

WELCOME TO STEENBOK NATURE RESERVE

Steenbok is always open and there is no entrance fee. It is conveniently located 4 km from the centre of Knysna. This unique stretch of land covers an area of 17 hectares and forms part of The Greater Knysna Protected Environment Area which is regulated by SANParks in terms of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 2003. Steenbok Nature Reserve is a joint initiative by Leisure Isle Residents Association and Knysna Municipality and operates in close association with SANParks and The Friends of Steenbok Nature Reserve Trust. The Reserve has one of the finest areas of indigenous saltmarsh, coastal dune and coastal thicket vegetation in South Africa. It also has indigenous gardens featuring flora representative of the Garden Route and the coastal regions of the Eastern Cape, tree copses featuring Knysna forest trees, and "cultivated" gardens. It is a paradise for dog walkers and fisher people, and is a cricket and soccer pitch for children.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Manage the ecosystem of Steenbok Nature Reserve for the benefit of all Knysna residents, and its visitors.

Ensure the natural heritage of this area is nurtured and protected for current and future generations.

Create and maintain a place of enjoyment for all, while recognising and upholding protocols that apply to nature conservation areas.

We are committed to establishing plant communities that are found in similar eco-locations along the Garden Route, and protecting the flora and fauna that are indigenous to Leisure Isle and our shore line salt marshes.



YOUR STEENBOK EXPERIENCE



With over a hundred species of water birds as well as land birds sighted and recorded on the Steenbok website, bird watching can be a very rewarding pastime. While strolling along the water's edge look out for Knysna's famous Oyster Catchers, as well as the beautiful yellow billed ducks and don't forget to keep an eye open for the majestic cormorants. On the land side, the busy fiscal flycatcher frequents the trees growing adjacent to the paved pathway, while the Levillant's cisticola can be seen flying in between the sedge grass and reeds.



Steenbok Nature Reserve welcomes visitors interested in a natural walkabout. Educational tours are very popular during the school holidays and our volunteers delight in arranging a guided tour.

Visit the Steenbok Nature Reserve Knysna Facebook and Instagram pages to get the latest updates on all upcoming events. email requests for a walking tour to: news@steenboknaturereserve.org.za



Remember to bring a camera! There are a variety of small creatures that are waiting to show off their splendour. The Cape Honey Bee is an important fynbos pollinator and is seen hovering around most of the flowering plants in the Reserve. The Knysna Dwarf Chameleon is only found in Knysna and is a favorite attraction for our visitors. To ensure the safety and protection of this special creature please don't remove it from its habitat.

They are however very curious and willing to pose for the camera.

