

North West Parks
& Tourism Board



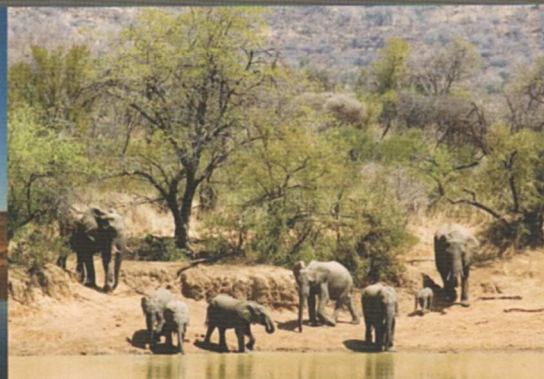
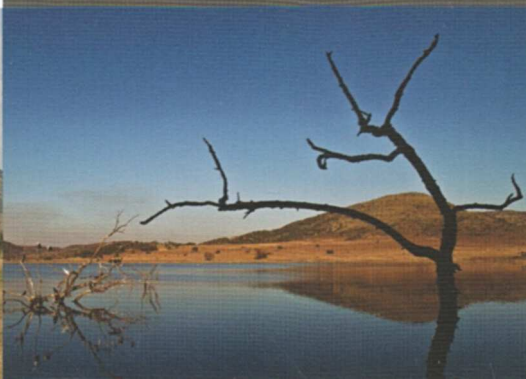
Pilanesberg National Park



Mankwe Dam (overlooking Fish Eagle picnic site)

MAP & GUIDE BOOK

The Pilanesberg Story



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General game viewing practice

As you are sharing the Park with others, observing the following rules will ensure that everyone gets the most out of a visit.

Be considerate of fellow visitors – At a sighting park on the side of the road where the animal has been spotted so that other cars can pass by without getting in the way and spoiling your photo opportunities.

Treat our wildlife with caution and respect – The animals in the Park are wild so treat them as such. Keep your distance from potentially dangerous animals such as elephant and rhino.

Shouting, hooting, revving the engine and similar behaviour is unacceptable.

General Guidelines to park use

Park Rules and Regulations

The following rules are a summary of North West Parks and Tourism Board's "Park Rules and Regulations" which are provided in full on your permit.

Stay in your vehicle except at designated picnic spots, hides and viewing sites.



Speed limits – The speed limit is 40km/h but this is too fast if you want to observe game. Drive slowly if you want to enjoy the experience.



Observe the road – Keep watch for small creatures on the road such as chameleons, snakes, tortoises and dung beetles etc. Do not drive over elephant/rhino dung as small creatures such as dung beetles use the piles as nurseries for their young.



Drinking & driving – General rules of the road apply when driving in Pilanesberg. It is an offence to drive on South African roads under the influence of alcohol.



Valid licence – Make sure you have a valid driver's license.



Restricted driving areas – Don't drive on no-entry roads and driving off the road is strictly forbidden.



Removing plants and animals – No plant or animal may be removed from the park.



Disturbing game – Touching, feeding, disturbing or harming of any animal is not permitted.



Litter free zone – This is your Park so keep it spotless.



Weapons – Declare all weapons at the entrance gates.



Fire – Braai fires may be lit only at picnic spots but please be careful.



Treat elephants with respect, they are a lot bigger and stronger than you are.

Please ensure that your stay is both enjoyable and safe by observing the following simple rules. You will be sharing your stay with other visitors and many exciting and unusual creatures that inhabit the Park

Safe viewing of elephants

ENSURING A SAFE VISIT

Elephants are big and potentially dangerous and must be treated with respect.



Staying safe when viewing Elephants

An elephant weighs up to seven tons so it can inflict serious damage to vehicles or can cause loss of life. Typically, there are two instances that can result in potential elephant/human conflict, namely elephant bulls in MUSTH and BREEDING herds with SMALL calves. Follow the simple advice below to reduce the possibility of an elephant/human encounter:

- Always keep a safe distance between you and elephants at all times.
- If the elephants are walking in the road towards you, DO NOT pull over to the side of the road and allow the elephant to pass, as this is when elephants may turn their attention to the vehicle. At this time it is too late for you to apply any avoidance manoeuvres in the vehicle.
- Do not follow close behind elephants walking in the road ahead of you as it causes them to be stressed.
- Don't block the path of elephants when they approach the road. Leave enough space so that they can cross without splitting up the herd.
- Show respect for elephants at all times, DO NOT shout, wave, hoot, rev engines or get out of your vehicle when in the vicinity of elephants.
- Take note of elephant behaviour: "Resting" of the trunk over the tusks, "crossing" the front or hind legs, "swinging" of front leg, "smelling" with trunk held high. These postures may look "cute" but in fact are a sign of anxiety.
- Look out for temporal gland flow. Visible fluid flowing from the gland between the eye and ear hole (looks like dark tears/ "crying") is a distinct sign of stress and anxiety.

BULLS IN MUSTH

What is musth in elephant bulls?

Musth refers to a state that periodically occurs in elephant bulls, where testosterone levels increase dramatically. ALL adult elephant bulls come into musth, but the period varies, probably due to social status in the population.

What is the effect of musth in elephant bulls?

Elephant bulls in musth become very confident, and are quite often aggressive. Bulls in musth lose their fear and respect for traditional threats.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE AN ELEPHANT IN MUSTH

The musth swagger

Head held high, brimming with confidence, plenty of head movement and very little or no time taken to feed.

Fluid excretions from the temporal gland

A fluid known as temporine is excreted in a continuous stream from a gland in the elephant's temple (just behind the eyes).

Penile fluid excretions

A very clear and apparent sign is the continuous flow of strongly scented urine from the penile sheath. This very clearly stains the back legs of the musth bull.

The Pilanesberg Story

Geology

Described by geologists as the Pilanesberg Alkaline Ring Complex, the Pilanesberg is one of only 3 alkaline volcanoes in the world and is exceptionally old. The formation of the Pilanesberg occurred 2,000 million years ago. At its zenith, the volcano towered to 7000 metres in height, rivalling even Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, in grandeur!



Over time, a series of volcanic eruptions occurred. There were further outpourings of lava, craters collapsed, ring fracturing took place around the volcano and magma was squeezed into these fractures. The end result is several concentric "onion rings" of rocks of different ages.

Erosion over many millions of years has stripped away the mountain and the highest peak, Mathorwe, now rises 700 metres above the valleys. What we see today then is not so much a volcanic crater, but a cross section through the magma pipes that were located at great depth below the mountain's summit.

One of only
3 alkaline
volcanoes in
the world



Geological Sites

G1 VOLCANIC TUFF

During volcanic eruption rocks shatter into countless fragments of variable size that are catapulted high into the air. Upon falling back they solidify and form a tuff.

G2 NEPHELINE SYENITE

Syenite is formed from molten magma just below the surface of the Earth. White crystals of the sanidine feldspar occur as very thin flakes in the rock.

G3 LAVA

Molten rock, known as magma, originates from deep within the Earth. Magma that erupts from a volcano and flows onto the Earth's surface is known as lava.

G4 KIMBERLITE

Kimberlite is potentially a diamond-bearing rock. Diamonds were formed in the mantle of the Earth, about 15 kilometers below the present surface.

G5 WHITE FOYAITE

This coarse, grained rock crystallized from magma that cooled slowly beneath the earth's surface. The rocks are now exposed in the hills because of weathering and erosion over the past 140 million years.

G6 GREEN FOYAITE

Green foyaite is a rather uncommon variety. The rock contains flaky and needle-like aegirine crystals, giving the rock an unusual layered appearance.

G7 SYENITE

The syenite rock displays a mesh-like arrangement of light-red orthoclase feldspar crystals, which make up most of the rock. Black specks, scattered throughout the rock are magnetite (iron oxide).

G8 FLUORITE

Fluorite extracted from this old Moepo Mining site has a "fir tree" or "herring-bone" texture, which is rather unique. The fluorite which is composed of calcium and fluorine is visible as a purple mineral.

G9 RED FOYAITE

This is an even-grained variety of the red foyaite, comprising the potassium-rich feldspar, small amounts of nepheline, which weathers rapidly giving the rough appearance and the black crystals are those of aegirine.

G10 GREEN FOYAITE

The ring mountains of Pilanesberg are made up of several varieties of foyaite. They have similar mineral composition, but with differing amounts of individual minerals and overall colour of the rock.

G11 "LEDIG" FOYAITE

This variety of foyaite was named "Ledig" foyaite after the farm, where the rock was first described, situated in the southern part of the Park.

G12 RED SYENITE

The red syenite largely contains potassium-rich orthoclase, feldspar, chlorite, calcium and fluorine. Syenite is igneous rock formed from magma.

G13 URANIUM-MINERALIZED TUFF

This rock, as in G1, is known as volcanic tuff. This particular tuff contains some rare minerals and is mildly radioactive due to its uranium content.

G14 WHITE FOYAITE

The three main minerals comprising the rock are white potassium-rich feldspar, associated with smaller amounts of nepheline and the dark coloured mineral aegirine.

G15 DYKES IN RED FOYAITE

The red rock exposed in the streambed at this locality is red foyaite. The grey bands cutting the red foyaite are dykes of tinguaita – a fine-grained variety of foyaite. Examples can be seen in the riverbed at this site.

You can use the centre page map to locate and visit the above well interpreted geological sites.

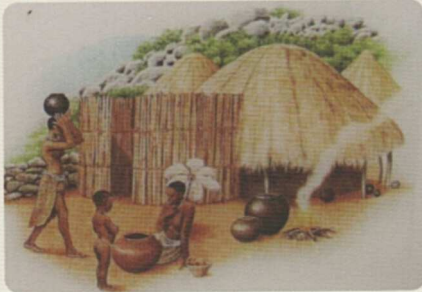
Early inhabitants of the Pilanesberg

Middle Stone Age

Human beings have been in the Pilanesberg area since the Middle Stone Age. Many artefacts from this period can be found throughout the park. Hunter-gatherers roamed the area well before the first Setswana speaking people settled as cattle and grain farmers.

Iron Age Tswana Settlements

During the latter Iron Age period, the ancestors of the Batswana and Basotho people occupied the area. They were cattle farmers and pastoralists who also worked copper and iron. Major Batswana towns were established during the late 18th century. These settlements represented entire chiefdoms living together in towns of 10,000 people or more. Some experts believe that these cities were developed as a reaction to the troubled times of the *Difaqane*. The Marothodi archaeological site 10km to the west of Pilanesberg is a remnant from this era. Marothodi (meaning 'raindrops') was the capital of a Batlokwa chiefdom. It is believed that the occupants of Marothodi had Nguni



origins but that they became Tswana-ised as the style and structure of their town was typical of Sotho-Tswana settlements of the time within the region. Town life in Marothodi included the production of iron and copper and was strictly governed along Batswana cultural systems and values.

