

MEDIA RELEASE - 03/05/2001

South African National Parks (SANParks) announces policy changes

South African National Parks (SANParks) would like to notify prospective visitors to national parks of various policy changes regarding reservations and entry fees. These changes have been approved by the SANParks Board and are effective from 1 May 2001.

Rate applicable on date of arrival:

In the past visitors to parks in the SANParks portfolio have paid the rate applicable at the time of making their booking. From 1 May 2001 visitors will pay the rate for the accommodation/reservation as on the date of arrival.

This policy change now allows SANParks to open all bookings 11 months in advance. Should a customer wish to peg the price for the future booking, full payment of the itinerary within 30 days will secure the booked price provided there are no changes in the future.

Entry fees to parks:

Overnight visitors to selected parks have not paid entry fees/conservation levies to date. These fees are needed to fund the maintenance of roads and for wildlife management activities. In future, therefore, all persons entering a park will pay the following fees, regardless of whether they are staying overnight or whether they are merely visiting the park for the day:

Karoo R5.00 per adult / R3.00 per child

Tsitsikamma R18.00 per adult / R10.00 per child

Addo Elephant, Augrabies Falls, Marakele and Mountain Zebra R12.00 per adult / R6.00 per child

(Child - 2 - 15 years; infants under 2 - free entry)

Richtersveld and Kruger national parks already collect entry fees, while Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park applies daily fees.

Advance bookings:

Another policy change deals with the year in advance bookings rule. Postal applications from the public will no longer be accepted as these have created numerous problems. Clients can telephone, fax, email or use the Internet to make an advance booking and need to do so on the first of the month 11 months in advance. For example: Should they wish to visit the park in June 2002, they will need to contact reservations on 1 July 2001.

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