



**Newsletter Nr 511 – 8 April 2024**

Tel: (044) 213 3775 Email: [info@visitcalitzdorp.co.za](mailto:info@visitcalitzdorp.co.za)

Website: [www.visitcalitzdorp.co.za](http://www.visitcalitzdorp.co.za)

 [calitzdorp-tourism](#)  [Calitzdorp Tourism](#)

## MESSAGE FROM THE CALITZDORP TOURISM OFFICE

### Did you know?

As a member of Calitzdorp Tourism, which is an official Local Tourism Organisation (LTO), you have special benefits. These benefits are those which attract visitors and provide them with enough information to keep them in the area, and include predominantly promotional material. We will feature one of the many benefits here each month:

- Calitzdorp Tourism Provide Social Media coverage (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) for members

### Things happening around Calitzdorp

Please keep the tourism office informed of events happening in and around our town, so we can share it with everyone. We would also like to feature any community news in our newsletter. So if you know of anyone that has participated in a sport or cultural event, received an award or made us proud, please let us know! All advertisements and news must reach us by the LAST DAY OF THE MONTH at 12:00. All important notices to the public will be shared on our Facebook page. Special addition newsletters will go our from time to time if necessary.

#### In this newsletter

Welcome newest member

Met Innige Simpatie

GOP Begroting Vergadering

Doppies = Rolstoele

Introduction to sourdough – hands-on workshop

BirdLife South Africa educational

Art on Track – theme for 2024

Events calendar for 2024

Meet-and-Greet

Things to do

Where to eat, stay and drink

Calitzdorp Plant Chat

Rental of Calitzdorp Tourism Boardroom

And much more!

## Welcome to our newest member



**The Home of Calitz** is situated in the picturesque little town of Calitzdorp, in the Western Cape. This is a beautiful town on Route 62, surrounded by mountains, in the Klein Karoo. Built in 1838 by one of the founding members, of the then farm Buffelsvlei, it is a museum of history and forgotten culture and the start of our journey. The farmstall houses local art and crafts, pottery, indigenous preserves like num-num and Spekboom and so much more. Come and find a warm karoo welcome and friendly service with great eats and amazing gifts. Hope to see you soon!  
[www.visitcalitzdorp.co.za](http://www.visitcalitzdorp.co.za)

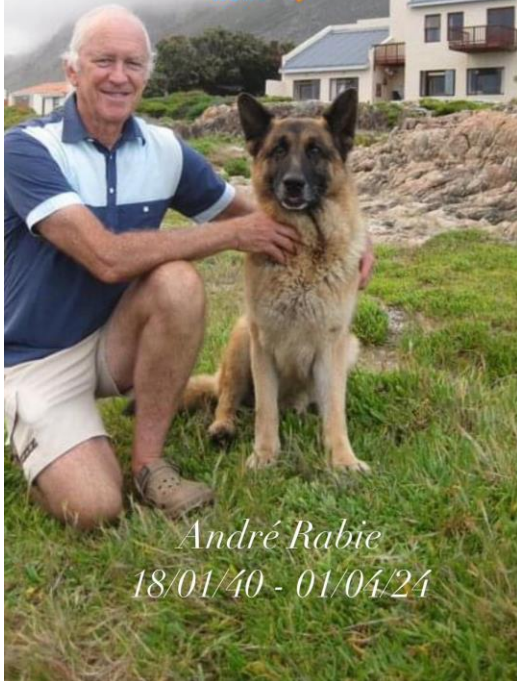
## Are you a member yet? Sign up today



As a member of Calitzdorp Tourism, which is an official Local Tourism Organisation (LTO), your business will receive considerable exposure. Not only do we provide visitors with enough information to keep them in the area, we also market your organisation through various mediums. This service includes referrals and bookings through our office. Visit our membership page for more details:

[https://visitcalitzdorp.co.za/calitzdorp\\_tourism.../](https://visitcalitzdorp.co.za/calitzdorp_tourism.../)

Life will never be the same again... Your beautiful smile, kind heart and gentle spirit. You ran your race faithfully till the very end and are Home now! ❤️



*André Rabie*  
18/01/40 - 01/04/24

## Met Innige Simpatie

Dit is met groot hartseer en opregte simpatie dat ons van die afsterwe van André Rabie, eienaar van Die Poort Privaat Natuureservaat in Matjiesvlei buite Calitzdorp, verneem het.