Most of these towns were destroyed during the *Difaqane* wars that raged in the Pilanesberg / Magaliesberg region in the late 1820's, when Mzilikazi occupied the Magaliesberg and Pilanesberg region. The towns were destroyed and the Ndebele ruled over the area during this period.

The Batlhako and the Bakgatla Ba ga Kgafela (clans of the Setswana linguistic group) occupied the Pilanesberg region since the latter part of the eighteenth century. Many of their cattle kraals and outposts have been identified as part of the more than 60 archaeological sites recorded in Pilanesberg to date. It is clear that the strategic advantage of high ground, abundant wildlife, shelter, water and fertile valley bottoms of the Pilanesberg was highly valued through the ages.

Troubled Times

During the late 1820's, Mzilikazi invaded the Magaliesberg area and the area to the west of Pilanesberg. Although most of the skirmishes were to the south and to the west of Pilanesberg; it had a profound effect on the entire region. Everyday life of the Batswana people, and some of the early Nguni people who started settling in the area before the Ndebele invasion, was greatly disrupted as Mzilikazi massacred the occupants of the land. During this time, the Bakgatla fled into the hills of Pilanesberg, attempting to escape this mass onslaught, eventually having to surrender as the Pilanesberg was surrounded by the Ndebele. Mzilikazi was now in control of all the land and settled with his *impis* (warriors) to the west of Pilanesberg.



The park belongs to the people of South Africa, so treat it as a natural treasure



The arrival of Europeans

Missionaries

Early attempts to meet with the Ndebele king during 1829 by missionary Archbell had been fruitless. Robert Moffat, the world-renowned missionary then based at Kuruman, was however brought to the Magaliesberg on request of Mzilikazi, who seemed to be impressed with what had been done in Kuruman. Moffat trekked via the southern foothills of Pilanesberg during 1829 where he observed the destruction caused during the *Difaqane* wars. During this visit, a strange and long lasting friendship developed between Mzilikazi and Moffat. As a result, all travellers to the new Ndebele kingdom during the time had to come via Kuruman with the blessing of Moffat.

The first missionary church north of the Vaal River was established on the farm Welgeval amongst the Bakgatla people. Reverend Henry Gonin worked here amongst the Bakgatla from 1846 to 1910. The site is today marked by a plaque. The Bakgatla has a long history of missionary interaction culminating in the development of the George Stegman Hospital.

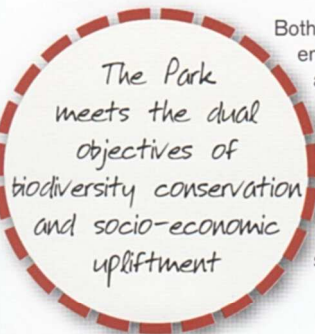


Explorers and Hunters

The expeditions of Dr Andrew Smith (1835) and Captain Sir William Cornwallis Harris (1836) give us the first well documented records of the people and wildlife of the area.

Dr Andrew Smith witnessed the ruins of the former inhabitants of the area during his visit of 1835. His expedition comprised of an entourage of some 40 people. He was accompanied by Moffat who used the opportunity to again meet with Mzilikazi with the request for opening a mission station in the area. Smith recorded the abundant wildlife in his journal. He later became the founder of the South African Museum in Cape Town.

Although it is not clear whether Cornwallis-Harris ever set foot in the Pilanesberg Mountains, he did extensively explore and hunt the Magaliesberg Mountains which end directly south of the Pilanesberg. He also explored the present day Groot Marico area to the west, and the Crocodile River and Limpopo River region to the north and east of Pilanesberg. The overall abundance of wildlife at that time is also well described in his book *"Wild Sports of Southern Africa: 1852"*, as well as his visit with the Ndebele king, Mzilikazi.



Both Smith and Cornwallis Harris were enthralled by the beautiful landscapes and abundant wildlife that roamed the area and made numerous valuable drawings. Other later explorers such as R.Gordon Cummings (1844) and Thomas Baines (1869) were equally fascinated and commented on the beauty of the Pilanesberg and its surroundings.

Boer settlers

As farmers in the Cape Colony became disgruntled with the British rule, Voortrekkers began trekking away from the colony as far north as the Magaliesberg, where they were effectively held at bay by Mzilikazi, who did not hesitate to attack anyone crossing the Vaal River. After the successful Voortrekker battle against a large Ndebele army at Mosega in 1836, the Zulu in 1837 courageously fought a major battle against the Ndebele directly west of Pilanesberg, where the Ndebele yoke was substantially broken. These two defeats encouraged further attacks on the Ndebele by the Griqua, the Voortrekkers and the Tswana, eventually driving the Ndebele across the Limpopo to the north, where they founded the settlement of Bulawayo in present day Zimbabwe.



The Voortrekkers during the 1840's continued to settle the land with many of the former Tswana inhabitants returning to the land. Many of the Tswana were disgruntled with the Boers occupying their ancestral lands and opted to move elsewhere. Those that remained worked on the Boer farms as labourers. Despite this, they fought along the Boers to fend off attempts by Mzilikazi to return to this land. By 1849 all the land had been allocated, and Tswana groups wanting to return could only resettle if they were prepared to buy back their ancestral land from the Boers.

By the 1850's the Magaliesberg to the south was well established as a farming area. Although Pilanesberg was initially mainly farmed with cattle, many of the fertile valleys were planted with citrus trees and annual crops.

Apart from cheetah, most predators are predominantly nocturnal and are mainly spotted early in the morning.

Pilanesberg

The concept of a protected area

The white farmers of Pilanesberg were expropriated by the Nationalist government during the early 1960's as part of a plan to make more land available for settlement of the Batswana people in a so-called "homeland". Pilanesberg thus became part of the former "Homeland" of Bophuthatswana which was established in 1977. However, not all farms were occupied by white farmers and certain properties within the boundaries of what is today called Pilanesberg were still owned and occupied by the Bakgatla people.

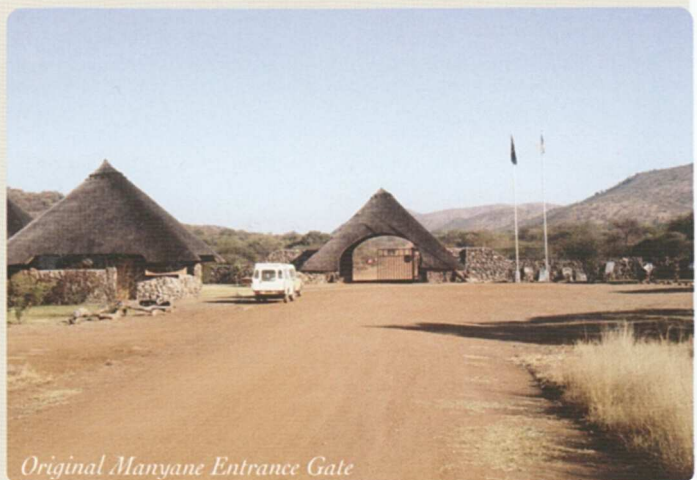
As early as 1969, the potential of the Pilanesberg as a conservation project was identified. In 1973 further recommendations were made. The ecology and the tourism potential of the area were studied and formal recommendations were made to the Bakgatla leadership and the Bophuthatswana government in 1977. It was agreed that the areas occupied by the Bakgatla were to be vacated so that most of the crater complex could be included in the Park.

A new conservation philosophy

Pilanesberg was established in 1979 and was declared a national park in 1984. It is widely accepted that it was the first protected area in Africa to be developed not only for conservation purposes, but also with the specific intent of generating socio-economic benefits.

Pilanesberg's philosophy at the outset was therefore to conserve biodiversity but at the same time to maximise the Park's economic contribution derived from ecotourism to the regional economy. The Park's formative mission was, "to ensure appropriate ecological management of renewable, wild, natural resources for the material benefit, enjoyment and cultural inspiration of the people."

The North West Parks and Tourism Board, as custodians of Pilanesberg, continues to believe that if conservation is to succeed in Africa, then local communities and individuals must benefit significantly from wildlife conservation and related activities. If local communities can benefit through jobs and business opportunities, then firm support for protected areas will be obtained, and important conservation objectives will be met almost as a secondary or spin-off benefit.



Original Manyane Entrance Gate

Rehabilitation

Prior to its establishment in 1979, most of the land was used for farming. Since 1979, Pilanesberg has undergone major reclamation and development and has now matured to a well managed and world-renowned national park, which not only safeguards the "Big Five", but has also become home and a breeding ground to an impressive list of rare and endangered species.



The rehabilitation plan included removal of old cattle kraals, fences and drinking troughs; removal of windmills and the sealing and marking of boreholes; demolition of farmsteads; eradication of alien trees and major plantations of gum trees and citrus orchards; breaching of certain earth dams; and removal of all other signs of human habitation and farming activities.

In a single decade, the Pilanesberg emerged as a leading wildlife destination.



Development

Construction of the perimeter game fence began in 1979. The rough topography required ingenious construction skills to contain dangerous animals. By 1985 all telephone lines had been removed.



Gravel roads, dams and game-viewing sites were constructed. Construction of



game-viewing deck now known as Pilanesberg Centre.

the Manyane complex, which is one of the best planned and most popular rest camps in South Africa, commenced in 1985.

The police station and staff houses were removed at the Pilanesberg magistrate's quarters. The old courthouse, built in 1936, was converted into the ever-popular day visitor restaurant, curio shop and



The Pilanesberg was thus transformed in a single decade from being a scenic crater inhabited by cattle and the odd baboon troop, to one of the leading wildlife destinations in South Africa. Pilanesberg remains the largest and most accessible park within a 2-hour drive of Gauteng, the economic hub of South Africa.

Tourism development sites were identified along the periphery of the park to minimise the visitor impact on the Park's biodiversity and aesthetic value. As the tourism numbers grew, private concessionaires were contracted to develop game lodges.



Operation genesis

In total, 6,000 animals representing 22 species were released into the Park. Predators such as lion, cheetah and wild dog were later released to restore ecological processes, while leopard, brown hyaena, black-backed jackal and caracal occurred naturally. The game introduction programme was an outstanding success and today the Pilanesberg contains the abundance of game that was recorded in 1836 by the famous explorer-hunter William Cornwallis-Harris.



