## Local Fauna

With its diverse habitats, ranging from rocky mountaintops to beaches and open sea, the Cape of Good Hope is home to at least 250 species of birds.

Cape Sugarbird on Proteas

Large animals are a rare sight in the Cape of Good Hope, but there is a wealth of small animals such as lizards, snakes, tortoises and insects. There are some herds of zebra, eland and a variety of other antelope. Small mammals also include rock hyrax (dassie), striped mouse, water mongoose and Cape clawless otter.

The area offers excellent vantage points for whale viewing. The southern right whale is the species most likely to be seen in False Bay between June and November. Others species are the humpback whale and Brydes whale. Seals and dolphins may also be seen.

The Cape of Good Hope is situated at the junction of two major ocean currents, the cold Benguela along the West Coast and the warm Agulhas on the East Coast, Due to markedly differing sea temperatures, the marine life east and west of Cape Point differs. Although the Cape of Good Hope is popularly perceived as the meeting point of the Atlantic and Indian oceans, they meet at Cape Agulhas National Park.

## Local Flora

**The Cape of Good Hope is an integral part of the Cape Floristic Kingdom, the smallest but richest of the worlds six floral kingdoms, with a treasure trove of 1 100 species of indigenous plants.**

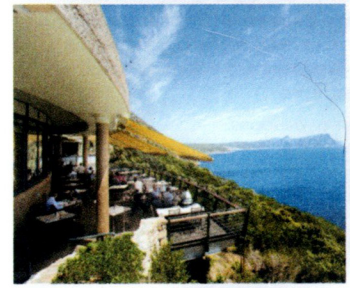
Two types of fynbos (fine bush) occur: coastal fynbos on alkaline sands and inland fynbos on acid soils. Characteristic fynbos plants include proteas, ericas (heath) and restios (reeds). Many popular horticultural plants like pelargoniums, freesias, daisies, lilies and irises also have their origins in fynbos.

## Beacon of Hope

The area was proclaimed a nature reserve in 1938 and incorporated into the Cape Peninsula National Park in 1998. In 2004 the name changed to Table Mountain National Park. It encompasses 7 750 hectares of rich and varied flora and fauna and its 40 kilometre coastline stretches from Schusters Bay in the west to Smitswinkel Bay in the east.

The cliffs at the southern point, towering more than 200 metres above the sea, consist of three clearly defined promontories: Cape of Good Hope, Cape Maclear and Cape Point.





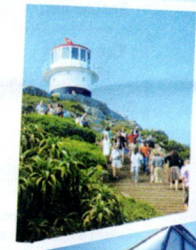
## Things to Do

A single visit isnt enough to experience everything on offer at Cape Point, from the breathtaking views and serene beaches to historic landmarks.

Built in 1859, the lighthouse is usually the first point of call. Hop on the Flying Dutchman funicular for a three-minute ride to the viewing point at its base. Several scenic trails wind through the park; if youre feeling active, follow the Shipwreck Trail along the beach from Olifantsbos. At the Bordjiesrif and Buffels Bay tidal pools you can swim and picnic to your hearts delight. Please note there are no lifeguards on duty.

For a meal with spectacular views, head to Cape Point.

For more advice on what to do and see, call at the Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre.







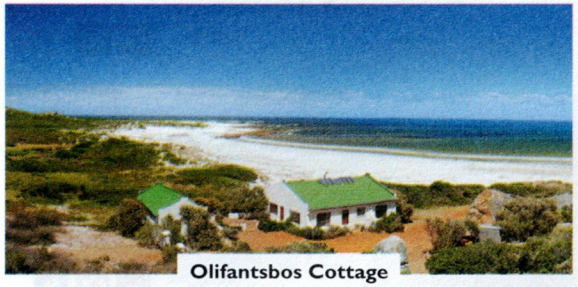

## Main Attractions

- Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre
- Rich, diverse fynbos vegetation
- Walks, hiking trails and picnic sites
- Tidal pools at Bordjiesrif and Buffels Bay
- Game, bird and whale watching
- Historical monuments and buildings
- Shipwrecks
- Viewing site from the old lighthouse
- Angling and diving sites
- Flying Dutchman Funicular
- Global Atmosphere Watch Station
- Most south-westerly point of Africa
- Cape Point Lighthouse
- Curio Shop
- Two Oceans Restaurant
- Accommodation
- 2-day Hiking Trail (see reverse for reservations)

