

History and Location

The Grootkloof Reserve and Educational Centre is located in the suburb of Hillside. The Grootkloof Reserve opened in 2015 and is seen as a gateway to Van der Kemp's Kloof, which starts further to the west in Bethelsdorp and runs parallel up into Parson's Vlei, following the Chatty River and together forming a magnificent water and conservation resource.

The Reserve is home to dassies, bush hares, blue duiker and grysbok. More significantly, the reserve protects a rich array of indigenous plants beside the Watsonias, including proteas, and Fynbos glass eyes. Apart from the Grootkloof trail, the reserves also offers two other trails - The Dassie and Link Trails.

The 1.2km Dassie Trail that forms part of the larger trail, offers a shorter hike from where one can get a quick view of the reserve and spot a Dassie or two.



Visitors can also enjoy a longer guided hike of about 12km through Van Der Kemp's Kloof and Grootkloof on the Link Trail, where you'll discover the rare flora and fauna of the region.

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.
- Minimum number of three persons is recommended as a safety precaution.
- Please do not smoke or light fires while on the trail.
- No dogs 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



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GROOTKLOOF TRAIL

Circular Route

A breathtaking trail that winds through the heart of the Hillside Reserve. As you make your way along the side of the bluff, you'll be treated to beautiful views of the little Papenkuil's River, its gentle waters flowing calmly below. The trail then leads you up a steep slope, a vivid carpet of orange Watsonias blanketing the ground and great views of the Kloof.

3.1km

Hiking Times:
08h00 - 16h30

Duration:
1/2 Hours

Difficulty:
Easy

Explore and Experience

The Grootkloof Educational Centre offers educational classes to schools and other interest groups.



Bethelsdorp Khoi Experience:

Tiqua, God of the Khoi:
Returning in time,
immersing yourself in the
Khoi people's company,
exploring the area's
fascinating biomes and
unique wildlife.



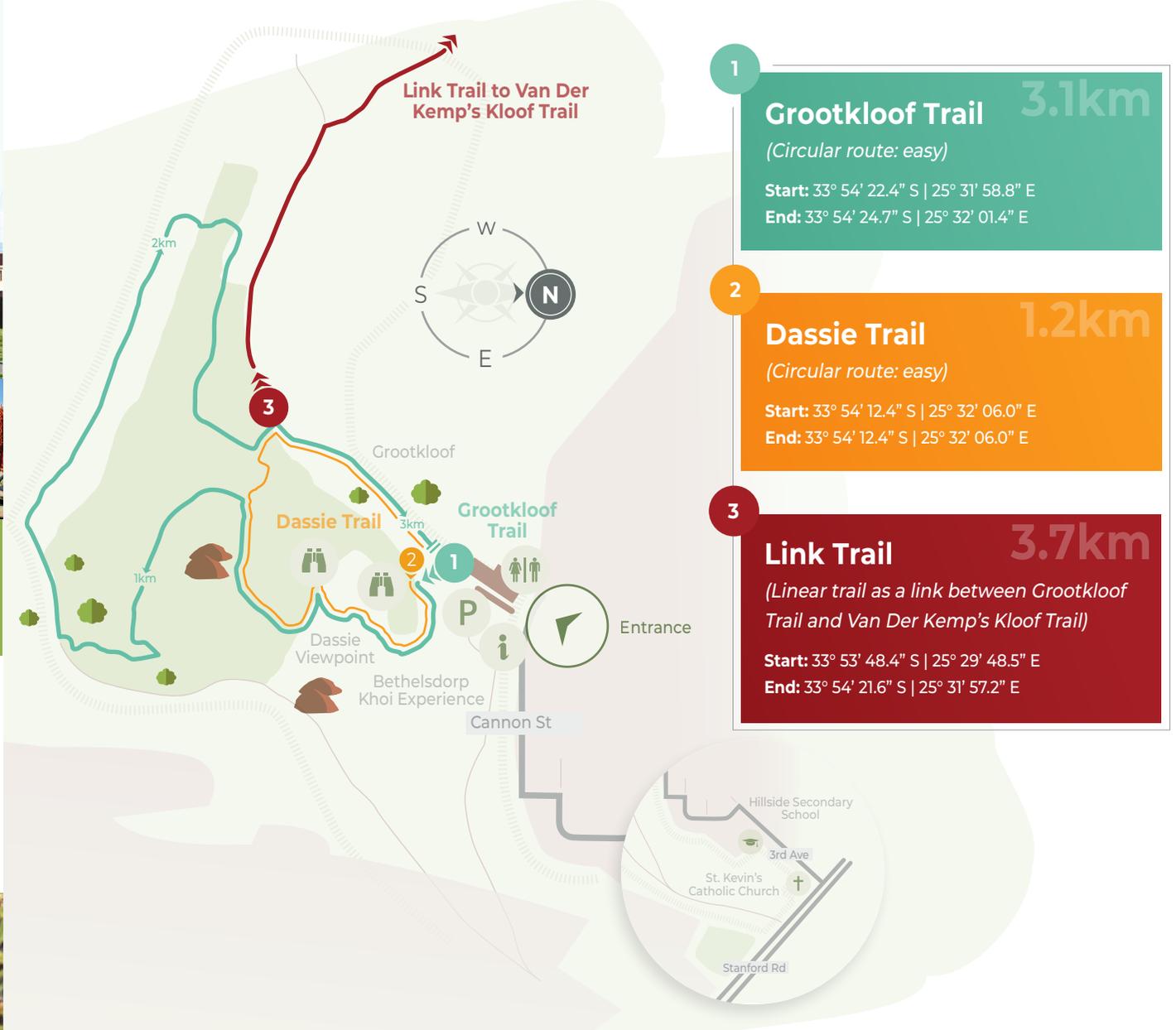
Grootkloof Reserve is renowned for its unique plant life, including medicinal plants that like buchu, and other herbs used in food prepared and served as part of the Khoi experience.

Learn about the fascinating history of the Bethelsdorp settlement and its importance in the region. Following the link trail between Van Der Kemp's Kloof and Grootkloof, you'll be treated to a traditional meal with a presentation on the area's history.

You'll also have the opportunity to meet a local Khoi Chief and learn about their ancient South African culture and visit Bethelsdorp, one of the first organized settlements in the Algoa Bay area, established in 1803 by Dr Johannes Theodosius Van Der Kemp of the London Missionary Society.



To book this experience, contact:
Belinda Brown on +27 (0) 61 189 8097,
Brian Campher on +27 (0) 83 525 3412 or
email tourismvibes.tiqua@gmail.com



1 **Grootkloof Trail** **3.1km**
(Circular route: easy)
Start: 33° 54' 22.4" S | 25° 31' 58.8" E
End: 33° 54' 24.7" S | 25° 32' 01.4" E

2 **Dassie Trail** **1.2km**
(Circular route: easy)
Start: 33° 54' 12.4" S | 25° 32' 06.0" E
End: 33° 54' 12.4" S | 25° 32' 06.0" E

3 **Link Trail** **3.7km**
(Linear trail as a link between Grootkloof Trail and Van Der Kemp's Kloof Trail)
Start: 33° 53' 48.4" S | 25° 29' 48.5" E
End: 33° 54' 21.6" S | 25° 31' 57.2" E



Top Fauna:

- Cape Girdled Lizard
- Drab Thicktail Scorpion
- Cape Cobra
- Parrot-beaked Tortoise
- Varied Insect & Arachnid Life

Top Flora:

- Aloe family Species
- Bont-Inkblom
- Eastern Healthbush
- Giant Firelily
- Red-spined Aloe

