

Accommodation Facilities

Riverside  sleeps 20

Classification:  Excellent
 Standard
 Rustic

Tourista River Lodge  sleeps 20

- ✓ ✓ **Hut:** Good quality hut/lux.tent/cottage/house-with several sleeping rooms OR
- Basic hut or tent(s) provided OR
- Shelter against elements for sleeping/tent site
- ✓ **Toilet:** Flush toilet inside hut (1-6 people) OR
- Separate toilet building, flush facilities outside hut
- Pit toilet (max 50 m min 20 m from hut) or alternative hygienic system
- ✓ **Beds:** Single / double beds only OR
- Bunk beds OR
- No beds provided
- ✓ **Mattresses:** Thick (10 cm) high density foam or spring, OR
- Thin OR
- None
- ✓ **Washing:** Shower and/or bath (hot and cold with geyser or "donkey" pre-lit by attendant) OR
- Shower and/or bath (hot and cold with "donkey") OR
- Shower (cold) or nearby stream/dam
- ✓ **Barbecue area:** Under cover barbecue, with windshield, lapa (1:10 people) OR
- Barbecue area, covered only with grate, OR
- Barbecue (open) area with grate only or no fires allowed or possible
- ✓ **Fire wood provided:** ample chopped wood (also for campfire) OR
- One only bundle for braai OR
- Dry tree/logs with saw/axe provided or no fires allowed/possible (Cape H. no fires allowed)
- ✓ **Kitchenware:** Fridge/cooler and cutlery/crockery: provided OR
- Fridge/cooler or cutlery/crockery: provided OR
- Fridge/cooler and cutlery/crockery: NOT provided
- ✓ **Kitchen:** Separate "kitchen"/common room with basin/tap inside hut OR
- Dish washing / cooking place near or adjacent to hut (with table/surface) OR
- No separate facilities provided. Water available nearby stream/dam/fountain
- ✓ **Lighting:** Electric/gas/solar OR
- Candles/paraffin lamps or similar OR
- None of these provided
- Bedding:** Sheets and pillow AND mirror(s) provided OR
- Sheet or mirror(s) provided OR
- None of these
- Heating:** Air conditioning OR
- Interior heating/coal /wood stove OR (2 houses)
- None of these
- ✓ **Cooking facilities:** Hot plate/Burner and kettle, pots & pans OR
- Stove/Hot plate/Burner or kettle, pots & pans OR
- None of these

Basic Trail Description

The Riverside hiking trail is situated in the NE Free State between Lindley and Steynsrust in an area with ample streams and pools. The sandstone formations and the cultural heritage of the ancient Ghoja habitats are very special. A cave in which the Boers hid themselves and their families during the Anglo Boer War, is also interesting.

The first day takes the hikers along the Hammanspruit where there are wonderful pools for swimming: Langkuil, Bielle se Gat and Jan se gat being the best. Hikers should be on the lookout for "Ouvolk" and many water bird species. On the 11 km long day 2 there is an alternative longer option of 14 km. The trail follows majestic sandstone kranzes and precipices and then crosses a savanna plain through small "klofies" (valleys). An interesting feature is an old bath, hewn out of the sandstone in the 1890's. Before arriving at the base camp, one passes the "Swaeltjie Hotel". Game is seen in abundance and so is the rich bird life. The warm summer months are not too hot and the winter nights fairly cold. It is an ideal climate for hiking.

Trail Facilities

- Booking Facilities & Info:** Internet, postal, telephone, fax
- Reception:** Office or caretaker on site or nearby
- Directions:** Clear road signs to start of hike: public & private roads
- Access road:** Track
- Parking:** Shade trees
- Car security:** Relatively safe
- Trail Format:** Network
- Map:** Colour with contour lines and additional information
- Brochure:** General basic information on trail
- Markers:** Effective trail markers
- Safety:**
 - Warning signs: Well managed
 - Crossings: Effective
 - Telephone: At start of trail and cell phone access
 - Medical Aid: Back-up system available
 - Hikers' safety en route: Good
 - Water: Available - each day, rainy season only

Environmental Character: Definitions

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.



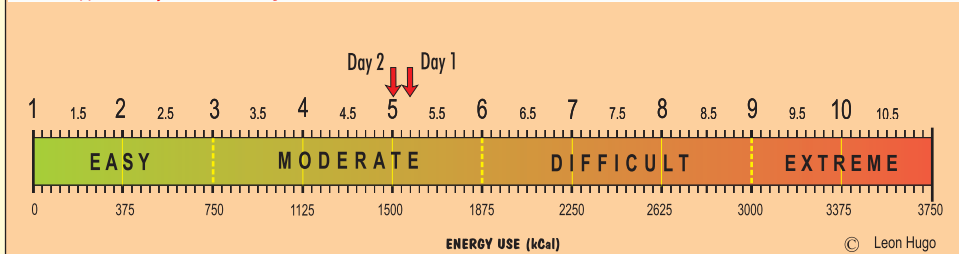
To hike through a **RURAL** environment would imply close contact with rural development and its associated noise, crossing of public roads, hiking on forestry/ farm roads, visual contact with agricultural fields, cement dams, domesticated animals, etc.



