

Explore Amajuba Routes

South Africa
KWAZULU-NATAL
Zulu Kingdom. Exceptional



Battlefields
CENTRE OF THE ZULU KINGDOM

NNHAUSER

R 621



Miemie Heyer

Common Sandpipers perching on a branch at the Newcastle duck ponds.

Welcome to Amajuba

Place of doves



As the legendary Zulu King Shaka rested at the foot of a towering mountain with a few of his men, a flock of doves suddenly took flight from a nearby forest and filled the sky. “kwaMajuba!” Exclaimed the warrior-king: “This is the place of the doves.” This north-western corner of the Zulu Kingdom came to be called Amajuba, the Zulu word for ‘doves’, which are recognised around the world as a symbol of peace.

The Amajuba District welcomes visitors to this beautiful and dramatic landscape that belies a history of war. Battle sites, memorials and graveyards are scattered across the land as testimony to the courage of the hundreds who lost their lives in the Transvaal War of Independence and the Anglo-Boer War.

Despite the powerful sense of history, the region’s name, Amajuba (‘place of doves’), signifies a new era of peace and the celebration of our beautiful country and its people. We invite you to explore the winding mountain passes of these routes and immerse yourself in the riches of this landscape and its people.

Something for everyone

Wherever your interests may lie, the Amajuba District has something to offer. If you seek exploration and adventure there is hiking, flyfishing, horseback riding, quadbiking and rapid riding. For the nature lovers there are game reserves, the vast unspoiled landscapes, 400 species of birds and cascading waterfalls. For those fascinated by history there is the Battlefields Route and the guided tours that give life to the historic sites with stories of war, triumph and defeat. Those who love arts, culture and crafts will find art exhibitions, collections and crafters displaying wonderful works that are

truly out of Africa.

Please note that we have established a number of fascinating tour routes to help you explore Amajuba. We have placed a route map on the inside back cover of this brochure to help you follow the routes.

Major towns

Newcastle has all the amenities of a city yet it retains the charm of a country town. Just outside Newcastle are the vibrant and colourful towns of Madadeni and Osizweni, which have raised talented leaders, crafters, dancers and artists. Dannhauser has a rich, cosmopolitan community of Zulu, Afrikaner, English, Hindu and Muslim inhabitants. Utrecht, tucked away in the imposing and wildlife-rich Balele Mountains, offers a rare experience – a town within a game park.

In Amajuba you will find a unique place of opportunity where cultural and religious diversity blend together in harmony. Few places have been able to combine the characteristics and opportunities of urban and rural living so successfully. The municipality has as its credo: “Thuthukani (prosper), Majuba”. And, indeed, Amajuba will continue to prosper as its wealth of attractions bring visitors back, again and again.

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Acknowledgements



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While every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this publication was correct at the time of going to press, visitors are advised to verify all information with service providers, tourism information officers or publicity associations.





Newcastle

The hub of Amajuba



Newcastle is the economic and commercial centre of the Amajuba region. This vibrant and modern town has the amenities of a city and all the charm of a country town with a backdrop of stunning mountains and golden grasslands. It is at the centre of the Amajuba Battlefields Route, the Amajuba Drakensberg Route and the Amajuba Townships Route. It is also at the heart of the Amajuba Birding Meander, which boasts some of the finest birding sites in the country.

Newcastle was prominent in the Transvaal War of Independence, with all three defining battles, Laing's Nek, Schuinshoogte and Majuba being fought within 40km of the town.

The town was also strategic in the Anglo-Boer War, featuring both Boer and English defences. After coal was discovered in the late 1800s, an era of prosperity saw several ambitious projects getting under way, including the Town Hall, which was completed in 1897 and opened in 1899 for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

Newcastle has the second largest steelworks in South Africa and its Blast Furnace has the greatest hearth in the southern hemisphere. Newcastle also has a wide range of industries including textiles, a synthetic rubber plant and a diamond cutting works.

There are shopping and educational centres, top-class facilities for major sports competitions, conferences and weddings, and parks in and around the city. A casino, restaurants, lodges, upmarket B&Bs and hotels complete the cosmopolitan picture. You can take in historical places of interest, visit a first-class art gallery, participate in the Arts & Crafts Route, and book a cultural tour to the townships for the opportunity to interact with the local people.

ENQUIRIES

Tourism Newcastle
Tel: 034 315 3318
Visit the office at the Town Hall, Scott Street, for up-to-date information on accommodation, restaurants as well as all activities in the Newcastle area • E-mail: info@newcastle.co.za
www.tourismnewcastle.co.za

NEWCASTLE MUST DOS:

The Carnegie Art Gallery houses a wonderful collection of African art and craft as well as contemporary art, and is active in promoting local artists. Open: Tuesday to Thursday 09h00-17h00, Friday 11h00-16h00, Saturday 09h00-12h00. Closed: Sunday, Monday and Public Holidays. Tel: 034 328 7622

Newcastle Mall: A safe, convenient and stylish modern shopping complex housing South Africa's top retail stores, restaurants, and banking institutions, alongside local businesses and a sprinkling of international brands. Tel: 034 326 1120

Duck Pond Bird Hide: This bird hide, sponsored by the Amajuba District Municipality, is a great spot to spend the afternoon spotting endemic species. Tel: 083 327 0789

Amur Falcon Roost: The biggest roost of Amur falcons in Africa can be seen between late November and March at the Farmers Hall. Tel: 083 327 0789

Black Rock Casino: This modern complex can be found just off the N11 outside Newcastle. It offers a glitzy casino, luxury 4-star accommodation, a wellness centre and restaurants. Tel: 034 328 1777

Haggard's Hilldrop B&B: If history interests you, the Treaty of London, giving independence back to the Transvaal under certain conditions, was negotiated and signed here in August 1881. It was also once the home of *King Solomon's Mines* author H. Rider Haggard. A national monument, the house is now a 4-star B&B with 26 private, en-suite rooms. Tel: 034 315 2098

St Dominic's Pavilion: Also a national monument, this elegant building, dating back to 1916, was designed as a skating rink and was used for social events. Contact Tourism Newcastle on Tel: 034 315 3318, for more information.

Town Hall: This national monument was built in 1897 in Scott Street to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Today it houses the offices of Tourism Newcastle.

Factory Tours: Visit a pottery or textile manufacturer, or a number of factory shops through Tourism Newcastle. Tel: 034 315 3318

Hindu Temple: This temple in Kirkland Street boasts a beautifully shaped shell. The dome is the largest on a Hindu temple in the southern hemisphere.

Fun Farm Entertainment: See a variety of domestic and exotic animals and reptiles, from camels to snakes, porcupines, duiker and wild African cats. Situated in the foothills of Amajuba Mountain, between Newcastle and Volksrust, it caters for school and church camps and other interested groups. By appointment only. Tel: 034 341 1788



The Friendship Garden welcomes visitors at the entrance to Newcastle.



Newcastle Mall is a modern and sophisticated shopping complex.



Luxury accommodation and delicious food at Tramonto Boutique Hotel and restaurant.

Below left and right: Visit the world-class casino, conference centre, hotel and spa at Black Rock Casino.





Experience vibrant traditional dancing at the Osizweni Art Centre.

Amajuba Townships Route: Madadeni and Osizweni



Feel the energy of township culture

The towns of Madadeni and Osizweni, just outside Newcastle, offer visitors an opportunity to experience the vibrant community atmosphere of African township life.

Travelling this route is also a reminder of the effects of apartheid in South Africa, for these townships are direct results of this social system. But the turbulent past gave rise to talented leaders, late soccer legends Samora Khulu and Sizwe Motaung, crafters, artists and dancers. Interesting places to visit are the community gardens, an organic vegetable growing project, artists' studios, a sangoma (healer) and a traditional place of healing (by appointment). For a real taste of the local culture, kick back and relax at a shebeen or tavern and enjoy traditional township music and dance displays. The Carnegie Art Gallery conducts day-tours to the townships, which focus not only on the traditional cultural heritage of the Zulu people, but also on aspects of modern urban living.

