

EXPERIENCE SUMMER

#NorthernCape

YOUR SUMMER TRAVEL GUIDE



Re-charge
Re-discover
Re-connect



www.experiencenortherncape.com

RE-CHARGE • RE-DISCOVER • RE-CONNECT

*Embark on a real
adventure
experience...*

*and
discover the five
Northern Cape
Provincial Reserves.*

**GAME DRIVES, HIKING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, BIRDING,
CAMPING, BOAT TRIPS, CANOEING, FISHING & PICNIC.**



For more information and bookings please contact:

- 1** Doornkloof Nature Reserve +27 51 753 3006
- 2** Goegap Nature Reserve +27 27 718 9906
- 3** Rolfontein Nature Reserve +27 53 664 0900
- 4** Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve +27 27 218 1159
- 5** Witsand Nature Reserve +27 83 234 7573



EXPERIENCE THE NORTHERN CAPE

Summer holidays is a time when families re –connect with each other, re-charge after a long year of work and school and re-discover that which is important to you and your family.

Discover the heart of the Northern Cape as you travel along its many routes and discover a myriad of experiences, five different regions each with interesting stop overs and family friendly activities, six national parks, including two Transfrontier parks and six provincial nature reserves, two of the largest rivers in South Africa and three legendary deserts.

Each region further features a route experience that will capture the imagination of those who dare to explore it. The incredible year round experiences coupled with the warm hospitality, the peace and tranquility offered by off-the-beaten track towns and villages and space as far as the eye can see will allow you to re-discover life changing experiences and ensure unforgettable summer holiday memories.

The choice of seasonal events will entice you to linger and stop over to enjoy a truly unique

Northern Cape event experience, great fun filled activities for the kids and typical Northern Cape slow food and delicacies to indulge your taste buds, but more importantly, time to recharge and re-connect with each other.

Whether you are stopping or passing through we wish you safe travel and many happy returns to this truly unique destination.



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EXPLORE THE ROUTES OF THE NORTHERN CAPE

The five Northern Cape routes are specifically packaged to give the visitor an easy do-it-yourself option to explore the province. Incredible year-round experiences coupled with warm hospitality, the peace and tranquility offered by off-the-beaten track towns and villages as well as uninterrupted spaces, allow visitors to recharge and reconnect with loved ones.

Kokerboom Food and Wine Route



Named after the indigenous quiver tree, the Quiver Tree Food & Wine Route stretches along the Gariep and includes towns like Upington, Kakamas, Keimoes, Augrabies, Marchand, Kanoneiland, Kenhardt and Riemvasmaak. The route will appeal to families as well as adventure and adrenaline seekers. Highlights include Augrabies Falls, Riemvasmaak hot springs, river rafting, fly fishing, kayaking and river cruises on the Orange River, numerous 4x4, hiking and MTB trails as well as excellent bird watching. Foodies will appreciate the typical Northern Cape fare and produce available from coffee shops, road stalls and restaurants as well as wine tasting at cellars along the route. Accommodation ranges from luxurious guesthouses to farm and community stay-overs. Information and bookings: +27 (0)84 244 4408 or bookings@kokerboomroute.co.za



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Kalahari Red Dune Route



Discover the essence of the province in the heart of the Kalahari. Golden dunes, wide-open skies and flat-topped acacia trees epitomise the Kalahari Red Dune Route. Stretching from Upington right to the Namibian border, visitors traverse the villages of Ashkam, Groot and Klein Mier and Rietfontein. Adventure-loving families and adrenaline seekers can enjoy dune hikes at dawn, eagle- owl encounters, sand duning and surfing in the red sand, close encounters with meerkats and guided walks with the San Khomani to rediscover the ancient wisdom, customs and folklore of this ancient tribe.

Contact: +27 82 492 3469

Richtersveld Route

The Richtersveld is South Africa's only mountain desert and the route travels along rugged gravel roads to quaint towns such as Eksteensfontein, Sendelingsdrift, Lekkering, Kuboes and Sandrift. The more challenging 4x4 routes in the /Ai/Ais-Richtersveld Transfrontier Park or in the Richtersveld World Heritage Area are best explored in a well-equipped SUV or bakkie. Pack comfortable hiking boots, extra water and guidebooks and set out along the 600 km Namaqua Eco 4x4 Route. The Orange River presents a more leisurely pace with river rafting and the best wilderness fly-fishing in South Africa, while the entire Richtersveld is a mountain biker's dream. Follow in the footsteps of a traditional goat herder and learn about the lives of the nomads. In the villages, the locals will entertain guests with storytelling and traditional Nama step dancing upon request. Contact +27 (0)82 335 1399.



