

Welcome to Whale heaven

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 19km vlei stretches across the reserve, which is on the Ramsar list of Wetlands of International Importance.

The De Hoop Reserve is situated just three hours' drive from Cape Town on the world renowned Garden and Whale Routes. It is in the Overberg region near the southern tip of Africa.



Facilities



RESTAURANT

The Fig Tree Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner and can also produce picnic hampers. Join us from 08h00 – 21h00.



WEDDINGS & EVENTS

De Hoop provides a beautiful backdrop for weddings, family reunions, special events and team builds. 'Build' your own experience – from cooking to art; or incorporate our many on site activities.

De Hoop Trail

The De Hoop Trail – Vlei to Whales promises a memorable walking experience with up to 38.5km over 4 days. Experience the wonder that is De Hoop Nature Reserve, first-hand and retreat into comfort every night. The Trail makes use of either The De Mond Villa, or should it be booked, the historic Melkkamer Homestead - depending on availability. Both are catered and guided experiences positioned alongside a spectacular Vlei rich in birdlife.



Activities at De Hoop

GUIDED BIRD WALK

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.



INTERPRETATIVE MARINE WALK

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. Depart an hour before low tide from Koppie Alleen parking area. Times of daily low tide should be confirmed at reception the day before. Duration ±2 hrs.



VULTURE EXPERIENCE

Adventure out to the cliffs of Potberg Mountain to view endangered Cape Vultures – the Western Cape's last surviving colony. Depart from the Opstal Area with your guide for a scenic drive through endangered fynbos. Once at Potberg, guests will hike (±1 hour) up to the Vulture deck to watch the vultures swoop and soar above. Rate includes return transport and a packed picnic presented in a backpack for you to carry. Guests 12 years and over. Maximum of 10 guests. Prior arrangement & booking essential. Day visitors welcome.



GUIDED ECO BOAT CRUISE

Explore the Vlei and enjoy bird, game, otter and even porcupine sightings with our eco cruise experience. Cruises are held daily at 8am, 11am and 3pm during summer or can be booked by arrangement. Morning cruises include tea, coffee and pastries. Guests opting for the evening cruise can enjoy house wines, local beers, juices and savoury snacks. Please note that this excludes spirits and speciality wines. Duration 1.5 – 2hrs.



NATURE DRIVE EXPERIENCE

Experience the pristine fynbos and wildlife on the reserve from an open safari vehicle. A qualified field guide will interpret rare and endangered species including Bontebok and Cape Mountain Zebra. The drive will encompass some of the beautiful scenic areas of the wetland and there will be opportunity for viewing and identifying some of the birdlife occurring in the reserve. Rate includes sundowners with snacks, soft drinks, local beers & house wines. Maximum 9 guests.



GUIDED MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

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 Activity room at various times during the day. To be booked and confirmed at reception. Mountain bikes can be hired at reception at a daily rate. Duration 2 – 3 hrs.



Whales & Wildlife

De Hoop Nature Reserve is an important destination for Southern Right Whales. As a marine reserve and World Heritage Site, De Hoop guarantees a safe nursery for these pods of visiting cetaceans. Females and their calves swim in the clear waters, while males put on spectacular displays. De Hoop Reserve is one of the world's best land based whale-watching areas. Season runs from end of May to November. In season 500 – 600 whales will call De Hoop home. Sightings of 15 – 20 during height of season.



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.

BIRDS - over 259 species - some of which include: Cape griffon vultures, ostriches, African oyster catcher and many more.



The De Hoop Nature Reserve can be approached from either Bredasdorp or Swellendam. The last 40 km of either route is along gravel roads and takes an hour to travel.

www.dehoopcollection.com
Bookings: + 27 (0)21 422 4522
res@dehoopcollection.co.za

DeHoopCollection dehoopreserve



Accommodation

SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION



DE HOOP VILLAGE – 9 units
Sleeps 6
1 x Double, 1 x Twin, 1 x Bunk
1 Bathroom: shower, toilet, towels, amenities
BBQ Area



EQUIPPED COTTAGES – 7 units
6 x Sleeps 4 (1 x Double, 1 x Twin)
1 x Sleeps 6 (1 x Double, 2 x Twin)
1 Bathroom: shower, toilet, towels, amenities
BBQ Area



VLEI COTTAGES – 3 units
Sleeps 4
1 x Double, 1 x Twin
1 Bathroom: shower, toilet, towels, amenities
BBQ Area



OPSTAL HOUSES – 4 units
Sleeps 6
1 x Double, 2 x Twin
1 Bathroom: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities
BBQ Area



CAMPSITE RONDAWELS – 5 units
Sleeps 2
1 x Twin or Double
Communal bathroom: outside shower and toilet



MELKKAMER VLEI COTTAGE
Sleeps 8
2 x Double, 2 x Twin
2 Bathrooms: shower, toilet, towels, amenities
BBQ Area

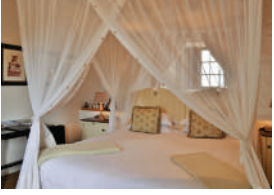


MELKKAMER FOREMANS COTTAGE
Sleeps 6
1 x Double, 2 x Twin
1 Bathroom: bath, outside shower, toilet, towels, amenities
BBQ Area

LUXURY SUITES



OPSTAL MANOR HOUSE Sleeps 6
2 Large en-suite suites (1 x King, 1 x Twin)
Bathrooms: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities
1 Small en-suite room (Twin for children)
Bathroom: shower, toilet, towels, amenities



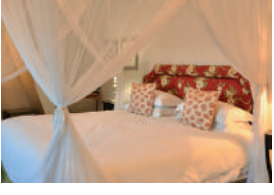
OPSTAL STABLE SUITE
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities



DASSIE SUITE
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities



OTTER SUITES – 3 units
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: bath, toilet, outside shower, towels, amenities



FIGTREE SUITE
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: shower, bath, toilet, towels, amenities



OPSTAL VLEI SUITE
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities



CLOETE SUITES – 4 suites
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities



CLOETE COTTAGE
Sleeps 2
1 x King
1 Bathroom: bath, shower, toilet, towels, amenities

VILLAS



MELKKAMER MANOR HOUSE
Sleeps 8
The majestic gabled Melkkamer Manor House has been beautifully renovated. It has four en-suite bedrooms, lounge, dining room and is fully catered, guided and hosted.



DE MOND VILLA
Sleeps 10
Situated at the mouth of the De Hoop vlei, De Mond Villa offers spectacular vlei views and amazing bird life. The villa has five en-suite bedrooms, a dining room with fireplace, swimming pool, wifi and is completely off the grid. This unit is fully catered, guided and hosted.