Many talented artists, crafters and performers in Madadeni and Osizweni are using their art as the means to transcend challenging economic conditions. Crafters create intricate and beautiful original African works using woven telephone

wire, sisal, plastic, grass and beadwork, and sell them in and around Newcastle. There are also vibrant Zulu dancers performing stirring and energetic traditional dance forms, which both attracts tourists and maintains cultural practices. Many of these dancers are based at the world-class Osizweni Art Centre and hall. At the Osizweni Handicraft Centre, metal workers and carpenters create many functional works that can be purchased.

Visit a local tavern and enjoy a night 'kasi-style'.



AMAJUBA TOWNSHIPS ROUTE:

TOWNSHIPS ROUTE MUST DOS:

Visit the **Osizweni Art Centre** where you can experience traditional dance, music, hymns and narrations of Zulu events and rituals, and South African history, through songs. Tel: 034 329 7253

Meet the flamboyant members of the **Real Kings Biker's Club**. These passionate motorbike enthusiasts travel the country taking part in rallies and support local charity projects and orphanages. Cell: 083 453 9232

The Osizweni Travel and Tourism Project is a pilot project owned and operated by members of the community, for information on tourism and environmental awareness programmes in schools. Cell: 072 118 2294

Living Art & Culture Tours to the township offer an introduction to contemporary and indigenous art and craft, vernacular architecture, traditional medicine and healing techniques.

Visit the **Thandusikolwakho Skills Development Project** encourages young people to respect ancient cultures, particularly in the face of the HIV/AIDS scourge. They are taught to maintain a moral lifestyle through the reed dance, *Unomkhubulwano* and *Umkhosi wokweshwama*. Traditional catering can be arranged and groups accommodated. Cell: 072 320 8606

At Madadeni, the **Insika Yabasha Project** grows organic vegetables. Pests are controlled by the use of 'weed-plants' instead of chemicals. Organic waste is used to enrich the soil. Tel: 034 329 5237

Visit the **Madadeni Self-Help Community Development Project**. (Tel: 034 314 4100), and **Ubuhle Leatherworks** (Cell: 078 161 4301) for sandals and handbags.

At **Masizithukise Multicultural Art and Craft**, crafters are involved in visual art, music, dance, drama and American traditional barn dancing. They use waste products for artwork and their visual art includes fabric painting, matchstick art, papier maché and stencilling. Tel: 034 314 1234

The **Osizweni Handicraft Centre** offers the disabled a chance to learn skills like carpentry, metalwork, sewing and beadwork, and you get the opportunity to buy their wares. Tel: 034 366 0036

Visit the home of **Dr F Ndimande**, a practicing Sangoma, at Gcwensa Cultural Village. Cell: 072 315 3668

At **Siyavuka Beads** you can buy beautiful beadwork in all forms. Cell: 076 313 1024

Visit **Iphiva Lodge** (Tel: 034 374 0635) or **Isakabuli B&B** (Tel: 034 314 4266) for a unique township B&B experience.

Try **Msouthern Tavern** (Tel: 034 329 4542), **Thabo's Tuckshop and Sports Bar** (Cell: 078 054 4074) or **Moralla Bottlestore & Tavern**, all in Madadeni, and **Hlanganani Bottlestore & Tavern** (Tel: 034 366 3083), in Osizweni, for traditional African food and drinks.

Newcastle Jazz Club

Chief Albert Luthuli An African luminary

Chief Albert Luthuli, eighth president of the ANC and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, was the principal and only teacher at the Intermediary School in Blaauwbosch (Newcastle) from 1917 to 1918. The Blaauwbosch community was a typical amaKholwa (African Christian community) dedicated to family values, education and spirituality. The school and the adjacent Methodist Church were built in 1912 and reflect the Umgabaan (iron stone) building style and sandstone work of the period. Luthuli was confirmed in the Methodist Church and became a lay preacher during his stay in Blaauwbosch. Christian principles profoundly affected his political style and beliefs for the rest of his life. Visit the historic school surrounded by gum trees, cattle kraals and traditional homesteads, where one of South Africa's greatest luminaries once resided and left his mark. There is a plaque at the school dedicated to Luthuli and the anti-apartheid struggle.



ENQUIRIES

Tourism Newcastle

Contact Tourism Newcastle for information on Township Tours and the Arts & Crafts Route
Tel: 034 315 3318 • Town Hall, Scott Street
E-mail: tourism@newcastle.gov.za



Osizweni Art Centre.

The Real Kings Bikers Club attend rallies all over the country.

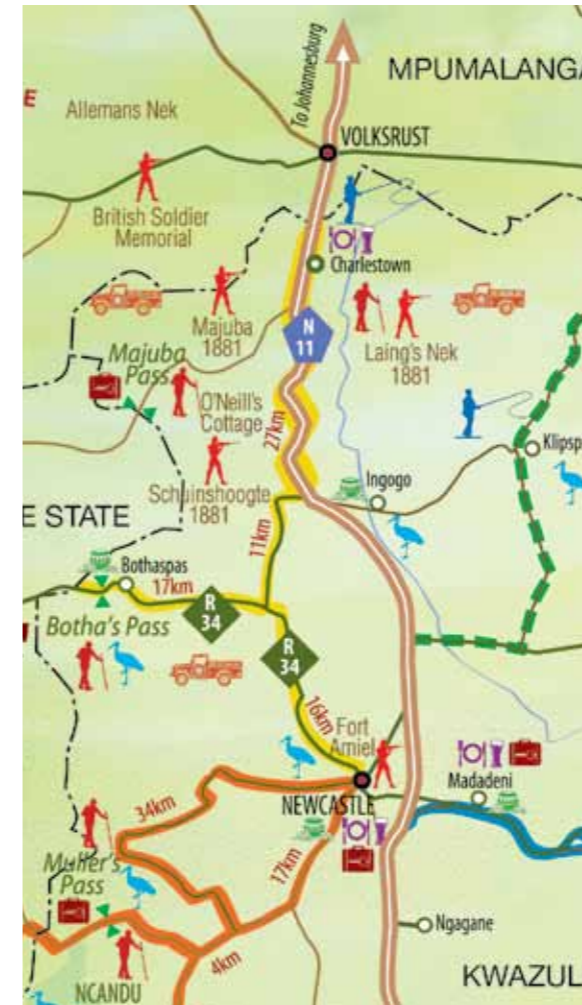




The guardhouse at Fort Amiel was once an outpost that protected the town.

Amajuba Battlefields Route

Memories of war; hopes of peace



AMAJUBA BATTLEFIELDS ROUTE: ■■■

BATTLEFIELDS ROUTE MUST DOS:

Fort Amiel was an important outpost, built in 1876 to secure Newcastle against possible attacks from the Zulus. This attractive historical complex overlooking the town houses a cultural/history museum. A cemetery dates to the Transvaal War of Independence. (Open weekdays 10h00-16h00, Saturdays 10h00-13h00.) Tel: 034 328 7621

Battle of Majuba site. From the Volksrust Road, take the Kwaggasnek turn-off. A short stretch of dirt takes you to the gates of the Commemorative Site. Newcastle Tourism will supply detailed maps. Expert guides can escort you and bring to life the stories of defeat and bravery.

Majuba Commemorative Farm. The history of Majuba Mountain is recorded in detail at a picturesque museum situated at the Commemorative Farm, some 40km from Newcastle. Tel: 017 735 1962

Laing's Nek Battlefield. Monuments and graves from the Transvaal War of Independence and the second Anglo-Boer War.

Schuinshoogte (Ingogo). Some 18km from Newcastle, this is the site of an unplanned attack on the British by the Boers that ended indecisively after a torrential downpour. The battle site includes a monument and a number of British graves.

The Armoury. Scott Street, Newcastle. The Newcastle Mounted Rifles built this arsenal in the 1870s. It is now used as a MOTH Shellhole.