Namaqua Coastal Route

In spring (August-September), Namaqualand becomes a tourism hot spot due to the spectacular floral display with fields of wild flowers that bloom throughout this area at this time of year. The dry and dusty plains are transformed – almost overnight – from dull browns to a kaleidoscope of colour, with millions of flowers coming alive to salute the sun. This carpet of colour stretches from the main centre of Springbok – located within the embrace of the Klein Koperberg range – all the way to the rugged coastline.

The route includes not-to-be-missed gems like Garies, Kamieskroon, Hondeklip Bay, Koiingnaas and Kleinzee. There are

dozens of adventure and leisure options for tourists passing through, including the Namaqua National Park, nature reserves, hidden coastal hamlets (do not miss Hondeklip Bay and Kleinzee) and some of the most remote hiking and 4x4 trails imaginable. Hike the Silversands Trail on the edge of the icy Atlantic or pedal among oryx within the Goegap Nature Reserve.

Stargazers, history boffins and soul searchers will all feel welcome here. Go succulent sleuthing with a botanical guide or hike the Springbok Klipkoppie for a dose of Anglo-Boer War history, explore the countless shipwrecks along the coast line or visit Namastat, a traditional matjies-hut village. Just get out there and clear your mind!

Breath-taking scenes of the Atlantic Ocean with sightings of dolphins and whales combined with great vistas of mountains and veld with endemic wildlife makes travelling in this area remarkable. Every town along the route offers warm hospitality, unique getaways, great local food and stories.

Contact +27 (0)27 672 1752.



Karoo Highlands Route

The route is situated in the southern part of the Northern Cape in South Africa and covers the small Karoo towns of Nieuwoudtville, Calvinia, Williston, Sutherland, Fraserburg, Carnarvon, Loxton and Victoria West and forms the heart of the Great Karoo. The Karoo is the home of peace and tranquillity, where you can recharge your batteries, while exploring the wide open plains dotted with koppies (hills). The Khoi and San people, who left their legacy as art on the rocks, gave the Karoo its name. The Route offers culture, adventure and incredible natural beauty with many unique experiences such as stargazing at the world's largest astronomical observatory at Sutherland,



Carnarvon's Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescopes, Karoo architecture and corbelled houses, Anglo-Boer War sites, rock art, ancient Palaeo Surfaces, farm stays and great Karoo cuisine featuring Karoo lamb and warm hospitality.

Contact +27 (0)23 571 1087.



The Cape Namibia Route

The route meanders away from the N7 highway and include small towns, each with its own local flavour and legends. The N7 highway stretches from Cape Town all the way through the Northern Cape before heading into neighboring country Namibia. Crossing from the Western Cape into the Northern Cape, visitors will encounter towns capturing the Nama heritage of the province. Slow down and appreciate the unique stories of the people of Garies, Kamieskroon, Springbok and Steinkopf. The distinctive and enormous megalithic boulders carry the names of early Namakwa travelers and are aptly called the letter stones. During spring time, this route takes visitors into the core of the floral kaleidoscope that is the Namakwa flower season. Contact +27 (0)53 833 1434



TRAVERSING THE NORTHERN CAPE

Whether you are en- route to Namibia, Botswana or the Western Cape we invite you to linger a bit longer and enjoy on of our many unique experiences along your way.

N12 – Discover diamond country

From Warrenton in the north to Victoria West in the south, the N12 also takes in the towns of Strydenburg, Britstown and the provincial capital Kimberley. Stop along the route to trace the rich mining history of the Diamond Fields region. Over 21 630 carats of diamonds were mined in the agricultural town of Warrenton, which is also home to the Vaalharts Dam. The capital city of Kimberley became home to the Diamond Rush about 150 years ago when an 83-carat diamond was discovered on Colesburg Kopje.

- *Visit to The Big Hole - the largest hand-dug excavation in the world*
- *Kimberley Museum – get an enlightening insight into the lives of the miners*
- *Take a ride on the vintage tram - the only tram still running in the country*
- *William Humphrey Art Gallery, with work of great South African artists on display*
- *McGregor museum for a glimpse of days gone by*
- *For wildlife adventures, visit Dronfield Nature Reserve and Mokala National Park*
- *See the Lesser Flamingoes of Kamfers Dam.*

Onto **Britstown**, a perfect stop-over to stretch your legs.

