

Wild Side Meander

Preamble

A hard walk along the magnificent coastline between Cape St Francis and the village of Oyster Bay, situated in Slangbaai. Walk includes stretches of soft sandy beaches, rocky paths and some scrambling. Not for the very young/old.

Detailed Description

Depart from the Cape St Francis resort at 0630. Pass through a short stretch of the Irma Booysen Floral Reserve in the Village and follow a well-defined coastal path along the edge of the Rocky Coast farm. The path soon joins a sandy stretch as you approach Rebelsrus. From here, follow a rough path above the very rugged coastline toward Thyspunt, where a light breakfast will be taken. The land around Thyspunt belongs to Eskom, who have purchased this beautiful stretch of coastline for the possible development of a nuclear reactor, a most controversial issue with the locals. From Thyspunt, the path follows the rocky coastline past White Point toward Oyster Bay. Stop at anytime for a swim on one of the awesome beaches or in a rock pool. Keep a sharp eye out for the many 'kitchen' middens left by ancient tribes who came to the coast to feast on the abundance of oysters, limpets and mussel. This was an essential part of their nomadic pattern and done to supplement iodine in their diet. The area abounds with bird life and small mammals may be seen, such as *dassie*, *grysbokkies* and the rare *Cape Clawless Otter*.

Once in Oyster Bay, you will make your way to the *Farmyard*, a local eating house of good repute where you will be treated to a sumptuous meal which will include free local wines. At lunch, you will also be presented with a Certificate of Completion of this arduous hike. A shuttle will return you to the Resort.

Essentials

Good walking shoes, sunblock and a hat, your bathing costume and a small day pack to carry water/snacks.

Length: Appr. 18km

Duration: Appr. 7-8hrs

Degree of Difficulty: Hard (please note that this hike is **not recommended** for young children or the elderly)

Additions

If required, this hike can be extended to include a night stay-over at:

1. a bush camp on a game farm. This camp is really basic with accommodation in a shepherd's hut without such luxuries as hot water
2. cottages in the village of Oyster Bay
3. the "Bat and the Boerboon on the Geelhoutrivier

Prices for an additional night on request.