Bothapas Kontreiwinkel on the foot of Botha's Pass on R34 Road to Newcastle sells homemade jam, ice-cold ginger beer, ethnic hand work, art and crafts. Tel: 082 698 2272

ENQUIRIES

Tourism Newcastle
For information on accommodation, restaurants and available activities on the Battlefields Route:
Tel: 034 315 3318 • Visit them at the Town Hall, Scott St
E-mail: tourism@newcastle.gov.za

Battlefields Route Association
Cell: 082 802 1643 • E-mail: route@battlefields.org.za • www.battlefieldsroute.co.za

The rugged mountains, grasslands and forests of Amajuba are forever marked with memories of the first Anglo-Boer War, or Transvaal War of Independence (1880 and 1881), and the second Anglo-Boer War (1899 to 1902). This region was a focal point in the Transvaal War of Independence, when battles were waged for Laing's Nek, Schuinshoogte and Majuba. The Amajuba Battlefields Route is integral to the internationally renowned Zulu Kingdom Battlefields Route, which traverses some 69 sites and memorials from Boer, British and Zulu battles.

The Zulu word 'amaJuba' means doves, traditionally a symbol of peace. According to legend, Zulu King Shaka and his raiding party stopped to rest at the foot of Majuba Mountain and, seeing large numbers of doves, called it kwaMajuba, "the place of the doves." Yet the reminders of centuries of bloody warfare are everywhere to be found.

It was here that the battles that decided the outcome of the Transvaal War of Independence in 1881 took place, when the burghers of Commandant General Piet Joubert soundly defeated the British forces of General Sir George Pomeroy Colley.

After seeing off Colley's troops at Laing's Nek and Schuinshoogte, General Joubert's forces went on to drive Colley's men from their position on top of the stark and imposing Majuba Mountain. Here General Colley was killed and some British ranks threw themselves from the mountain.

Although a peace treaty securing the future of the South African republic was thrashed out in March 1881 at O'Neill's Cottage below Majuba, the seeds for the second Anglo-Boer War had been sown.

Below left: A charming country farmstall on the road to Memel.



Below: The Majuba Commemorative Farm at the foot of the Majuba Mountain, site of the battles that decided the Transvaal War of Independence.

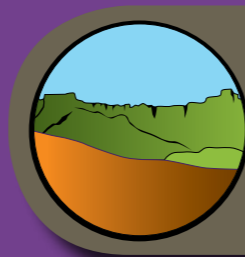




The Vulintaba Country Estate, where you can play a round of golf against the backdrop of the Drakensberg foothills.

Amajuba Drakensberg Route

Explore the rugged foothills



The Amajuba District lies at the foot of the mighty Drakensberg escarpment. The mountains, valleys, forests and plains provide an exciting destination for hiking, horse-riding and 4x4 trails, while the clear streams offer many opportunities for flyfishing. Panoramic views, wildlife and birdlife make it a favoured destination among hikers and climbers.

A lovely route noted for its scenery and wildlife will take you along the foot of the Amajuba Drakensberg, before climbing some 600m to the top of the escarpment on a trail that passes many game farms where you might see zebra, springbok, wildebeest and other animals.

A winding road takes you into the beautiful Koolhoek Valley to the headwaters of the Klip River. Here the wetland provides sanctuary for stork populations and there are common sightings of cranes, herons and many other bird species. At the end of the valley the road climbs to the edge of the escarpment, presenting panoramic views, before finally dropping down a steep and winding pass into Normandien and the road back to Newcastle. Vehicles with high clearance are required.

Vulintaba Country Estate has developed 12km and 24km hiking trails and a 50km mountain biking trail. Indigenous trees have been name-tagged and yellowwood forests, mountain pools and waterfalls along the trails are ideal for

nature lovers. There are mountain cottages available, which are part of a two-day hiking route or 4x4 trail. Vulintaba also has a classy 9-hole, 18-tee golf course.

Hiking and horse trails can take you up Muller's Pass to a paradise of deep gorges, tumbling waterfalls, indigenous forests, game, rock painting and fossils.

The Chelmsford Game Reserve surrounding the Ntshingwayo Dam provides visitors with hiking trails, fishing, bird-watching, game viewing, as well as boating and water sports. The reserve has South Africa's largest population of the rare oribi antelope in its 1000ha game park, which is well stocked with a range of highveld game such as zebra, springbok, wildebeest, blesbok, rietbok and porcupine. Fishermen are rewarded with catches of carp, barbel and scabies.

Other trails explore the area through which the Ncandu River winds, offering spectacular scenery, game, birdlife, a clear mountain river and streams.

AMAJUBA DRAKENSBERG ROUTE



AMAJUBA DRAKENSBERG ROUTE: 

ENQUIRIES

Tourism Newcastle
Contact Tourism Newcastle for information on accommodation, restaurants and activities on the Drakensberg Route. • Tel: 034 315 3318 • Visit them at the Town Hall, Scott St
E-mail: tourism@newcastle.gov.za

DRAKENSBERG ROUTE MUST DOS:

Grey Goose Game Lodge will create a lavish wedding for up to 400 people. The honeymoon suite comes complete with an atrium shower. Your guests can enjoy luxury in tranquil surroundings, with game drives, helicopter tours and bass and trout fishing on your doorstep. Tel: 034 315 3221 or 082 615 1039

Vulintaba Country Estate: A lifestyle and golfing estate just outside Newcastle. Includes mountain biking trails, hiking trails and a world-class 9-hole golf course. Trout fishing dams, an adventure centre, hotel, resort and spa are being developed. Tel: 034 314 9807

The Zebra Events Venue hosts conferences, weddings and functions in the heart of the bush where zebra, giraffe and eland roam wild. Tel: 082 785 0548

Horse-ride up a mountain or take your 4x4 through its paces with **Majuba Lodge**. Tel: 034 315 5011

Overload your senses and sit among **Normandien's wildflowers**.

Visit **Bonani Game Reserve** for excellent birding and wildlife viewing.

Birdwatch at Ncandu Falls – take a picnic and spend the day in beautiful surroundings.

Chelmsford Nature Reserve and Ntshingwayo Dam, Tel: 034 351 1753



Traditional homesteads can be seen along this scenic route.



Southern Red Bishops love the grassy plains and wetlands of this area.



Above and below: Relax at the idyllic Engoo River Lodge.





The Utrecht Town Hall and quiet country streets.

Utrecht – Town within a Game Park

Charming country town



Tucked beneath the Balele Mountains is the quaint town of Utrecht, rich in history and charm, offering striking architecture – and the only town in South Africa that is encircled by a game park. This largely undiscovered gem is increasingly attracting flyfishermen, birdwatchers and others passionate about getting close to nature. Wetlands, forests, rivers and mountains provide a home for rare birds and animals – including a resident leopard; waterfalls and rapids slice through gorges and provide all levels of water for canoeing and rafting; and dramatic kranzes challenge climbers and 4x4 enthusiasts to take on rock-strewn trails.

Utrecht was one of five original Voortrekker towns laid out before 1850. The town played a prominent role in the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 when, for several weeks, Colonel Evelyn Wood's No. 3 column was stationed here and used the town as their main supply base. The Dutch Reformed Church rises above the small town and is the site of a plaque commemorating the Polish officer Leo Pokrowsky, who died fighting for the Boers.

A brochure, available from the Utrecht Museum, describes the history and interesting architectural features of the town and guides you to 10 national monuments and 10 historic sites. Beautiful historical buildings include the Old Parsonage, which dates back to 1888, now housing the Utrecht Museum, the sandstone Dutch Reformed Church, an interesting old military cemetery and quaint colonial houses.

The Utrecht Balele Conservancy and Game Park, which includes the northern and western reaches of the Balele Mountains surrounding the town (Amajuba Balele Route),

symbolises a commitment to preserving this remarkable landscape. Some 10 000 hectares of indigenous bushveld have been set aside as a conservancy and 2500 hectares have been enclosed as a game park, which includes a fine herd of giraffe, along with impala, blesbok, kudu, eland, Burchell's zebra and an elusive leopard.

There are many species of birds that are attracted to the lake and adjacent wetlands. The park has luxurious self-service lodges on the hillside overlooking the dam and town, as well as a number of fisherman's cabins along the lake.