Pilanesberg's regional influence

Today, having been developed from scratch, Pilanesberg is a mature tourism anchor project that acts as a major regional role-player and anchor project around which a strong tourism economy and subsidiary business have been built.



The land and its people

The participation of the local communities that sacrificed their land was however not always without controversy. Although agreement was reached with the communities at the time of conceptualising Pilanesberg, some community groupings were excluded from the negotiations. Dissatisfaction also arose when promises made were not fully honoured. Today, community rights have been restored and the descendants of the historic occupants who surrendered land for the establishment of the Park have been compensated in line with the government's land restitution policy. These communities can now once again after years of alienation proudly lay claim to their ancestral lands. In a partnership agreement between the communities and the North West Parks and Tourism Board the crater is being conserved in its historic splendour as it continues to be managed as a significant conservation area.

Pilanesberg's influence in the field of conservation

Pilanesberg was the first large protected area to have been deliberately created for local economic improvement and regional development. As the first "green fields" conservation project with a socio-economic objective in the region, there was no proven model to draw on during its conceptualisation, planning and development. Innovative thinking amongst planners and policy makers, and the commitment of board members and management staff, was critical for success. Pilanesberg has contributed to conservation knowledge in fields such as: protected area planning; taking the socio-economic context into account; community participation; satisfying tourist needs; ecological restoration; introduction of professional management principles to wildlife management; and commercialization of tourism. Through trial and error, innovative models were developed and many valuable lessons learnt which became valuable to other conservation agencies.

As settlements in the 19th century and previous livestock farming operations had resulted in the local extinction of many large mammals, Operation Genesis was launched in 1979, largely funded by WWF.

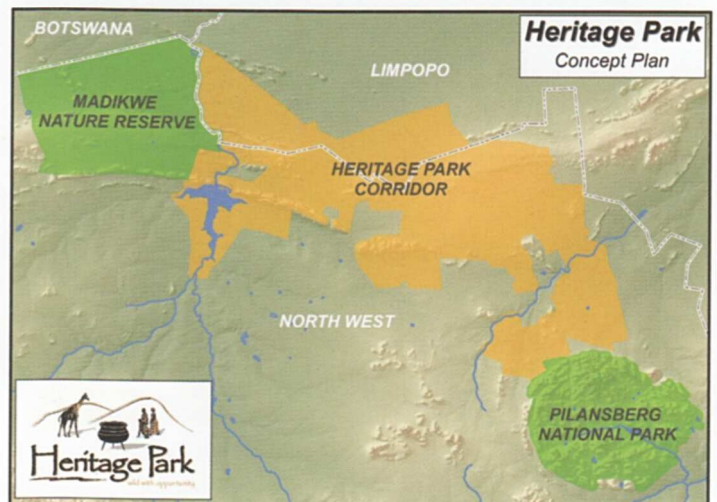


Into the future

When the Pilanesberg Management Plan was reviewed in 2002, it was realised that the Park had become so popular, that it was under threat from over-utilization by tourists. As a result, history was made on 8 April 2005 when the North West Province launched the Heritage Park project: a vision shared by communities, land owners, government and other stakeholders to expand Pilanesberg to the north, ultimately linking it with Madikwe Game Reserve.

It is an ambitious plan expected to be achieved over a period of fifteen to twenty years. The goal is to change the land use in the identified area from marginal agriculture – mostly cattle farming – to a nature-based tourism and conservation area of more than 250,000 ha. This initiative has the potential of bringing new economic hope to one of the poorest and remotest parts of the North West Province.

Key stakeholders in the area are committed to one of the most important conservation and socio-economic upliftment programmes in recent times. The incorporation of Black Rhino Reserve in the northwest of the Pilanesberg was the first step taken to achieve this vision.



Historical Sites

H1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATIVE SITE

This site provides a well interpreted introduction to the Iron Age period and the Batswana history in the area. The inhabitants' lifestyle and culture during this early period before the arrival of white settlers is well interpreted.



H2 IRON AGE REMNANTS

Pilanesberg is literally scattered with Iron Age sites. Most of the old sites in the Pilanesberg were cattle outposts of the Batswana, who settled the area since the 17th century. Settlements were usually strategically placed on high ground to also serve as lookouts over the valleys below. The walls were built from local rocks that were neatly stacked. The few sites close to the road are marked.



H3 BAKGATLA KGOTLA SITE

The distinctive Borite Hill named Letlapa la Kgamanyane, marks the historic *kgotla* or meeting place of the Bakgatla chieftainship. The Bakgatla resided at Mabele-a-Podi village to the east of the Kgotla.

H4 SLAGTERSKOP

Persons sentenced to death for their crimes by the tribal chief and his councillors during hearings at the *kgotla* were executed at this hill by throwing them off the steep rock-face. The hill is today known as Slagterskop which means execution hill.

H5 DUTCH REFORMED MISSION SITE

The first missionary church allowed in the area by the inhabitants was this Dutch Reformed church, the first to be established north of the Vaal River. Reverend HL Gonin who served the community with the Gospel during the period 1846 to 1910 assisted the Bakgatla in buying back farms from the Boer settlers.



H6 WELGEVAL FARMS

The Welgeval farms that were bought back from the Boer farmers were occupied by the Bakgatla up to the point of Pilanesberg's establishment as a game reserve. Although the Bakgatla community and those members who owned land in their own right agreed to the development of the Park, compensation of alternative land did not fully materialise and lead to animosity towards the Park during the early days.

H7 LAND RESTITUTION MONUMENT

The communities that owned land in Pilanesberg were given their land back as part of the government's land restitution process after 1994. They are now not only the proud owners of their ancestral lands, but also of a world-renowned Park. This monument celebrates this milestone in the history of the people of Pilanesberg.



H8 SEPHIKILE VILLAGE

The teacher and evangelist K Makgale purchased the farm Spitskop from the Cyferbut Trading company, where he lived from 1897 to 1968. The hill behind his settlement was mined for quartzite from which glass was manufactured.

H9 DRIEFONTEIN FARM

Driefontein is named after the three springs that are to be found on the farm. In the early 1980's when the farm was rehabilitated, it was still clear that productive farming was taking place. The removal of a gum tree plantation and the two farmsteads on the property was a major undertaking. Each of the gum trees had to be felled and the stump buried underneath the ground. The signs of the former farmsteads and plantations are still visible even thirty years after the renovations.



H10 BOER SETTLEMENT

During the late 1830's Voortrekkers that fought with the Bakgatla against Mzilikazi settled in the Pilanesberg during the time of President Paul Kruger, who negotiated a treaty with the Bakgatla. A number of Boer families developed the agricultural potential of the farm *Boerhouthoutfontein*, with members of the Bakgatla becoming an important source of labour. The healthy relationships that developed between the Boers and the Bakgatla whilst in battle against the Ndebele, soon became strained as accusations of cattle rustling and unacceptable labour practices were raised. This site still holds a number of Boer graves as a testimony to their inhabitation of the Pilanesberg over a period of 130 years.

H11 JAN SMUTS' FARM

A fairly sturdy homestead was developed on the farm *Buffelsdrift* by General Jan Smuts, a great supporter of President Paul Kruger. Although the house was removed, the foundations were left intact as a monument to the presence of the white farmers of the Pilanesberg.

H12 PILANESBERG FARM SCHOOL

The white farmers of the area had their own school developed on the farm *Buffelskloof*, the remains of which were removed during the 1980's as part of the rehabilitation of Pilanesberg.

H13 PILANESBERG COURT HOUSE

The historical Pilanesberg courthouse, built in 1936, has been restored as a day visitor centre and welcome retreat for visitors during the middle of the day. In its former days, the magistrate's offices, accompanied by a police station and roads department workshops, served the resident communities with essential services.



H14 QUARANTINE CAMP

During the construction of the perimeter fence, a smaller encampment named the "quarantine camp" was developed to receive early game introductions. The area is effectively still fenced out from the main Park and has been developed as a safe area for visitors to walk in or ride on bicycles to view some of the non-dangerous animals that still inhabit the area such as giraffe, zebra, kudu and impala.

H15 ANIMAL OFF-LOADING RAMP

As part of "Operation Genesis", the largest single game translocation operation at the time, more than 6000 animals were relocated from all over southern Africa. The site marks one of the many game release sites in the Park.

You can use the centre page map to locate and visit the above mentioned historical sites.

Gate opening times

ENTRANCE GATES OPEN DAILY BETWEEN THESE TIMES

NOVEMBER TO FEBRUARY	05H30 - 19H00
MARCH TO APRIL	06H00 - 18H30
MAY TO AUGUST	06H30 - 18H00
SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER	06H00 - 18H30

(No entry - one hour prior to closing time)

