



[www.dehoopcollection.com](http://www.dehoopcollection.com)



**Special points of interest:**

- Mountain bike route amongst Fynbos
- Picnic on the unspoilt sand dunes
- Stargazing
- Guided bird walks available
- DSTV for viewing sport in the lounge

*The Southern Right Whales have arrived and we're looking forward to a great whale season as*

*these giants return to their legendary breeding and calving grounds in the De Hoop Bay where hundreds of them congregate every year! Share the secret language of spy hopping and tailing on an intertidal walk with our marine guides.*

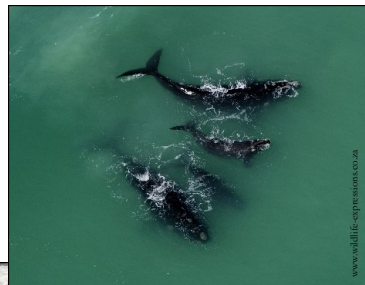
**Agulhas Wine Festival at De Hoop**

The De Hoop Collection hosted the long awaited Agulhas Wine Festival over the 28-30<sup>th</sup> May weekend, showcasing the award-

winning wines from the Agulhas area. Despite the Stormers disappointing match, the wine tasting cheered everyone up and the wine buffs tasted truly delicious Agulhas wines. Estates included Strandveld, First Sighting, Quoin Rock, The Berrio, Jean Daneel, Lamond, Lands End, Black Oystercatcher, Zoetendal and Brunio. It was Brunio's maiden vintage of their excellent Sauvignon Blanc. The Elim Sauvignon Blanc's in particular have become iconic.

Bruce, our resident chef, treated us to a specially prepared 6 course dinner in the Fig Tree Restaurant with food paired with wines from the Agulhas area. Treats included Butter Poached Smoked Herring served on Watercress, topped with a Béarnaise Sauce paired with Quoin Rock Cape Agulhas Chardonnay

and Zoetendal Syrah. Split Pea Cuppachino Soup served with Truffle Froth, Mushroom Powder & Crouton, paired with Black Oystercatcher Rose, Pan Fried Kabeljou served with Asparagus Tips and Herb Infused Lemon Butter Sauce, paired with Jean Daneel Signature Chenin Blanc. More mouth watering bites were Beef



Wellington, Dauphinoise Potato, Oyster Mushroom and Pearl Onion drizzled with Port Wine Reduction, paired with The Berrio

Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 and finally Chocolate Fondant served with Crème Fraiche and Green Fig, paired with Quoin Rock Sauvignon Blanc dessert wine which rounded off this feast!

After a filling breakfast with great coffee on Sunday morning, guests headed back with lingering memories of great wine and food ...till next year's festival!

**The Grand Daddy**

We like partnering with fun products and destinations and recommend places that are a must to visit either en route to or in Cape Town - Our next newsletter will highlight the new "Old Mac Daddy" in Elgin which will be a blast! If in Cape Town you must visit The Grand Daddy.



Funky, fun, fabulous and more than a little festive is probably the best way to describe the Grand Daddy Hotel. Situated in the beating heart of the Mother City, we definitely won't take nine months to exceed your expectations!

Having taken up "digs" in what was the old Metropole Hotel on Long Street, the powers that be quickly set about tailoring the "old boy" in a resplendent tuxedo of "local is lekker", chic, urban finesse.

The final touch was 7 uniquely styled vintage Airstream Trailers, perched on the roof between the heavens and the sublimely Tracy Lynch outfitted hotel rooms below.



With each trailer being designed by a different local artist, the creative stimulus has been injected directly into the beating heart of the Cape Town city center.

Not to stop there, the "blingest" bar in the land was rolled out not as an after thought, but more as the next necessary logical step.

A cascade of gold and white finish, complimented by retro-cool 1970's golden glitter, sumptuously flowing into the hanging of certain choice symbols of urban culture- the design recipe shaken up by

Tracy Lynch rivals even the best cocktails flaired up by our skilled bartenders, and thus- Daddy Cools was conceived.

Throw in conferencing facilities for up to sixty people and some begin to say we have it all. But nay, if that was not enough, we have The Cafe restaurant on street level, from which you can soak up the eclectic culture that is the ebb and flow of Mzanzi and enjoy a sumptuous meal, crafted by our infinitely skilled kitchen.

Staying with us massages one with the feeling -"You have arrived". See website [www.granddaddy.co.za](http://www.granddaddy.co.za).