The area surrounding the town has several trout fishing establishments, as well as bird-watching and quad bike trails.

The Amajuba Bivane Route provides equally breathtaking scenery and is a wildlife, fishing and hiking destination. It incorporates an area from Knight's Pass and includes the wild lands that are dissected by the Ncome (Blood) and Bivane Rivers.

UTRECHT MUST DOS:



Oppie Plaas Lapa is a rustic farm-style functions venue overlooking a grassy plain with a natural pan. The venue hosts weddings, conferences and parties, and has a lovely bonfire and braai area.

Visit the **Amajuba Aquaponics Farm**, a fully organic hydroponic and aquaculture initiative that produces tomatoes, cucumbers, green beans, and okra. Aquaponics also farms Talapia (fish) and they use the fish water to sustain the vegetables. Tel: 082 326 5570

Paisley and Pomegranate Restaurant provides sumptuous meals. Cell: 072 239 8257

Utrecht Country Club offers various sports facilities, including a 9-hole golf course, six tennis courts, two bowling greens, a squash court and a huge swimming pool. There is a restaurant, sports bar and big hall for functions. It also has a rugby/soccer field with floodlights. The club is next door to the Balele Game Park and Caravan Resort, 2km outside town, and visitors are encouraged to make use of the facilities. Tel: 034 331 3963

Old Residency/Parsonage. Built for Reverend and Mrs HL Neethling in 1888, it houses Utrecht's Museum. Now a national monument, it exhibits various artefacts from the Stone Age to the Victorian influences in Africa and the Utrecht area.

The Dutch Reformed Church. A national monument built in sandstone with oregon eaves and pews. The foundation stone was laid by General Piet Joubert, Commandant General of the ZAR. The Burger Monument of the second Anglo-Boer War stands in the church square.

Landdros, Pos en Telegraafkantoor. Built in 1892, this national monument and museum has period rooms and portrays the border dispute between the former Transvaal and Zululand.

Old Cemetery. The last resting place of Voortrekker and British soldiers, including Stephen Thornton Phillimore, the British Army Deputy Commissioner during the Anglo-Zulu War.

Anglican Church. Completed in 1899, the interior of this small church, which is built of sandstone, is an architectural attraction.

The Uys House: One of the oldest buildings in KwaZulu-Natal, dating to 1856, it was the home of 'Swart Dirk' Uys, the first Commandant of Utrecht.

The Rothman and Shaw houses. Both national monuments, they are considered to be among the finest examples of Natal colonial architecture in rural KwaZulu-Natal.

ENQUIRIES

Balele Tourism Association
Tel: 034 314 6354 • Cell: 082 876 8220 • E-mail: antons@crazyweb.co.za

Emadlangeni Municipality
Tel: 034 331 3041/4271 • Caravan Park, Voor Street • www.emadlangeni.gov.za

Zebra roam the Balele Game Park.



The sandstone Dutch Reformed Church defines the Utrecht skyline.



Luscious tomatoes growing at the Amajuba Aquaponics Farm.



Oppie Plaas Lapa, a rustic country functions venue.

The Balele mountains rise above Utrecht.





Looking down from the Balele Mountains.



Cabins at the Balele Game Park and Caravan Resort.

Amajuba Balele Route

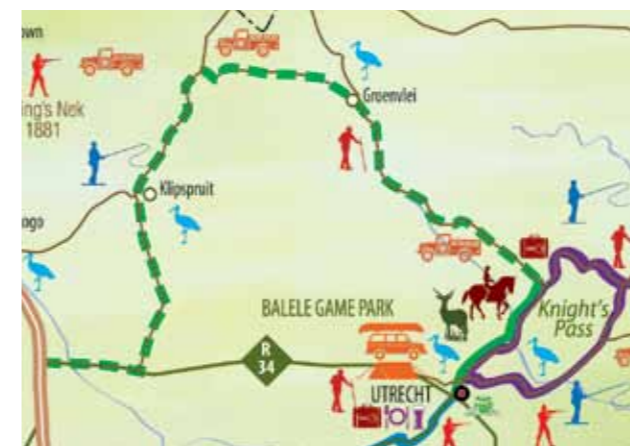
Journey to the wilderness



The Balele Mountains form part of the spectacular escarpment between KwaZulu-Natal and the Mpumalanga Highveld. The 80km Balele Route climbs up off the level grasslands of the KZN middle veld and winds its way up a mountain pass out on to a ridge overlooking the Zaaihoek Dam.

Here the route splits – to the left it meanders through the hills to come out at Wakkerstroom, and to the right the route runs alongside the Slang River and into a long valley leading to Groenvlei. At Groenvlei the route turns to the right, climbing up and over the first row of mountains before dropping down another mountain pass which leads to Utrecht. At the highest point on this section is the Balele Mountain Lodge, with self-catering chalets and a magnificent view south over the Amajuba District. In its final stage the route takes you past the Balele Game Park and winds its way down another steep, short pass to emerge in the town of Utrecht. The Balele Route traverses the border with Mpumalanga and is notable for its vast panorama and abundant birdlife. It connects to the Amajuba Bivane Route at Utrecht, making the two routes perfect for a day trip.

See game such as giraffe at Balele Game Park.



AMAJUBA BALELE ROUTE: ■

BALELE ROUTE MUST DOS:



At the **Balele Game Park** stay in a safari tent with a wooden deck, hunker down in a campsite or enjoy a wooden fishing chalet right on the edge of the dam. There is a waterfall tucked just below the Balele escarpment and the park is known for its prolific wildlife, including some 15 game species and over 250 recorded bird species. There are also picnic sites under the towering trees, and guided walks and game drives can be organised. Tel: 034 331 4271

At **Balele Mountain Lodge** go horse riding, hiking, take a 4x4 trail or enjoy some of the best bird and game viewing. There are 12 stocked trout dams, so fishing enthusiasts will definitely be busy. Tel: 017 730 0418/ Cell: 082 772 8881

Balele Adventures is a one-stop-adventure-shop for tourists in and around Utrecht. They make use of different lodges, game and trout farms. Specialist activities are a three-day horse trail from Lunenburg to Utrecht. On the way, learn about trout fishing, how to take GPS readings and enjoy swimming in rivers, sitting around a campfire and listening to the nightlife. They offer children's adventure camps as well as conference packages. Game drives, bush braais, bird-watching trails, mountain and quadbiking trails, and hiking trails can all be arranged. Cell: 082 872 6205

i ENQUIRIES
Balele Tourism Association
 Tel: 034 314 6354 • Cell: 082 876 8220 • E-mail: antons@crazyweb.co.za
Emadlangeni Municipality
 Tel: 034 331 3041/4271 • Caravan Park, Voor Street • www.emadlangeni.gov.za

A local shows off a glistening bass caught at the Club 35 Dam.





Amajuba Bivane Route

Waterfalls and winding mountain passes



The Amajuba Bivane Route runs for some 43km across breathtaking mountain passes, over rushing streams and through shady forests. The route gives you the option of leaving Utrecht via Knights Pass with its stunning view over the town or bearing to the right to meander through a forested area before turning right again and travelling south through Blood River Poort.

This route offers some interesting and varied scenery and is popular with the bird-watching community, while its many streams offer a number of trout fishing opportunities, most notably Bivane River Lodge, a comfortable, well-established eight bed, self-catering Lodge situated on the Bivane River. Waterloo Farm has two self-catering cottages perched on a hillside overlooking trout dams built on the Ncome ("Blood") River.

Also on the route is Bivane Wetland Reserve, a leisure destination for families and special interest enthusiasts. The art of flyfishing is the main activity, while horse riding, rambling, 4x4 driving, hiking, mountain biking and birding are all options. At Luiperd Kloof, as the name suggests, leopard are known to inhabit the forest. Old stone structures found at high points, from which there are excellent views of the flats below the mountain, are thought to be remnants of

blockhouses erected by Boers to spy on troop movements during the Boer Wars.