- *Stop at Kambro Hiking Trails with its hiking trails, children's playground and swimming dam.*
- *Or stop at the Transkaroo Country Lodge for a taste of true Karoo slow food and hospitality.*
- *View the Khoisan Art on farms such as Brakwater, Keurfontein, Maritzdam and Omdraaivlei.*

Next is **Victoria West** which was named after Queen Victoria of England and marks the beginning of the Diamond Way, lying on the main route from Cape Town to Kimberley.

- *Stop at the Victoria Trading Post on the road to/from the N1, great coffee and local food. Stock up on Christmas gifts.*



R63 – Travel the Hantam Heartland



From the bulb capital of **Nieuwoudtville** to Victoria West, the R63 takes travelers through the heart of the Hantam. Considered to be the bulb capital of the world, **Nieuwoudtville** is a place of hidden treasures. Must-see attractions to visit:

- *Hantam National Botanical Garden on the Glenlyn farm. Take a guided tour to view more than 500 000 endemic Bulbinella.*
- *Stop at the Matjiesfontein Farmstall to enjoy tea and light snacks in a historical building surrounded by a variety of wild flowers.*
- *The 100m plummet of the Nieuwoudtville Falls on the Doring River is an awesome natural wonder.*
- *Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve just 16km from Nieuwoudtville offers with a variety of walking trails and day hikes.*

Calvinia is in the center of one of the country's largest wool and meat producing areas. The brilliant night skies present spectacular stargazing opportunities.

- *Birdwatching at the Akkerendam Nature Reserve.*
- *Typical Karoo architecture – visit the Neogothic-styled Dutch Reformed Church and the Hantam Huis.*
- *The Calvinia Museum is based in the Art Deco synagogue and houses a collection portraying early European settlers.*

Williston is an important junction that links most of the towns in the Hantam area.

- *Take a break at the Williston Mall – a quaint place to shop, eat and stretch your legs. The best milkshake in the land, space for kids to run around and a splash pool to cool down*

Carnarvon was once one of the busiest farming areas in the area.

- *Visit the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) – the world's most powerful radio telescope.*
- *The small domed corbelled houses with their flat-stoned roofs are typical of the area and the legacy of early trek Boers.*

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N10 – From the Kalahari to the Karoo

The N10 takes travelers from green lush vineyards of the Green Kalahari across the awe inspiring landscape which seems to sweep on forever. Known to the Khoi San as the “Thirstland” this region is renowned for its warm and hospitable people. This route will take you from Upington towards Middelburg in the Eastern Cape passing through the Karoo towns of Marydale, Prieska, Britstown, De Aar and Hanover.

In **Marydale** be sure to stop and visit the **Kokerboom Forest**

Continuing to **Prieska** cross over on the suspended bridge and visit the **Die Bos Nature Reserve** featuring indigenous trees and shrubs or **Ria Huysamen’s Aloe Garden**

Onto **Britstown**, a perfect overnight stop-over.

- *Stop at Kambro Hiking Trails with its hiking trails, children’s playground and swimming dam.*
- *Or stop at the Transkaroo Country Lodge for a taste of true Karoo slow food and hospitality. Staying over book a stargazing experience at reception.*
- *View the Khoisan Art on farms such as Brakwater, Keurfontein, Maritzdam and Omdraaivlei.*
- *Explore Indraf Café, a small informal museum with all sorts of fascinating items from yesteryear*
- *Other Historical sites include the magistrate’s office, library, the old police station and the museum currently housed in the Methodist Church Britstown*

De Aar is the third largest town in the Northern Cape to see and do include:

- *Khoisan Rock Engravings on Nooitgedacht and Brandfontein Farms*
- *Anglo Boer Enthusiast do visit the “Garden of Remembrance” and the Deelfontein Cemetery honoring the British troops fallen during the war*

- *Olive Schreiner’s House and Restaurant– the famous war activist and author home in de Aar, view a selection of artefacts and articles written by her whilst enjoying typical Karoo fare and hospitality*
- *Other historical sites include St Paul’s Church, Town Hall and Standarbank.*
- *Visit local artists and crafter such as Sam Mooi, Fundiswa Banto and Ruth Issel*
- *Great for stargazing, birding, paragliding and absailing and not to miss the donkey cart tours*

Hanover claims to be the country’s most central place. It is equidistant from Cape Town and Johannesburg, centrally positioned between Cape Town and Durban as well as Port Elizabeth and Upington

- *Visit Olive Shreiner’s house*
- *The Cenotaph Memorial commemorating WW2*
- *Interesting historical buildings include Camdeboo House, the oldest building in town, Dutch Reformed Church, the Police Station, the Library in darling Street*
- *Interesting crafters include the Bear lady- Joane Mallet’s Shop, uNpopi Dolls and Angora Crafts and restaurant*
- *Do also stop by Mrs Nellies’ eclectic collection of agricultural implements from yesteryear*
- *Staying over be sure to visit the Karoo Gariep Conservancy for hippo watching and stargazing.*

Continue on your way Middelburg, Eastern Cape.

