



Hangklip-Kleinmond | Hermanus | Stanford | Gansbaai

WESTERN CAPE - SOUTH AFRICA



There's a place just over one hour's drive from Cape Town, where you can almost touch whales from a cliff top; see more plants than anywhere else on earth; watch penguins raise their young, have conversations with sharks, sleep peacefully.

A place where nature talks to man  
- come and listen.



Hangklip-Kleinmond | Hermanus | Stanford | Gansbaai

[tourism@overstrand.gov.za](mailto:tourism@overstrand.gov.za)  
[www.whalecoast.info](http://www.whalecoast.info)



## Welcome to the Cape Whale Coast!

The Cape Whale Coast Route offers access to a destination that would appeal to just about every eco and adventure-loving traveller in the world. Located in the Overstrand within the Overberg district, it is a 60-90 minute drive from Cape Town. Just outside Gordon's Bay is the start of Clarence Drive (the R44), a dramatically carved road in between the base of the Hottentots-Holland mountains and the crashing waves of False Bay. The road is one of the most scenic drives in South Africa. It cuts through the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, recognised by UNESCO for the diversity of its fynbos vegetation and shoots past Pringle Bay, Betty's Bay and Kleinmond to Hermanus, Stanford and Gansbaai.

## Explore!

Experience anything from sublime scenic drives, majestic mountains and hiking trails to shark cage diving. The Cape Whale Coast offers — without a doubt — some of the best spots in the world to view whales between June and November. Golf lovers, birdwatchers and adventure seekers can all be accommodated.

## Wine & dine with us!

A delicious way to experience the cuisine of the Cape Whale Coast is through visiting the many country markets, delis and fine restaurants in the region. Wine lovers can visit over 20 cellars filled with the finest cultivars. Many of the wine farms offer food and wine pairings.

## Sleep peacefully!

The Cape Whale Coast offers a variety of accommodation, ranging from backpackers, homely guesthouses to five star lodges and hotels, to suit every tourist's need. Absorb the serenity, coastal beauty and champagne air. Our accommodation will appeal to those who want to get close to nature.

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# events and festivals

The Cape Whale Coast is a perfect year-round destination for your next holiday, breakaway, conference, wedding or incentive trip. Besides the regular country, farmers and morning markets held mostly over weekends in many of the towns, the main events that happen in the Overstrand are:

MONTH	EVENT/FESTIVAL	TOWN	CONTACT DETAILS
February	Lighthouse to Lighthouse Bicycle Marathon	Gansbaai	<a href="mailto:info@gansbaaiinfo.com">info@gansbaaiinfo.com</a>
February	Birkenhead Commemoration	Gansbaai	<a href="mailto:info@gansbaaiinfo.com">info@gansbaaiinfo.com</a>
February	Walker Bay Bird Fair	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
March	Pringle Bay Village Festival	Pringle Bay	<a href="mailto:info@kleinmondtourism.co.za">info@kleinmondtourism.co.za</a>
March	Stanford Food & Wine Fair	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
April	Passion Play / Passiespele	Hermanus	<a href="mailto:fanusleroux@lantic.net">fanusleroux@lantic.net</a>
April	Baardskeerdersbos Art Route	Gansbaai	<a href="mailto:info@gansbaaiinfo.com">info@gansbaaiinfo.com</a>
May	Wheels & Runners	Hermanus	<a href="mailto:info@hermanusrace.co.za">info@hermanusrace.co.za</a>
May	Stanford Beer Festival	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
June	Fynarts Festival	Hermanus	<a href="mailto:fynarts@hermanus.co.za">fynarts@hermanus.co.za</a>
June	Penguin Plunge	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
July	Winter in Stanford	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
August	Gravity Adventure Festival	Kleinmond	<a href="mailto:info@kleinmondtourism.co.za">info@kleinmondtourism.co.za</a>
August	Kalfiefee	Onrus/Hermanus	<a href="mailto:info@hermanus.co.za">info@hermanus.co.za</a>
August	Hermanus Food & Wine Fair	Hermanus	<a href="mailto:wine@hermanus.co.za">wine@hermanus.co.za</a>
Sept/Oct	Whale Festival	Hermanus	<a href="mailto:festival@hermanus.co.za">festival@hermanus.co.za</a>
September	Fernkloof Flower Festival	Hermanus	<a href="mailto:fernkloof@hermanus.co.za">fernkloof@hermanus.co.za</a>
September	Funky Fynbos Festival	Gansbaai	<a href="mailto:info@gansbaaiinfo.com">info@gansbaaiinfo.com</a>
October	Baardskeerdersbos Art Route	Gansbaai	<a href="mailto:info@gansbaaiinfo.com">info@gansbaaiinfo.com</a>
November	Stanford Stumble	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
December	Hawston Sea Festival	Hawston/Hermanus	<a href="mailto:ingrid.overstrandcarecentre.@telkomsa.net">ingrid.overstrandcarecentre.@telkomsa.net</a>
December	Danger Point Half Marathon	Gansbaai	<a href="mailto:info@gansbaaiinfo.com">info@gansbaaiinfo.com</a>
December	Stanford Street Festival	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>
December	Hot Heels Africa	Pringle Bay	<a href="mailto:info@kleinmondtourism.co.za">info@kleinmondtourism.co.za</a>
December	Stanford Boxing Day Cricket	Stanford	<a href="mailto:ask@stanfordinfo.co.za">ask@stanfordinfo.co.za</a>