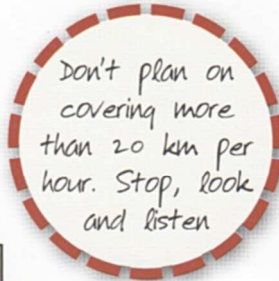


Distances

Bakgatla Gate S25°11'15.3" E27°08'45.1"																						
Bakubung Gate S25°20'23.9" E27°03'49.3"	21 1h03																					
Batlhako Dam S25°15'27.6" E27°00'24.2"	20.4 1h01	13.6 0h40																				
Batlhako Picnic Site S25°14'21.7" E26°59'23.3"	24.1 1h12	17.3 0h51	3.8 0h11																			
Dithabaneng Dam S25°12'43.9" E27°09'52.9"	5.5 0h16	22.7 1h08	22.1 1h06	25.8 1h17																		
Fish Eagle Picnic site S25°16'10.5" E27°07'36.7"	14.6 0h43	16.1 0h48	23 1h09	26.7 1h20	12.1 0h36																	
Korwe Dam S25°12'42.7" E27°08'47.2"	3.9 0h11	20.6 1h01	20 1h00	23.7 1h11	2.2 0h06	10.8 0h32																
Kubu Picnic Site S25°18'50.9" E27°03'36.0"	18 0h54	3.3 0h09	10.5 0h31	14.2 0h42	19.6 0h58	19.1 0h57	17.6 0h52															
Kwa Maritane Gate S25°20'38.9" E27°09'01.6"	26.3 1h18	29.5 1h28	35.7 1h47	39.5 1h58	24.2 1h12	17.2 0h51	22.4 1h07	26.4 1h19														
Lengau Dam S25°19'13.3" E27°03'22.1"	18.7 0h56	2.5 0h07	11.2 0h33	14.9 0h44	20.3 1h00	13.8 0h41	18.2 0h54	0.9 0h02	27.1 1h21													
Lenong view S25°14'42.8" E27°03'52.3"	15 0h45	21.7 1h05	17 0h51	19.1 0h57	16.6 0h49	18 0h54	14.6 0h43	18.7 0h56	30.5 1h31	19.4 0h58												
Makorwane Hide S25°15'33.7" E27°04'52.8"	13.5 0h40	14.9 0h44	10.4 0h31	14.1 0h42	15.1 0h45	12.9 0h38	13.1 0h39	11.8 0h35	25.4 1h16	12.5 0h37	12 0h36											
Mankwe Hide S25°15'57.2" E27°06'59.7"	10.4 0h31	11.6 0h34	15.6 0h46	18.5 0h55	12.2 0h36	9.8 0h29	10 0h30	8.6 0h25	22.4 1h07	9.3 0h27	11.5 0h34	5.3 0h15										
Manyane/Bosele Gate S25°15'17.3" E27°12'38.3"	14.7 0h44	23.1 1h09	25.8 1h17	29.5 1h28	11 0h33	12.6 0h37	10.9 0h32	20 1h00	19.3 0h57	20.7 1h02	15.5 1h01	12.5 0h46	12.5 0h37									
Malatse Hide S25°12'50.4" E27°11'35.4"	8.5 0h25	25.4 1h16	25 1h15	28.7 1h26	3.4 0h10	15.5 0h46	5.1 0h15	22.7 1h08	27 1h21	23 1h09	19.6 0h58	15 0h54	8.4 0h45	8.4 0h25								
Moloto Picnic Site S25°13'26.4" E27°00'55.7"	21.6 1h04	22.9 1h08	9.4 0h28	6.3 0h18	23.2 1h09	24.6 1h13	21.2 1h03	19.9 0h59	37.1 1h51	20.6 1h01	13 0h39	16.3 0h48	18.1 0h54	27.2 1h21	26.2 1h18							
Mothata Picnic site S25°14'33.4" E27°12'41.9"	15.8 0h47	24.7 1h14	27.5 1h22	31.2 1h33	10.7 0h32	13.3 0h39	12.4 0h37	21.7 1h05	21 1h03	22.4 1h07	22.5 1h07	17.4 0h52	14.1 0h42	1.9 0h05	8.1 0h24	28.9 1h26						
Noga Viewpoint S25°18'20.9" E27°06'19.0"	16.8 0h50	9 0h27	16.8 0h50	20.5 1h01	18.4 0h55	11.9 0h35	16.4 0h49	6.9 0h20	25.2 1h15	7.6 0h22	17.8 0h53	10.6 0h31	7.4 0h22	18.9 1h04	21.4 1h13	24.4 1h01						
Pilanesberg Centre S25°14'54.8" E27°06'35.1"	8.1 0h24	13 0h39	14.7 0h44	18.3 0h54	9.8 0h29	8.9 0h26	7.7 0h23	10 0h30	21.5 1h04	10.7 0h32	9.2 0h27	5.5 0h16	2.5 0h07	11.6 0h34	12.7 0h38	15.8 0h47	13.2 0h39	8.8 0h26				
Ratlhogo Hide S25°12'31.4" E27°07'35.9"	3.6 0h10	18 0h54	17.4 0h52	21.2 1h03	5.2 0h15	11.5 0h34	3.2 0h09	15 0h45	24.1 1h12	15.6 0h46	12 0h36	10.5 0h31	7.4 0h22	14 0h42	8.2 0h24	18.5 0h55	15.5 0h46	13.8 0h41	5.1 0h15			
Ruihhoek Hide S25°16'49.6" E27°00'59.6"	19 0h57	11.7 0h35	4.3 0h12	8.1 0h24	20.7 1h02	21.1 1h03	18.6 0h55	8.6 0h25	34.4 1h43	9.3 0h27	15.6 0h46	9 0h27	14.2 0h42	24.4 1h13	23.6 1h10	13.7 0h41	26.1 1h18	14.9 0h44	13.2 0h39	16 0h48		
Tilodi Dam S25°15'19.5" E27°11'44.3"	13.8 0h41	22.2 1h06	24.9 1h14	28.6 1h25	11.6 0h34	10.7 0h32	10 0h30	19.1 0h57	17.7 0h53	19.8 0h59	19.7 0h59	14.6 0h43	11.6 0h34	1.9 0h05	10.1 0h30	26.3 1h18	3.5 0h10	17.9 0h53	10.6 0h31	13.1 0h39	23.5 1h10	
Tlou Dams S25°15'25.4" E27°03'59.5"	13.5 0h40	13.2 0h39	8.5 0h25	12.2 0h36	15.2 0h45	15.1 0h45	13.1 0h39	10.2 0h30	27.7 1h23	10.9 0h32	10.1 0h30	2.3 0h06	7.5 0h22	17.7 0h53	18.1 0h54	14.4 0h43	19.4 0h58	12.8 0h38	7.7 0h23	10.6 0h31	7.1 0h21	16.7 0h50
	Bakgatla Gate	Bakubung Gate	Batlhako Dam	Batlhako Picnic Site	Dithabaneng Dam	Fish eagle Picnic site	Korwe Dam	Kubu Dam	Kwa Maritane Gate	Lengau Dam	Lenong view	Makorwane Hide	Mankwe Hide	Manyane/Bosele Gate	Malatse Dam	Moloto Picnic Site	Mothata Picnic site	Noga Viewpoint	Pilanesberg Centre	Ratlhogo Hide	Ruihhoek Hide	Tilodi Dam

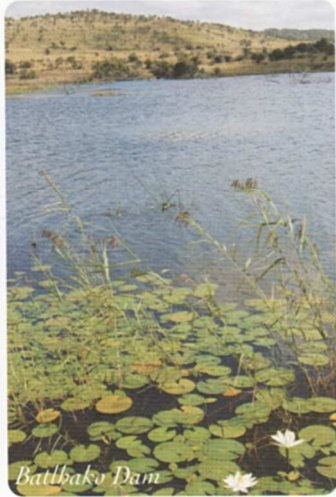
SETSWANA NAMES ENGLISH MEANING

Moruleng	Place of Marula trees
Mogwase	Name of the stream which comes out of the park
Dithabaneng	Small mountains
Potokwane	Round (round koppie)
Tshwene	Baboon
Kgabo	Monkey
Kubu	Hippo
Tshepe	Springbok
Kukama	Gemsbok
Korwe	Hornbill
Tau	Lion
Motlobo	Mountain Reedbuck
Phiri	Hyena
Letsha	Lake
Mankwe	Place of the Leopards
Nkwe	Leopard
Batlhako	People of the Elephant
Tshukudu e Ntsho	Black rhino
Manyane	Name of the former President of Bophutswana
Bosele	Early mornings
Bakgatla	People of the Monkey
Bakubung	People of the Hippo
KwaMaritane	Place of the rocks
Makorwane	Warthog
Thutlwa	Giraffe
Nare	Buffalo
Tlou	Elephant
Malatse	A place where cattle used to stray overnight
Tilodi	Zebra



Distance (km)
Approximate Driving Time @ 20km/hour

Pilanesberg Map



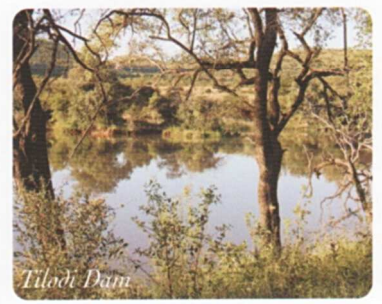
- Rest Camp
- Lodge
- Public Gate
- Private Gate (Lodge Guests Only)
- Hide (incl. toilet)
- Picnic Site (incl. toilet)
- Viewpoint
- Toilet
- Restaurant / Take Away
- Historical Site
- Geological Site
- No Entry / Lodge Guests Only
- Medical Centre
- Police Station
- Fuel Station
- Automatic Bank Teller Machine
- Shopping Centre
- Airport
- Distance Marker
- Height Beacon
- Tar Road
- Gravel Road
- Outside Road
- Reserve Boundary
- Stream
- River
- Dam / Waterhole



 All hides, picnic sites and public gates have toilet facilities

Checklist

- Binoculars
- Camera
- Animal and Plant Reference Books
- Enough Fuel
- Drinks
- Picnic Basket
- Litter Bag



Environmental Education Zone (EEZ) at Manyane Enlarged

Pilanesberg Natural Environment

Habitats and their formation

Over millions of years the Pilanesberg volcano has weathered to approximately 10% of its former height. The concentric rings of hills have created a variety of habitats. Travelling from south to north, south-facing hill slopes receive less sunlight than north-facing slopes and support different tree species. Where outpourings of magma have been weathered into rocky outcrops of red syenite, then separate plant communities occur. Pediment and valley grasslands and savannas occur in the centre of the Park, and Acacia thickets are found on deeper soils.

Pilanesberg is situated in a transition zone between the wetter savannas of the eastern half of the country and the arid savannas of

the Kalahari. Arid savanna species such as red hartebeest and springbok are present as well as species of the wetter savannas such as buffalo, white rhino and waterbuck. As a result, the Park supports more than 50 species of large mammal and is home to 15 species of antelope, which compares very favourably with 18 species for the entire Kruger Park. The same applies to birds and at least 10 pairs of closely related birds are present, each species typical of either wet- or dry- savannas. An example is the occurrence of both the southern boubou and crimson-breasted shrike.

A transition zone of the arid savannas of the west, and the wetter savannas of the east

Vegetation Types

The vegetation of most of the Park is described in a major new work on the vegetation of Southern Africa (Mucina and Rutherford, Pretoria 2006) as SVcb5: Pilanesberg Mountain Bushveld, a vegetation type restricted to the Pilanesberg hills. The Park protects 96% of this vegetation type, which represents the

junction of 3 species of *Grewia*. At the smallest scale distinct vegetation communities can be found on old termite mounds, along stream beds, while on hills patches of forest can be seen in narrow, shaded kloofs. The broad vegetation communities present in the Park have been described as:

North-Facing Hill Savanna

These slopes receive more sunlight and are therefore drier than the south-facing slopes. The dominant tree is red bushwillow and other trees include the hook thorn, large-fruited bushwillow, live-long and wild pear.