Ons innige meegevoel aan Mnr Rabie se geliefdes. Mag mooi herinneringe jul troos in hierdie hartseer en moeilike tyd.

Calitzdorp Toerisme Komitee

# MEET THE CALITZDORP TOURISM COMMITTEE MEMBERS



## DEON KRIEK - CHAIRMAN

Deon as the esteemed Chairman of the Calitzdorp Tourism Committee exemplifies true leadership, steering our organisation towards its mission with unwavering dedication. He's also a cornerstone of our Community Police Forum, advocating tirelessly for community safety and wellbeing. With his profound involvement in the Ward Committee, Deon ensures that every voice in our community is heard and represented.

You can contact him at:

082 466 0486

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



Kevin Taylor  
Vice Chair and other

## KEVIN TAYLOR - VICE-CHAIRMAN

With a passion for community development and a knack for navigating tough decisions, Kevin Taylor stands shoulder-to-shoulder with our team, ensuring smooth operations and effective leadership.

But Kevin's dedication extends beyond boardroom discussions! He's a staunch advocate for promoting Calitzdorp's cultural gems, from our captivating museum to the historical routes that weave through our town's rich tapestry. 🏛️🏰

As a driving force behind initiatives like "Calitzdorp Expressed" and the development of cycling routes, Kevin's commitment to showcasing the best of our town knows no bounds. 🚲🛤️

With his expertise as a tour guide, Kevin transforms ordinary visits into extraordinary adventures, leaving a lasting impression on all who explore Calitzdorp's treasures with him. 🌟

Join us in celebrating Kevin Taylor, our Vice Chairman, and let's continue to make Calitzdorp shine brighter together!

Contact details:

082 469 8143

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



Erina Meiring  
Tourism Office Manager & Secretary

## ERINA MEIRING: SECRETARY AND TOURISM OFFICE MANAGER

🌟 Introducing Erina Meiring, our diligent Secretary of the Committee and powerhouse behind our tourism initiatives!



As the CT Office Manager for Regional Tourism, Erina brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the table, ensuring our town's attractions are showcased with finesse. 🏡

With a keen eye for detail, Erina spearheads projects like Tourism Road Signage, guiding visitors effortlessly to Calitzdorp's hidden gems and must-see destinations. 🚗

But her dedication doesn't stop there! Erina is also the driving force behind our Membership efforts, ensuring our committee remains robust and inclusive, with every voice heard and valued. 🤝

Behind the scenes, Erina's impeccable Office Management skills keep our operations running smoothly, ensuring every task is handled with precision and care.

You can contact her on [info@visitcalitzdorp.co.za](mailto:info@visitcalitzdorp.co.za)

# EVENTS CALENDAR 2024

## Events Calendar Forthcoming events in and around Calitzdorp 2024

ITEM	DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED	CONTACT
Redstone MTB & Trail Running weekend, Calitzdorp	4 May 2024	Corne Botha 073 194 2984 / 074 260 2871, 084 089 4223 <a href="mailto:jakhals.events@gmail.com">jakhals.events@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.jakhalsevents.co.za">www.jakhalsevents.co.za</a>
36ONE MTB & Trail Running (The 361km long single-stage race)	24 May – 26 May 2024	<a href="http://www.the36one.co.za">www.the36one.co.za</a> Dryland Event Management +27 44 279 1013 <a href="mailto:info@dryland.co.za">info@dryland.co.za</a>
Calitzdorp Expressed	15 – 17 June 2024	Kevin Taylor 082 469 8143 <a href="https://www.facebook.com/calitzdorpexpressed">https://www.facebook.com/calitzdorpexpressed</a> <a href="mailto:taylorklb@gmail.com">taylorklb@gmail.com</a>
Calitzdorp Expressed Trail Run Challenge, Calitzdorp	16 (Sunday) June 2024	Corne Botha 073 1943 2984 / 074 260 2871 <a href="mailto:Jakhals.events@gmail.com">Jakhals.events@gmail.com</a>
Art on Track	2 – 9 August 2024	Andri Dare 082 686 0016 <a href="mailto:andri@keyspiritdev.co.za">andri@keyspiritdev.co.za</a>
Cape Pioneer Trek	2 – 5 October 2024	Dryland Events Management 044 279 1013 <a href="mailto:info@dryland.co.za">info@dryland.co.za</a> <a href="http://www.dryland.co.za">www.dryland.co.za</a>
Calitzdorp Vetplantfees The Station, Calitzdorp	20 – 22 September 2024	Buck Hemenway 076 298 7337
Ladismith Cheese Seweweekspoort MTB & Trail Run Zoar/Ladismith	September Date to be confirmed MTB: 80km, 40km, 29km Trial run: 29km, 10km	Janine Chain Gang 083 662 2022 Juan Botes 071 678 7147
Apricot Picking (Bulida apricots) De Krans Wine Cellars	November Date to be confirmed	Bessie Swanepoel 044 213 3314/364 <a href="mailto:dekrans@mweb.co.za">dekrans@mweb.co.za</a> <a href="http://www.dekrans.co.za">www.dekrans.co.za</a>
Apricot Jamboree & Christmas Market, Calitzdorp	23/30 November 2024 Date to be confirmed	Erina Meiring - 044 213 3775 <a href="mailto:tourism@calitzdorp.org.za">tourism@calitzdorp.org.za</a>
Klassieke Klein Karoo Kersfees	November/December Date to be confirmed	Marita Meyer 082 335 6059 E-pos: <a href="mailto:marita@celebratio.co.za">marita@celebratio.co.za</a>

