

PIEKENIERSKLOOF MOUNTAIN LODGE



A mere 180km from Cape Town, Piekenierskloof is the perfect base to discover the wonders of the surrounding areas.

To Book: Call 0860 10 23 74 or email:
bookings@dreamvac.com

Snuggled in the picturesque Cederberg Mountain Range is Piekenierskloof. Sixteen luxurious chalets each comprise of two bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, as well as an upstairs loft. Guests at the lodge can drink in the awe inspiring valley and mountain vistas from any of the chalets expansive patios.

The main highway north from Cape Town (the N7) leads you through the fertile Swartland region to the pleasant little towns of Citrusdal and Clanwilliam on the banks of the Oliphant's River.

Here the fertile countryside is renowned for its vineyards, olive groves, wheat, fruit and vegetables. Last but not least, the wild flowers which bloom in abundance in the spring creating magical tapestries of colour.

Needless to say the area has a deluge of outdoor activities, including hiking, water skiing, 4x4 trails, horse-riding; there are arts & crafts, farm stalls, museums, wine tasting and much, much more.

MALMESBURG TO PIKETBERG:

These two small centres lie at the heart of the Swartland ('black country'), so named for the dark grey renosterbos that covered its rich clay soils.

Malmesbury, which is a 45-minute drive from Cape Town, is one of the oldest of South Africa's country settlements, founded in the valley of the Diep River in 1743. The Oude Kerk was the first church that was built in the area and is now a museum. Jan Christiaan Smuts was born at on the Smut's family farm Bovenplaait in the nearby Riebeeck Valley. To the north-west making its presence felt "Castle Mountain" rises over the village of Riebeeck Kasteel, where a nature walk leads visitors through a magical tour through a beautiful fynbos area. In springtime, the whole of the Riebeeck Valley is impregnated with the sweet scent of the delicate pink and white peach blossoms. There is a wagon-making museum of the farm Spes Bona which boasts the country's biggest oak tree.

Next onto Moorreesburg, which is 40km along the N7, is distinguished by its wheat museum, one of only three such in the world. Piketberg is the next town. The perfect way to view the whole town of Piketberg and surrounding areas is to take a trip up Versveld Pass to the top of the mountain where you will drive through acres comprising of apple, pear, peach and orange trees. The top of Piket Mountain offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the regions large fruit and

grain farms. On a clear day you will be treated to a spectacular view of the West Coast and Table Mountain.

CITRUSDAL & CLANWILLIAM:

Approximately 11km's from Piekenierskloof is the town of Citrusdal which is nestled between the Cederberg and Oliphant's River Mountains and is the main centre of the citrus groves.

From Citrusdal & Clanwilliam one has easy access to the "The Baths" where there are hot and cold swimming pools. Beaverlac Nature Reserve, Bushman's Kloof Nature Reserve at Pakhuis (45km from Clanwilliam), Cederberg Wilderness area from the Middelberg Pass at Citrusdal to the north of Pakhuis. The Cederberg Mountains are part of the Cape folded mountain series and consist mainly of Table Mountain sandstone. Weathered sandstone formations, the Wolfberg Arch and Maltese cross

are typical of the Cederberg. The area, though, is especially noted for its 'rooibos "tea" made from the narrow-leafed shrub *Asphalathus linearis* that grows wild. Features of note in Clanwilliam itself include the local drostdy, or magistrate's court (built in 1808), the elegant Dutch Reformed Church (1864) and the Anglican Church.

Clanwilliam Dam & Ramskop Nature Garden: Waterspouts enthusiasts enjoy time at the dam, while the local Angling Club arranges regular competitions, of which the Bass Classic in October is probably the most significant. The Clanwilliam Dam is known as the most popular dam in the Western Cape for water-skiing. The Ramskop Nature Reserve is an attractive home to more than 250 different flowering plant species.

The mountains are home to a modest variety of animals, including baboon, caracal, the bat eared fox and a number of elusive antelope species, and to a surprisingly prolific bird life, but are best known for the superb diversity of endemic mountain fynbos.

The Cederberg region is one of the best areas for ancient San Rock Art in the world with over 2,500 discovered sights - a number of which are easily accessible.

The mountains are a magnet for hikers, climbers and lovers of nature.



<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Km's (Approx)</u>
Cape Town	Piekenierskloof	180km's
Cape Town	Malmesbury	52km's
Malmesbury	Moorreesburg	32km's
Moorreesburg	Piketberg	30km's
Piketberg	Velddrif	64km's
Piketberg	Porterville	26km's
Piketberg	Piekenierskloof	43km's
Piekenierskloof	Citrusdal	7km's
Piekenierskloof	Lambert's Bay	132km's
Citrusdal	The Baths	17km's
Citrusdal	Algeria	28km's
Citrusdal	Clanwilliam	56km's
Clanwilliam	Wuppertal	72km's
Clanwilliam	Lambert's Bay	69km's