This is also the area where Colonel Evelyn Wood kept his remounts at the time of the Anglo-Zulu War. Where the road through Blood River Poort exits onto the plains you will find the monument to the Battle of Blood River Poort, where a British force pounced on a Boer patrol only to be quickly overwhelmed by the main Boer force making its way down the poort in 1901.

ENQUIRIES
Balele Tourism Association
 Tel: 034 314 6354 • Cell: 082 876 8220 • E-mail: antons@crazyweb.co.za
Emadlangeni Municipality
 Tel: 034 331 3041/4271 • Caravan Park, Voor Street • www.emadlangeni.gov.za

AMAJUBA BIVANE ROUTE



AMAJUBA BIVANE ROUTE: [purple bar]

BIVANE ROUTE MUST DOS:



Drive to the **Bivane Waterfall**, the most impressive waterfall in the area, about an hour outside Utrecht. It is some 30 metres high, and you can have a refreshing swim in the deep pool at the bottom. This is on private land, so make prior arrangements with the Bivane Wetland Reserve. Cell: 082 944 0490

Give the children a real-life working farm experience with sheep, cattle and horses or go for an outride on excellent horses of the **Boerperd** breed – comfortable English saddles are used.

Visit **Luiperd Kloof Trout Lodge**, which is a Natural Heritage Site (No. 47) and a habitat for rare and threatened plant and fauna species, as well as indigenous forests. You might even spot a leopard. Luiperd Kloof is also a listed Environmental Atlas site (No. 673), comprising an aquifer recharge area and functioning natural streams and wetlands within the Bivane River catchment area. Tel: 034 331 4598

Why not try your hand at some fly-fishing? Tel: 082 772 8881

The **Entabeni Hiking Trails** on the Waaihoek and Groothoek farms offer 5km, 8km and 10km of easy to moderate walks. Three trails stretch over beautiful valleys, mountain streams, indigenous forests and offer a panoramic view of the Balele Mountains. There is a large variety of flora, birdlife and small game.

Visit **Waterloo Farm**, part of the Ncome Game Farm Complex, which is well stocked with game including eland, black wildebeest, blesbok, springbok, reedbuck, mountain reedbuck and duiker, among others. Try your hand at flyfishing for rainbow and brown trout in three dams. Waterloo Farm also offers day fishing on 12km of the Bivane River, some 20km from the farm. Tel: 034 331 4440



The spectacular waterfall at the Bivane Wetland Reserve.



A local travels the Bivane Route.



This area abounds with great fishing destinations.

The beautiful Nyala antelope.





The view over the bustling little town of Dannhauser.



The quiet Tweediedale Dam on the Buhle-Bomzinyathi Route.

Dannhauser

A diverse and colourful region



The Dannhauser Municipality encompasses a region from Normandien in the Drakensberg Mountain Range in the west, to the rural Buffalo Flats in the east, and three small towns – Dannhauser, Durnacol and Hattingspruit – which all offer something unique to the visitor. The diverse community, with its cultural and historical attractions, its rich and varied bird life and other points of interest, make it an interesting stopover point for those looking for an experience that is slightly ‘off the beaten track’.

Dannhauser is popular among birding enthusiasts for its many wetland birds and waterfowl, and it provides idyllic fishing and picnicking spots at the Tom Worthington Dam, where major sport events also take place, including annual triathlons and sailing regattas. The Normandien area, which straddles the Amajuba Drakensberg Route and the Amajuba Buhle-Bomzinyathi Route, offers glorious mountain landscapes and wildflowers. There are game farms, horse riding, hiking and 4x4 trails available, and a variety of quaint, comfortable accommodation options.

In 1902, Durban Navigation Collieries (Durnacol) was formed and began mining operations, and the last shaft was closed in 2001. Durnacol, later taken over by Iscor, provided employment for up to 6000 people at some stages of its existence, and has left a colourful past in its wake. Many families living in Dannhauser today are descendants of the coal miners who worked the coalfaces over the last century.

In a self-help project initiated between Kumba Resources and the Durnacol community when the mine closed, workers were trained in practical welding skills and business management skills. The group uses the Old Locomotive Shed, which dates back to the 1930s, where they produce engineering structures and metal arts and crafts.

Established as a mining town in the 1800s, Dannhauser was a hub of activity but, with the closure of the mines, it has been transformed into a peaceful village with a country atmosphere. Explore and enjoy country life at its best!

i ENQUIRIES
 Dannhauser Municipality
 Tel: 034 621 2666 • 8 Church St, Dannhauser • E-mail: nkosiwb@dannhauser.gov.za

DANNAUSER MUST DOS:



Visit **St Margaret's Presbyterian Church**, which has served the communities of Dannhauser, Durnacol and the surrounding farms for more than a century, to view its beautiful stained glass windows dedicated by the women of the Durban Navigation Collieries in 1933. Make an appointment through the local tourism association.

To enjoy rich and varied birdlife, visit the Dannhauser sewer filtration ponds and **Tom Worthington Dam**, just outside Dannhauser. The dam is a favourite weekend venue for locals and visitors from surrounding towns for picnicking, fishing and bird-watching.

Visit **Bonani Game Ranch** for 4x4 adventure and hunting Cell: 082 820 8821

Enjoy Indian cuisine at **Horizons Restaurant**.
 Tel: 034 621 2909

Visit **Larry & Fredericke's Clivia Collection** where Larry will inspire you to grow your own clivia and orchids. Tel: 034 622 5655



Shisa nyama or 'hot meat' is a favourite amongst locals.



Amajuba Buhle-Bomzinyathi Route

From rolling hills and golden grasslands



The Amajuba Buhle-Bomzinyathi Route cuts across from the Amajuba Drakensberg Route eastwards along the southern side of the Chelmsford Game Reserve to cross the N11 and pass through the town of Dannhauser and the village of Hattingspruit.

East of the N11 at the beginning of the route is Bonani Game Ranch, an excellent game lodge with private luxury chalets and a game viewing platform.

From the route one gets some wide panoramic views of the Drakensberg and Balele Mountain escarpments as well as across the Ntshingwayo Dam. The Dannhauser area is primarily rolling open farmland where cattle and maize are the main products.

The main town is Dannhauser, which along with the village of Durnacol originally served the old, now defunct Durban Navigational Collieries that mined coal for the export and domestic markets. Now that the coal has been worked out and the mine is closed these two towns service the large farming community and the new coalmine at Springlake, which lies midway between Dannhauser and Hattingspruit.

The village of Hattingspruit sits on the banks of the very attractive Tom Worthington Dam and it is here you will find a number of homely B&B establishments catering for the fishing fraternity.

Dannhauser and Hattingspruit area are also known for dairy farming.



AMAJUBA BUHLE-BOMZINYATHI ROUTE: ■

Stay in a thatched rondavel at the Kwalanga B&B.



The colourful town of Dannhauser.





The Madadeni Duck Ponds outside Newcastle, where you can see many duck species, waders and herons. Inset: Greater striped swallow.

Amajuba Birding Meander

A birding paradise



The Amajuba Birding Meander offers a wide range of activities for birding enthusiasts, particularly those seeking species that prefer “grassveld meets berg” habitats. A whole range of species normally associated with grassveld, bushveld and mountain habitats are to be found and the region is well known for its water birds.

The best birding in the region will be found, roughly, along the Amajuba Drakensberg Route: the Normandien Pass area to Memel, Kwaggasnek and Botha’s Pass; and on the Bivane and Balele Routes around Utrecht and Knight’s Pass, the region immediately east of Ingogo and the Zaihoek/Groenvlei region.

Besides offering a wide variety of birds to add to your lists, you can do so in the scenic beauty of Ntshingwayo Dam in the Chelmsford Game Reserve, the Ncandu Forest, the Botha’s, Muller’s and Normandien Passes, and the incredibly bird-rich Utrecht region.

Close to 400 species of birds have been identified within the Amajuba Birding Meander. It is home to three critically endangered species, 13 vulnerable species and 18 near-threatened species.

