

## Morukuru Beach Lodge \*\*\*\*\* De Hoop Nature Reserve

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Morukuru Family®



RELAIS & CHATEAUX

### LOCATION

Morukuru Beach Lodge is situated at "Koppie Alleen" in one of Africa's most beautiful coastal reserves, the De Hoop Nature Reserve, just south of Swellendam along the Garden Route in the Overberg region. The Overberg is characterized by quaint towns, a blossoming wine industry and delicious local dishes. The 36 000 hectares of the De Hoop conservation area is a World Heritage Site comprising rich biodiversity and over 50 kilometres of pristine coastline. A 19 km vlei (wetland) stretches across the reserve, which is on the Ramsar list of Wetlands of International Importance, established by UNESCO. De Hoop Nature Reserve also offers towering white sand dunes lapped by the Indian Ocean, limestone cliffs, rock pools and coastal fynbos. Our sister property Morukuru Ocean House is located approximately 1 km further east along the beach.

### ACCESS BY AIR

We offer our guests the possibility of getting to and from De Hoop Nature Reserve by private charter flight. The flight from Cape Town International Airport to De Hoop Nature Reserve takes  $\pm$  45 minutes. On arrival at the De Hoop airstrip, a vehicle will be waiting to take you through to Morukuru Beach Lodge, this transfer takes  $\pm$  25 minutes. Helicopter transfers can also be arranged, should this be required.

### ACCESS BY ROAD

The De Hoop Reserve is situated just over 3 hour's drive from Cape Town on the world-renowned Garden and Whale Routes, an ideal stop en route from the Cape Winelands to Plettenberg Bay. It is in the Overberg region near the southern tip of Africa and can be reached from either Bredasdorp or Swellendam. The Reserve gates open at 7AM and close at 6 PM. Gate closes at 7 PM on Fridays. Late or early arrivals (emergencies only) need to be arranged with management. CapeNature does not allow driving in the reserve before sunrise or after sunset. *2WD with higher ground clearance is recommended for the gravel roads to and inside De Hoop Nature Reserve.*

### CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT

Check in is from 2 PM and check out is at 11 AM. A late check out or early check in is possible upon request, subject to availability and at additional costs. We can also assist by offering luggage storage facilities in those cases.

### WILDLIFE

De Hoop Nature Reserve is reckoned to be the ultimate place in South Africa to see southern right whales. July to end of September is best for whale-watching, but you stand a very good chance of a sighting from June to early November.

Some of the animal species in the reserve include whales, dolphins, sharks and seals as well as the Bontebok and Cape Mountain Zebra. Other animals you may see are Eland, the Cape clawless otter, baboons, rock hyraxes and the occasional rookat (caracal) or even the elusive Cape leopard.

The reserve is particularly known for its bird population, many of which - such as the endangered African Black Oystercatcher - breed within the reserve. The flora and fauna are impressive too - the fynbos floral kingdom dominates with 1500 species of plants in the reserve alone - also 86 species of mammal, 260 or more different birds, 14 amphibians and 50 reptile species.

### CLIMATE

A typical Mediterranean climate prevails in the region. Daytime temperatures range from 20-30°C in summer to 14-18°C in winter. The annual rainfall is about 380 mm and August is usually the wettest month. Sea mists also occur. The most frequent summer winds are east, west and southeast, while westerly and south-westerly winds prevail in winter.

### GPS CO-ORDINATES

Beach Lodge	S 34 28 32.9, E 20 30 31.3
Helipad	S 34 28 23.4, E 20 30 45.5
Airstrip	S 34 27 15.4, E 20 25 4.4

### SUSTAINABLE ENERGY – FULLY OFF THE GRID

Sustainable energy is the sustainable provision of energy that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Morukuru Beach Lodge has been built under the highest care and supports the environment. Due to our remote location we are fully off the grid. Our electricity is generated by solar panels. For the odd longer cloudy periods we have a backup generator. Our hot water is produced by pellet burners. The whole lodge has water based underfloor heating. *No airconditioning.*



## ACTIVITIES

Morukuru Beach Lodge offers a range of activities that guests can either do individually or as part of two guided activities daily, which are included and on shared basis with fellow guests. Most activities are weather and tide dependant and will be decided by the guide on daily basis. One guided activity in the morning and one guided activity in the afternoon is included.