Immanuel Succulent Nursery offers a great stop-over with local arts and crafts and a tea garden.

N8 - Gear up for the Green Kalahari

From **Kimberley**, head for the divine contrasts of the Green Kalahari region. Small rural towns such as **Campbell**, **Griquatown** (Griekwastad) and **Groblersthoop** offer welcome respites along the way.



- *The Mary Moffat Museum in Griquatown features exhibits capturing the history of missionary work in the area.*
- *Buy semi-precious stones of all shapes, colors and sizes, including local tiger's eye and jasper at The Earth Treasures factory.*
- *Wilbeest Guest Farm hosts geological and mineral tours, bird watching, game drives and hikes.*
- *Visit the grave of Griqua leader Andries Waterboer, which is flanked by cannons that were a gift from Queen Victoria.*
- *Boegoeberg Dam near Groblershoop offers an oasis for travelers with numerous water sports activities.*
- *Travel along the N10 highway, which hugs the winding Orange River towards Upington, the hub of the Green Kalahari.*

N14 - Heading west

The N14 takes travelers from **Kuruman** in the Kalahari to **Springbok** in the Namakwa region via the mining town of Kathu, the regional commercial hub of **Upington** and along the Quiver Tree Route.

- *Kuruman is known as the 'Oasis of the Kalahari' due to The Eye, a spring that yields 20 million liters of water per day.*
- *Visit the Moffat Mission named after Robert Moffat, who translated the Bible into Setswana.*
- *Wonderwerk Caves - archaeological excavations of the 140m long caves, which dates back over a million years.*
- *Camp at the Khai-Appel Recreation Resort in Kathu, go horse riding and fishing*

The bustling town of **Upington** is home to several unique tourist attractions, including:

- *Camel and donkey monuments commemorate the role these*



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domestic animals played in the history of the region.

- *The 1041m long Date Palm Avenue at the Eiland Resort – one of the longest palm avenues in the Southern Hemisphere.*
- *Water activities on the Orange River - sundowner cruises, bird-watching excursions and river rafting adventures.*
- *Brandy and wine tastings.*
- *Road stalls to stock on local delicacies such as raisins, pecan nuts producers*
- *Visit the local communities at Curries Camp or Riemvasmaak*
- *Take a ride in a donkey cart, affectionately called the Kalahari Ferrari by locals*
- *Visit the Augrabies Falls National Park with its 56m waterfall and awe-inspiring lookout points*

Keimoes the town of 100 islets offers the country's first vineyard safari and sundowner experience enquire at **De Werf Lodge** in **Keimoes**.

Visitors are encouraged to add a day or two to the itinerary to explore the amazing **Kokerboom Food and Wine Route**. Taking in little towns such as **Kanoneiland, Kakamas, Keimoes** and **Kenhardt** exposes the essence of the region.

Carry on westwards to the former missionary station of **Pella** before heading for **Springbok**.

SUMMER EVENTS

Stop and enjoy one of our uniquely Northern Cape events and delight in our r uniquely local flavor and warm hospitality. Follow us on #EventsNorthernCape and share your favorite photo with us.

25 - 26 Nov 2016 @ Aggeneys

AGGENEYS FEES

Travel along the N14 road between Upington and Springbok and join the locals as they celebrate the annual Aggeneys Fees. Engage with this rural community and explore different traditional food stalls offering local cuisine and endless entertainment throughout the entire weekend.

Contact: Cecile Grobler. Tel: 054 983 9372

**30 Nov – 5 Dec 2016 @
Rolfontein Nature Reserve**

THE MUNGA RACE

The Munga mountain bike race is an endurance race covering over 1000km between Bloemfontein in the Free State and Diemersfontein Wine Estate near Wellington in the heart of the Cape winelands. En route riders will have the opportunity to race inside the Rolfontein Nature Reserve. Entry is for 20member teams and no seeding is required. Riders will race in teams of two. The event offers a total prize purse of US\$1-million.

Contact: Kgomo Moko. Tel: 083 665 3730

1 – 3 Dec 2016 @ West End Indoor Cricket Grounds, Kimberley

KIMBERLEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

The house music festival is set to provide an exhilarating nightlife experience with a host of local performers and national artists set to converge in the City of Diamonds.