- Main Gate
- Hiking
- Picnic Site
- Braai Fires Only
- Tidal Pool
- View Site
- Toilets
- Restaurant
- Wheelchair Access
- Information
- Slipway
- Shipwreck
- Whale Watching
- Accommodation
- Diving
- Angling
- Restricted Area
- Speed Limit
- Parking
- Hiking Trail
- TMNP Marine Protected Area Restricted / no take zone

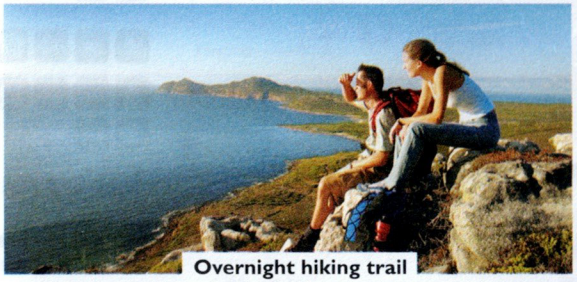
## Accommodation

Extend your time in the Cape of Good Hope by spending the night at Olifantsbos Cottage or on an overnight hiking trail.



**Olifantsbos Cottage**

One of the most magnificent getaways in Cape Town, this isolated cottage is situated right on its own beach and sleeps 12, making it well suited to groups of friends and family.



**Overnight hiking trail**

Lasting two days, one night, the 33.8km Cape of Good Hope Hiking Trail takes in the park's fynbos, mountains and beaches. Hikers overnight in basic huts with splendid views of the park.

### New Exhibit at Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre

The internationally acclaimed *"Origins of Early Southern Sapiens Behaviour"* exibition is now open to all park visitors at Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre. This new exibition exploring the "Origins of Early Southern Sapiens Behaviour" showcases the discovery of early modern human origins and innovations in Southern Africa, using multi-media displays.

This exhibition is presented by South African National Parks (SANParks), together with the University of Bergen's SFF Centre for Early Sapiens Behaviour (SapienCE) in Norway, and the Evolutionary Studies Institute of the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg in South Africa. The exhibition will be open between 08h00 and 16h00 daily.

### Bookings/info

+27 21 741 0230 | www.tmnp.co.za



## Baboons

The chacma baboon (*Papio ursinus*) troops on the Cape Peninsula are afforded special protection. They subsist on fruits, roots, honey, bulbs, insects and scorpions. During low tide, they may be seen roaming the beaches, feeding on sand hoppers and shellfish, behaviour believed to be unusual in primates. **Please be aware that baboons are dangerous wild animals and are attracted by food.** Visitors must not feed or tease them. Baboons that have been receiving food from humans become aggressive and have to be destroyed.

- DO keep a safe distance from baboons.
- DO move away slowly if a baboon approaches you.
- DO NOT display food when baboons are visible.
- DO NOT open the windows or doors of your car when baboons are present.
- DO NOT feed baboons. You will be fined.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Entry times** | 06:00 – 18:00 Summer (October – March) | Exit by Sunset |
| | 07:00 – 17:00 Winter (April – September) | Exit by Sunset |
| **Flying Dutchman Funicular** | 09:00 – 17:30 Summer | |
| | 09:00 – 17:00 Winter | |
| **Restaurant** | Monday to Sunday 09:00 – 17:00<br>Tel: +27 21 780 9200 | |
| **Cape Point Offices** | Monday to Friday 09:00 – 17:00<br>Tel: +27 21 780 9200 | |
| **Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre** | Tel: +27 21 780 9204 | |
| | Operating times: Monday to Sunday 08:00 – 17:00 | |
| **Late Exit will result in a fine** | | |

For more detailed information, please visit the Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre – located on the map – part of which is maintained as an information resource centre by the Volunteers and as a Reservation Office for SANParks. This group of volunteers has compiled a series of pamphlets and exhibits on walks, fauna, flora and other notable features of the area.


**Emergency: Tel: +27 86 110 6417 all hours**
Buffelsfontein Visitor Centre, Cape of Good Hope
Tel: +27 21 741 0230 • e-mail: tablemountain@sanparks.org
website: www.tmnp.co.za


*Table Mountain National Park*

South African National Parks


The areas under the control of SANParks are used entirely at own risk and SANParks shall not be liable for any claims, accidents, injuries or loss, etc. arising from such use.
Please note that visitors are subjected to the conditions set in terms of section 86 of the National Environmental Management Act (107 of 1998) and the National Environmental Act: Protected Areas Act (Act 57 of 2003) for the duration of their stay in the National Park.


- No Fires
- No Littering
- No Mountain Biking
- No Off Road Driving
- No Flower Picking
- No Firearms
- No Drones Permitted
- No Camping
- No Dogs
- No Wood Gathering

South African National Parks

## Welcome to the Cape of Good Hope





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