

Hang Krans Lookout 

22

Hang Krans

Peter's Deck 

Nauga Valley 

17

Ruins 

Prickly Pear

18

19

20

40

Solar Panel

Cong/omelde

White Clay


Hidden Dam West

Ben's Dam

Hidden Dam

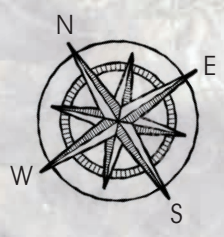
Hidden Dam East

Ngora Crater Loop

Eco Camp 

Blougat

Fencelle Loop





-  Lodges
-  Villas
-  Gates
-  Watering holes & Dams
-  Game Drive routes
-  Protected Area
-  Historical sites
-  Picnic spots
-  Lookout / Sundowner spots
-  Junction Markers
-  All vehicle access roads
-  4x4 vehicle required
-  Competent 4x4 drivers
-  Experienced 4x4 drivers only







# TWO CENTRAL PLAINS

-  Lodges
-  Villas
-  Gates
-  Watering holes & Dams
-  Game Drive routes
-  Protected Area
-  Historical sites
-  Picnic spots
-  Lookout / Sundowner spots
-  Junction Markers
-  All vehicle access roads
-  4x4 vehicle required
-  Competent 4x4 drivers
-  Experienced 4x4 drivers only





Northern Gate

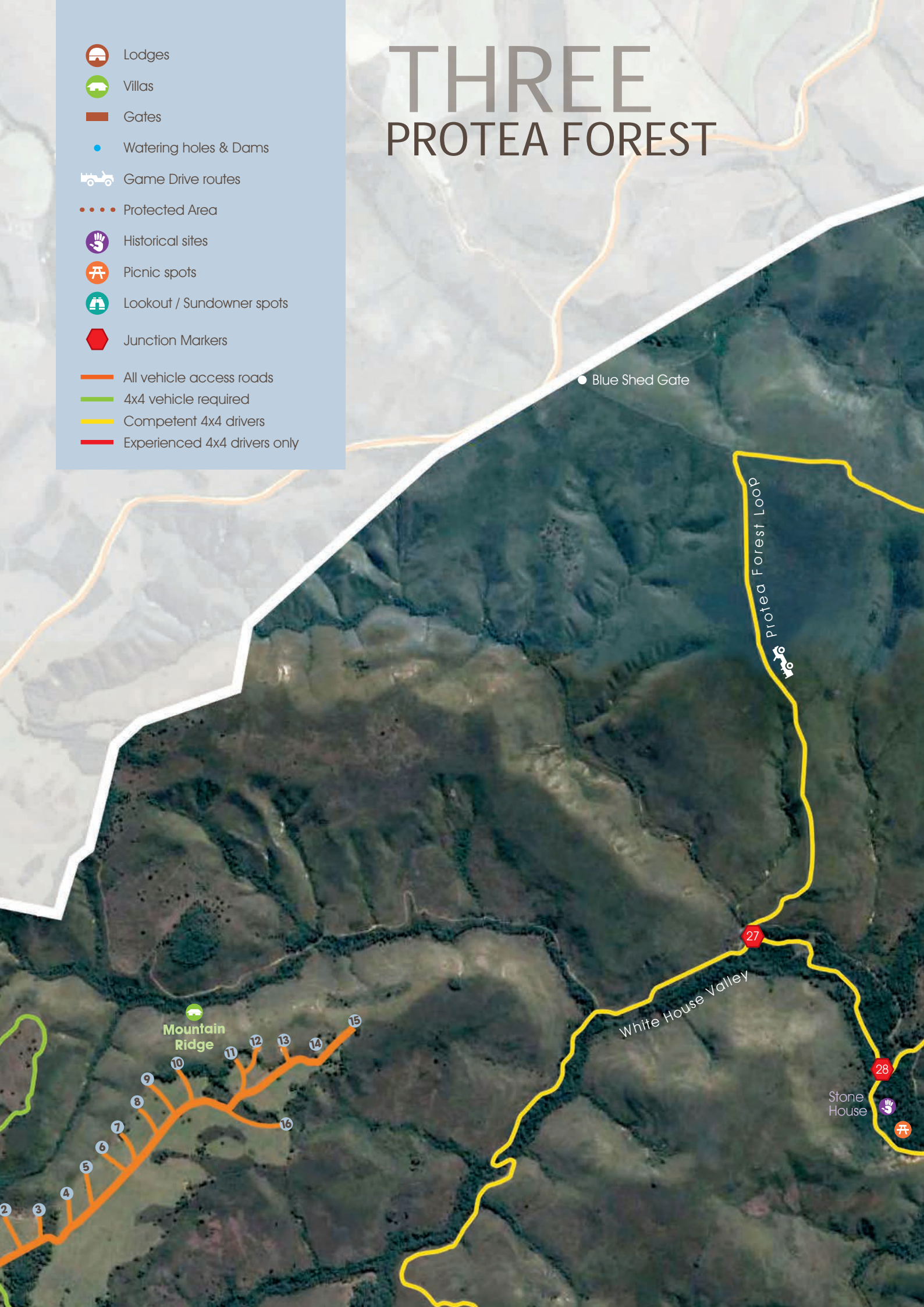
Entrance Gate  
 GPS point:  
 34°04'51.78"S ; 21°54'40.74"E