- **(Guided) marine walks (1-3 hours)**, allowing you an insight in the amazing marine life in the rock pools in the immediate vicinity of Beach Lodge. Great for kids as well as parents! *Low tide only.*
- **(Guided) fynbos walks and hikes (1-3 hours)**, showing the incredible diversity and beauty of the fynbos vegetation De Hoop Nature Reserve.
- **Mountain biking (1-3 hours)**, offering you an overview of the diversity of the area around Morukuru Beach Lodge. Different routes are possible.
- **Guided 4x4 fynbos nature drives**, which allow you to explore areas of De Hoop Nature Reserve which are situated a little further from Beach Lodge. These nature drives also offer a good opportunity to see some of the local wildlife in the park.
- **Land based whale watching** (July-October) from Beach Lodge and the surrounding sand dunes and beaches.
- **Sundowners on the sand dunes**, overlooking the Indian Ocean with possibly a glimpse of a pod of dolphins, or whales (seasonal).
- **Guided Sand boarding** on the white sand dunes in the immediate vicinity of Beach Lodge.
- **Various beach games** like volleyball, cricket and croquet
- **Snorkelling** in the protected rock pools

The following optional activities are offered in De Hoop Nature Reserve through third parties, which we can book for our guests at additional costs. Only if you have your own transport (approx. 20 minutes drive) to the collection point.

- **Vulture Tour**, which starts from De Opstal and requires a good physical condition as the walk is steep and uphill. Guests 12 year and over. Summer departure 9AM, winter departure 10AM
- **Helicopter flight**, highly recommended during whale season (July to October). Subject to availability and weather dependant
- **Tennis** (at De Opstal, approximately 30 minutes from Morukuru Ocean House)

We recommend a minimum stay of 2 nights, to be able to enjoy the location and the various activities on offer at Morukuru Beach Lodge. The beaches in front of Morukuru Beach Lodge are ideal for some relaxing and swimming too.

## BEACH LODGE FACILITIES

The facilities at Morukuru Beach Lodge include:

- ✓ 5 bedrooms en-suite (king or twin beds),
- ✓ Dining room
- ✓ Bar / lounge area (first floor)
- ✓ Swimming pool and hot tub
- ✓ Rooftop terrace (first floor)
- ✓ Sheltered courtyard terrace
- ✓ Outdoor sunken lounge with fire pit
- ✓ Complimentary Wi-Fi (limited bandwidth)
- ✓ Underfloor heating
- ✓ Laundry service
- ✓ Curio shop
- ✓ Free use of outdoor equipment (like snorkels, masks, water shoes, wetsuits, mountain bikes, sand boards, ponchos, gumboots, beach umbrella, towels)
- ✓ Free on-site parking
- ✓ Oceanfront location

## CHILD POLICY

As with all Morukuru Family properties we gladly welcome families with children of all ages at Morukuru Beach Lodge.

The 2 Ocean View Family Suites can each accommodate 2 adults and 2 children under 16 sharing. The other suites can accommodate 2 guests maximum. Children can join on activities as well.

On request a special "Kids Dinner" can be arranged at 18:00 hrs.

Optionally – at R 150 / hour – we can offer a babysitting service as well (subject to availability).

## PREFERENCES & REQUIREMENTS

We encourage all our guests to advise us of any dietary requirements and other preferences, prior to your arrival. The more we know about any specific preferences or requirements, the better the service we can provide.





## ACCOMMODATION

Morukuru Beach Lodge consists of 2 Ocean View Suites, 2 Ocean View Family Suites and 1 Honeymoon Suite. All suites are equally spacious (90 m<sup>2</sup> each) and comfortably furnished. The 4 Ocean View Suites offer views of the Indian Ocean and the surrounding landscape and they have a small balcony. The Honeymoon Suite offers a view of the Fynbos covered dune landscape and has partial sea view only, as well as a large private deck with outside bathtub and sun loungers.