South-Facing Hill Savanna

The south-facing hill savannas are characterised by hook thorn, beech, wild pear and buffalo thorn. The absence of elephants from the system for 140 years allowed the mountain cabbage tree to spread throughout the Pilanesberg. As these trees, together with aloes, are much sought after by elephants, they are now restricted to the highest hills.



Pediment Savanna

The pediments contain a subterranean layer of ferricrete (oukclip) which is an accumulation of hard sheets of iron oxides. This prevents tree growth and maintains open grasslands. Where ferricrete has been broken by run-off or river erosion, the beachwood is able to invade the grasslands from the hills, while the sweet thorn invades up-slope from the valleys. Good examples of this habitat are visible along Mankwe Way.



Valley Savanna

This savanna is dominated by sweet thorn, umbrella thorn, karree, leadwood, tamboti and buffalo-thorn. In the north-west corner of the Park a savanna dominated by umbrella thorn occurs on the plains west of the hills. Valley savanna is conspicuous along Tshwene Drive.



Valley Thicket

Thickets of sweet thorn and black thorn occur on brack soils in the valleys. Look out for this vegetation type around the Twin Dams.



Rock Outcrop Thicket

Best observed along Mankwe Way Nkakane Drive, outcrops of red syenite have weathered into a jumble of red-brown boulders that support a thicket dominated by lavender fever-berry, large-leaved rock fig and the near-endemic red balloon tree.



20 Common Trees



Beech

The beech *Faurea saligna* is a fire-resistant tree found on the south-facing hill slopes but it requires a well-drained soil. It is therefore absent from grassland where a ferricrete layer is present.



Umbrella Thorn

The attractive umbrella thorn *Acacia tortilis* is identified by its flat crown and general V-shape. It is widely distributed and common on the plains to the north-west and south-east of the Pilanesberg hills.



Shepherd's Tree

The stink shepherd's tree *Boscia foetida* is named after the foul odour produced by its flowers. The tree is found in the northeast corner of the Park along Dithabaneng Drive.



Sweet Thorn

Known for its yellow flower balls which adorn the tree in summer, the sweet thorn *Acacia karroo* occurs in the fertile valleys where it often forms dense thickets.



Leadwood

The *Combretum imberbe* is common in the valleys in the eastern region of the Park. The tree grows exceptionally slowly and has a reputation for its very hard and robust wood. Its grey, deeply lined bark resembles an elephant's trunk.



Black Thorn

Dense thickets of *Acacia mellifera* occur on brack calcareous soils in valleys. It has a characteristic blue-green appearance and is a mass of slender, thorny branches.



Red Bushwillow

One of the most abundant trees in the Pilanesberg, the red bushwillow *Combretum apiculatum* is the principal tree of the hill slopes. A four-winged fruit is produced from January to May.



Sickie Bush

The *Dichrostachys cinerea* flower resembles a dainty Chinese lantern. Its presence often indicates previous settlements. There is a dense thicket at the Iron Age village.



River Bushwillow

The *Combretum erythrophyllum* grows along river banks and can be easily identified on the bridge across the Mankwe River, just upriver from Mankwe Dam.



Jacket Plumb

A splendid tree that grows to 7 metres in height, specimens of *Pappea capensis* can be seen at the Fish Eagle picnic site. Tasty, plum-like fruit is produced from February to July.



Wild Olive

The wild olive *Olea europaea* is a common tree of termite mounds, river banks and riverine thickets. The tree is easily identified by its narrow, grey-green leaves.



Common Hook Thorn

Abundant, *Acacia caffra* dominates the south-facing hills. Thorns are invisible from a distance, the branches are rather thin and the canopy is roundish in shape.



Red Balloon

An unusual tree known from only a few localities, the *Erythrophysa transvaalensis* can also be found in Pilanesberg. It is one of only 2 members of its genus in Southern Africa, and the strange, red, bellow-like seeds are the origin of the Greek name for the genus.



Karee

Rhus lancea is the easiest tree to identify in Pilanesberg. It has long, narrow leaves arranged in threes and no thorns. It is a characteristic tree of the Bushveld regions.



Tamboti

The tamboti *Spirostachys africana* frames the view site overlooking Tilodi Dam. The tree is easily recognised by its rough, cork-like, rectangular bark.



Lavender Croton

Croton gratissimus is confined to rugged, rocky outcrops. The lavender fever-berry can be seen along Mankwe Way and at the Fish Eagle picnic site. The upper surface of the leaf is a dark, shiny green and red glands are visible on the undersurface.



Marula

The tart, round, yellow fruit of the marula *Sclerocarya birrea* is an important source of Vitamin C and is sought after by both humans and game animals such as elephant, baboons and warthog.



Large-Leaved Rock Fig

The *Ficus soldanella* favours bare rocks where its roots spread octopus-like into cracks and often form a trellice that can be used as a ladder. The tree can be seen on Mankwe Way and on Nkakane Drive.



Buffalo-Thorn

The shiny green leaves of the buffalo-thorn *Ziziphus mucronata* and its hooked thorns gave rise to the Afrikaans name, blinkblaar-wag-'n-bietjie. It is an important food item for giraffe.



Wild Pear

The *Dombeya rotundifolia* is one of the first trees to flower at the end of winter. The white, scented flowers of the wild pear first appear at the end of August. The leaves are uneven and rough to the touch and roundish in shape. The tree is found on rocky hill slopes.

Large Mammals

TYPICAL HABITATS AND ESTIMATED LARGE MAMMAL NUMBERS

Feeding Type and Species	Hill Savanna	Rocky Outcrop	Pediment Savanna	Valley Grassland	Valley Thicket	Riverine/Aquatic Habitat	Current Estimated Population
Browsers							
Giraffe			X	X			125
Kudu	X		X		X		600
Bushbuck					X	X	50
Grey Duiker			X	X	X	X	
Klipspringer		X					50
Black Rhino	X				X	X	
Long to Medium Grass Grazers							
White rhino			X	X			
Zebra	X		X	X			1,700
Hippo				X		X	40
Buffalo	X		X	X		X	170
Sable			X				10
Waterbuck				X		X	140
Short Grass Grazers							
Blue Wildebeest			X	X			2,000
Red Hartebeest			X	X			50
Mountain Reedbuck	X						200
Tsessebe			X				70
Springbok				X			60
Reedbuck				X			30
Steenbok			X	X			50
Warthog				X			300
Mixed Feeders							
Elephant			X	X	X	X	210
Impala			X	X	X	X	1500
Eland	X		X	X			100
Predators							
Lion			X	X		X	50
Leopard	X	X	X	X	X	X	30
Cheetah			X	X			
Caracal	X		X	X	X		
Brown Hyena	X		X	X			
Black-backed Jackal			X	X			
Wild Dog			X	X			one pack



Giraffe

The tallest browser by several metres, the giraffe can reach a height of five metres and it occurs throughout the valley savannas.



Black Rhino

More solitary and shy in nature than the white rhino, the black rhino favours dense *Acacia* thickets.



Kudu

Kudu favour *Acacia* woodland and hill savanna and have been recorded feeding on 150 plant species. They are widespread in Pilanesberg, and the corkscrew horns of an adult male easily distinguish them from any other species.



White Rhino

The white rhino is the second largest mammal found in the Pilanesberg and is common in the valley grasslands. Pilanesberg safeguards one of the largest populations of this potentially threatened species in the world.



Duiker

The only duiker species in South Africa that is widely distributed and occurs in a variety of habitats, grey duiker in Pilanesberg are mainly encountered in dense valley bush.



Zebra

One of the most common herbivores in the Park, herds of plain zebra are often encountered on the grasslands surrounding Mankwe Dam.



Klipspringer

Klipspringer, as the name suggests, are small antelope confined to rocky outcrops and hillsides where they are capable of leaping from one rock face to another. They are predominantly browsers and eat the leaves and fruit of a wide variety of trees.



Hippo

Hippo are seldom seen on land except at night when they emerge to graze. Their loud grunts add to the tranquil ambience of all the deeper impoundments of the Park.



Buffalo

Buffalo are grazers and perform a valuable function in cropping tall grasslands, which makes them more suitable for selective grazers. Often referred to as the "ghosts" of the Park, these elusive mammals spend most of their time in the wilderness.



Eland

The largest of the antelope measuring 1.7 metres at the shoulder and weighing up to 700 kg, eland occur in a wide variety of habitats from open grasslands to hills and have been observed feeding on 130 plant species.



Waterbuck

As the name suggests, waterbuck are dependent on water and occur near permanent water bodies in Pilanesberg such as Mankwe Lake. The waterbuck is the only antelope that has a conspicuous white ring around the rump.



Lion

The only member of the *Panthera* family to associate in prides, the lion, because of this adaptation, is able to prey on large herbivores such as buffalo, zebra and giraffe. In the Pilanesberg there are 4 lion prides and their territories overlap in the central valley around Mankwe Dam.



Blue Wildebeest

Blue wildebeest are often seen in the company of plains zebra. Blue wildebeest prefer short grass conditions and are often encountered on the short grasslands surrounding Mankwe Dam.



Leopard

A solitary, predominantly nocturnal and superbly camouflaged species, leopard are widely distributed in mountainous, forested and bushveld regions of South Africa. In Pilanesberg they prey mainly on medium-sized antelope such as impala.



Red Hartebeest

The red hartebeest is one of 12 subspecies of the hartebeest species *Alcelaphus buselaphus*, which is widely distributed in Africa. The red hartebeest occurs in dry savanna and grassland in Namibia, Botswana and the western half of South Africa.



Cheetah

Arguably the most attractive of the predators, cheetah are timid by nature and poorly equipped to face opposition from more powerful predators such as lion and hyaena. Cheetah hunt mostly impala and quickly consume their kills to avoid detection.



Mountain Reeduck

Mountain reeduck frequent hills in the Pilanesberg but are superbly camouflaged and are not often seen. In winter they can occasionally be seen drinking at waterholes.



Caracal

A small cat that is not related to the lion or leopard, the caracal is largely nocturnal although its reddish coat blends well against the Pilanesberg's rocky hills. Lightning fast and agile, the caracal has been observed catching birds in flight.



Tsessebe

Reputedly the fastest of the African antelope, tsessebe favour the open savanna of the pediments. They are rare in South Africa and have declined throughout their historic range.



Black-backed Jackal

A common scavenger and small predator in Pilanesberg, the black-backed jackal feeds on rodents, carrion, insects, reptiles and even fruit. A jackal was once observed killing an adult mountain reeduck on Moloto Route.



