



Morukuru Family®

Coastal Conservation with a Purpose 2024

Morukuru Goodwill Foundation

Conservation and community support is deeply rooted within the Morukuru Family DNA. When our owners started Morukuru Family in Madikwe Game Reserve in 2005, they immediately began supporting nature conservation and they also forged strong relationships with the nearby village of Molatedi. A few years later, Morukuru Goodwill Foundation was launched.

Over the years many of our guests have supported us, either by bringing supplies and goods for the local school, or by donating funds for conservation and for local communities. Others have been actively involved in hands on conservation work through our optional 'Safaris with a Purpose' package that was launched in Madikwe Game Reserve in 2018.



De Hoop Nature Reserve

Morukuru Goodwill Foundation also got involved with the De Hoop Nature Reserve in 2010, offering financial support to the reserve, making sure it would be preserved for future generations.

De Hoop Nature Reserve is part of the Cape Floral Kingdom, one of six Floral Kingdoms of the World, and occupies only 0.04% of the planet's landmass. Situated at the southern tip of Africa, this tiny floral kingdom is a Marine Protected Area as well as a World Heritage Site and the only Floral Kingdom to be fully contained within a single country.

Hikers, cyclists, birdwatchers and whale watchers favour unaffected De Hoop Nature Reserve, situated a mere three-hour drive eastwards of Cape Town. Here, the Potberg Mountains and the Indian Ocean flank 34,000 hectares of fynbos, beaches, dunes and vlei wetlands. De Hoop is the halfway point between Cape Town and Knysna and remains an uncommercial hidden gem for nature lovers.

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Morukuru Family De Hoop

Morukuru Family quickly realised the huge potential for responsible eco-tourism in De Hoop Nature Reserve, according to the 'low impact – high yield' principle. By causing minimal disturbance to the fragile and protected Fynbos eco system, allowing guests to experience this hidden gem and at the same time generating funds to continue protecting it.

Following very strict building regulations as set out by Cape Nature, the 4-bedroom exclusive-use Morukuru Ocean House was opened in 2014, followed by the 5-suite Morukuru Beach Lodge in 2018. Both properties are fully off-grid, relying on solar power and borehole water. Local materials were used for the construction and Fynbos was removed and re-planted on the roof of Morukuru Ocean House. When designing Morukuru Beach Lodge to fit the exact footprint of an old farmstead at Koppie Alleen, the architect had to work around a protected Milkwood tree that could not be cut or harmed in any way.

Two Oceans Aquarium Foundation

In September 2022 a juvenile green turtle was found stranded on the beach in De Hoop Nature Reserve by one of our team members. He immediately

drove this weak animal to the Two Oceans Aquarium Turtle Conservation Centre in Cape Town. This has now resulted in the Morukuru Goodwill Foundation partnering with the Two Oceans Aquarium Foundation, specifically for their turtle rescue and rehabilitation programme.



The [Two Oceans Aquarium Foundation](#) is committed to the conservation of key marine species and ecosystems in the Western Cape. Five of the seven species of turtle occur on the South African coastline, and all of them are endangered or critically endangered. Since 2009, more than 800 turtles of all sizes and species have been released back into the open ocean through the turtle rescue, rehabilitation, and research programme.

After 8 months of recovery, Amigo the green turtle was successfully released again at Koppie Alleen in De Hoop Nature Reserve in May 2023. A few weeks later a further three turtles have been released at the same site as well. Subsequently, the De Hoop Nature Reserve has now been declared an official turtle release site. [CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE TURTLE RELEASE VIDEO.](#)





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Similar to our 'Safaris with a Purpose' package in Madikwe Game Reserve, guests at Morukuru Family De Hoop can book the optional 'Coastal Conservation with a Purpose' package, provided they have booked **minimum two nights** at Morukuru Beach Lodge or at Morukuru Ocean House.