## NOTICES



## KANNALAND MUNISIPALITEIT

GOP / IDP  
BEGROTING VERGADERING

18 APRIL 2024  
18:00  
CALITZDORP STADSAAL

WYK 2

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Skål Garden Route Luncheon at Celebratio on 24 April 2024

**SKAL GARDEN ROUTE LUNCHEON**



**When:** April 24th @ 11h30 for a farm tour & Pomegranate Port Tasting  
**Venue:** Celebratio Pomegranate Farm, Calitzdorp  
**Guest Speaker:** Gerhard Meyer - Owner & Pomegranate Farmer

Members: R180. Non members: R220  
RSVP: [secretary@skalgardenroute.org.za](mailto:secretary@skalgardenroute.org.za) by no later than Monday 22nd @ 9am.

Please remember to bring prizes for our raffle!



Hi fellow Calitzdorp Tourism Members,

You may be aware that I am the current President of the Garden Route & Klein Karoo chapter of Skål International. Skål is the only professional organisation promoting global tourism and friendship. It is also the only international group uniting all sectors of the travel and tourism industry. Skål International has over 15,000 Members in almost 400 Clubs in 87 Countries. It is all about doing business with Friends.

We have a monthly Networking lunch and the April one is in Calitzdorp. If you are in the Tourism Industry or a supplier to the Tourism Industry then this is an opportunity to make contacts and grow your business. If you are interested then please join us for Lunch at Celebratio on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me.

Skål Regards & Salutations,

Andrew Rogers

Innkeeper & Owner Calitzdorp Country House

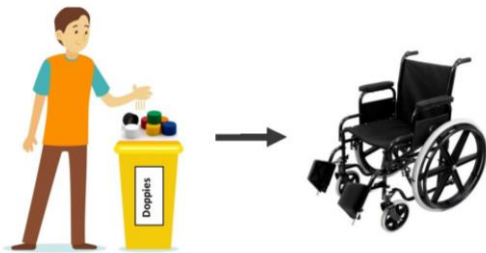
President Skål International Garden Route

dMail – [president@skalgardenroute.org.za](mailto:president@skalgardenroute.org.za)

Mobile - +27 82 491 7537

## Doppies = Rolstoel

Projek van die gemeenskap  
en NG Gemeente Calitzdorp



Ten bate van Vygieshof

Depot: NG Kerkzaal

Navrae: Kerkkantoor 066 288 0048

## Future prospects of Garden Route Fynbos uncertain 04 April 2024



Conservationists and environmental management entities in the Garden Route share concern on the dual effect of climate change, expanding agricultural practices and rapid development on what remains of the region's Fynbos species.

"These fynbos species are on the Red List of Terrestrial Ecosystems (Government Notice 2747), many of which are critically endangered and unlikely to survive, given their limited prospects in isolation and all present threats," says Cobus Meiring of the Garden Route Environmental Forum (GREF).

