Welcome

The magical Langebaan Lagoon, rare fynbos, white sandy dunes, internationally acclaimed wetlands and incredible birdlife are only some of the delights West Coast National Park has to offer. With so much to see and do it is hard to decide where to begin, so we have decided to share some of our favourite experiences with you.

- **Seeberg Viewpoint** Park your car at the Langebaan gate and walk the short 4.6km trail to the Seeberg Viewpoint, which offers the best vistas of the Park.

- **Bird Hides** Visit one of the bird hides and spend some time enjoying the quiet, as you look out at our feathered residents in their natural habitat.

- **Eve’s Footprints** Make a stop at the Geelbek Visitor’s Centre and have a look at the replica of Eve’s Footprints – fossilised footprints belonging to a young woman who lived alongside the lagoon some 117 000 years ago.

- **Langebaan Lagoon** Unwind on the shore of the Langebaan Lagoon at Kraalbaai – a great spot for picnics.

- **Rock Pools** Explore the many rock pools along the seashore at Tsaarsbank.

We’d love you to share your favourite experiences with us on our Facebook page: SANParks – West Coast National Park or on Twitter: @WestCoastNP

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Some interesting facts

- In 1648, the first Khoi dictionary was documented (400 words) by De Flacourt (Director General of the French East India Company) at Kraalbaai.

- In the 1700s, the VOC placed a beacon at Geelbek. A beacon of Robben Island slate engraved with the VOC monogram from about 1750 claims the land and its resources for the Dutch East India Company.

- In 1909, Norwegian whalers started a whaling station at Donkergat, which remained operational until 1967.

- In 1920, Geelbek had the largest wine cellar in the country. This was not due to wine production, but because the Governor General (Henry de Villiers Steytler) used Geelbek to store his vast quantities of wine.

- Langebaan Lagoon was designated as a wetland of international importance according to the Ramsar Convention criteria in 1988.

- Bird species like Curlew Sandpipers, Sanderlings and Red Knots journey 15 000km every year from their breeding grounds in the Siberian Tundra to the northern winter (our summer) feeding grounds in Langebaan Lagoon.

- West Coast National Park hosts a total of over 250 bird species annually, over a quarter of South Africa’s total.

- The Park was established in 1985 and comprises some 32 000ha.
Animals and Birds commonly seen in the Park

Tick off the ones you have spotted

- African Black Oystercatcher
- Bat-eared fox
- Bontebok
- Cape cobra
- Caracal
- Common duiker
- Dung beetle
- Eland
- Lesser Flamingo
- Gemsbok
- Cape (small) grey mongoose
- Black Harrier
- Molesnake
- Ostrich
- Great White Pelican
- Puff adder
- Red hartebeest
- Steenbok
- Angulate tortoise
- Cape mountain zebra
Visit our other Western Cape National Parks

- **Agulhas** – at the southernmost tip of Africa
- **Bontebok** – a conservation success story just outside the town of Swellendam, off the N2
- **Garden Route** – comprising Wilderness, Knysna and Tsitsikamma
- **Table Mountain** – one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature
- **Tankwa** – incredible star-kissed skies and wide open spaces
- **Karoo** – offers great game viewing (including lions) just outside Beaufort West, off the N1

Important visitor information

- The use of drones (unmanned aerial vehicles) is not permitted in or over the National Park and Marine Protected Areas.
- Please enquire at the tourism office about additional flower viewing areas.
- Speed limit 50km/h.
- Please retain your receipt for the duration of your stay in the National Park.
- No pets allowed.
- Please dispose of litter in the marked refuse bins.
- Please do not pick any plants or flowers.
- Please do not pick up tortoises or disturb any wildlife.
- No fires allowed on beaches.
- Walking and cycling are restricted to the hiking and cycling trails respectively.
- Please note that being in possession of alcohol, and consumption thereof, is prohibited in all day visitor/public facilities in the Park such as the roads, picnic and braai sites, gates and beaches.
- Please note that even if you overnight in the Park, driving is only allowed during gate opening times.
- Please note that cycling and the use of motorcycles are not permitted in Postberg.
- Please remain in your vehicle, for your own safety.
- Please ensure that your vehicle is locked at all times. Do not leave any valuables in your vehicle while unattended.