On top of the regular (guided) activities at Morukuru Beach Lodge and at Morukuru Ocean House, the following additional activities are part of the 'Coastal Conservation with a Purpose' package:

- A behind the scenes visit of the Two Oceans Aquarium Turtle Conservation Centre in Cape Town, pre/post the stay at Morukuru Family De Hoop. (Limited to maximum 8 guests).
- Informative talk about the challenges faced when building both Morukuru Ocean House and Morukuru Beach Lodge
- Behind the scenes visit of the solar plant at Morukuru Family De Hoop, explaining the details of operating off grid, on solar power
- See our Rooikrans removal team at work, as they assist Cape Nature in eradicating the alien and invasive Rooikrans trees from De Hoop Nature Reserve

Costs: R 8,100 (nett and non-commissionable) per booking for max 4 guests.

Supplement: additional adult: ZAR 1,100 pp, additional child under 16: ZAR 550 pp

Included: The additional activities as mentioned above, up to 8 guests maximum.

Excluded: Accommodation at Morukuru Family De Hoop (*minimum 2 nights stay required*), flights and transfers.

This package can only be pre-booked – *at least one month prior to arrival* - together with a minimum two nights stay at Morukuru Beach Lodge or Morukuru Ocean House. *Subject to availability.*





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Sample itinerary (2 nights, 3 days)

Day one (arrival)

Arrive at either Morukuru Beach Lodge or Morukuru Ocean House around 2PM. Lunch upon arrival, followed by a guided afternoon activity and dinner.



Day two

Depending on the tide and the weather you will either go on an early morning guided activity, followed by breakfast, or you will enjoy breakfast first, followed by a guided activity a little later in the morning. After that, the guide will take you to our staff accommodation for a behind the scenes tour of our solar plant, explaining how Morukuru Family De Hoop runs on solar power entirely. At the same time your guide will explain more about the challenges of building a 5-star property in a remote area like the De Hoop Nature Reserve and what it takes to be operating off the grid entirely.

After lunch you will enjoy an afternoon guided activity again, followed by dinner.



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Day three (departure)

Depending on the tide and the weather you will either go on an early morning guided activity, followed by breakfast, or you will enjoy breakfast first, followed by a guided activity a little later in the morning. During, or after, the activity the guide will pass by our team of workers that have been employed full time to cut and remove the Rooikrans trees. This alien and invasive tree species was introduced in the De Hoop Nature Reserve decades ago by farmers, in an attempt to stabilise the moving sand dunes. Rooikrans does not naturally belong in De Hoop Nature Reserve and it has to be removed to protect the vulnerable Fynbos vegetation.

Departure from Morukuru Beach Lodge or Morukuru Ocean House at 11AM latest.

Please note: The visit to the Two Oceans Aquarium at the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town, for a behind the scenes tour of the Turtle Conservation Centre will take place when guests are in Cape Town **prior or after their stay at Morukuru Family De Hoop.**

Guests will also have the opportunity to participate in a rehabilitation activity towards the release of a turtle. The behind the scenes visit lasts about 60 minutes and it also includes general access to the Two Oceans Aquarium. **Maximum 8 guests.**



The southern tip of Africa is the meeting place of two bountiful oceans, the Indian and the Atlantic. The Two Oceans Aquarium showcases the incredible diversity of marine life found in these waters. In addition to being an award-winning attraction which sees more than 500 000 visitors a year, the Aquarium is deeply invested in environmental education and campaigning, conservation and research. Its conservation work includes contributing to the conservation of five of the seven marine sea turtle species, collaborating on animal welfare programmes and conducting collaborative research projects with major tertiary institutions.



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This sample itinerary can be tailor-made to suit the specific demands and requirements of the guests. Activities at Morukuru Family De Hoop are weather and tide dependent. Guided activities at Morukuru Beach Lodge are done together with the other guests.

'Coastal Conservation with a purpose' package costs:

R 8,100 in total per booking for max 4 guests
Additional adults: ZAR 1,100 per person
Additional children under 16: ZAR 550 per person

Plus accommodation costs

The behind the scenes tour of the Turtle Conservation centre at the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape Town is limited to maximum 8 guests.

Accommodation costs depend on the season, which property is booked and the total number of adults and children under 16. Please contact our reservations team for a quotation.

Our normal Terms & Conditions apply, as well as normal inclusions and exclusions for the houses. Pre-booking essential, at least one month prior to arrival.



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