### De Hoop Marine and Field Guides Comments.



Snake Expert Tony Phelps contributed to enhancing guided experiences revealing the importance of handling snakes carefully and how snakes play an important role in ecology.

James House, represented by a group of 35 young teenagers, with vast knowledge of traditional uses of medicinal plants contributed to our guiding experience – Most of these teenagers come from disadvantaged backgrounds and making a difference in these teenagers' lives exchanging valuable information and life skills contributed to an enjoyable and educational trip for all.

Welcome to our new guide, Pierre Mouski. His experience and knowledge of the lowveld bush can now also be used in our fynbos kingdom. We are very excited about our new activities' room which has been opened at De Hoop to show & exhibit the things we often overlook or miss. This centre will also be our base for all guided activities and aid as a information centre to guests. If you have any questions please contact Dalfrenzo or Pierre. Releases for July - Our New 3 day walking trail and eco motorised trails. Info to follow!

### Upcoming events

#### Welcome to the whales weekend

25-27<sup>th</sup> June, we're kicking off the annual whale season as the Southern Right whales start arriving to calve and mate in the De Hoop Bay. Join in this phenomenon

by attending the complimentary talks and presentation by Whale and marine expert, Wilfred Chivell from Dyer Island Cruisers. Wilfred Chivell is an experienced skipper, diver, naturalist and conservationist with extensive knowledge about sharks, whales, seabirds and other marine life.



### Whale of a Christmas, with Xmas in July at De Hoop, 16-18 July

This weekend promises to be a highlight again, with Friday night boma dinner around a roaring fire. Saturday's activities include a brunch, fynbos flower arranging, chocolate tasting by Von Geusau Chocolates, the rugby on the big screen and a Traditional Christmas celebration with wine paired by Creation Wines. Sunday - breakfast in the restaurant. A special kids program over the weekend includes a picnic on the beach under supervision. All accommodation and meals included in this package, plus children stay free, sharing and subject to availability. Book soon to avoid disappointment.

### Musical ensemble under the stars, celebrating Women, 6-9 Aug

Members of the JHB Philharmonic Orchestra will again be performing live classical music under the stars and trees for the weekend of the 6-9<sup>th</sup> August in conjunction with our Woman's day special. Highlights include, meeting the musicians around the boma fire, musical concert, star gazing, Ladies Brunch with guest speaker and loads of good food and company. This is a not to be missed event for music lovers.



### FGASA Level One Nature (Marine) August 8<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> 2010

After the highly successful inaugural marine course held last year, a further course contact session will be presented at The Sandpiper four star guest cottages at

Boggomsbaai near Mossel Bay. The course practical component takes place along the internationally acclaimed five day Oystercatcher Trail between St Blaize Cave in Mossel Bay and Gouritz River mouth accompanied by a team of experts in geology, botany, marine ecology, conservation and reptiles. Cost: R16 400 which includes: Full board (3 meals a day), Comprehensive study material and personal library, Mentorship during the pre-exam workbook assignment, FGASA membership, examination, assessment and moderation fees, Tourist guide registration. Please feel free to contact the course principal facilitator, Louis Willemsse phone 028 423 3317 email [louisfieldguide@kingsley.co.za](mailto:louisfieldguide@kingsley.co.za) or visit FGASA's website [www.fgasa.org.za](http://www.fgasa.org.za)

### Nikon Photographic Course (21-24 October)

Conducted by Derek and Norma Pearman who will give you the edge on knowing your camera, but more so the unleashing of your own creative style and bringing that out in your pictures. With De Hoop as a backdrop and so many subjects to capture - this is an amazing opportunity! Cost for 3 nights accommodation and meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) is R2550pp plus presenter's fee. Call Derek on 0833781 or email him at [photoman@lantic.net](mailto:photoman@lantic.net)

### Weddings and Conferences

De Hoop offers a variety of options for weddings, private functions and conference packages. Please contact Nini on [events@dehoopcollection.co.za](mailto:events@dehoopcollection.co.za) or Sonja on 071 346 8855 and [sonja@dehoopcollection.co.za](mailto:sonja@dehoopcollection.co.za)

### Winter Specials

Why not break the winter spell and long holidays by visiting De Hoop with our 25% discount on accommodation or mid week special of stay for 2nights, pay for one! For more info or to make a booking please contact 0861 33 4667 or email [res@dehoopcollection.co.za](mailto:res@dehoopcollection.co.za)



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