**Read more:** <https://www.gardenroute.gov.za/.../04-april-2024-media.../>

Garden Route District Municipality



## Calitzdorp Community Chest - Calitzdorp Gemeenskapskas

An old pine tree was recently blown down off Andries Pretorius Street into the garden of Vygieshof, causing much damage to their garden. A request by Vygieshof for some assistance with replacing two missing trees, and adding a few more elsewhere on the property, was answered by Calitzdorp Community Chest - Calitzdorp Gemeenskapskas. The CCC funded six indigenous trees from Oudtshoorn and, on Freedom Day, they were planted by Community Chest and the Vygieshof members. One day a giant Apiesdoring (*Acacia galpinii*) will stand in splendour in the place of the old pine tree.

# WHAT HAPPENED IN AND AROUND TOWN

## Birding in Groenfontein; a BirdLife South Africa Project

9 March 2024



One of the local Avitourism Birding trips, planned for Calitzdorp by BirdLife South Africa, took place on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. The trip started at 07h00, with the meeting point being Calitzdorp Tourism.

The guide was Louis Jordaan from Minwater Eco Adventures, Oudtshoorn area. What a morning! 43 educationals were scheduled for the Garden Route & Klein Karoo district. We hope that this will result in an increased appreciation and awareness of the value of avitourism in our destination.

# THINGS TO DO

## OUR MEET AND GREET DATE HAS CHANGED TO 10 MAY 2024

Are you new to our beautiful town of Calitzdorp?

Looking to meet friendly faces and make lasting connections? Join us for a special Meet and Greet evening on Friday, May 10th! Book your spot with Erina at [info@visitcalitzdorp.co.za](mailto:info@visitcalitzdorp.co.za)

Whether you've recently moved in or just looking to expand your social circle, this is the perfect opportunity to connect with fellow newcomers and longtime residents alike. Let's build a vibrant community together!

Mark your calendars and come mingle with us!



**Calitzdorp Meet  
and Greet  
10 May 2024**

[WWW.VISITCALITZDORP.CO.ZA](http://WWW.VISITCALITZDORP.CO.ZA)



## AviTourism in Calitzdorp



Nestled in the heart of the Western Cape's Klein Karoo region lies Calitzdorp, a hidden gem for avid birdwatchers and nature enthusiasts alike. While Calitzdorp may be renowned for its fine wines and picturesque landscapes, it's also a haven for a diverse array of bird species, making it an ideal destination for AviTourism.

## The Accidental Baker

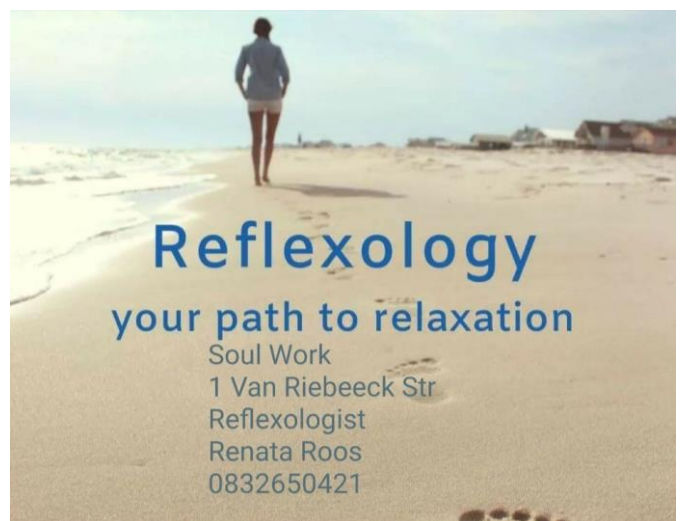


2 new dates for 'an introduction to sourdough' • join us for a hands-on workshop in the bakery • learn about 'mothers' & leavens, natural wild yeast & slow-fermentation, dough making & shaping and how to bake a delicious sourdough bread • MAY 9 & JUNE 6

## Pedals & Port



<https://pedalsandport.co.za/?fbclid=IwAR0nWIV-wo6ZG4w4u-T-Tri6Bt7ICzvkmAXVGPasSWKGVKNQV/GxyRYvTTw>



## THE 36ONE MTB CHALLENGE | 24 – 26 May 2024



This is South Africa's ultimate race with 361km and a maximum of 36.1 hours to complete it. Starting with a neutral zone, riders head out of town from Kleinplaas Holiday Resort, turning right onto the first gravel section towards De Zeekoe, where the official start of the 189km race is located. The riders head in a westerly direction towards the northern sections of the great Gouritz river. Sharper steeper sections find its way to the southerly slopes of the Rooiberg Mountain – with around 70 km in the legs, this bump in the road feels quite severe.