The region is particularly significant as it affords birding enthusiasts relatively easy sightings of some special species of birds, from the African spoonbill to most of the ducks of southern Africa, harriers, kestrels and eagles – and a remarkable variety of LBJs (little brown jobs), including Rudd’s lark.

The Balele Mountain Reserve at Utrecht is a must for its range of species not normally encountered in the grassveld biome. These include the fiscal flycatcher, goldenbreasted bunting, blackthroated canary, most of the robins, bush blackcap and several kingfishers.

The Madadeni Duck Ponds provides a garden-like setting and is home to pairs of Cape shoveller, Egyptian goose, dabchick, coot and Cape teal. Most southern African ducks breed here, with blackcrowned night heron and squacco heron regarded as permanent residents. Waders can be studied at close quarters during the summer months. This is an excellent spot for water bird photography.

Spotted Eagle Owl.



Miriam Heyer

BIRDING MEANDER MUST DOS:



See the biggest roost of **Amur Falcons** in Africa, when about 15 000 falcons roost at Farmers Hall from late November to mid-March. The Falcons migrate to Mongolia for the European summer. Visit the Barn Swallow roost at Amcor Dam from November to mid-March. Tel: 083 327 0789

Visit the **Balele Community Game Park, Utrecht, Balele Mountain Lodge** and **Waterloo Farm** for bush, veld and wetland species.

Visit significant birdwatching destinations:

- The bushveld habitats around Utrecht, including Balele Mountain Reserve.
- Ncandu Forest, the second largest indigenous forest in KwaZulu-Natal and a high-altitude forest that is relatively unknown as few studies of its birdlife have been done. Species known to inhabit it are the bush blackcap, olive woodpecker, Heuglin’s robin and African wood owl. A positive sighting of the endangered Cape parrot has been made.
- High altitude habitats through Normandien, Muller’s and Botha’s Passes.
- Madadeni Duck Ponds
- Ntshingwayo Dam
- Amcor Dam
- Grey Goose Game Lodge
- Vulintaba Country Estate
- The pans to the north of Newcastle’s Steel Works
- The Ingogo Valley.

BIRDING SPECIALS

Amajuba birding specials include the blue crane, bush blackcap, little bittern, eastern redfooted kestrel, greywinged francolin, Rudd’s lark, buffstreaked chat, Botha’s lark, blacknecked grebe, yellowbreasted pipit, bald ibis and wattled cranes. Other significant birds found in the Amajuba region include:

- Ground woodpecker
- Blue korhaan
- Both sparrowhawks
- Yellowbreasted pipit
- Palecrowned cisticola
- All three of the cranes
- Black egret
- All five of the harriers
- Mountain chat
- Most of the kestrels
- Grass owl
- Most southern African ducks



Amur Falcon.

Rina Pretorius

ENQUIRIES

BirdLife Northern Natal (BLNN)

The organisation can help with accommodation and provide tour guides.

Contact Sylva: 034 315 2273; or Rina Pretorius: 083 327 0789.

Visit their website at www.blenn.org.za.

Copies of the BLNN guide are available for free from Tourism Newcastle or from BLNN.



Birders enjoying the view from the hide at the Madadeni Duck Ponds.



Sacred Ibis.



Little Grebe in breeding plumage.



Long tailed widowbird.

White-fronted bee-eater.



Miriam Heyer



ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS

Amajuba District Municipality

Tel: 034 329 7200
Cell: 082 777 5886 • B9356 Amajuba Building, Madadeni
E-mail: tourism@amajuba.gov.za • www.amajuba.gov.za

Battlefields Route Association

Tel/Fax: 032 946 1198
Cell: 082 802 1643 • E-mail: route@battlefields.org.za
www.battlefieldsroute.co.za

BirdLife Northern Natal

Sylva – Tel: 034 315 2273
Rina Pretorius – Cell: 083 327 0789 • www.blenn.org.za

Dannhauser Municipality

Tel: 034 621 2666
8 Church St, Dannhauser • Email: nkosiwb@dannhauser.gov.za

Tourism Newcastle

Tel: 034 315 3318 • Town Hall, Scott St
E-mail: tourism@newcastle.gov.za

Balele Tourism Association

Tel: 034 314 6354
Cell: 082 876 8220 • E-mail: antons@crazyweb.co.za

Emadlangeni Municipality

Tel: 034 331 3041/4271 • Caravan Park,
Voor Street • www.emadlangeni.gov.za

Newcastle (Amajuba Battlefields, Amajuba Drakensburg and Amajuba Townships Routes)

Accommodation

Arbor Guesthouse

Tel: 034 326 4575 • Cell: 082 805 6547
2D Magnolia Street, Arbor Park • E-mail: arbor1@telkomsa.net
www.arborbnb.co.za

Avalon Guest Manor

Tel: 034 325 0591 • Cell: 084 624 2696
Email: info@avalonguestmanor.co.za • www.avalonguestmanor.co.za

Blackrock Casino Newcastle

Tel: 034 328 1777/58
100 Allen Street • E-mail: veneshriec@tsogosun.com
www.blackrockcasino.co.za

Camelot Guesthouse

Tel: 034 315 3333 • Cell: 072 128 3753
121 Impala Drive • E-mail: info@camelothotel.co.za
www.camelothotel.co.za

Century Place B&B

Tel: 034 315 5929 • Cell: 084 822 4248
96 Patterson Street • E-mail: smalefamily@telkomsa.net

Comfit Zone B&B

Tel: 034 317 2490 • Cell: 083 635 3811
No. 64 C Osbourne St, Lennoxton
E-mail: neeran.maharaj@unilever.com

Drakensbergkloof

Tel: 034 341 1910 • Cell: 082 808 1416
Doornhoek • E-mail: gcon@telkomsa.net
www.drakensbergkloof.page.tl

Vulintaba Country Estate

Cell: 0861 2222 59 • Doornhoek
E-mail: marx@vulintaba.co.za • www.vulintaba.co.za

Farmhouse Lodge

Tel: 034 315 1854 • Cell: 072 712 0500
No. 1 Hilldrop Road • E-mail: farmhouse@lodge@gmail.com
www.farmhouse@lodge.co.za

Gracelands Guesthouse

Tel: 034 326 3263 • Cell: 078 376 6765
72 Magnolia Street • E-mail: ntokoza4@aol.com

Grey Goose Game Lodge

Tel: 034 315 3221
Cell: 082 615 1039 • Sukses Farm, R34 (Memel Road)
E-mail: res@greygoose.co.za • www.greygoose.co.za

Guesthouse Kestrels

Tel: 034 312 3484 • Cell: 079 957 3060
95 Voortrekker Street • E-mail: guestshari@mweb.co.za
www.guesthousekestrels.co.za

Haggards Hilldrop B&B

Tel/Fax: 034 315 2098 • Cell: 082 856 7696
15 Hilldrop Road • E-mail: info@haggards.co.za
www.haggardsshilldrop.co.za

House Ebony

Tel: 034 312 2610 • Cell: 082 770 4040
15 Ebony Street, Arbor Park • E-mail: ans_bester@yahoo.com
www.houseebony.co.za

Iphiva Lodge

Tel: 034 374 0635 • Cell: 076 645 1468 • No. F 1719,
Section 6, Madadeni • E-mail: iphivalodge@hotmail.co.za

Isakabuli B&B

Tel: 034 314 4266 • Cell: 076 424 7876
Email: isakabulibookings@gmail.com

Isidingo Guesthouse

Tel: 034 325 0118/7 • Cell: 073 239 1619
18 Loerie Street, Aviary Hill • E-mail: info@isidingoguesthouse.co.za
www.isidingoguesthouse.co.za

Izinga Guesthouse

Tel: 034 325 0333 • Cell: 082 260 1506
11 Heuvel St, Hutten Heights • E-mail: igh@telkomsa.net
www.izingagh.co.za

KhayaMini Self-catering and B&B

Tel: 034 312 6264
Cell: 083 627 6442 • Email: khayamini@gmail.com
www.khayamini.blogspot.com