West Coast National Park

+27 22 772 2144
www.sanparks.org

**Gate Times**

**September to March:** 07:00 – 19:00
Last vehicle entry at 18:30

**April to August:** 07:00 – 18:00
Last vehicle entry at 17:30

Postberg opens during August & September (flower season):
09:00 – 17:00
Last entry to Postberg: 16:30

The areas under the control of SANParks are used entirely at your 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 subject 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.
Cycling Route Information

Postberg Section

Open to the public only during the spring flower season in August and September each year and a great place for spotting game.

Eve's Footprints

Discovered in 1995 at Kraalbaai, these are unimitable human footprints in rock (formerly sea sand) and are said to have belonged to a young woman who lived 11,700 years ago. The original footprints are housed at the late South African Museum in Cape Town, but be sure to visit the replica inside the Visitors Centre.

Did you know?

On a clear day you can see Table Mountain National Park from here.

Geelbek Restaurant

Geelbek Restaurant is housed in a beautifully restored Cape Dutch building that is a national monument. The homestead is thought to have been erected by Alexander van Breda, as the initials “AB” and the date “1860” appear on the front gable. The building is not from the Geelbek, but Alexander van Breda Cottages have been erected by Alexander van Breda, as the initials “AB” and the date “1860” appear on the front gable.

Did you know?

The name Geelbek comes from the Yellow-billed Duck and not from the Geelbek (Cape salmon) fish.

Cycling/MTB Routes

1. Postberg Two-Day Hiking Trail

Day 1: 13.9km

Postberg Gate to Malgas Island

Day 2: 18.6km

Mooimaak to Postberg Gate

2. Tsaarsbank Trail

24km

Only accessible via the mountain bike trail.

3. Steenkool One-Day Trail

Distance from Langebaan Gate to Seeberg is 9km.

4. Sixteen Mile Beach trail, and back to Langebaan Gate

18km

Day 1: 11.8km (3.5 hrs)

Day 2: 14km

5. Abrahamskraal Two-Day Hiking Trail

Day 1: 10km

Day 2: 30km

6. Postberg Two-Day Hiking Trail

Day 1: 15.3km (5 hrs)

Day 2: 21.3km (7 hrs)

The trail can take up to 20 people.

Restricted Area

restricted area

Accommodation

Duinepos Chalets

11 Fully-equipped self-catering chalets, each sleeping 6 - 8 people, two chalets with wheelchair access.

Swimming pool and kids play area.

+27 22 707 9900

E-mail: info@duinepos.co.za

www.duinepos.co.za

SANDF Restricted Area (state owned)

Tsaarsbank

Entrance Gate

Bike Trails

Mountain Bike Trails

Dirt Roads

Restricted Area

Van Breda Cottage

Fully equipped self-catering cottage situated at Geelbek.

Abrahamskraal Cottage

Fully equipped self-catering cottage situated at Geelbek.

Jo-Anne’s Beach Cottage

Fully equipped self-catering unit near Churchhaven, within walking distance of the lagoon.

Houseboats in Kraalbaai

+27 76 017 4788

www.kraalbaaihouseboats.com

boshiig@kraalbaaihouseboats.com

Larus Houseboat

3 Cabins. Well equipped open plan kitchen and dining area with braai facility.

Nirvana Houseboat

Upper and lower deck. Perfectly suited to corporate groups, family holidays and functions.

Driving Distances

Distance from Cape Town to the West Coast National Park is 84km.

From West Coast Gate (B3) to Langebaan Gate (B3) is 10km.

Jo-Anne’s Cottage

31.6km

Kraalbaai

26km

Mooimaak

24km

Duinepos Chalets

14km

Duinepos

10km

Abrahamskraal Cottage

8km

Geelbek

6km

Jo-Anne’s Cottage

4km

Abrahamskraal Gate

2km

Langebaan Gate

0km

Geelbek

0km