Springbok

An antelope that is not known from bushveld parks, the springbok is the only gazelle species found in South Africa and its presence in the Pilanesberg is at the eastern edge of its distribution.



Brown Hyena

Restricted to Southern Africa, the brown hyena is a solitary and nocturnal scavenger that feeds mainly on carrion. Its senses are particularly well developed and the large ears can detect tell-tale sounds at great distances, while its nose can locate a carcass as far as 2 km away.



Warthog

Warthog favour the open, short grasslands of the valleys. They are abundant and can often be seen cropping grass whilst kneeling on their front legs. As they have little body hair and fat, they are sensitive to cold and retire to burrows at night for both warmth and protection.



Banded Mongoose

A highly intelligent and social animal, the banded mongoose favours certain areas where it is regularly encountered. Each adult member of the band is responsible for raising an assigned juvenile. A band is often seen in the vicinity of Manyane.



Elephant

Weighing up to 7 tons, elephants are frequently encountered throughout the Park. During the heat of the day they gather near water and are often seen drinking at Mankwe Dam, or can be found feeding along the banks of Mankwe River.



Chacma Baboons

A common primate of the Pilanesberg's hills and valleys (and also campsites), chacma baboons form troops guarded by large adult males. They are largely plant eaters but also eat scorpions, insects, lizards and bird's eggs.



Impala

The Park's most prolific antelope, impala are the preferred prey of wild dog, leopard and cheetah.



Vervet Monkey

The vervet monkey is closely associated with valley bottoms and especially riverine bush. They feed largely on leaves, fruits and berries, but are rather partial to bird's eggs.

80 Common Birds

Ostrich	Dabchick	Whitebreasted Cormorant	Reed Cormorant	Grey Heron
				
Black-headed Heron	Greenbacked Heron	Great White Egret	Cattle Egret	Hamerkop
				
African Spoonbill	Whitefaced Whistling Duck	Egyptian Goose	Yellowbilled Duck	Redbilled Teal
				
Secretary Bird	Cape Vulture	White-backed Vulture	Black-shouldered Kite	Verreaux's Eagle
				
African Fish Eagle	Crested Francolin	Natal Francolin	Helmeted Guineafowl	Redknobbed Coot
				
Three-banded Plover	Crowned Plover	Blacksmith Plover	Speckled Pigeon	Cape Turtle Dove
				
Namaqua Dove	Grey Go Away Bird	Diederik Cuckoo	Burchell's Coucal	Barn Owl
				
Spotted Eagle Owl	Pied Kingfisher	Giant Kingfisher	Brownhooded Kingfisher	European Bee-Eater
				



Concessionaires

Golden Leopard Rest Camps



Manyane Rest Camp

Nestled at the natural gateway to the Pilanesberg National Park, and set in superb natural surroundings, Manyane offers accommodation in chalets, tents or caravanning and camping facilities. The swimming pool and the adjacent restaurant is a popular meeting place. The thatched African styled chalets are luxurious, with one or two bedrooms including a lounge. Certain chalets have an upstairs loft bedroom. Activities for visitors include mini golf, a children's playground, walk-in aviary, conducted game drives and a health spa.

Superb conference facilities, with personal service and attention to detail, be it a small gathering or large conference, a team of experts will assist from the planning to executing a successful event.

Bakgatla Rest Camp

At the foot of the Garamoga Hills in the north of the Park lies the Bakgatla Resort, which consists of unique colonial-style chalets. Each chalet consists of a lounge, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom and ever popular upstairs-loft room. A health spa is available.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 14 555 1000
 Fax: +27 (0) 14 555 1048
 Email: reservations@goldenleopardresorts.co.za
 Web: www.goldenleopardresorts.co.za

Legacy Resorts



Kwa Maritane Bush Lodge

Capture the spirit of Africa at Kwa Maritane Bush Lodge, where Mother Nature and civilization meet in perfect harmony. Located on the eastern rim of the ancient volcano, Kwa Maritane offers guests all the amenities of a prime resort on the doorstep of the Pilanesberg National Park. The underground hide, accessed by a 180-m-long tunnel, is unique in South Africa.

Bakubung Bush Lodge

A mere two-hour drive from the hustle and bustle of Johannesburg and ten minutes from Sun City, lies a place of breathtaking beauty and serenity. A place called Bakubung. Concealed in the rich expanses of the Pilanesberg National Park, Bakubung, or "People of the Hippo", offers guests everything they need to get in touch with the bush. The lodge forms a semi-circle at the base of the hills and overlooks a waterhole.

Tshukudu Bush Lodge

Imagine lying back in a soothing bubble bath with a sweeping view of the Pilanesberg National Park, where over 50 species of game species roam the savannah. Imagine no more. Built high on a rocky outcrop, Tshukudu Bush Lodge has been designed to offer you a perfectly indulgent bush getaway.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 11 806 6888
 Fax: +27 (0) 11 806 6899
 Email: hotels@legacyhotels.co.za
 Visit: www.legacyhotels.co.za
 Toll free (SA only): 0800HOTELS/
 0800 468357

The Park has;
 2 rest camps,
 7 commercial lodges,
 5 large dams,
 6 picnic sites,
 8 hides and 204 km
 of game-viewing
 roads

Cradle Hotels and Resorts



Ivory Tree Lodge

The 60 units blend into the surrounding environment and are decorated with earthy tones, offering air-conditioning, outdoor shower, tea and coffee making facilities and mini bar. The game rangers with their expert knowledge are world class and interpret the sights and sounds of the African bush. There is an award-winning spa facility with treatment rooms overlooking the park, as well as a conference facility accommodating up to 70 delegates.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 11 781 1661 www.ivorytree.co.za

Shepherds Tree Lodge

The Lodge is situated within an exclusive use zone in the south-western portion of the Park. Guests enjoy access to all the Reserve's public roads. The lodge offers commanding views of the distant bushveld amphitheatre and is superbly positioned adjacent to the Wilderness Area, thus offering the opportunity of walking trails in this untouched environment.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 11 781- 1661
 Email: res@shepherdstree.co.za www.shepherdstree.co.za

Black Rhino Reserve

Black Rhino Reserve forms part of the Pilanesberg National Park. Game drives are conducted within the entire 50 000 hectares of the Pilanesberg. Only conducted game drives in open vehicles are permitted within the private concession area of the Park.

Black Rhino Game Lodge



Black Rhino Game Lodge has 14 private luxuriously appointed free-standing bedroom suites with a restaurant, lounge and bar facility overlooking a waterhole.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 11 516 4367 Email: res@extraordinary.co.za

Pilanesberg Private Lodge

Pilanesberg Private Lodge is a private retreat nestled in the wilderness area



of the Pilanesberg National Park. The lodge sleeps a maximum of 10 guests in 5 luxury en-suite units each with King-size beds, air conditioner, indoor and outdoor showers, rock bath and double basins. The Lodge consists of a viewing deck, pool, Jacuzzi, lounge, formal dining room as well as a boma. Big 5 Game drives and Bush Walks are offered at the lodge.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 82 854 5603 Email: lodge.iq@gmail.com
 Website: www.pilanesbergprivatelodge.com

Mankwe Heritage Tours & Safaris



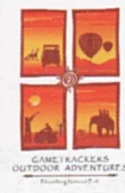
Mankwe Safaris conducts specialized game and heritage drives in Pilanesberg National Park and surrounding area. One can have an authentic African bush braai experience in the heart of the Park under the starry African skies. Also on offer are our night drives combined with stargazing - an awesome experience for visitors of all ages.

Mankwe Safaris is also well known for the quality transfers that they provide. We operate in Gauteng, the North West Province, Mpumalanga and Botswana. Private transfers are arranged from hotel-to-hotel, door-to-door or to and from the OR Tambo Airport at any time of day or night. Places of interest and tours are also our forte.

Reservations:

Tel: +27 (0) 14 555 7056
 Cell: +27 (0) 82 048 3044 / +27 (0) 82 048 3448
 Email: mankwesafari@mweb.co.za
 Sun City: Tel: +27 (0) 14 557 1684
 Email: mankwetransfers@mwebbiz.co.za

Gametrackers Outdoor Adventures



Gametrackers has Safari Desks at Sun City, Manyane and Bakgatla Resorts and offer conducted wildlife activities within the Pilanesberg National Park, that will satisfy all who share a passion for wildlife. Gametrackers offers an opportunity to view the incredible natural beauty of the Park with their, knowledgeable, qualified, registered Field Guides. Gametrackers offers open vehicle game drives, hiking trails, bush breakfasts, lunches and braais, and from the air - Hot Air Balloon Safaris. Gametrackers also offers Elephant Back Safaris, Elephant Interaction, Quad Biking, Archery, Clay Pigeon Shooting, Urban Combat, Team Building and Drumming in Letsatsing Game Park, which is adjacent to the Pilanesberg National Park.

Reservations:

Sun City: Tel: +27 (0) 14 552 5020
 +27 (0) + 27 14 552 1343
 Email: adventures@gametrack.co.za or suncity@gametrack.co.za
 Manyane: Tel: +27 (0) 14 555 5469 / +27 (0) 78 522 2462
 Fax: +27 (0) 86 689 8235
 Bakgatla: Tel: +27 (0) 14 556 2710 / +27 (0) 76 323 0251
 Fax: +27 (0) 86 648 1626
 Website: www.gametrack.co.za

Wild kids

Crossword puzzle

Identify the animals in the pictures to fill in the puzzle.



Down



Across



Find the word



Hint: search for words in all directions

BAKGATLA	BLACKMAMBA
CARACAL	CHAMELEON
DUNG BEETLE	GEMSBOK
HARTEBEEST	HIPPOPOTAMUS
IMPALA	KLIPSPRINGER
LIONESS	MAKORWANE
MANYANE	OSTRICH
PANGOLIN	PILANESBERG
PORCUPINE	SEPHIKILE
SHEPHERDS TREE	SHONGOLOLO
TAMBOTI	TSHUKUDU
WARTHOG	WATERBUCK

D L M H W A T E R B U C K Z M
 D C K I X S S E N O I L Y E G
 U H L P M R E N I P U C R O P
 N A I P D E E L I K I H P E S
 G M P O K O B S M E G M N A E
 B E S P I A E P A N G O L I N
 E L P O A L T A G K A B L M A
 E E R T S D R E H P E H S P W
 T O I A B M A M K C A L B A R
 L N N M Y S H O N G O L O L O
 E W G U D U K U H S T S Q A K
 Z F E S L A C A R A C U H K A
 Y G R E B S E N A L I P S I M
 M A N Y A N E O S T R I C H H
 I T O B M A T W A R T H O G N

Volunteer Groups

Friends of Pilanesberg Society

This volunteer group (FOPS) has been operational in Pilanesberg almost since inception. In the early days they did a lot of fence and rubble clearing from the park. Today they are still active in that they conduct work parties over weekends on a monthly basis and sponsor projects. Typical projects include the building of new hides, controlling alien plants and maintaining Iron Age sites. For more information, contact Paddy Coombe-Heath on Tel: +27 (0) 82 459 4339.