Loli's B&B

Tel: 034 318 7298 • Cell: 083 589 6271
Email: lolis.bednbreakfast@gmail.com

Majuba Lodge

Tel: 034 315 5011 • Cell: 082 888 1340 • 27 Victoria Rd
E-mail: enquiries@majuba.co.za • www.majubalodge.net

Maseko Villa

Cell: 083 509 0751 • G9326, Section 3, Madadeni

Monika's Guesthouse

Tel: 017 735 1238 • Cell: 072 109 4445
500m from Volksrust on the N11
E-mail: admin@monikas-guesthouse.co.za
www.monikas-guesthouse.co.za

Newcastle Country Lodge

Tel: 034 315 3222 • Memel Rd
E-mail: mb@nclodge.co.za
www.newcastlecountrylodge.co.za

Patterson B&B

Tel: 034 312 2947 • Cell: 082 806 7552
77 Patterson Street • E-mail: pattersonbnb@telkomsa.net
www.pattersonbnb.co.za

Robins Nest B&B

Tel: 034 312 7643 a/h • Cell: 082 808 1392
25 Jooste Road • E-mail: pikkies@telkomsa.net

Santorini Suites Boutique Guesthouse

Cell: 082 459 6783
Email: info@santorinisuites.co.za • www.santorinisuites.co.za

Sintokha Guesthouse

Tel: 034 318 5591 • Cell: 072 834 3798
13 Citrine Avenue • E-mail: nonhlanhlaj08@gmail.com

The Oak Tree

Tel: 034 312 1497
8 Hilldrop Rd • E-mail: bhogal@newcastle.za.net

Tigerskloof B&B

Tel: 034 315 3856 • Cell: 083 698 3242
Farm Tigerskloof N11, Ladysmith Rd
E-mail: ger@intekom.co.za • www.tigerskloof.co.za

TLMZ Guesthouse

Tel: 034 318 3471 • Cell: 082 856 7765
Email: tlmztrading@gmail.com

2The End

Tel/Fax: 034 315 5942 • Cell: 083 648 7069
No. 2 End Lane • E-mail: jackerman@vodamail.co.za

Zamabongi Guesthouse

Tel: 034 325 9120 • Cell: 079 889 0746
3 Lukas Meyer Street, Pioneer Park

Zipho's B&B

Tel: 034 318 6741 • Cell: 072 252 7849
139 Drakensberg Road • Email: stay@ziphos.co.za
www.ziphos.co.za

Game Reserve

Chelmsford Game Reserve • Tel/Fax: 034 351 1753 • Richgate Park
www.kznwildlife.com

Restaurants and Taverns

Msouthern Tavern • Tel: 034 329 4542 • Cell: 083 773 5179

Thabo's Tuckshop and Sports Bar • Cell: 078 054 4074)

Hlanganani Bottlestore & Tavern • Tel: 034 366 3083

Mid-City Grill

Tramonto Restaurant

Goose Berries Restaurant • Tel: 034 315 3221

The Cannon Restaurant

Pint and Pigout

Eds Restaurant

MiCaBella

Chin-Shu Chinese Restaurant

Riuy Restaurant

Ekhaya Lounge

Ocean Basket

Mc Donald

Gecko's Coffee Shop and Lounge

The Food Garden

Romans Pizza

Mugg and Bean

Cappello

Life Cafe'

Spur

Steers

Wimpy

Debonairs

Fish Aways

Roman's Pizza

Kentucky Fried Chicken

Chicken Licken

Hungry Lion

Nandos

His Café

Machachos

Porto Fish & Chips

Taxi Service

ACC Transport Services • Tel: 034 318 1818

Cell: 082 477 7214 • 4 Ingogo Ave, Ncandu Park

Traditional Dance, Culture and Crafts

Gcwensa Cultural Village • Cell: 072 315 3668 • BR2 Road,
Blaaubosch Farm

Madadeni Self-help Community Development Project

Tel: 034 314 4100 • No. 7307 (or contact No. 6902) Section 4,
Madadeni

Makhelwane Craft Shop

Cell: 072 415 2153/072 882 0035
Ingogo Farm, 15km from Newcastle on N11 to Volksrust

Osizweni Handicraft Centre

Tel: 034 366 0036
Cell: 073 159 7428 • A5762, Osizweni

E-mail: handicraftcentre@kznsocdev.gov.za

Siyavuka Beads • Cell: 076 313 1024 • No. 4562 (Sibisi Stand),
Johnstone, Madadeni

Thandusikolwakho Skills Development Project

Cell: 072 320 8606 • D705, Osizweni

Township Tours (Carnegie Art Gallery)

Tel: 034 328 7622
Voortrekker Street

Ubuhle Leatherworks

Cell: 078 161 4301 • 1471 KwaMathukuza
E-mail: mbongi.mkhonza@gmail.com

Zimazisa Society for the Physically Challenged

Jakkalspan, S.A.D.T. Farm, Osizweni

Art

Arts & Crafts Route: Artists & their Studios (Carnegie Art Gallery)

Tel: 034 328 7622 • Voortrekker Street

E-mail: gallery@newcastle.gov.za • www.carnegie-art.co.za

Carnegie Art Gallery

Tel: 034 328 7622 • Civic Centre, Between
Scott & Murchison St • E-mail: gallery@newcastle.gov.za

www.carnegie-art.co.za

Battlefield Tours and History

Battlefields Guide

Dave Sutcliffe • Tel: 034 312 3206
Fax: 086 565 7727 • Cell: 072 271 1766

E-mail: dave.sutcliffe@telkomsa.net • www.amajubaexperience.co.za

Fort Amiel

Tel: 034 328 7621 • Cell: 072 238 1983 • Fort Rd, Amiel
Park • E-mail: cra@newcastle.gov.za

Majuba Commemorative Farm

Tel: 017 735 1962
Cell: +27 84 556 2535 • Kwaggasnek Road

E-mail: trust@majuba.za.org/tjedwet@kyknou.net

www.amajubaexperience.co.za

Shopping

Bothaspas Kontreiwinkel

034 341 1901 • Cell: 082 698 2272
Skaterwater Farm, at the foot of Botha's Pass on the R34 to
Newcastle • E-mail: bpkw@intekom.co.za

Draaiwater Country Farm Stall

Tel: 034 315 3318 • 26km out of town
on the Memel Road (R34)

Jobe-Ka-Matshana Trading Enterprise cc

Cell: 082 485 3133 1567
Section 7, Madadeni • E-mail: intnkr@reginasthole.co.za

www.sme.moptilviewit.co.za

Skaterwater Farm

At the foot of Botha's Pass on the R34 to
Newcastle • E-mail: bpkw@intekom.co.za

Snowy's Prima Biltong & Antiques

Tel: 017 735 3707
Cell: 082 922 7677 • 268 Connor St, Charlestown

E-mail: pjaschoeman@mweb.co.za

Spice 'n All

Tel: 034 312 1980 • Cell: 072 995 6986
Shop 5, Amajuba Mall, Allan St

Entertainment

Fun Farm Entertainment

Tel: 034 341 1788 • Cell: 082 578 8518
Rietspruit, Ingogo • E-mail: funfarm@telkomsa.net

www.funfarm.co.za

Fishing: Chelmsford Nature Reserve and Ntshingwayo Dam

Tel: 034 351 1753

Newcastle Jazz Club

Bass & Trout Fishing

Helicopter Tours • Tel: 034 315 3221

Horse Shoe Farm (Quad Biking) • Tel: 082 691 0822

Hilldrop Adventures (Quad Biking) • Tel: 082 322 1628



Utrecht (Amajuba Balele and Amajuba Bivane Routes)

Accommodation

Aloes Country Lodge • Cell: 034 331 4880 • Cell: 084 205 7378
31 Voor Street • E-mail: aloesutrecht@mweb.co.za
www.aloesutrecht.co.za

