

History and Location

Access to the Maitland Nature Reserve is via the Seaview Main Road to Maitland River Mouth, which comprises of dense indigenous coastal forest, abundant birdlife, and an old wagon road which used to be the access route to the Maitland lead mines.

The mines featured hidden tunnels within the thick vegetation that burrows deep into the hillside, forming a complex of man-made tunnels and a natural cave, home to thousands of bats residing alongside abandoned mining and drilling equipment.

The Reserve boasts a well-preserved Coastal Dune Forest, with much of the alien vegetation cleared to allow indigenous flora to flourish. Keep your eyes peeled for small buck species, Blue Duiker, and Bushpigs.

As you stroll through the Reserve, the sea occasionally peeks through the trees, offering glimpses of the majestic Southern Right Whales (present from August to October) and Humpbacks (migrating from April to December).

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.
- No dogs allowed.
- No mountain bikes allowed.
- Do not litter.
- Carry at least two litres 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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MAITLAND RESERVE TRAIL

Circular Route

Situated in 150 hectares of pristine, **untouched wilderness**, the Maitland Reserve Trails are a chance to immerse yourself in the **dense, lush indigenous coastal forest**. It is home to **forst birdlife** and elusive creatures, such as the elegant bushbuck and the graceful blue duiker. And let's not forget the **famous giant Maitland sand dunes** that rise and fall in the backdrop.

8.9km



Hiking Times:
08h00 - 16h30



Duration:
1 / 3 Hours



Difficulty:
Easy/Moderate

Explore and Experience

Explore the Reserve's three circular nature trails, each offering easy access to the forest's stunning beauty.



Maitland Sand Dunes:

The giant sand dunes at Maitland offer a stunning natural backdrop that will take your breath away. Enjoy the thrill of sandboarding, climbing or simply rolling down these magnificent dunes.



Maitland Beach: For beach lovers, Maitland Beach is the perfect destination. Renowned for its crystal-clear waters and soft sand, it's the ideal spot for swimming, fishing, and other beach activities. If you're feeling adventurous, take off into the sky and experience the thrill of hang gliding or paragliding.



1

Old Wagon Trail 1.5km

(Linear route: easy)

Start: 33° 58' 43.4" S | 25° 18' 45.2" E

End: 33° 58' 15.4" S | 25° 18' 40.9" E

2

Igolomi Trail 3.4Kkm

(Circular route: easy)

Start: 33° 58' 15.4" S | 25° 18' 40.9" E

End: 33° 58' 41.0" S | 25° 18' 48.1" E

3

De Stades Trail 8.9km

(Circular route: moderate)

Start: 33° 58' 15.4" S | 25° 18' 40.9" E

End: 33° 58' 40.6" S | 25° 18' 40.9" E

4

Sir Peregrine Maitland Trail 3.1km

(Circular route: easy)

Start: 33° 58' 15.4" S | 25° 18' 40.9" E

End: 33° 58' 37.5" S | 25° 18' 42.5" E

Top Fauna & Flora:



- Knysna Warbler
- Knysna Turaco
- Dark-backed Weaver
- Epiphytic Orchids
- Bontveld Chafflower
- Forest Smilax & Spotty Nettle