Makanyane Volunteers

The Makanyane Volunteers conduct a number of smaller tasks in Pilanesberg, very similar to that of FOPS. For more information, contact Ed Lemke on Tel: +27 (0) 82 557 2164.



Wilderness Leadership School

The Wilderness Leadership School have been conducting overnight trails in the wilderness area of Pilanesberg from the early 1980's. They also conduct extended security and important species monitoring foot patrols for the Park. They also organise work parties that do alien plant control and clean up debris from old farmsteads. For more information, contact Lee Dormer on Tel: +27 (0) 83 301 6518.



Touch the Earth

Touch the Earth conducts overnight trails in the wilderness area of the Park. They can be reached by contacting Mark Viljoen on Tel: +27 (0) 82 773 8855.



Honorary Officers

A well established organization comprising Honorary Officers assist the Park authorities with visitor management, predominately over weekends. They also provide the authorities with a monitoring service for important species within the park and run an environmental education course. To find out more or to join, contact Jannie Venter on Tel: +27 (0) 82 900 0028.



Pilanesberg Wildlife Trust

The Pilanesberg Wildlife Trust was established by the North West Parks and Tourism Board along with key stakeholders, for the purpose of supporting conservation and community projects in and around the Pilanesberg National Park. The Trust is an important vehicle for fundraising in support of the North West Parks and Tourism Board fulfilling its conservation mandate in the Pilanesberg National Park, given the challenge for conservation bodies to become increasingly more self funding. Interested persons can call Andrew Jackson on Tel: +27 (0) 14 555 1622/1600. Email: ajackson@nwptb.co.za Website: www.pilanesbergwildlifetrust.co.za



Copenhagen Zoo

The Copenhagen Zoo in Denmark has established a Research Facility in Pilanesberg and focuses on monitoring select large mammal species in the Park. For more information, Charlotte Kruger can be contacted at Tel: +27 (0) 14 555 1600.



Acknowledgements

The authors of this publication, Willie Boonzaaier and Michael Brett, were greatly assisted by the staff of the North West Parks and Tourism Board; in particular Johnson Maoka (Regional Manager), Mike Crowther (Operations Manager) and Steve Dell (Field Ecologist), who gave valuable advice and inputs to this historic publication. The centrefold map was produced by Barry Boonzaaier. Although most of the photographs were provided by the authors, a large number of bird pictures were donated by Brink Jordaan and Ben Engelbrecht.

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REFERENCE MATERIAL

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- Cornwallis Harris W. 1987. Wild Sports of Southern Africa. Cape Town: C. Struik.
- Brett M. 1989. The Pilanesberg Jewel of Bophuthatswana. Sandton: Frandsen Publishers.

Get on the road at first light. Return to camp in the heat of the day for a swim or a siesta. Go out again for a drive in the late afternoon

Emergency Numbers

Note: Cell phone coverage is limited to certain parts

Pilanesberg National Park	+27 (0) 14 555 1606
SAPS Mogwase	+27 (0) 14 555 2000
SAPS Sun Village	+27 (0) 14 552 3982
Sun City Emergency Medical Services	+27 (0) 14 557 9111
Ferncrest Netcare 911	+27 (0) 82 788 0696
Ferncrest Hospital (Rustenburg)	+27 (0) 14 568 4210
Peglerae Hospital (Rustenburg)	+27 (0) 14 597 7200
Mogwase Pharmacy	+27 (0) 14 555 5499
Auto Mobile Services	+27 (0) 14 596 6069
Thunder Towing	+27 (0) 83 626 9657
Eurocar	+27 (0) 14 597 4666
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Answers to Crosswords Puzzle:
Across: 1. Cheetah; 4. Tortoise; 6. Hornbill; 8. Rhinoceros; 10. Crocodile; 13. Leopard; 14. Impala; 15. Hippo; 9. Springbok; 11. Impala; 12. Warthog; 14. Waterbuck; 15. Elephant; 16. Guineafowl; 17. Vulture; 20. Lion
Down: 2. Hartbeest; 3. Baboon; 5. Zebra; 7. Hippo; 8. Rhinoceros; 10. Crocodile; 13. Leopard; 14. Impala; 15. Hippo; 9. Springbok; 11. Impala; 12. Warthog; 14. Waterbuck; 15. Elephant; 16. Guineafowl; 17. Vulture; 20. Lion



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. J. ...', written over a horizontal line.

Operations Manager

26/03/12

Date



YOU HAVE TO EXPERIENCE IT TO BELIEVE IT!



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30 and 31 MARCH
09h00 - 18h00



01 APRIL
09h00 - 11h00



sport & recreation
Department:
Sport and Recreation South Africa
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PROGRAM