The descent usually coincides with sunrise over Calitzdorp, the port capital of South Africa. Sun on the back and home sweet home in sight makes the narrow farm roads past Groenfontein and Kruisrivier seem easier – undulations and fast downhills bring riders ever closer to Oudtshoorn past Lategansvlei – 189 kilometres done and dusted!

Find out more at: <https://dryland.co.za/cycling-events/#36one>



## Looking for an adventure on the road?



Looking for an adventure on the road? Calitzdorp is your ultimate destination, and Skål International Garden Route has 21 jaw-dropping reasons why you should pack your bags and hit the road!

Step one: Book your accommodation at Calitzdorp Country House so you have a base to go back to:

☎ 082 073 7709

✉ info@cchouse.co.za

**Calitzdorp Country House**

Step two....which pass will you do first??

Rooiberg Pass (14km)

Coordinates: -33.65005, 21.64257

Assegaaibosch Pass (3 km)

Coordinates: -33.73589, 21.58036

Jan Muller Pass (3km)

Coordinates: -33.90576, 21.65168

Cloetes Pass (19km)

Coordinates: -33.95927, 21.79749

Du Plessis Pass (8.5km)

Coordinates: -34.07787, 21.77191

Robinson Pass (8.3km)

Coordinates: -33.88166, 22.02406

Brakpoort Pass (4.3km)

Coordinates: -33.71783, 22.11784

Kruisrivierpoort (2.2km)

Coordinates: -33.43384, 22.11788

Huis se Hoogte (3.2 km)

Coordinates: -33.42820, 22.07806

Dooringkloof Pass (4.7 km)

Coordinates: -33.40222, 22.03264

Swartberg Pass (23.8km)

Coordinates: -33.41141, 21.97512

Witkranspoort Pass (2 km)

Coordinates: -33.25442, 22.04205

Tredouw Pass (3 km)

Coordinates: -33.27489, 22.27678

Meiringspoort (25km)

Coordinates: -33.41667, 22.54963

Huisrivier Pass (12km)

Coordinates: -33.49516, 21.58245

Seweweekspoort (24km)

Coordinates: -33.40012, 21.39932

Bosluiskloof (56km)

Coordinates: -33.33722, 21.50295

Schoemanspoort (72km)

Coordinates: -33.44994, 22.25528

Outeniqua Pass (98km)

Coordinates: -33.88652, 22.39928

Montagu Pass (106km)

Coordinates: -33.89478, 22.42040

Garcia Pass (113km)

Coordinates: -33.96668, 21.22009

Get ready for an unforgettable journey through the winding roads and breathtaking scenery!



## Art On Track Calitzdorp

The **theme** for Art On Track Calitzdorp 2024 is: "Roads less traveled". Thank you for your suggestion Ons Karoo en Kontrei !

📍 Save the dates: Opening night 2 August 2024 18:00 | Exhibiting dates 3 to 9 August 2024 | Closing night 9 August 2024

Whatsapp for more info: 0826860016

# WHERE TO EAT, STAY AND DRINK

**DAY VISITORS  
WELCOME  
BOOKING REQUIRED**

## KAROOWATER RESTAURANT

- Breakfast
- Sandwiches & Roosterkoek
- Pizza
- Kiddies Menu
- Fully licensed bar



www.karoowater.co.za  
076 382 3477




## Karoo Water Gasteplaas

EXPERIENCE A DAY OF ADVENTURE AT  
KAROOWATER

Discover the beauty of Karoowater as a day visitor, but remember, reservations are essential! Our facilities are open to day visitors, offering a chance to explore the serene landscapes and unwind in nature's embrace. Indulge in a delectable dining experience at our onsite restaurant, where you can savor mouthwatering dishes crafted from fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Make memories with friends, family, or colleagues amidst the tranquility of Karoowater. Book your day visit today and immerse yourself in the natural wonders of the Karoo. Contact us to secure your spot: 076 382 3477  
[www.karoowater.co.za](http://www.karoowater.co.za)


**BOKWAGTERSHUIS  
COTTAGE**

- 3 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- 6 people




**MIDDELPLAAS COTTAGE**

- 2 bedrooms
- 1 bathroom
- 4 people



**DIE STALLE COTTAGE**

- 3 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- 6 people



Looking for a place to spend the night of the Swartberg100 Gran Fondo? We've got you covered. Take your pick between our 3 self-catering cottages and get some well-deserved rest.