For more details about these and other events happening in each town, please contact the Local Tourism Bureau.

# did you know?



When whales are spotted along the Hermanus coast, you'll hear the world's only **Whale Crier** blowing his kelp horn. The Southern Right Whale is called such because it was the 'right' whale to hunt as it floats when dead; is rich in oil and baleen, and is relatively slow moving.



The **Harold Porter National Botanical Garden** in Betty's Bay showcases over 700 species of indigenous South African plants and 88 species of birds! 10 hectares are immaculately cultivated with wheelchair friendly paths winding between banks of fossil-age plants, wetland and dune displays and cool African montane forests.



Hermanus is home to the **SANSA Space Science**, formerly known as the Hermanus Magnetic Observatory. SANSA Space Science is the warning centre for Africa, one of thirteen regional warning centres around the world, which monitor extreme space weather and solar magnetic activity.



**Great White sharks** use their powerful tails to propel themselves through the water. The fins are only used for balance. Most sharks have 5 to 15 rows of teeth in each jaw. A tooth usually lasts a week before it falls out. Sharks keep replacing their teeth all their lives.



The **African Penguin** colony at Stony Point, Betty's Bay, is the second largest land-based breeding colony in Africa. Penguins are best seen in the late afternoon when they return from their day's fishing.



**Stanford's market square** — used as a venue for a monthly country market — was proclaimed a South Africa Heritage area in 1995. The original farmhouse of De Kleine Riviers Valley (original spelling), built in 1785, is one of the oldest houses still in existence in the Cape Overberg.



One of the Overstrand's greatest assets relates to the diversity of **bird species** found in the area: it hosts many sought after endemic species such as Cape Rockjumper, Cape Sugarbird, Orange-breasted Sunbird, Protea Seed-eater, Cape Penguin, African Black Oystercatcher and many more. Further to this, several under-utilised and ecologically varied birding destinations such as Harold Porter, Fernkloof, the Vermont salt pan, Stony Point, Dyer Island and the world renowned "Cape Rockjumper site" at Rooiels need to be properly exposed to a rapidly growing bird-watching fraternity.



**Baardskeerdersbos**, home to a collection of artists and crafters, is located about 20km east of Gansbaai. The name "Baardskeerdersbos" in Afrikaans literally means "Beard Shaver's Forest". The accepted explanation for this name is that a species of solifuge inhabits the area, and that this insect is referred to as a "beard shaver" because it cuts hair to use for nest-building.



Scan this code for street maps of Overstrand towns





## HANGKLIP - KLEINMOND

escape to nature

[www.kleinmondtourism.co.za](http://www.kleinmondtourism.co.za)  
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### Eco & Nature

- The Hangklip-Kleinmond area, which encompasses the towns and villages of Rooiels, Pringle Bay, Betty's Bay and Kleinmond, is nestled in the heart of the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve (the first South African biosphere formally recognised by UNESCO). More than 1600 species of unspoilt indigenous fynbos per 10 000 square kilometres can be found here. Enjoy white water rafting in winter, or black water tubing in summer on the Palmiet river. Hike or mountain-bike amidst the Fynbos in the Kogelberg Nature Reserve.
- Visit the African Penguin colony (an endangered seabird species) at Stony Point, Betty's Bay.
- Drive to the Rooisand Nature Reserve from where you're bound to spot Kleinmond's wild horses and numerous bird species. Rooiels beach is home to otters, and is declared a birding hotspot. You may want to volunteer as a nanny to the Oystercatchers on Betty's Bay, Rooisand or Rooiels beaches during nesting season.