# THREE PROTEA FOREST

-  Lodges
-  Villas
-  Gates
-  Watering holes & Dams
-  Game Drive routes
-  Protected Area
-  Historical sites
-  Picnic spots
-  Lookout / Sundowner spots
-  Junction Markers
-  All vehicle access roads
-  4x4 vehicle required
-  Competent 4x4 drivers
-  Experienced 4x4 drivers only



Blue Shed Gate

Protea Forest Loop

Mountain Ridge

White House Valley

Stone House





**Beacon Point**  
"Highest point in the Mosselbay District"

King Protea Drive

Old Kraal Loop

Botterberg Loop

Protea Link

White House Link

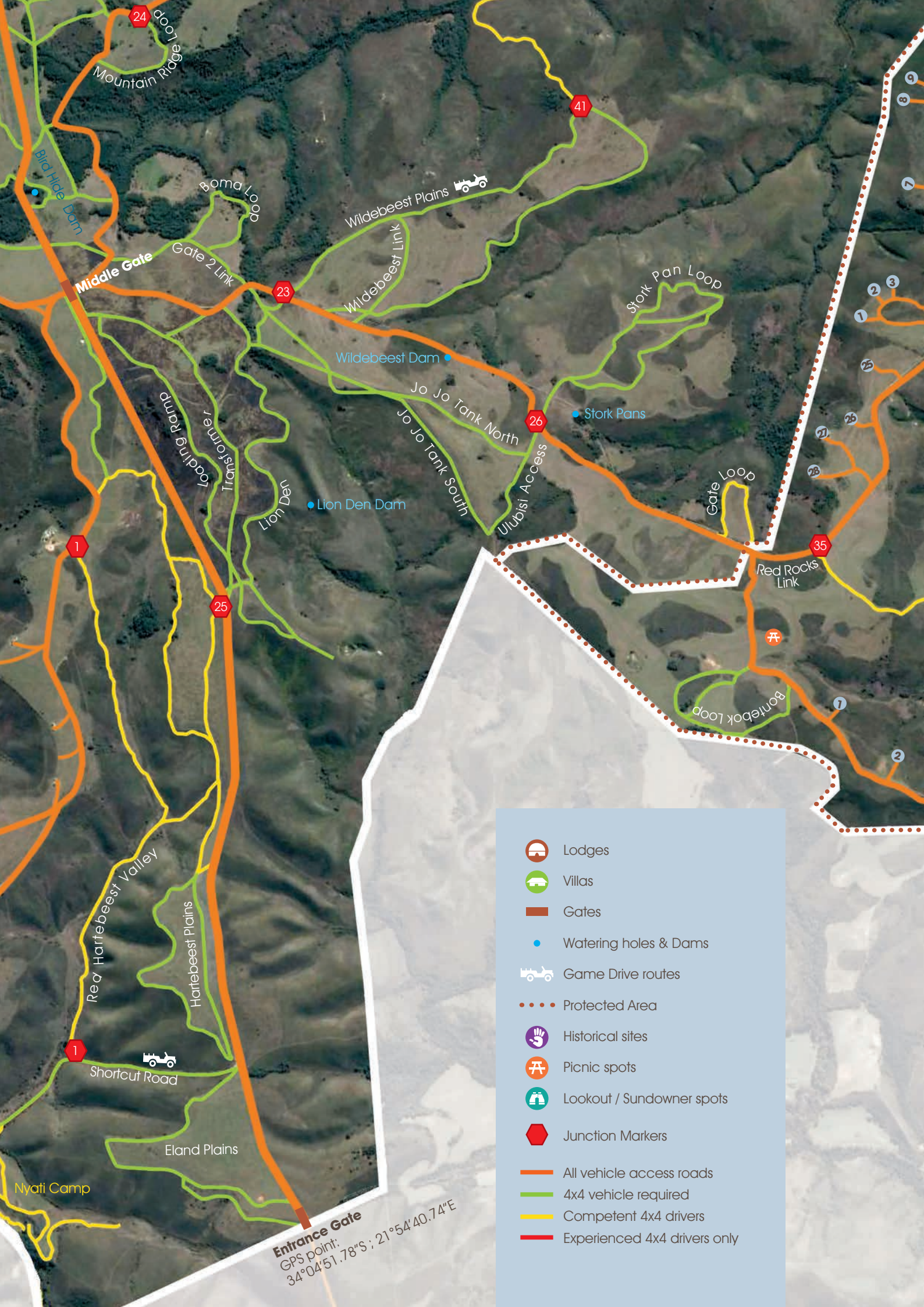
White House Plains

Red Rocks Dam

White House Link







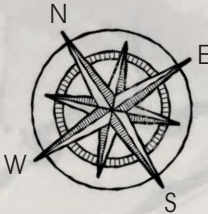
**Entrance Gate**  
 GPS point:  
 34°04'51.78"S ; 21°54'40.74"E

-  Lodges
-  Villas
-  Gates
-  Watering holes & Dams
-  Game Drive routes
-  Protected Area
-  Historical sites
-  Picnic spots
-  Lookout / Sundowner spots
-  Junction Markers
-  All vehicle access roads
-  4x4 vehicle required
-  Competent 4x4 drivers
-  Experienced 4x4 drivers only



# FOUR

## THE PROTECTED ENDANGERED SPECIES AREA





# Conduct Rules

Home owners and Guests are permitted to drive on the Reserve from 04h30 to 23h30 daily.

Walking in the Reserve is entirely at your own risk, it is restricted to designated walking areas and the appropriate housing areas (unless with a qualified ranger). Do not walk after dark, even in the housing areas, as it is extremely dangerous.

Do not drive off designated roads or make any new roads.

No unlicensed driver may drive on the Reserve.

Animals, birds and other forms of wildlife shall at all times have right of way on the Reserve.

Do not speed on the Reserve. The speed limit in the reserve is 30km/h. The speed limit on the main road is 50km/h.

