

History and Location

Van Stadens Wild Flower Reserve is a 500-hectare "floral wonderland" located on the gateway to the Garden Route, 35km from Gqeberha. The area is well known as a stop over for travelers arriving or leaving the city to relax. The terrain comprises of southern wooded slopes, a large plateau and northern river banks, each with its own unique vegetation type.

*The prime purpose of the Reserve is to protect and propagate the unique indigenous flora, including the rare **Sterculia alexandri**, named after English medical doctor and amateur botanist Richard Pior, born Richard Alexander.*

Visitors are encouraged to explore and enjoy the extraordinary diversity and splendour of the natural Fynbos, succulents and other indigenous flora.

The **Cyrtanthus stadensis**, whose name pays homage to Marthinus van Staden, a pioneering farmer in the area, is part of the African genus of bulbous plants. *Cyrtanthus stadensis*, a delicate brushstroke on nature's canvas, paints the landscape with vibrant hues and intricate patterns.

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 two people is recommended as a safety precaution.
- Please do not smoke or light fires while on the trail.
- No dogs allowed.
- Do not litter.
- Carry at least two litres of drinking water per person.



In case of emergency please contact:
Reserves Management: +27 (0) 41 956 1055
South African Police Service: 10111
Ambulance: 10177
Fire Department: +27 (0) 41 585 1555
Search and Rescue: +27 (0) 41 585 1555



Reserve is Open Daily	07h30 – 18h00 (During Summer) 07h30 – 17h30 (During Winter)
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
Associations	Friends of Van Stadens



Friends of Van Stadens
Educate and Conserve



nelson mandela bay
TOURISM



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



VAN STADENS TRAIL

Linear/Circular Route

A breathtaking floral wonderland where nature's artistry is fully displayed, with **stunning views** of the **surrounding mountains**. The Reserve promises a sensory feast of nature's abundance and various **wildflowers**, including **Proteas** and **Ericas**. Hikers can relax and enjoy areas such as the birdhide, where they can see the **a variety of birdlife**.

7.5km



Duration:
2 / 3 Hours



Difficulty:
Easy/Moderate

Explore and Experience

Several picnic and braai areas are available for visitors' use. We encourage you to bring a picnic and relax whilst enjoying the natural environs. You may even be lucky enough to spot some of the shy Buck and small animals and birds.



Flower House:

There is a well-maintained custom-designed 'flower house' with correctly named flowering plant specimens to test your knowledge.



Drives and Rides: All the roads in the Reserve are car-friendly and open to the public. The circular route travels past the Xhosa hut and along the valley with a view of the mountain range before reaching the bridge picnic area - where you may wish to get out and take a photo of the Van Stadens N2 bridge. There are further roads crisscrossing the interior of the circular route enabling visitors to access less frequented areas of the Reserve.

Mountain Bike Rides: These are family friendly trails that explore the plateau section of the Reserve while appreciating the plethora of indigenous flora on display. 3Rivers Trails also offer more adventurous trails outside of the reserve. See www.3riverstrails.co.za for more information.



Bird Hide: Looks out over a dam with water lilies and the Ladyslipper Mountain. The short walk to the hide starts along the access road to the Forest Trail.



1	Van Stadens Trail	7.5Km
	<i>(Combination of trails: moderate)</i>	
2	River Trail	3.5Km
	<i>(Circular route: easy)</i>	
3	Forest Trail	2.6Km
	<i>(Circular route: easy)</i>	
4	Nymph Trail:	2.6Km
	<i>(Circular route: easy)</i>	
5	Fynbos Ramble	710m
	<i>Linear route: easy)</i>	
6	Three Dam Trail	1.3Km
	<i>(Circular route: easy)</i>	
7	The Arboretum	600m
	<i>(An old restored nursery walk: easy)</i>	
	Mountain Bike Trails	
	<i>(Family Friendly Trails)</i>	

Top Fauna & Flora:

- Van Stadens Sceptre
- Van Stadens Firelily
- Crowned Eagle
- Chacma Baboon
- Honeybush Tea
- Narina Trogon