Take a look at our Cottages:

<https://matjiesvlei.com/>

Feel free to send us an email at [matjiesvleiccottages@gmail.com](mailto:matjiesvleiccottages@gmail.com) to find out more or to book your stay.



**Karooboom** is holding sheep head and garbage evening on the 25th of April 2024 For only R200 Per person. Book your table and your head at Irene Saayman 044-0070034 or whatsapp 079 620 144 1 Menu is available for those who do not lose weight.

## The Queen of Calitzdorp



Another beautiful afternoon in the Klein Karoo



Karoo Nest - Calitzdorp  
Family Unit - Sleeps up to 4

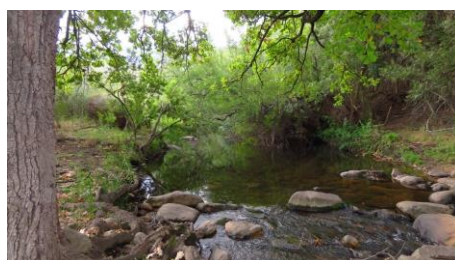


Karoo Nest - Calitzdorp  
Garden Studio - Sleeps 2



## Karoo Nest - Calitzdorp

Karoo Nest Calitzdorp Western Cape has 2 units, Family Unit Sleeps up to 4, Garden Studio sleeps 2. Both units have small private gardens fully enclosed. We are pet friendly by arrangement, preferably 1 or 2 small/medium doggies. Solar/wifi/dstv. [www.karoonest.co.za](http://www.karoonest.co.za)



## The Retreat at Groenfontein

I once again headed to the Klein Karoo and my special mountain space. Do you believe in magical places? Places that make you feel alive and calm at the same time. I love waking up and seeing a majestic mountain looming over me. The first sounds are those of the birds getting their early morning routine in. Swimming in the mountain rock pools and streams and bumping into the local wildlife and farm animals. Dining under the stars with who knows who? Or sharing your breakfast with the birds. It's all part of the magic, and I love it. [www.groenfontein.com](http://www.groenfontein.com)  
Groenfontein Road between Oudtshoorn and Calitzdorp

Travelbug Rose BloggerVirtual Travel Klein Karoo

## The Calitz

What a busy month we had. We are so grateful for everyone who stayed at The Calitz. Always such a pleasure having families stay with us. Uno is always a must when going away with the family.





## Matjiesvlei Guest Farm

Historic Charm and Unforgettable Views!

Disconnect from the modern world and reconnect with your loved one in this idyllic setting. The absence of electricity creates a cozy ambiance that's perfect for quality time together. Step into history and romance at Cloete Huis, one of the oldest and most charming buildings in Matjiesvlei. This quaint cottage is the perfect choice for a romantic honeymoon breakaway. Cloete Huis is not just a place to stay; it's an opportunity to immerse yourself in history and savour the simplicity of a bygone era. Experience the magic of Matjiesvlei Guest Farm in this enchanting cottage.

Cloete Huis exudes historical charm, taking you back in time while providing modern comfort. The cottage features one bedroom, thoughtfully furnished for an intimate and cozy atmosphere. Enjoy breathtaking views of the picturesque valley and the majestic Swartberg Mountains from your window.

Additional accommodation for flexibility:

For added convenience, a separate bedroom with two single beds and a bathroom is available in the outbuilding. This makes Cloete Huis suitable for small families or friends travelling together.

A unique off the grid experience:

Cloete Huis is an off-the-grid accommodation, offering an authentic and rustic experience. While there is only electricity in the kitchen, you'll find the cottage well-prepared for your stay. It is equipped with an abundance of candles, oil lamps, solar lights, and a gas geyser for hot water. The kitchen features a gas stove and electric fridge, allowing you to prepare meals with ease.

Contact us by calling 044 050 3346, WhatsApp to 073 174 1028 or email [matjiesvlei@telkomsa.net](mailto:matjiesvlei@telkomsa.net)  
[www.matjiesvlei.co.za](http://www.matjiesvlei.co.za)

## The Station - Calitzdorp



So nice to hear such lovely feedback after a busy busy Easter holiday period!

