

OUDTSHOORN ATTRACTIONS & ACTIVITIES

JOYRIDES offers really great Mountain Bike trips. Cycle down the spectacular Swartberg pass (1584m above sea level) visiting the Cango Caves, camel rides, ostrich farms and wildlife ranch on the way back to town. This trip includes vehicle support for the entire trip. Great discounts are also arranged at the above attractions. **Tel:** 044 272 3436

WILGEWANDEL HOLIDAY FARM - is situated 25km outside of Oudtshoorn, 2km before the world famous Cango Caves on the R328. Wilgewandel holiday farm is renowned for its fun family activities such as **camel rides** and **foefieslide** (zip wire). The **restaurant** is well known for nice home cooked meals and freshly baked products **Tel:** +27 44 272 0878

"**MINWATER**" (which means Little Water) is a private nature reserve and is situated 24km southwest of the town of Oudtshoorn in the foothills of the Gamkaberg, an isolated range in the Klein Karoo, between the Swartberg and Outeniqua Mountains. It is a rough, mountainous region which includes high hills and a big plateau, with breathtaking views of the eastern Klein Karoo and surrounding mountain ranges. The owner of Minwater, **Louis Jordaan**, possesses a wealth of knowledge of the Klein Karoo veld in general and of the more than 500 types of plants that grow on Minwater in particular. **WHAT YOU CAN DO AT MINWATER** Experience the wonder of creation with an incredible diversity of Succulent Karoo species. 4x4 Trails - from 1 hour to 8 hours. Hiking - from 1 km to 20 km or more. Bird watching & a variety of wildlife. Nature School including plantviewing/identification tours. Stay at a bushcamp. **Tel:** 044 279 1285

KARUSA VINEYARD is nestled in the tranquil village of Schoemanshoek, en-route to the world-famous Cango Caves from the Little Karoo town of Oudtshoorn. Well-known for its *Cap Classique* and *Mediterranean-styled* wines, Karusa is a family-operated and managed *Southern Cape Premium Wine producer & Craft Brewery*. **Tel:** +27 (0) 44 272 8717

SWARTBERG MOUNTAIN TOURS - We offer guided tours to: Swartberg Pass (Full Pass). Circular Route - Ostrich Show Farm, Cango Caves, Swartberg, Mountain & Pass, Lunch, Prince Albert, Great Karoo, Swartberg, Canyon, Meiringspoort Waterfall.

GAMKASKLOOF (The Hell) 1 or 2 day tour. All ostrich Show Farms in the neighbourhood. Wildlife Safaris in game drive vehicle or on horse back. Elephant feeding / walk. Meerkat experience. 4x4 Tours. Other requests are welcome! **Tel:** +27 (0) 79 105 4004

ELEPHANT FEEDING, WALKING and RIDING - Elephant encounters are much more than words can describe. Subtle friends with small hearts - come meet our 3 big feet : Malaika, Bolelu and Jabari. **BUSH SAFARIS** with more than 22 species of animals to see, Buffelsdrift Game Lodge takes you closer to the wild in an open game vehicle by a trained guide. On your 2 hour bush safari the following can be seen : elephants, rhinos, hippos, Cape buffalos, giraffes, kudus etc.

HORSEBACK SAFARIS - Horse riding experience for the horse lovers. Become part of the natural environment while viewing the animals. **The A la Carte Restaurant** - Top Food and Beverage Manager with professional chefs. **Tel:** +27 44 272 0000

MAGIC MOMENTS: An unforgettable evening of live music and traditional South African food in the relaxed intimate surroundings of the home of the performers. **Cell:** 076 501 8685

KLEIN KAROO HIKING TRAILS - Some people just love the wide open spaces of the Klein Karoo, others appreciate the fact that they are hiking a world heritage site, still others appreciate the beauty of walking through an ecological hotspot where three plant biomes (succulent karoo, cape thicket and fynbos) converge and there are even those who venerate the sound of silence present in our region, but **EVERYBODY** who is anybody **HAS TO DO A KLEIN KAROO HIKING TRAIL** before they walk eternity . . . **Cel:** +27 (0)82 461 8253

CANGO CAVES - 29km from Oudtshoorn, at the head of the picturesque Cango Valley, lies the spectacular underground wonder of the Klein Karoo - the Cango Caves.