All suites are located on the ground floor and feature a large en-suite bathroom with walk in rain shower and separate bath, separate toilet as well as double vanity units.

Each suite features an oversized (2 x 1,1 m) bay-window/daybed, a perfect place to lounge while watching the sea and the same bed doubles up as a children's bed in the Ocean View Family Suites. Intimate and sophisticated, Morukuru Beach Lodge is a sanctuary of refined comfort and luxury.

## MEALS

At Morukuru Beach Lodge we source most of our food and wines locally and our meals, in line with the concept of a bush lodge, are served as follows:

breakfast (08:00-09:30 hrs),

lunch buffet (13:00-15:00 hrs),

dinner (19:00-21:00 hrs)

*On request we can arrange a 'Kids Dinner' at 18:00 hrs.*

If – due to low tide - activities have to be scheduled during breakfast or lunch, these times will be adjusted accordingly and will be personally communicated with the guests.

All meals, drinks and snacks are included in the daily rate, with the exception of our selection of Premium Wines, which are optional and have to be paid locally. A picnic basket / backpack with a blanket is available, please request at breakfast time and we make sure you can and enjoy a private picnic lunch on the beach, in the dunes or in the fynbos.

## BITES BEACH CAFÉ

The well known white cottage at Koppie Alleen overlooking the ocean and the beach, is home to Bites Beach Café since February 2023.

Open to Morukuru Family De Hoop guests as well as the general public daily between 10-15 hours, Bites Beach Café serves drinks and snacks, as well as a casual lunch menu featuring salads, burgers and pizzas.

In the evenings Bites Beach Café is used as an additional dining venue **exclusively** for Morukuru Beach Lodge or Morukuru Ocean House guests, offering African themed dinner nights on a regular basis.



## IN ROOM FACILITIES

- ✓ King size beds (can be converted to twin)
- ✓ Bathroom en-suite with walk-in rain shower and separate bath
- ✓ Locally produced Rain amenities
- ✓ Underfloor heating
- ✓ Television
- ✓ Fireplace
- ✓ Ceiling fan (*no airconditioning*)
- ✓ Comfortable seating area in the room
- ✓ Daybed
- ✓ Floor to ceiling glass doors leading to a private balcony or terrace and seating area outside
- ✓ Large wardrobe
- ✓ Free use of guest pantry with coffee, tea, waters and soft drinks
- ✓ Complimentary Wi-Fi (limited bandwidth)
- ✓ Electronic safe
- ✓ Bathrobes, slippers and hairdryer
- ✓ Morning coffee/tea service in the room



Bites Beach Café and Morukuru Beach Lodge

**MORUKURU FAMILY MEMBERS**

Morukuru Beach Lodge is part of Morukuru Family. This collection of exclusive use houses in Madikwe Game Reserve and De Hoop Nature Reserve caters mainly for families and groups of friends travelling together. Children of all ages are welcome in all properties and children can also join on game drives in Madikwe Game Reserve.

**ATHOLPLACE HOUSE\*\*\*\*\***

Maximum 18 guests

**ATHOLPLACE VILLA\*\*\*\*\***

Maximum 8 guests

**MORUKURU BEACH LODGE\*\*\*\*\***

4 Ocean View Suites, 1 Honeymoon Suite

**MORUKURU OCEAN HOUSE\*\*\*\*\***

Maximum 8 adults and 4 children

**MORUKURU OWNER'S HOUSE\*\*\*\*\***

Maximum 4 guests

**MORUKURU RIVER HOUSE\*\*\*\*\***

Maximum 6 adults and 4 children

**MORUKURU FARM HOUSE\*\*\*\*\***

Maximum 10 guests

**JOHANNESBURG**

(Gauteng)

**JOHANNESBURG**

(Gauteng)

**DE HOOP NATURE RESERVE**

(Western Cape)

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(Western Cape)

**MADIKWE GAME RESERVE**

(Northwest Province)

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(Northwest Province)

**MADIKWE GAME RESERVE**

(Northwest Province)



Morukuru Family®



Morukuru Beach Lodge, surrounded by Fynbos, with Bites Beach Café in the distance, down at the beach



South Africa's Leading Beach Hotel



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2019-2023