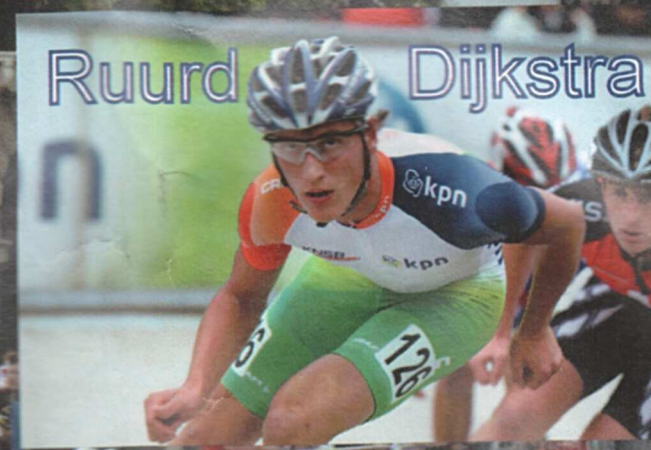
Elma de Vries



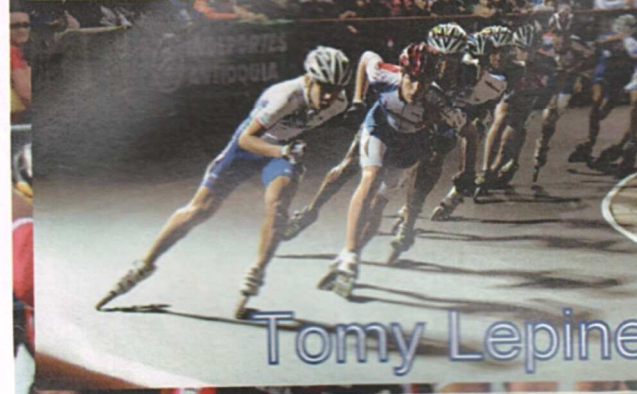
Leonardo Bonato



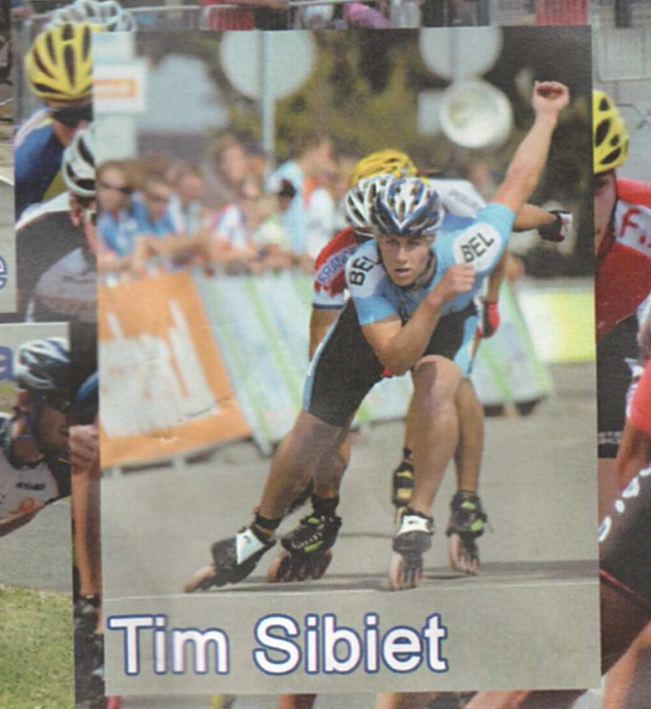
Erica Zanetti



Ruurd Dijkstra



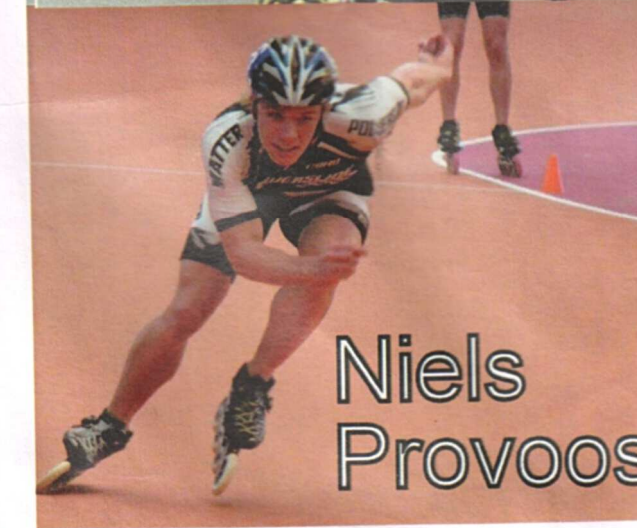
Tomy Lepine



Tim Sibiet



Matej Krupka

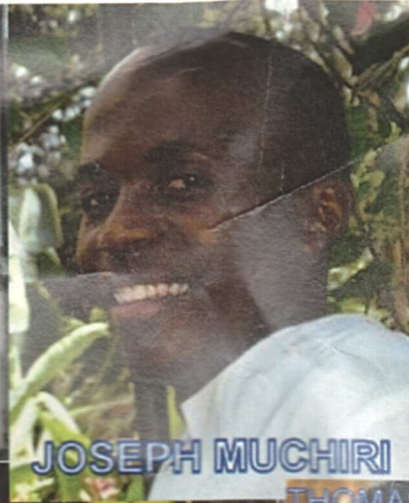


Niels Provoost





TORE BRYNAA



JOSEPH MUCHIRI



TEREZA BOHUMSKA



Massimiliano
Presti



Sandrine
Tas



THOMAS JENSEN



Anna
Girolodi

MIRCO PANCALDI



Jacqueline

Levine



BIANCA ROOSENBOOM



MIRCO MEZZALIRA



Michele Cicognani

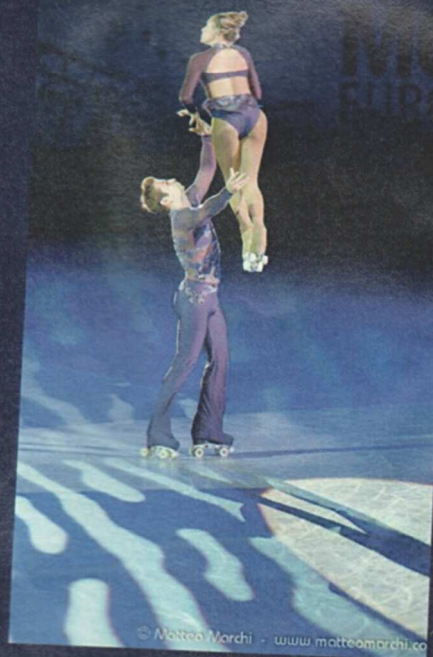
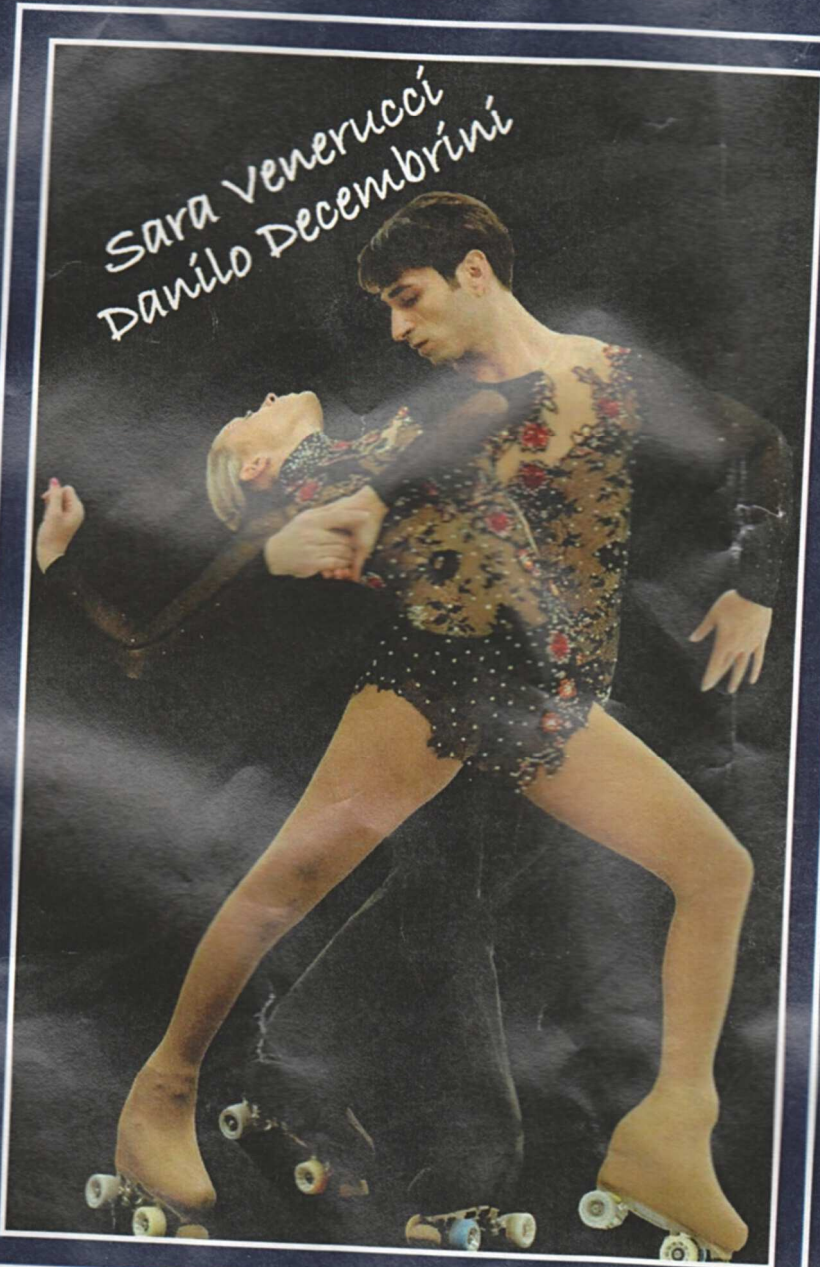
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PILANESBERG NATIONAL PARK



**North West
Parks &
Tourism Board**

DUPLICATE #038254

ENTRANCE PERMIT/
INVOICE

#####

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**PLEASE NOTE:
ALL FIREARMS TO BE DECLARED**

MAKE: NA
SERIAL No: NA

322821

VEHICLE REG.No.	BB36MGGP
TYPE OF VEHICLE	CAR

GATE	BAKUBUNG GATE
OPERATOR	KGOMOTSO

DATE	02/04/2012	TIME	10:23:58
ARRIVAL	02/04/2012	DEPARTURE	02/04/2012
No. OF DAYS	1	ENDORSEMENT	

NATIONALITY	DENMARK	ID/PASSPORT No.	0
NAME	T BRYNAA		
ADDRESS	RENTAL CAR		
TEL:	NA		

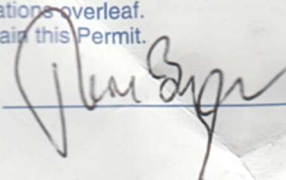
CONSUMABLES	QUANTITY	DEBIT	CREDIT
CAR	1.000	20.00	
ADULT	3.000	195.00	
MAPS	1.000	20.00	
CASH	0.000		-235.00

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TOILET FACILITIES ARE STILL AVAILABLE
CUT OFF TIME FOR PARK ENTRANCE:17H30
CLOSING TIME: 18H30**

*I have read and accepted the conditions on the reverse of this document.

- PLEASE NOTE:**
- Residents to produce camp voucher to support presence.
 - See regulations overleaf.
 - Please retain this Permit.

TOTAL	235,00
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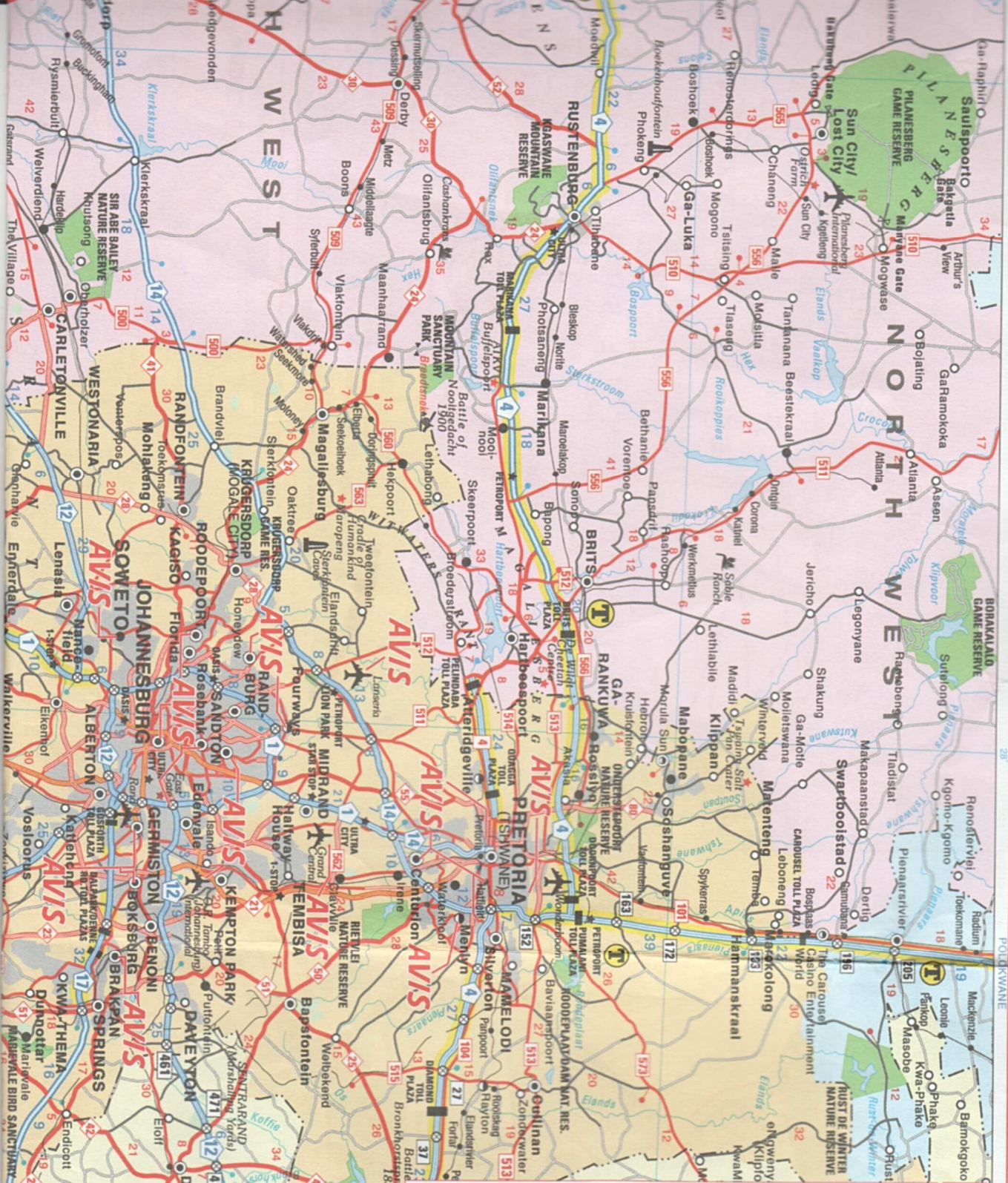
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- Randburg**
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- Rivonia**
Rivonia Crossing
Cnr. Wilkoppen & Achter Street
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- Eastgate**
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- Johannesburg**
- Kempton Park**
- Midrand**
- Monte Casino**
- Ormonde**
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- Randburg**
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