

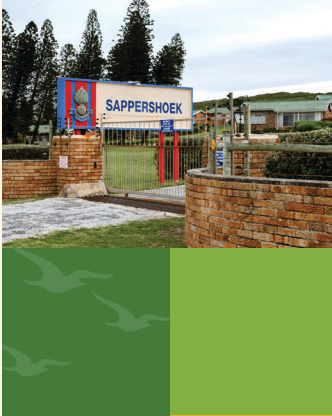
History and Location

An inland route that offers breathtaking sea views through the stunning coastal fynbos that starts and ends at Sappershoek along the top of the ridge overlooking the sea. Originally erected in 1962/3 to house retired servicemen, Sappershoek is now a must-visit destination for nature enthusiasts.

Sappershoek is located within the Cape Floral Kingdom, one of the earth's six floral kingdoms and the only one found entirely within the borders of South Africa. The Western Cape is home to most of this kingdom, with the southeast corner represented by Nelson Mandela Bay.

The Driftsands area between Schoenmakerskop and Summerstrand has a fascinating history. Initially covered by a shifting sand dune system, the sands were stabilised in the early 1900s.

The trail's underlying rock is Table Mountain Sandstone, which supports the growth of fynbos. Fynbos is the world's smallest, most diverse, and most endangered floral kingdom, home to around 9,000 plant species, 6,200 of which are endemic. As you hike along the trail, you'll encounter a mosaic of vegetation communities shaped by calcrete outcrops, deep dune sands, and variations in topography, as well as the influence of salt-laden winds and fire.



Important Information

Please remember that this is a Nature Reserve:

- All plant and animal life is protected and must not be disturbed or harmed.
- Please keep on the trail at all times.
- A minimum number of three persons is recommended as a safety precaution.
- Please do not smoke or light fires while on the trail.
- Dogs on a leash are allowed.
- No motorized vehicles allowed.
- Do not litter.
- Carry one litre of drinking water per person.



In case of emergency please contact:
South African Police Service: 10111
Ambulance: 10177
Fire Department: +27 (0) 41 585 1555
Search and Rescue: +27 (0) 41 585 1555



open
daily

08h00
to
16h30

General Enquiries	Tourism Office: +27 (0) 41 585 8884
Complaints/Log a Query	0800 205050
Environmental Management	+27 (0) 41 506 5464
Trail Permits	No permit required/Free entrance



DOWNLOAD THE APP
www.nmbt.co.za/port_elizabeth_apps.html



Tel: +27 (0) 41 585 8884
Email: info@nmbt.co.za
www.nmbt.co.za



COASTAL FYNBOS TRAIL

Circular Route

The Coastal Fynbos Trail takes you on a **soul-renewing journey** through part of the **Cape Floral Kingdom**, with its **diverse plant life** and **spectacular ocean views** where one can often spot dolphins and whales roaming. As you venture inland, you'll encounter the **Remnants of Driftsands and indigenous vegetation** indicative of the fynbos biome.