Only 4x4 vehicles will be allowed on game viewing dirt roads.

2 x 4 vehicles may be used on the access gravel roads which run directly from the entrance gate to the lodges and villas.

No radios may be on the Reserve at a volume that can be heard outside your vehicle. Do not sound hooters unless in an emergency.

Do not introduce into the reserve or collect from the reserve any flora or fauna including wood, flowers, animals or remains of animals.

Do not litter. Be especially careful of litter falling from open game viewing vehicles.

Do not make any fires on the reserve accompanied by Gondwana Management or in designated areas.

Feeding, hunting, shooting, capturing or keeping of any animals in captivity is strictly prohibited.

Any animals in distress or posing a threat are to be reported to Gondwana management immediately.

## GONDWANA'S RESIDENTS

All resident drivers must attend Gondwana's game viewing informational (4x4) course for their safety and the safety of others.

It is suggested that all Resident 4x4 vehicles be fitted with a two way radio (or a hand-held radio) and a recovery kit i.e. winch or snap rope.

Spotlights may have a maximum light output of 500,000 (FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND) candle power. Such spotlights may not be used in the vicinity of any lodges, villas or residences.

Residents and field guides must notify the Anti-Poaching Unit (APU) if going out on a drive and notify them on their return.









[www.gondwanagamereserve.com](http://www.gondwanagamereserve.com) - [reservations@gondwanagr.co.za](mailto:reservations@gondwanagr.co.za)

+27 (0)21 555 0807 - +27 (0)74 582 4861

GPS: 34° 04' 51.78" South | 21° 54' 40.74" East