Contact: Ishmael: Tel: 060 873 9950,
Email: space.entertainment333@gmail.com

15 – 17 Dec 2016 @ Port Nolloth

RICHTERSVELD LIGHTS FESTIVAL

Don't miss the fun and festivities of this local festival. Join the locals in celebration of the festive season and enjoy entertainment by home-grown artists.

Contact: Sydney Adams: Tel: 082 763 9943,
Email: Sydney@richtersveld.co.za

16 – 18 Dec 2016 @ Langleg Resort, Kimberley

SA JAZZ FEST: NORTHERN CAPE

Enjoy our first December Jazz festival in Kimberley with a star-studded line-up of performers, including Oliver Mtukudzi, Hugh Masikela, Stimela, Theo Kgosinkwe to name a few.

Contact: Samandla Sibisi: Tel: 053 833 1333,
Email: csibisi@macronym.co.za

17 Dec 2016 @ West End Club Cricket Pitch, Kimberley

METRO FM HEATWAVE

This summer musical explosion is presented annually by national SABC radio station Metro FM and promises to get Kimberlites in the mood for the festive season. Featured artists will include Lerato Kganyago, SPHEctacula & DJ Naves while local artists will also hit the stage. Tickets will be available @R100 from 30 September @ all Computicket outlets

Contact: Kgomoiso Modiragale: Tel: 083 704 3020

31 Dec 2016 – 01 Jan 2017 @ Langleg Resort, Kimberley

KIMBERLEY CROSS-OVER FESTIVAL

Party out 2016 and ring in the New Year at the Cross-Over Festival taking place on New Year's Eve.

Contact: Walter Mabogola: Tel: 084 413 5792

UPCOMING EVENTS

24-26 February @ Pampierstad,

DESPERADO ANNUAL FUN RUN

Join this annual ride in Kuruman and help raise funds for community upliftment projects. Be part of fun and explore the community of Mothibistad in Pampierstad.

Contact: Kabelo: Tel: 072 374 7233

28 April 2017 @ Die Eiland Resort, Upington

ORANGE RIVER DESCENT

Tackle one of South Africa's most majestic rivers in the Green Kalahari region. The Orange River Canoe Marathon promises a great adventure for paddlers and supporters. Register now to participate in this spectacular event.

Contact: Waldo van der Linde: Tel: 072 184 9090

For the full calendar of events do visit www.experiencenortherncape.com

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Experience refreshing breakaways and our world of adventure activities

Northern Cape National Parks

- 1 Mokala National Park
- 2 Augrabies Falls National Park
- 3 Kgalagadi Transfrontier National Park
- 4 Ai/Ais Richtersveld Transfrontier National Park
- 5 Namaqua National Park
- 6 Tankwa National Park



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TOURISM INFORMATION

NORTHERN CAPE TOURISM AUTHORITY

Tel: +27 53 833 1434 | Email: marketing@experiencenortherncape.com

www.experiencenortherncape.com

DISTRICT TOURISM INFORMATION OFFICES

Diamond Field Tourism +27 53 838 0923

Green Kalahari Tourism +27 54 337 2800

Kalahari Tourism +2753 712 8700 x 8787

Karoo Tourism +27 53 632 9100

Namakwa Tourism +27 27 712 8034/5

TOWN TOURISM INFORMATION OFFICES

Calvinia +27 27 341 8100

Colesberg +27 51 753 0678

Garies +27 27 652 8000

Keimoes De Werf Lodge +27 54 461 1635

Kimberley +27 53 830 6779

Kuruman +27 56 712 9407

Nieuwoudtville +27 27 218 1336

Proviand Restaurant (Griquaastad) +27 82 876 4956

ROUTES

Cape Namibia Route +27 53 8331434

Kalahari Red Dune Route +27 82 492 3469

Karoo Hoogland Route +27 23 571 1087

Namaqua Coastal Route +27 27 672 1752

Richtersveld Route +27 82 335 1399

Kokerboom Food and Wine Route +27 84 244 4408

PROVINCIAL NATURE RESERVES

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Goegap Nature Reserve +27 27 718 9906

Rolfontein Nature Reserve +27 53 664 0900

Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve +27 27 218 1159

Witsand Nature Reserve +27 83 234 7573

NATIONAL PARKS IN THE NORTHERN CAPE

Augrabies Falls National Park +27 54 452 9200

[Ai-]Ais/Richtersveld Transfrontier Park +27 27 831 1506


Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park +27 54 561 2000

Mokala National Park Contact +27 53 204 8000


Namaqua National Park +27 27 672 1948

Tankwa Karoo National Park +27 27 341 1927

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