### Outdoor Activities

- Play golf at the championship 18-hole course at a world-renowned resort, or test your skills at Kleinmond's own 9-hole course, nestled between mountain and sea.
- Go sand-boarding down the slopes of the Blesberg Dune near Hangklip: it stands 250 metres tall and offers a potential run of 400 metres.
- Go birdwatching by canoe on the Kleinmond and Botriver Estuaries and take pleasure in rowing in the picturesque surroundings. There are many safe family beaches, where you can swim, walk, go horseback riding or watch whales, including at the Blue Flag accredited Kleinmond Beach at Sandown Bay.
- Visit the new eco friendly cabins in the Kogelberg Nature Reserve: award winning accommodation with breathtaking views over the valley and easy access to the numerous hiking trails within the reserve.

### Art, Culture & Heritage

- Follow in the footsteps of our forefathers: Khoisan fish traps at Maasbaai date back some 100 000 years. The Hangklip Hotel served as a radar station during the second world war.
- Church services were held near the Kleinmond lagoon from as early as 1902 and the tree which stands there has earned the name of 'die Prekboom' due to the fact that Church services are still conducted there during the end of the year holiday period.
- Visit the site of the Stony Point Penguin Colony, operated at Waaigat Whaling station which closed in 1930.

### Wine, Dine & Shop

- Wine and dine, or explore the vast array of galleries and craft shops in Betty's Bay, Pringle Bay, Rooiels and Kleinmond's Harbour Road.
- Go for a sundowner at one of the numerous pubs or restaurants and meet the locals or just enjoy your own company. Perhaps visit Betty's Bay's chocolaterie, the famous honey shop in Kleinmond, or the cookie factory in Pringle Bay.
- Enjoy a treatment at the world-renowned spa, or at one of the many health & beauty clinics.

## HERMANUS

whale capital of the world

[www.hermanustourism.info](http://www.hermanustourism.info)

[hermanustourism2@hermanus.co.za](mailto:hermanustourism2@hermanus.co.za)

Tel: 028 312 2629



### Eco & Nature

- Hire bicycles and explore the town or be more adventurous and pedal off-road on mountain bike trails. Enjoy treetop sliding, quad biking, paintball, horse riding and more.
- Climb Hoy's Koppie for sweeping views of Hermanus.
- Experience Hermanus's two championship golf courses.
- Surf, wind-surf, kite-board or join a guided sea-kayaking adventure across the bay, departing from the Old Harbour. Hire canoes and paddle on the estuary.

### Outdoor Activities

- During whale season, when Southern Right whales visit these shores, Hermanus offers the best land-based whale-watching in the world. A 12km cliff path offers excellent whale watching.
- Ramble along mountain paths that meander through the Fernkloof Nature Reserve which boasts about 1600 fynbos species. A number of hiking trails offer spectacular views and birdwatching opportunities.
- Explore the fairytale milkwood forest at Grotto Beach along a kilometer of boardwalks. Grotto Beach and Hawston are both Blue Flag beaches.

### Art, Culture & Heritage

- Visit one of the three museums — the Whale Museum, Old Harbour Museum and the Photography Museum.
- Hermanus is rapidly developing into an art destination to be reckoned with. There are more than 45 galleries displaying arts and crafts throughout the Greater Hermanus area.

### Wine, Dine & Shop

- Visit the new Hermanus R320 Wine Route in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley. It offers a top-class wine destination of international standing and award-winning wines. Many of the farms offer wine tastings and some offer lunches or food and wine pairings.
- Hermanus boasts eighteen of the top 1000 restaurants in South Africa according to the EatOut magazine, most of which are in exquisite locations with breathtaking views.
- Explore the town's hidden lanes and coffee shops with outdoor spaces. You will go far to find the quantity and quality of bookstores, clothing, boutiques, furniture, antique and décor shops (new, used and vintage) you will find here.
- The place to be on a Saturday morning — whether you are a local or a visitor — is at one of the markets where a variety of food and home-made products are provided: Hermanus Country Market, Hermanuspieterfontein Food and Wine Market, Lemm's Corner and the Red Sheds market.

## STANFORD

a taste of village life

[www.stanfordtourism.co.za](http://www.stanfordtourism.co.za)

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### Eco & Nature

- Embraced by the Klein River which features a variety of salt and fresh water fish, including bass. Also otters, terrapins and other indigenous animals.
- About 250 bird species can be found in and around Stanford. Of the 68 endemic bird species in South Africa, 30 occur within close proximity of Stanford.
- Up to 2013, Stanford's sole water supply was obtained from a fountain. This pure spring water is pumped to a reservoir and distributed through town without anything being added to it.