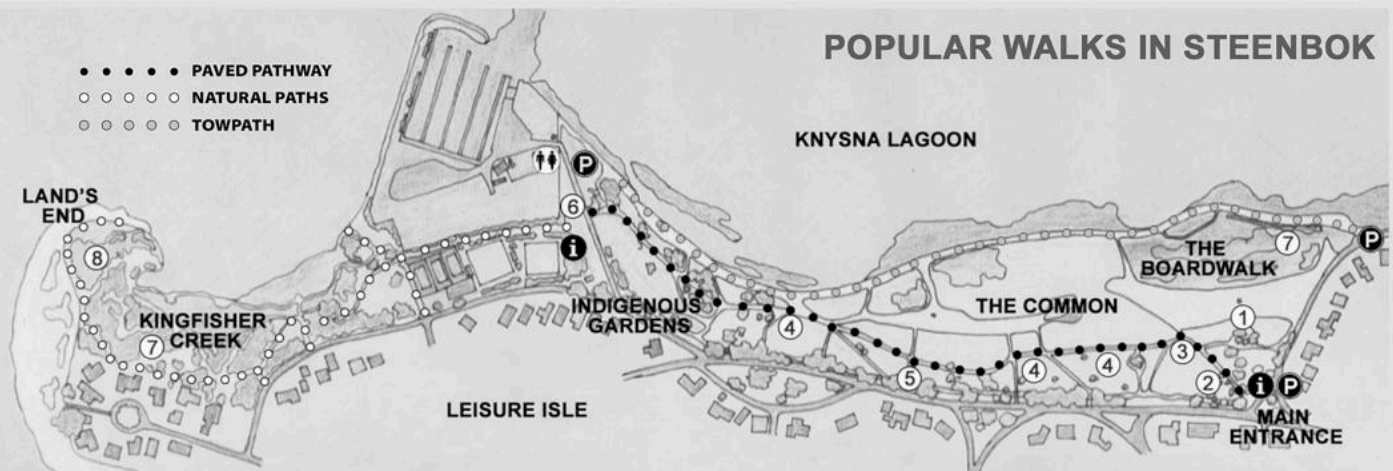


Fishing is one of the most popular recreational activities in the Reserve. It is advisable to obtain a copy of the Knysna brochure of Saltwater fishing from the SANParks offices. It has a list of 200 species of fish found in the Knysna estuary, as well as important information about bag limits for bait. SANParks rangers patrol Steenbok's water's edge twice a day to check all anglers and bait collectors have valid licences.

Bait collecting of invertebrates in the Reserve is prohibited, even when in possession of a bait licence. Please fish responsibly. Report illegal bait collecting to SANParks 044 3025600 or 0822695007

The Reserve embraces precious areas of indigenous flora and fauna, and an abundance of tranquility.

POPULAR WALKS IN STEENBOK



MAP KEY

1 THE BOMA 2 THE SEEDPOD 3 THE JOY GARDEN 4 TREE COPSES 5 AQUIFER PUMP 6 GRATITUDE GARDENS 7 SALT MARSH 8 DUNE FOREST
4.0 KM DISTANCE AROUND LEISURE ISLE 1.7 KM MAIN ENTRANCE TO LAND'S END 1.0 KM LENGTH OF TOWPATH

DOG RULES IN STEENBOK NATURE RESERVE

To accommodate all users of the Reserve, dog walkers are reminded to pick up after their dogs and to be mindful of others. Every dog loves a good run in the park or on the beach, but unfortunately no seabird enjoys being chased or finding its eggs destroyed or its helpless chicks killed by free-running dogs! Visitors to Steenbok enjoy every aspect of the Reserve, but not if they have uncontrolled dogs jumping up on them or having a dog-fight break out next to them.



1. Dogs must be under voice or signal control at all times.
2. Dog handlers must ensure all dogs are on leashes in Steenbok Nature Reserve.
3. Dog handlers must not allow their dogs to interfere with visitors in the Reserve.
4. Dog handlers must remove and bin their dog's faeces.
2. Dog handlers must ensure that their dogs do not chase or injure wildlife.



MUNICIPAL PUBLIC AMENITIES BY-LAW

9(2) Where a person is permitted to bring an animal upon a public amenity, he or she must have direct and physical control over the animal by means of a leash or other device.



REPORT OFFENDING DOG WALKERS TO:

SANParks 044 302 5600 or 0822695007 - When dogs chase or injure wildlife on the shoreline or Estuary.

KM Call Centre 044 302 6300 or KM Law Inforcement 044 302 6551 - when dog owners do not follow the Municipal bylaws in the Reserve.

WHO FUNDS THE WORK OF MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING STEENBOK NATURE RESERVE?

The costs of the ongoing work that is required to keep Steenbok Nature Reserve in pristine condition are covered by four contributors:

Annual subscriptions from The Friends of The Steenbok Nature Reserve Trust; an annual donation from the Leisure Isle Residents Association (LIRA), an annual grant from Knysna Municipality and donations from the Leisure Isle Festival.



If you enjoy this lovely area, we ask you to consider joining the 'Friends of Steenbok'. This is a group of over 200 individuals donating an annual contribution to the maintenance and improvement of the Reserve.

The annual subscription is R600.

Other ways of supporting Steenbok Nature Reserve are to include a bequest in your will, or to simply make a donation.

All contributions are tax deductible. SNR is a Public Benefit Organization in terms of section 18A of the Income Tax Act 1962

You can find the membership sign up form on our Steenbok Nature Reserve website.

Banking Details: Friends of Steenbok Nature Reserve Trust

Standard Bank Branch No. 050-314 Account No. 082579342

Your surname as a reference