2.8km



Hiking Times:
08h00 - 16h30



Duration:
1 Hour



Difficulty:
Easy

Explore and Experience



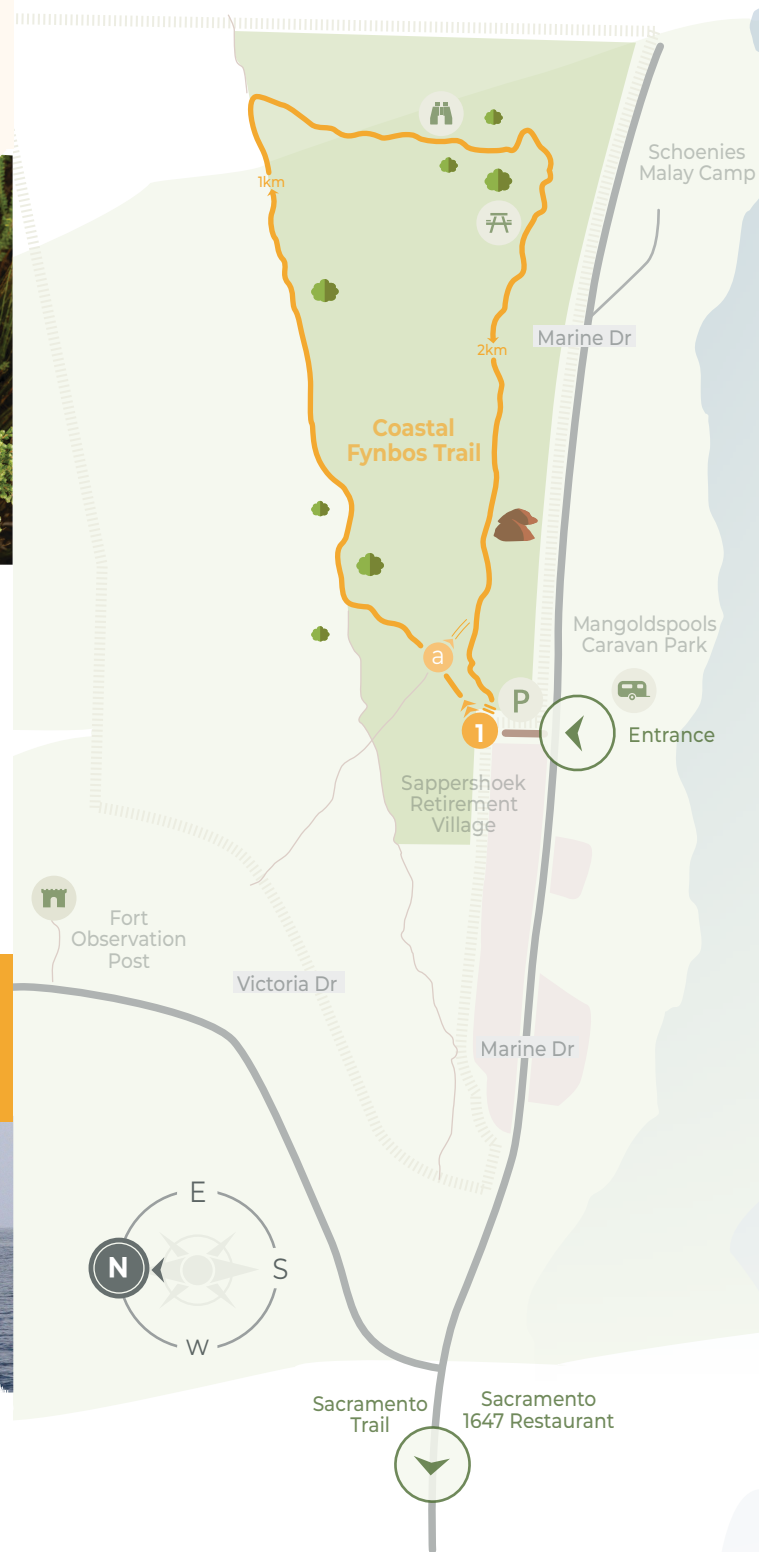
Animal Sighting: Small grey and yellow mongooses may be seen as well as the Cape Grassbird.

Floral Kingdom: Each season unveils its distinct beauty, transforming it into a floral paradise. Bursting forth with vibrant and colourful blooms is the exquisite and delicate blossoms of the Disa, with the daisies and fynbos. Adding a touch of magic to the landscape that is a photographer's delight.



Thysbe's Copper Butterfly: On the trail, look out for Thysbe's Copper butterfly, whose range reaches its easternmost limit here. It has a blue hue in flight, but at rest, it appears orange.

Whale watching: Keep a lookout on seawards for whales. Southern Right Whales are present mainly between August and early October, while Humpbacks migrate along this stretch of coast between April and early December and can provide spectacular viewing.



1

Coastal Fynbos Trail

2.8km

(Circular route: easy)

Start: 34° 02' 28.2" S | 25° 33' 15.8" E

End: 34° 02' 28.2" S | 25° 33' 15.8" E

Sub-Trails Available:

a. Alternative Route: 102m

Top Fauna:

- Opal Butterflies
- Cape Girdled Lizard
- Cape Grassbird
- Cape Grey Mongoose
- Numerous Snake Species
- Black Cocktail Ants



Top Flora:

- Grassveld Firelily
- Dune Chafflowers
- Pea & Daisy Family
- Gladiolus Species
- Orchidaceae