### Outdoor Activities

- Book a river cruise on the African Queen, Platanna or River Rat, or rent your own canoe or kayak for the day.
- The Stanford Walking Trail (Wandelpad) winds its way along the banks of the Klein River and through the town and offers visitors some wonderful glimpses of the many birds in the area.
- Visit Klein River Cheese. A family outing to taste and purchase cheese; enjoy a delicious picnic on the banks of the river, all while the children take pleasure in the playground or pet and feed the many farm animals.
- Challenge yourself with horse-riding, fly fishing, mountain biking and hiking. The ideal village to stay over after an exhilarating shark-cage diving experience.
- African Vings - Stanford is the only place in the country which offers aerial whale watching. Watch the usual behaviour of whales from the air without disturbing them.
- Visit Panthera Africa and see lions, leopards, tigers, caracals and jackals up close. Enjoy an educational, enrichment or feeding visit that you will never forget. A true sanctuary where animal welfare is the focus.

### Art, Culture & Heritage

- The *Stanford Art Stroll* is a meander between the studios of a group of artists, whilst you experience the charming village.
- Stanford is an architectural treasure chest and is regarded as one of South Africa's best preserved villages.
- St Thomas Anglican Church is the oldest church in Stanford (1863) and has provincial heritage status.
- De Kleine River Valley house, original home of Sir Robert Stanford, is one of the oldest remaining houses in the Overberg (Circa 1785).
- 'Historical Stanford on Foot' walking trail gives interesting background information on the people that used to lived (or still live!) in each dwelling. A wonderful way to do a self-guided or conducted walk through the village.

### Wine, Dine & Shop

- What is it about good ol' country food that makes it so special? Maybe world-class producers or award-winning chefs? One thing is for certain, Stanford's food scene is vibrant, exciting and surprising.
- Country Markets- Sunset Market (6 - 8pm), every last Friday of the month. Also boasts its own unique Saturday Morning Market (10am - 12pm).
- Explore various arts & crafts shops, art galleries, antique shops and collectables on offer.
- The Stanford Wine Route includes various award-winning labels.
- Visit the Birkenhead Brewery for beer tasting and tours. All the beer is handcrafted at this micro-brewery offering six flavours of beer.

## GANSBAAI

the natural adventure destination

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Tel: 028 384 1439  
After hours: 072 291 5564

### Eco & Nature

- View the Great White sharks in their own environment from the inside of a cage or from the deck of the boat in the well known Shark Alley.
- From June - November the Southern Right Whales can be viewed from the shore all the way along the coast from the cliffs of De Kelders to Pearly Beach. Or book a trip on a whale boat and see these interesting animals up close.
- Eco-trips afford you the opportunity of seeing a variety of marine and bird life.
- Explore caves along the Duiwelsgat Hiking trail.
- This is an anglers paradise and there are numerous well known fishing spots along the coastline.
- Two bird hides and plenty other spots for bird watching.

### Outdoor Activities

- Play golf on the southernmost 9 hole golf course with a sea view.
- Variety of hikes from coastal to mountainous to fynbos forest hikes. Choose from slackpacking, meandering or serious hiking.
- Take a walk in the Milkwood forest in Franskraal.
- Safe swimming beaches.
- Cycle one of the three mountain bike routes. A challenging one of the serious rider or a scenic one for the rider out to enjoy the scenery. Mountain bike routes - Challenging one for the serious rider.
- Quad biking and horse riding.

### Art, Culture & Heritage

- The Danger Point Lighthouse built in 1895 is open to the public. The monument built to commemorate the lives lost on the HMS Birkenhead tells this tragic story.
- Historical information on the area as well as relics from the HMS Birkenhead can be viewed at the Strandveld museum.
- Visit Baardskeerdersbos and see well-known artists at work. The small NG church is worth a visit.
- The small monument at the freshwater fountain in the Gansbaai harbour tells the story of the first fisherman and depicts a typical fisherman cottage.
- View the trawlers and active commercial fishing factory in the Gansbaai harbour.

### Wine, Dine & Shop

- A variety of restaurants cater for everyone's tastes from traditional South African to fresh fish dishes including abalone (perlemoen).
- Coffee shops serve delicious treats. One can view the southern right whales and dolphins while enjoying your coffee.
- Browse the souvenir shops and find that little something depicting Gansbaai to take home.
- Take a walk around the second hand / antique shops and you may just find a hidden treasure.

**Gansbaai**  
the natural adventure destination