

Estate Activities



Located only 2.5 hours from Johannesburg, Highland Gate Golf and Trout Estate near Dullstroom boasts a wealth of outdoor leisure activities. The Estate's high altitude charm and serene landscape makes for a scenic and truly memorable getaway.

The beautiful Dullstroom area may be well known as a golf and trout-fishing mecca but apart from these pastimes there are a number of things to do for the whole family. Highland Gate is the perfect weekend retreat for outdoor enthusiasts, the focus is not only on the championship level golf course but also the wealth of leisure activities the estate offers, including hiking trails, fly fishing, mountain biking, picnicking, swimming, photography and bird watching to ensure the whole family is catered for in a rare and tranquil setting, enjoying nature at its best. The surrounding area boasts fine dining, luxurious spas, craft beer and whisky tasting and quaint craft stores to keep one busy for hours.

We would like to thank you for choosing to spend your time at Highland Gate and would like to assist you with your leisure plans during your visit. Please don't hesitate to contact our staff should you require more information about any of the activities in this booklet.

Regards, The Highland Gate Estate team









- 1. Golf The Ernie Els design Highland Gate golf course has been named the best new golf course and earned 21st spot in the Golf Digest's top 100 golf courses in South Africa. Contact the proshop on 087-287-4653 or golfbookings@highlandgate.o.za
- **2. World class fly fishing -** Highland Gate offers its guests the opportunity to exercise the noble art of fly-fishing in one of four stocked fly fishing dams on the Estate, have a go at catching that elusive Rainbow Trout!
- **3. Mountain biking -** Highland Gate offers a number of exciting MTB routes which are marked on the map. Ask our staff for any new routes on the estate as they are upgraded regularly. Enjoy the trails on the Estate or head out on the neighbouring properties for an extended ride.

Family cycling route (4km) easy

The distance of the family cycling route is approximately 4km's and fairly easy. Depending on one's speed and skill, it will take between 15 minutes to an hour to complete. Start from the gatehouse and follow the golf pathway looping around the 4th hole and returning back to the start. Look out for buck on the route in the early mornings.

Kruisfontein MTB loop (43km) technical

A route for the experienced riders is the Kruisfontein loop. Total distance is 43 km's and depending on fitness levels takes between 2.5-5 hours. The route starts at Highland Gate gatehouse, right onto the Kruisfontein road and loop around through Dullstroom town, returning to HG on the newly tarred road! Explore some single track detours along the way for the full adventure.

For a more casual meander around town, head to Cosy Alley next to The Duck and Trout to hire a bike (079 067 4446 or 082 427 5226).

4. Hiking - Our hiking trails meander through the rolling hills of the Steenkampsberg mountain range, the highlight being the hike along the escarpment to view the spectacular 125m waterfall which cascades to join the Crocodile River. With high altitude fresh air and a misty climate, the landscape is reminiscent of the Scottish Highlands.

Waterfall trail (2km) easy

The Waterfall trail is 2km's in total, starting from the parking area at Land's End head out on the contour path and drop down into the valley floor along the scenic river until you get to the breathtakingly sheer cliffs where the water cascades down the escarpment below. Return along the same trail back to the starting point. This easy hike will take 1 hour and is safe for the whole family. Look out for the rare Southern Bald Ibis birds that nest on the cliffs of the escarpment,