Looking for affordable "quirky" accommodation that is unique and fun ?

- The Station - Calitzdorp, Western Cape is your place!

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



**Alex Jenkins**

Local Guide • 225 reviews • 533 photos

★★★★★ 21 hours ago

Unforgettable gem in the Karoo. The Station is like nowhere you have ever been. The hosts are a wonderfully relaxed couple that have transformed the old station into a hub of art, socialisation and unique experiences. From the open braai night every Friday night to the tiny pool behind the rocks to the pebble cliffs that line the camp site, the Station is utterly unique.

Our party stayed in ticket office 1, 2 and 3 and the kids had the most glorious time. The highlight was the 2 railway handcarts that ran from first rooster crow till late into the night.

The Station is at the end of a most delightful street of period houses with the formidable NGKerk at the other end.

Camp, glamp or stay in the ticket offices. You will not be disappointed with the warm, quirky stay that awaits you.

## WINE NEWS



### TTT Cellars

A Birthday party group visiting us on the "Calitzdorp Wynthreintjie" this morning enjoying a charcuterie board and Winetasting.



## De Krans Wines

We are excited to share our Autumn newsletter with you. This newsletter features a harvest update, exciting news about new labels, important upcoming dates as well as our fantastic Autumn wine selection and a great giveaway.

<https://mailchi.mp/dekrans/wine-club-autumn-newsletter-2024>

Thanks also to [@tegansmithphotography](#) for all the beautiful, new images!

## Boplaas Family Vineyards

Distiller, Daniel Nel, tasting through the Boplaas whisky & brandy range with brandy legend Johann Venter. It's always nice to hear critical feedback concerning the products we're producing. Johann has decades of experience in the industry working for Distell. He also has his own brand called [@theinventer\\_\\_](#) with a range of SA Brandy and Whisky.



## Peter Bayly Wines

Lovely drone perspective of our farm taken by a visitor last week.

## Du'SwaRoo Wine and Olive Farm

Pressing olives for olive oil. Olives in and oil out at the other side. Thanks to Chris at Bella Mia.



## De Krans Wines

Congratulations to the two lucky winners of our Autumn Newsletter giveaway - Robert Berry from Wilderness and Eric Freemantle from Prince Albert. You each win a mixed case of De Krans Moscato featuring our new labels as well as a case of our Autumn selection. Dolla is already packing your wine as we speak... enjoy! Our Winter newsletter will be available in June.

## De Krans Wines

As the 2024 harvest comes to an end, we have to give a shout out to our two harvest interns, Fabian Butz and Allyssa Rued, photographed with our winemaker, Christoff de Wet on the right. Fabian comes from Buchenländerhof, their family wine farm in Norheim in the Nahe in Germany, while Allyssa comes from a wine farm as well - Rued Winery in Sonoma, California in the United States. We loved having them both here and learning from them. After lots of hard work and shared fun, we bid them farewell and wish them all the best for their future as they return home in the next week.



## Boplaas Family Vineyards is at Boplaas.

Indulge in Boplaas Cabernet Sauvignon, crafted with an Old World approach and the finest terroir the Cape has to offer. Ripe tannins, elegant balance, and deserving of cellaring, it embodies the essence of sophistication. As the King of Grapes, Cabernet Sauvignon delivers iconic complexity and plushness, making each sip an unforgettable experience. Drop by one of our tasting rooms, for an experience:

- 📌 The Boplaas cellar in Calitzdorp
- 📌 Redberry Farm in George
- 📌 Old Nick Village in Plettenberg Bay
- 📌 Hart & Bosch in Hartenbos (now open)

Shop online: <https://boplaas.co.za/visit-us/>

☎ +27 (0)44 213 3326

✉ [info@boplaas.co.za](mailto:info@boplaas.co.za)



## CALITZDORP - OUR BEAUTIFUL TOWN

### Experience Calitzdorp

by Lanalou Style

After spending a few nights in Calitzdorp last year, it's retained a special place in my heart. There's something incredibly beautiful about this small farming town in the heart of the Klein Karoo, an oasis surrounded by a semi-arid landscape and breathtaking mountains all around.

Magnificent architectural buildings, an abundance of hot pink bougainvilleas, vineyards, spekboom, succulents and quirky Karoo charm are what speak to me.