Generalized Classification:

 Natural			
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Difficulty Grading



Contact /Booking Information

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Reg. No. 2000/037074/23

Riverside HIKING TRAIL



Classification

A two day self-guided
Hiking Trail

Environment: natural

Accommodation: excellent

Difficulty Rating:

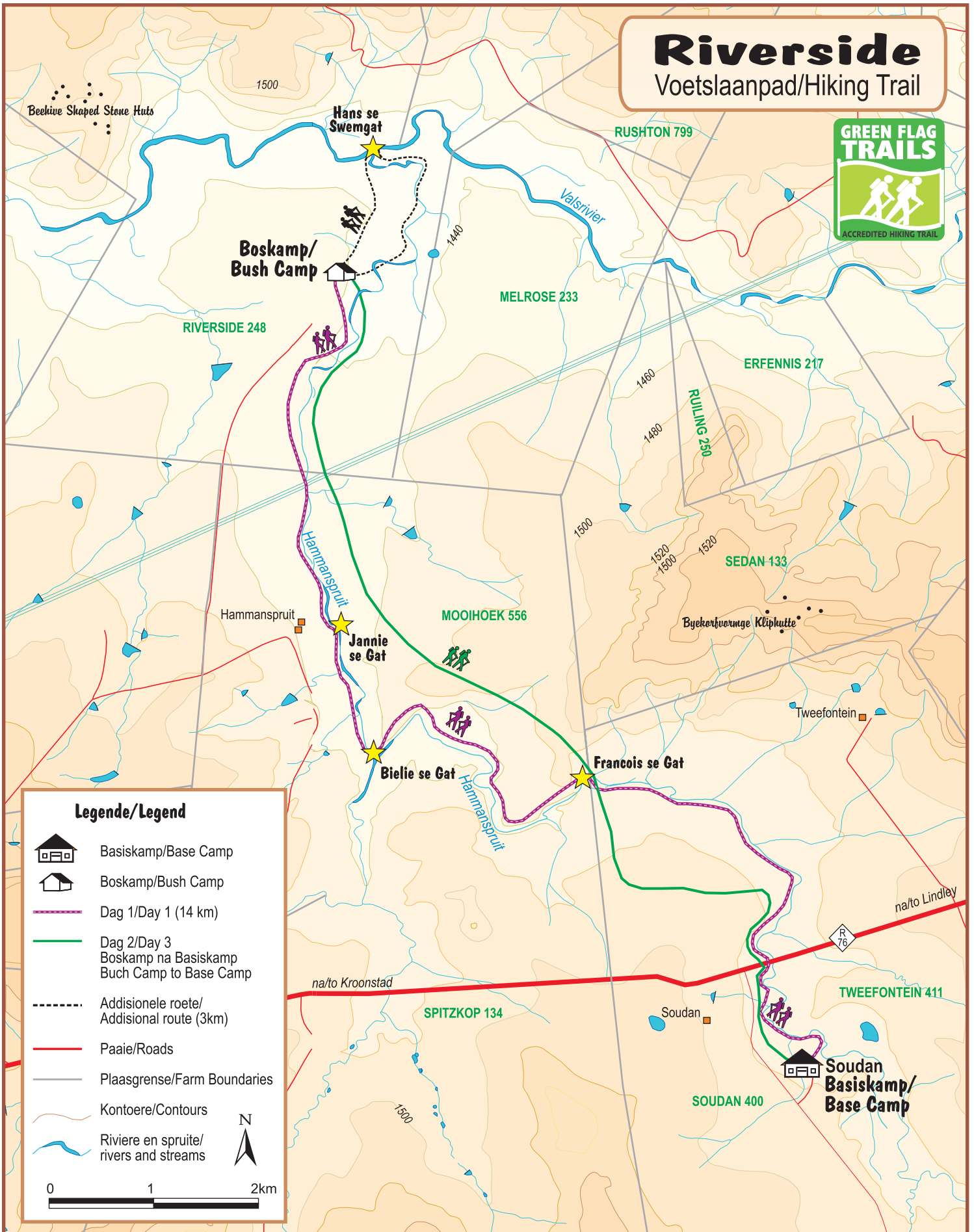
Day 1 - moderate (category 5.2)
 Day 2 - moderate (category 5.0)












Accreditation underwritten by:
 South African Hiking Trail Owners Association (SAHTOA) and the
 Hiking Organization of Southern Africa (HOSA)

Riverside

Voetslaanpad/Hiking Trail



Legende/Legend

-  Basiskamp/Base Camp
-  Boskamp/Bush Camp
-  Dag 1/Day 1 (14 km)
-  Dag 2/Day 3
Boskamp na Basiskamp
Buch Camp to Base Camp
-  Addisionele roete/
Additional route (3km)
-  Paaie/Roads
-  Plaasgrense/Farm Boundaries
-  Kontoere/Contours
-  Riviere en spruite/
rivers and streams