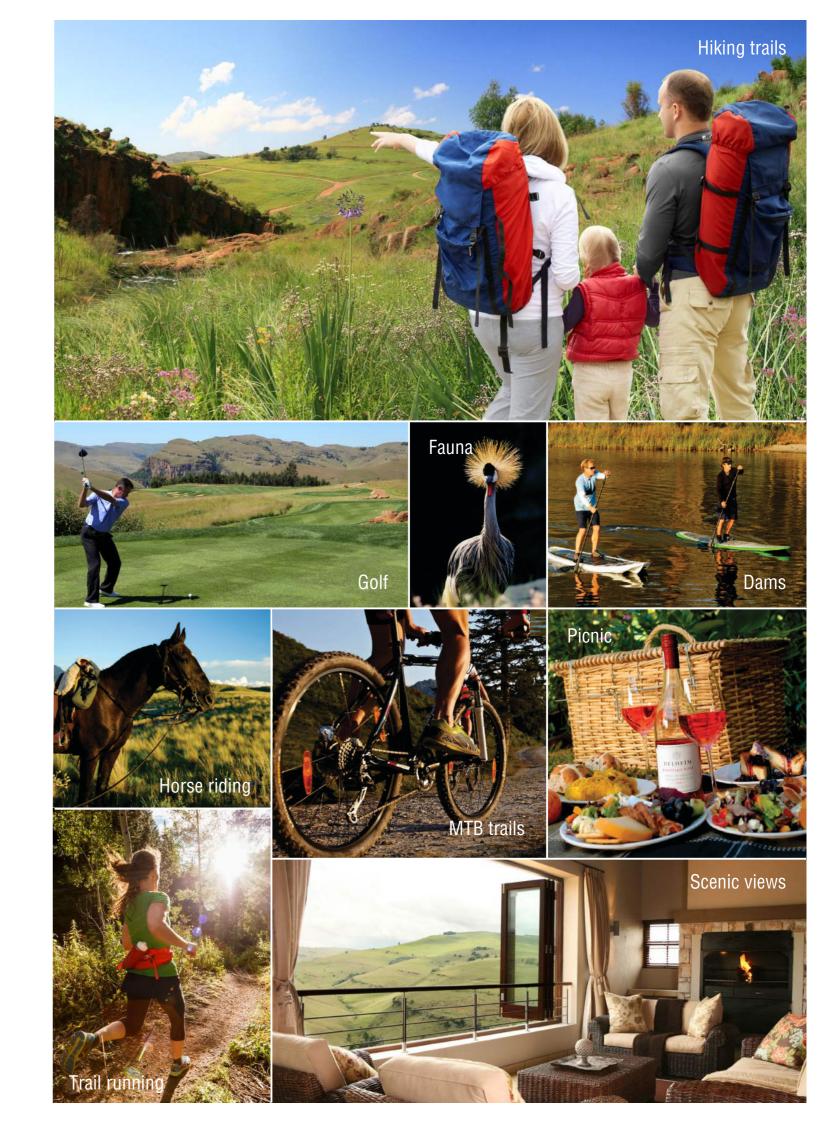
Bush pig trail (4.5km) moderate

The Bush pig trail is currently 4,5 km's one way, start from the parking area at Land's End and follow the river down the valley where the trail will end near the 15th tee. Depending on speed this trail will take up to 2.5 hours.

Mountain trail (10km) advanced

Starting from the cul de sac in Border village, the Mountain trail is a spectacular route taking you up the mountain and along the ridge overlooking the escarpment. The end of the ridge will reward you with a spectaular view of a 125m waterfall which cascades to join the Crocodile river in the valley floor. Return along the ridge back to the start. Be sure to take water and snacks with you on this long hike.

- **5. Picnic -** The picnic spot near the trout dams with its cobbling water streams offer a tranquil setting for a glorious family picnic. Enquire with the restaurant for picnic hampers.
- **6. Relax at the clubhouse -** The state-of-the-art clubhouse allows for spectacular views and features the pro-shop, a fine dining restaurant, luxurious lounge, TV bar and terrace, conference centre, tennis court as well as a kids play area.



- **7. Bird watching -** Bird and nature lovers are enthused as the estate is home to a large variety of beautiful and rare species of Fauna and Flora. Take the family on a stroll on the walking paths to discover these treasures and more. Specials include the Ground Woodpecker, Sentinel Rock-Thrush, Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk, Southern Bald Ibis, Gurney's Sugarbird, Wattled and Blue Cranes, Red-chested and White-winged Flufftails, Denham's Bustard, Pale-crowned Cisticola, Blackwinged Lapwing, Cape Eagle-Owl, Yellow-breasted Pipit and Buff-streaked Chat. The best season is September to January
- **8. Capture the moment -** Photographers and artists can enjoy hours of A-ha! moments when taking advantage of and capturing the spectacular scenery of this dramatic landscape with its flora and fauna.
- **9. Training -** Professional and amateur athletes can take advantage of the high altitude climate to train in a safe and unspoilt environment.
- **10. Spoil yourself with luxury spa treatments -** Whether it is facials, massages, top to toe treatments, a number of options are available in this quaint village. Try Riverside Spa (013-254-8000)
- **11. Eat out -** At least 40 restaurants cater for all palates, so you won't go hungry. Visit the clubhouse for a convenient delicious meal (087-287-4653 or marie@highlandgate.co.za) The Art of Food has to be the establishment for the fine diner, Harrie's Pancakes (013 254 0801; www.harriespancakes.com) is legendary for its sweet and savoury pancakes and Mrs Simpson's is also an institution (www.mrssimpson.co.za)
- 12. Fancy a drink There's a happy hour nearly every day of the week in Dullstroom... Enjoy a sundowner G&T on the large veranda of the clubhouse overlooking the spectacular estate. Visit Wild about Whisky in Auldstone House (www.wildaboutwhisky.co.za.), which has the largest collection of whiskies in the southern hemisphere. Anvil Ale has embraced the artisanal, slow food movement and brews its own beers (www.anvilbrewery.com). Beans About Coffee Roastery (www.beansaboutcoffee.co.za) has its own roaster, and makes its own blends from various African and South American beans. Finally there is Dullstroom's only dedicated milkshake bar (071-505-2541) which offers 20 different specialities.
- **13. Bird of Prey Centre -** Take the kids on an educational excursion, it's a wonderful falconry demonstration and you'll be enchanted, too. There are even days dedicated to bird photographers (www.birdsofprey.co.za)
- **14. Go horse riding -** With the rolling hills, flowers and streams, this is a fab way to soak up the scenery. Dullstroom Riding Centre (www.dullstroomhorseriding.co.za), Elandskloof Trout Farm (www.elandskloof.co.za)
- **15. Shop -** Visit one of the many authentic shops in Dullstroom including the Old Transvaal Inn (booksandsweets.co.za), which sells books, children's toys and sweets, and The Clock Shop which has the biggest selection of clocks in one shop in the southern hemisphere (www.theclockshop.co.za)
- **16.** And finally, escape the rat race ...and invest in a property at the magnificent Highland Gate Golf & Trout Estate to enjoy these activities year round. Accommodation in the estate is always in rental demand with golfers so you can make your investment property work for you. For property sales contact Ronelle on 072 362 4308 or view www.century.co.za