Situated in a limestone ridge parallel to the well known Swartberg Mountains, you will find the finest dripstone caverns, with their vast halls and towering formations. **Contact Number:** +27 44 272 7410

SAFARI OSTRICH SHOW FARM - On arrival you will be met, by one of our professional, well-informed guides, who will take you on an unforgettable tour where you will learn more about these remarkable birds and their fascinating nature. During the course of the tour the guide will explain every aspect of ostrich farming, from breeding to rearing. A highly entertaining and educational tour is guaranteed. Besides our ostrich tours, we also have a great coffee shop and restaurant on site, where you can experience some traditional ostrich and other foods. Please see our restaurant page for more information. **Location** - We are located about 7km from Oudtshoorn on the R 328 between Mossel Bay and Oudtshoorn. **TEL:** +27(0) 44 272 7312

CANGO WILDLIFE RANCH - For sheer thrills!!!... Explore an Ancient Temple - home to giant Flying Foxes, dazzling birdlife, diminutive antelope and thousands of sparkling Cichlids! Creep past designer hogs, malevolent vultures and playful Lemurs. Then crossover a swing-bridge precariously dangling inches above giant four meter crocodiles who leap for their dinner... and if you're brave enough you can even dive with them in our WORLD FIRST CROCODILE CAGE-DIVE EXPERIENCE! **Telephone:** 044 272 5593

SWARTBERG CIRCLE ROUTE - We suggest you start the route early in the morning. It is approximately 4-5 hours drive (that is to say if you once in a while stop to marvel at the wonders the Swartberge has to offer).

From Oudtshoorn to the Swartberg Pass (R328) is a scenic drive through the Cango Valley (known as the Cango Route).

Various attractions on the Route (R328):

- Cango Wildlife Ranch (2km from Oudtshoorn)
- Buffelsdrift Game Lodge (7km from Oudtshoorn)
- Cango Ostrich Show Farm (15km from Oudtshoorn)
- Rus & Vrede Waterfall (30km from Oudtshoorn)
- TBI Adventures (27km from Oudtshoorn)
- Wilgewandel Holiday Farm (28km from Oudtshoorn)
- Cango Caves (30km from Oudtshoorn)
- Gamkaskloof (Die Hell) (100km from Oudtshoorn)

Up to where the Swartberg Pass starts the road is tarred.

The pass itself is not tarred.

The road is accessible by any vehicle (just keep in mind - there are anti-erosion humps on the road, making it difficult for low vehicles to go over).

Before driving over the pass - make sure that the road is accessible; normally they close the road when there is snow on the pass.

You can phone the Provincial Traffic Department to find out whether or not you can access the pass: **Number:** 044 8019111

RUST-EN-VREDE - Isolated beauty, engraved into the heart of the **Swartberg Mountain** by natures powerful forces. **Rust-en-Vrede** is situated on a scenic detour branching off the R328, 18km from **Oudtshoorn** on the way to the world famous **Cango Caves**. No title could be more apt, for this is definitely a must see for anyone traveling to Oudtshoorn.

The **waterfall** is hidden among the bracken-clad heights; therefore a walk over little bridges is required along the mountain trail. You are inspired by the beautiful wild flowers that bloom in great profusion alongside the path while far below amidst ferns and undergrowth, a powerful river ripples over rocky edges.

This scenic and peaceful trail ends in great reward. Collected at your feet is the sparkling pool that originated from a spring high up in the mountains. **Rust-en-Vrede** is a safe sanctuary for indigenous plant and animal life; definitely a precious asset of the **Klein Karoo** and **Cango Valley**.

ARBEIDSGENOT (museum) - Erkenning aan hom wat AFRIKAANS vir ons toeganklik, leesbaar en amptelik gemaak het. "Om ons één eie taal tot nut te gebruik is groter kuns as om sewe vreemdes by te leer." ARBEIDSGENOT in Oudtshoorn is die werkswinkel waar Afrikaans gevorm is en waar *Die Stem van Suid-Afrika* uit die hart en pen van C.J. Langenhoven verrys het. **Tel:** 044 272 2968

C.P. NEL MUSEUM - In 1980 the building complex was declared a National Monument. Through the valiant efforts of a few old boys and other roleplayers in Oudtshoorn the continued existence of the old school building and CP Nel's valuable collection of 40 years back secured for the future. **A Bit of History** - Ostrich Feather Farming brought unparalleled prosperity to the Klein Karoo during the late nineteenth century. A legacy from this economic "boom" is the distinctive sandstone architecture, which includes the so-called ostrich feather manors. Quite a few have been preserved and declared as national monuments. The Museum represents some of the finest sandstone architecture in the Little Karoo.

LE ROUX TOWN HOUSE - MUSEUM AND NATIONAL MONUMENT STATUS - In June 1979 the Board of Trustees of the C.P. Nel Museum bought the Townhouse from Rose's sole heir, Ada, and after costly restoration opened it as a Townhouse Museum. Furniture has been judiciously bought during this period to approximate the original furnishings which have remained in possession of the family. On the 22nd February 1980 the house was declared a National Monument.