

3 DAY LGB GROOTVADERSBOSCH & DE HOOP NATURE RESERVE TOUR

Day 1 – Swellendam & Grootvadersbosch

Today, I will collect you guys at your Cape Town accommodation at 6am. We will then head to Swellendam (approximately a 2hr 30min drive) where we will spend time along the Breede River, a certain spot where Giant Kingfishers & Rufous-chested Cuckoo are normally heard and seen. We will have some brunch and then move on to Honeywood Farm, our accommodation for the night, to book in and then we will proceed to Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve (4min drive) where we will do some late afternoon birding. The relatively easy bird species to look out for include, **Swee Waxbill, Greater Double collared Sunbird, Black saw-wing, African Dusky Flycatcher, Neddicky, Southern Boubou, Sombre Greenbul, Bar throated Apalis, Fork tailed Drongos** and a few more. Our **target birds** would be rather those mentioned at day 2.

Overnight: Honeywood Farm Cottages

Day 2 – Grootvadersbosch Nature Reserve

Today we will proceed chasing our target birds which includes, the **Forest Canary, Knysna Woodpecker, Olive Woodpecker, Cape Siskin, Yellow-fronted Woodland Warbler, Knysna Warbler, Olive Bushshrike**. We will also keep our ears open for **Lesser & Greater Honeyguides, Narina Trogon and Victorin's Warbler**. After we spent a great morning in the forest, we will leave Grootvadersbosch around about 11am via the R322, heading for De Hoop Nature Reserve (approximately 2hrs drive, but might take longer as we definitely will be doing some roadside birding and also taking the ferry at Malagas Pont, depending on what time we are leaving Grootvadersbosch, otherwise we will be taking a different & shorter route.

Overnight: De Hoop Collection

Day 3 – De Hoop Nature Reserve

Today, we will spend the day in De Hoop Nature Reserve where we will have excellent close-up sightings of **Bontebok, Common Eland and Cape Mountain Zebra**. We will visit the lookout point with great views over the Indian Ocean, scanning for the **Southern Right Whale** (in season). Bird species to look out for in the park includes, **Accacia Pied Barbet, Knysna Woodpecker, Southern Tchagra, Secretarybird, Black Cuckooshrike, Agulhas Long billed Lark, Lark-like Bunting** and subspecies of *Apiata*, the **Cape Clapper Lark (Marjoriae)**

which calls sounds a bit different (2 notes on descending). We will be doing some night birding, searching for the **Fiery-necked Nightjar**, quite easy to find them in the park (20min after dark they will start calling). *[The park offers an additional guided tour [additional cost] to the **Cape Vulture** colony, unfortunately private guests need to make use of their guided tour, if they are interested to see them].*

Overnight: *De Hoop Collection*