



BAYVIEW HOTEL GUIDE TO PLETTENBERG BAY AND SURROUNDS

Welcome to Plettenberg Bay, a captivating destination situated 230 km from Port Elizabeth and approximately 530 km from Cape Town. Known for its exceptional marine reserves and abundant dolphins and seals, Plett offers a paradise for water enthusiasts with its stunning beaches and rivers.

The town also boasts a vibrant nightlife, a wide range of restaurants and pubs, and diverse accommodation options to suit all preferences.

After a restful night's sleep in your luxurious accommodations and a delightful breakfast, it's time to explore the area.

The Garden Route, a popular year-round destination, attracts both local and international visitors with its dramatic scenery, easy accessibility, and relaxed holiday atmosphere. Well-developed towns along the route provide modern amenities, healthcare facilities, and efficient communications.

At Bayview Hotel, our 24hr concierge service are more than happy to assist you in making reservations at the restaurant of your choice.

BEACHES

Plettenberg Bay's unrivaled natural beauty rightfully earns its title as the jewel of the Garden Route. The town is home to four picturesque sandy beaches:

1. Robberg Beach [3.5km]: Located at the southern end of the bay, this beach offers endless stretches of sand, perfect for peaceful walks away from the crowds.
2. Hobie Beach [1.2km]: With excellent swimming, sunbathing, and opportunities for surfing or bodyboarding at "the wedge" on the far end, Hobbie Beach caters to both relaxation and adventure.
3. Central Beach [1.7km]: Known locally as Central Beach, this is often the busiest beach in Plett. It serves as the launch site for marine safaris, dive charters, and ocean kayaking tours. Facilities include restaurants, bars, public toilets, and the local National Sea Rescue Station. It is just 2 km or a 2-minute drive from Plett Central.
4. Look Out Beach [600m]: Popular for swimming and surfing, Look Out Beach is another inviting spot to enjoy the coastal delights of Plett.



SHOPPING

Shopping enthusiasts will find their haven in Plettenberg Bay, with various shopping malls and boutique shops offering clothing, specialty goods, arts, crafts, and antiques. There are also a few markets in and around Plett on specific days of the week where one can find anything from home-baked sweets and savouries to skin-care, hand-made clothes and even fresh produce. There is something for everyone and is a great place to spend the day.

DINING

When it comes to dining, Plett doesn't disappoint. The town boasts a wide range of dining options, from beach pubs and bistros to fine dining establishments with award-winning à la carte menus. Foodies can indulge in Italian cuisine, fresh seafood, steaks, and a variety of other delectable choices.

- Adi's Kitchen
- Barringtons
- Newstead Wine Farm
- The Table
- Fat Fish
- Zinzi
- Emily Moon
- Nguni

ACTIVITIES

The surroundings of Plettenberg Bay offer a playground for sports enthusiasts, with endless activities to enjoy. The lagoon and the bay are perfect for water sports such as boat cruises, sailing, paddling, fishing, swimming, and scuba diving. The pristine beaches invite long, solitary walks.

From June to November, Southern Right Whales visit the bay to calve in the protected waters, providing a thrilling opportunity for whale watching. The mountains and forests surrounding Plett offer numerous trails for hikers, mountain bikers, and horse riders. Additionally, the area boasts thirteen polo grounds, with the Kurland Polo Grounds being the most renowned, hosting major polo tournaments during Christmas and Easter.

For those wanting more of an active holiday, or for the adventure enthusiasts, Plett and surrounds are teeming with activities to keep you busy. The world-famous Bloukrans Bungy is sure to get your heart racing or learn a new skill and try archery.



There is an abundance of activities to keep the whole family active. Here are 10 of our favourites:

- 1. Explore Robberg Nature Reserve [8.4km]:** Take a hike along the stunning trails of Robberg Nature Reserve, offering breathtaking views of the coastline, diverse wildlife, and unique rock formations.
- 2. Go Whale watching with Ocean Blue Adventures [1.8km]:** Join a boat tour or spot whales from the shoreline between July and November, as the gentle giants migrate along the coast. Witnessing their impressive breaches and tail flukes is an unforgettable experience.
- 3. Visit Tsitsikamma National Park [76km]:** Discover the beauty of Tsitsikamma National Park, located a short drive from Plettenberg Bay. Marvel at the dramatic Storms River Mouth, hike through ancient forests, or try the famous Storms River Suspension Bridge.
- 4. Indulge in Water Sports:** Plettenberg Bay is a haven for water sports enthusiasts. Try your hand at kayaking, paddleboarding, surfing, or kiteboarding, and enjoy the azure waters of the bay.
- 5. Monkeyland and Birds of Eden [22.6km]:** Immerse yourself in nature at Monkeyland and Birds of Eden. These sanctuaries provide a home to a variety of primates and birds, offering an educational and interactive experience for all ages.
- 6. Bungee Jumping at Bloukrans Bridge [37.3km]:** For adrenaline junkies, a visit to Bloukrans Bridge is a must. Take a leap of faith and experience the world's highest commercial bungee jump from the bridge's 216-meter height.
- 7. Horseback Riding with Kurland Park Trails [22.3km]:** Explore the area's natural beauty on horseback. Guided horseback riding tours will take you along scenic trails, allowing you to soak in the picturesque landscapes and enjoy the tranquility of nature.
- 8. Take a treetop tour with Tsitsikamma Canopy Tours [61km]:** Embark on a thrilling treetop canopy tour in the Tsitsikamma Forest. Glide through the ancient trees along zip lines, walk across suspension bridges, and witness the beauty of the forest from a unique perspective.
- 9. Visit the Knysna Elephant Sanctuary [12km]:** Get up close and personal with these magnificent creatures. Learn about elephant conservation efforts, walk alongside them, and even touch and feed them.
- 10. Go swimming with seals [1.8km]:** With an adrenaline pumping beach launch into the sea, followed by an amazing boat ride along the scenic coastline to the Cape fur seal colony. Snorkel and interact with the oceans most loved character and see them playfully swimming in their natural environment.



WINE TASTING

Plettenberg Bay's wine route is the smallest wine-of-origin region in South Africa. The area's climate makes it more conducive to cooler-climate wines such as Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir varieties, while the alkaline level of the soils allow for the majority of the area's wines to have very low sulphites. The specialty of the area is its MCC and the route has become known as the 'Bubbly Route'. Take a scenic drive through the Plett Winelands, where you can visit boutique wine estates, indulge in wine tastings, and savour delicious food pairings. The winelands offer a tranquil and picturesque setting to unwind and enjoy the region's excellent wines.

1. Bramon Winery [19.3km towards Nature's Valley]: A charming family-owned vineyard with beautiful views of the Tsitsikamma Mountains. Enjoy a family picnic or savor tapas-style dishes while tasting their delicious wines.

2. Kay and Monty [24.5km towards Nature's Valley]: This vineyard offers wine tastings in a unique tasting room restaurant. Kids can have fun with a giant wooden Jenga, and they offer children's picnics and entertainment packs.

3. Newstead Wines [11.8km towards Nature's Valley]: Known for their lively parties and exceptional wine and MCC tasting experiences, Newstead Wines also offers delightful picnics in the vineyards for the whole family to enjoy.

4. Bitou Vineyards [4.7km towards Keurbooms River]: A recent addition to the Plett Winelands, Bitou Vineyards provides relaxed wine tastings and lunches with vineyard views. Next door, BAKE (Bitou Active Kid's Eatery) offers a kid-friendly venue with various activities and a special menu.

5. Luka Vineyards [11.1km towards Knysna]: With views overlooking the Knysna Elephant Park, Luka Vineyards is a child-friendly venue with a play area and jungle gym. They offer wine tastings, gourmet picnic boxes, and special picnic boxes for kids.

6. Plettenvale Wines [8.7km towards Knysna]: A family-owned boutique estate offering intimate private tastings with stunning views of the hills, valleys, and vineyards of Plett. Kids are welcome to set up a play area and enjoy the experience.

7. Packwood Wine Estate [20.7km towards Knysna]: Nestled in the Harkerville Forests, this estate offers countryside wine tastings and outdoor activities like hiking and cycling through pristine forests and coastal routes.

GOLF

Golf enthusiasts will find Plettenberg Bay a golfer's paradise. In 2006, the Garden Route was named the Golf Destination of the Year for Africa by the International Association for Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO). The region offers exceptional golf courses

1. Goose Valley Golf Estates [4.1km]: This is a superb Gary Player designed 18-hole course, voted number 1 in South Africa, on the banks of the Keurbooms Lagoon, with breathtaking views of the Indian Ocean. This course features outstanding greens and fairways, set amongst the indigenous "fynbos" with abundant wildlife.

2. Plettenberg Bay Country Club [4.4km]: This highly rated undulating course, set in a proclaimed nature reserve in the Piesang Valley, has lush green fairways, a sweeping tree line and new grass greens. Accuracy is essential for coping with the meandering Piesang River which flows through it. The magnificent 18-hole, 72-par layout is set in the most lovely of settings is rich in bird life and home to the strikingly beautiful Knysna Loerie. All greens and bunkers are to USGA specifications.

