

Accommodation Facilities

types:
 (A)  excellent
 (B)  standard
 (C)  rustic



- ✓ **Accommodation:** (A) Good quality hut/lux.tent/house with several sleeping rooms
- ✓ (B) Basic hut or tent(s) provided
- (C) Shelter against elements for sleeping or tent site only
- ✓ **Toilet:** (A) Flush toilet inside hut (1:6 people) and toilet paper
- ✓ (B) Separate toilet building, flush facilities outside hut (toilet paper provided)
- (C) Pit toilet (max 50 m min 20 m from hut) or alt. hygienic system (toilet paper)
- ✓ **Beds:** (A) Single / double beds only
- ✓ (B) Bunk beds OR
- (C) No beds provided
- ✓ **Mattresses:** (A) Thick (10 cm) high density foam or spring
- (B) Thin
- (C) None
- ✓ **Washing:** (A) Shower and/or bath: with geyser or "donkey" pre-lit by attendant
- ✓ (B) Shower and/or bath (hot and cold with "donkey")
- (C) Shower (cold) or natural place to bath
- ✓ **Braai area:** (A) Under cover barbecue, with windshield, lapa (1:10 people)
- (B) Barbeque area, covered only, with grate,
- (C) Barbeque (open) area with grate only or no fires allowed or possible
- Fire wood provided:** (A) Ample chopped wood (also for campfire)
- ✓ (B) One only bundle for braai
- (C) Dry tree/logs with saw/axe provided or no fires allowed/possible (delete one)
- ✓ **Kitchenware:** (A) Fridge/cooler and cutlery/crockery: provided
- ✓ (B) Fridge/cooler or cutlery/crockery: provided (delete one)
- (C) NOT provided
- ✓ **Kitchen:** (A) Separate "kitchen"/common room with basin and tap inside hut
- (B) Dish washing / cooking place near or adjacent to hut (with table/surface)
- (C) No separate facilities provided
- ✓ **Lighting:** (A) Electric/gas/solar
- (B) Candles/paraffin lamps or similar
- (C) None of these provided
- Heating:** (A) Air conditioning or stoves in all rooms
- ✓ (B) Heating by means of fire place; coal/wood stove in common room
- (C) None of these
- ✓ **Cooking facilities:** (A) Stove/hot plate/burner and kettle, pots & pans
- ✓ (B) Stove/Hot plate/burner or kettle, pots & pans
- (C) None of these

Basic Trail Description

The Karoo Erdvark Trail is the first Green Flag Accredited Hiking Trail in the Karoo with its unique landscape consisting of flat topped mountains with enormous vistas over the outstretched plains but also incised valleys and kloofs with small perennial pools and fountains for a swim.

The trail is situated in the beautiful surroundings of the escarpment of the Nuweveld Mountains, 80 km west of Beaufort West. It has been developed to give the hiker a wilderness experience and consists of a network of trails that varies both in length and difficulty; with options for the more experienced hiker as well as for the leisure hiker.

The trail runs across a functioning sheep farm but game and many birds are to be seen. The hiker is graced by magnificent, diverse and varying scenery of typical mountain-Karoo landscape while the silence, tranquility, peace and open sky at night is something special to experience. It is more than a hiking trail; it offers an authentic Karoo experience - with a "skaap braai" option available.


The accommodation is in a typical Karoo farm house with excellent facilities. A huge farm shed is also available for larger groups or for the "budget hiker".


The trail has at its disposal a nearby airstrip for small airplanes such as the Cessna and Pilates.


Trail Facilities & Safety

- Facilities:**
- Booking facilities and information:** E-mail, fax & phone
- Reception office:** At farmhouse: Rooiheuvel
- Road signs:** Clear
- Access road:** Graded gravel
- Parking:** Shade trees
- Trail Format:** Clover leaf network
- Map:** Excellent
- Brochure:** Standard
- Water availability:** All days except Piekniekval
- Environmental education:** None
- Safety:**
- Parking:** Safe
- Accommodation:** Safe
- Safety on Trail:**
- Markers:* Correct
- Warning signs:* n/a
- Water potability:* Safe
- Other:*
- Crossings (road/rivers):** Safe
- Emergency:**
- Escape routes:* Yes
- Telephone/cell:* Only cell phone on mountain tops
- Medical aid/evacuation system:* Limited





Environmental Character

A **PRISTINE** environment depicts an area where nature still exists in its more-or-less pure form: clean drinking water in streams, indigenous vegetation and animal life with no trace of human constructions, activities or sounds nearby. 

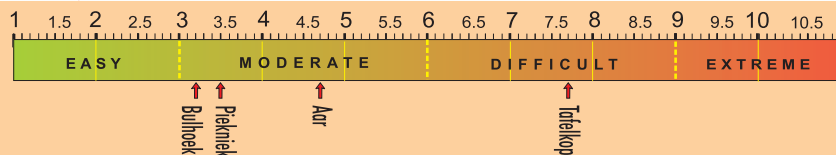
In a **NATURAL** environment one could expect to see and hear human activities to a limited extent; such as e.g. associated with farming and forestry. Exotic plants (e.g. pine plantations) might be prevalent; as well as cattle, fences and constructions such as earth dams. 

To hike through a **RURAL** environment would imply close contact with rural development and its associated noise, crossing of public roads, hiking on forestry/ farm roads, visual contact with agricultural fields, cement dams, domesticated animals, etc. 

A **SEMI-URBAN** environment will be typically an urban green belt or city park or similar where the built environment is adjacent to the trail and where the noise of vehicles and associated aspects of pollution will often be prominent. 

Tafelkop	Aar	Piekniekval	Bulhoek	
				
83% Pristine	83% Pristine	83% Pristine	83% Pristine	

Difficulty Grading



Contact / Booking Information

Bookings:



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Karoo Erdvark Hiking Trail



Classification

A self-guided, self-catering clover leaf network

Environment: *pristine*

Accommodation: *Boplaas excellent, Shed standard*

Difficulty Rating: *moderate to fairly difficult with easy short walk options*

Facilities and safety: *satisfactorily maintained*



www.trailinfo.co.za

Accreditation underwritten by:

South African Hiking Trail Owners Association (SAHTOA),

Hiking Organization of Southern Africa (HOSA),

Southern Africa Tourism Services Association (SATSA).