

West Coast National Park

VISITOR'S
MAP



A SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM CONNECTING SOCIETY

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

- 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.

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.

- **Milk Tart** Have a meal at Geelbek Restaurant, which specialises in traditional foods. They're open from 9am to 5pm. While everything they do is delectable, their milk tart is our favourite!
- **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.

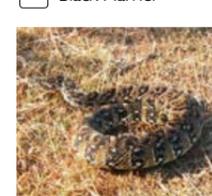
 We'd love you to share your favourite experiences with us on our Facebook page: [SANParks – West Coast National Park](#) or on Twitter: [@WestCoastNP](#)

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 1930.
- 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 classified as a wetland of international importance according to the Ramsar Convention criteria in 1975.
- 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

 <input type="checkbox"/> African Black Oystercatcher	 <input type="checkbox"/> Bat-eared fox	 <input type="checkbox"/> Bontebok	 <input type="checkbox"/> Cape cobra
 <input type="checkbox"/> Caracal	 <input type="checkbox"/> Common duiker	 <input type="checkbox"/> Dung beetle	 <input type="checkbox"/> Eland
 <input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Flamingo	 <input type="checkbox"/> Gemsbok	 <input type="checkbox"/> Cape (small) grey mongoose	 <input type="checkbox"/> Black Harrier
 <input type="checkbox"/> Molesnake	 <input type="checkbox"/> Ostrich	 <input type="checkbox"/> Great White Pelican	 <input type="checkbox"/> Puff adder
 <input type="checkbox"/> Red hartebeest	 <input type="checkbox"/> Steenbok	 <input type="checkbox"/> Angulate tortoise	 <input type="checkbox"/> Cape mountain zebra