Balele Mountain Lodge • 017 730 0418 • Cell: 082 772 8881

Bivane River Lodge • Tel: 034 331 4440 • Cell: 082 873 5575

Mondi Utrecht Estate, Paulpietersburg Rd

E-mail: info@waterloofarm.co.za

Luiperd Kloof Trout Lodge • Tel: 034 331 4598

Cell: 082 552 2659 • Luiperd Kloof, District Rd D378, Balelesberg

E-mail: willietromp@vodacomail.co.za • www.luiperdkloof.co.za

Sandspruit River Lodge • Tel: 034 331 4177 • Cell: 083 394 2992 /

084 419 2163

Waterloo Farm • Tel: 034 331 4440 • Cell: 082 873 5575

Mondi Utrecht Estate, Paulpietersburg Rd

E-mail: info@waterloofarm.co.za

Game/Nature Reserves

Bivane Wetland Reserve • Cell: 082 944 0490

E-mail: ben@ssgagri.com • www.bivane.co.za

Utrecht Balele Community Game Park and Caravan Resort

Tel: 034 331 4271/4440 • Cell: 082 873 5575 • Voor Street

E-mail: info@waterloofarm.co.za • www.utrecht.gov.za

Restaurants

Paisley and Pomegranate Restaurant • Cell: 072 239 8257

17 Malherbe Street

Suzie's • Cell: 072 239 8257 • Email: suziebshf@gmail.com

Utrecht Country Club • Tel: 034 331 3963 • Cell: 082 979 9984

Balgray Rd • E-mail: uccgolf@risp.co.za

Arts, Culture and Shopping

Big Bass • Tel: 034 331 3973 • Cell: 082 8824 640 • Groot Geluk

Utrecht Museum • Tel: 034 331 3249 • Cell: 082 876 8220 • Corner Loop

& Church Street • E-mail: suziebshf@gmail.com • www.balele.info

Entertainment

Balele Adventures • Cell: 082 872 6205 • Zaai Farm, Utrecht

Utrecht Trout Fishing • Tel: 082 772 8881

Email: balele@vodamail.co.za

Oppie Plaas Lapa • Tel: 082 728 7552 • Email: oppieplaas@live.co.za

Dannhauser (Amajuba Buhle-Bomzimyathi Route)

Accommodation

JNB Lodge • Driehoek Farm • Cell: 083 496 3468

Lloydsbaai • Tel: 034 621 2145 • Cell: 082 657 7543

No 1 Cycaslane, Hattingspruit

Game Reserve

Bonani Game Ranch • Tel: 079 509 6446

Cell: 082 820 8821 • Doornpoort Farm

E-mail: vernon@bonanisafaris.com • www.bonanisafaris.com

Restaurant

Horizon Restaurant • Tel: 034 621 2909 • 1st Floor, Central Plaza, 14

Main St, Dannhauser

Arts, Culture and Shopping

Dannhauser Hindu Temple Society • Cell: 084 580 6521

End St, Dannhauser

Dannhauser Islamic Society • Tel: 034 621 2228 • Cell: 083 555 3535

Main St, Dannhauser • E-mail: him@intekom.co.za

Dannhauser Primary School • Tel: 034 621 2646 • Cell: 083 757 4441

No 10 Newcastle Rd, Dannhauser • E-mail: dnhs@cybertrade.co.za

Larry & Frederic's Clivia Collection • Tel: 034 622 5655

Cell: 073 740 2235 • No 1 Pine St, Durnacol

MTK Traditional Fashions • Cell: 072 712 7055 • No. 6 and No. 9 Main

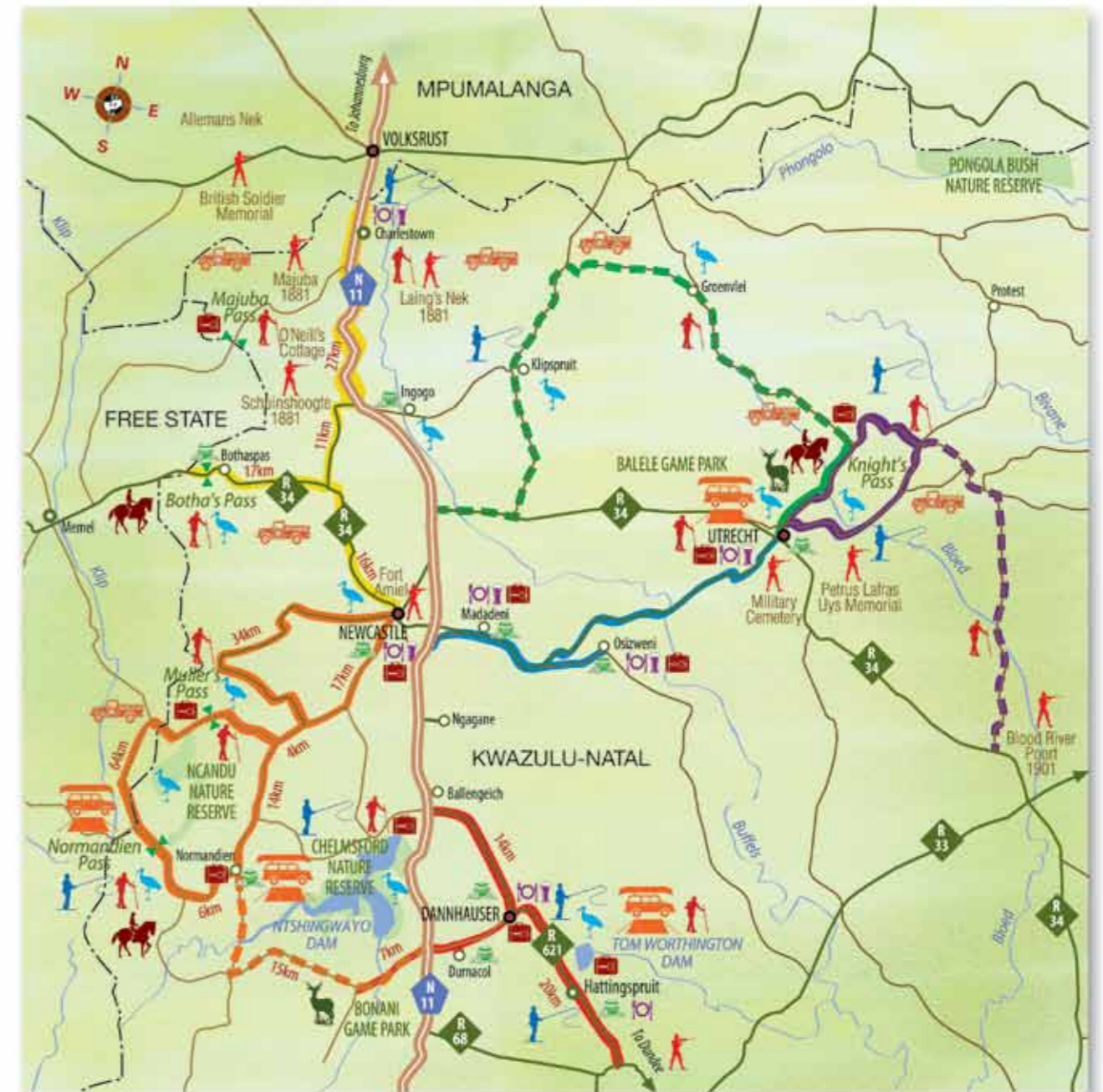
St, Durnacol

Entertainment

Fishing: Chelmsford Nature Reserve and Ntshingwayo Dam

Tel: 034 351 1753

AMAJUBA ROUTES



Getting There



Key

- Amajuba Battlefields Route
- Amajuba Drakensberg Route
- Amajuba Buhle-Bomzimyathi Route
- Amajuba Townships Route
- Amajuba Bivane Route
- Amajuba Balele Route
- Accommodation
- Horse trails
- Arts, crafts & shopping
- Battle site/memorial
- Birding
- Camping & caravanning
- Flyfishing
- Restaurant/tavern
- Hiking
- 4x4 Trails
- Game Park



Zenzele Buthelezi,
Blaauwbosch mural
artist.



Explore Amajuba Routes

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Email: tourism@amajuba.gov.za
www.amajuba.gov.za