Read more

[Experience Calitzdorp - what to do & see - Lanalou Style](#)



[Experience Calitzdorp - what to do & see - Lanalou Style](#)



**Veron's Travels** is at **De Krans**.  
7 March at 12:35 · Calitzdorp ·  
#Dorpe Calitzdorp+Oudtshoorn

Early morning we saw the Cape Eagle-Owl just before we left The Station. The Previous evening we were entertained by the Barn Owl(Nonnetjies uil) family of 4 and their little chicks screaming for food. That was so cool!

We left quite early the The Station - Calitzdorp, Western Cape and popped in at De Krans for breakfast and stopped at Boplaas Winery for a few bottles of premium whisky and brandy. On our way to Oudtshoorn, Western Cape Oudtshoorn (/ˈaʊtʃəːrn/, Afrikaans pronunciation: [ˈəʊts,ɦuərən]), the "ostrich capital of the world",<sup>[3]</sup> is a town in the Western Cape province of South Africa, located between the Swartberg mountains to the north and the Outeniqua Mountains to the south. Two ostrich-feather booms, during 1865–1870 and 1900–1914, truly established the settlement.<sup>[4]</sup> With approximately 60,000 inhabitants, it is the largest town in the Little Karoo region. The town's economy is primarily reliant on the ostrich farming and tourism industries.<sup>[5]</sup> Oudtshoorn is home to the world's largest ostrich population,<sup>[6]</sup> with a number of specialised ostrich breeding farms, such as the Safari Show Farm and the Highgate Ostrich Show Farm, as told by Mnr. Pierre D. Toit



Diced by the R62 ,often compared to its famous cousin in the USA ( route 66 )  
Next time you find yourself in the dry Klein Karoo, veer off the main road into its side streets and alleys.  
Doen dit, jy saal nie spyt wees nie.  
Plenty of charm, a sprinkle of vineyards, producing some of the best Port wine in the country, surrounded by birds of a different feather, there is even a spot further downstream, where mineral waters sooth.  
On the foothills of the Swartberge range.

**Jean da Cruz**



Datum: einde 1985



DIE VLV-tak van Calitzdorp het 'n parade van trourokke gehou. Rokke van 1953 tot 1985 is vertoon. Agter is v.l.n.r Christa Beeselaar in mev. Eljo Potgieter se rok (1956), mev. Hestia Calitz in haar eie rok (1985), Janelle Ritter in mev. Miems Erasmus se rok (1953), Lena Nel in mev. Ancé Strydom s'n (1955), Rosie O'Kennedy in mev. Olive Nel s'n (1962), Adéle Fivaz in mev. Margaret du Toit s'n (1972), mevv. Theresa Nel en Hannie Meiring in hul eie rokke (1983), en mev. Susan Jacobs in haar eie rok (1976). Voor is mev. Minette Strydom in mev. Anneline Schoonees se rok (1983), Stella Vinancio in mev. Maatjie Bekker s'n (1956), Elize Theron in mev. Minette Strydom s'n (1979), en Stephanie O'Kennedy in mev. Jeanne Nel s'n (1979).

# Calitzdorp Plant Chat

## 58. Vegetation types around Calitzdorp - Apronveld

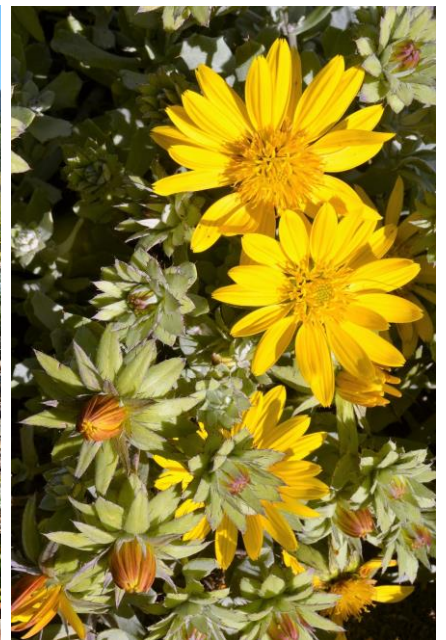
One aspect of our plant world around Calitzdorp that we have not touched upon yet is the classification of the vegetation types or plant associations that occur in the vicinity of the town. Jan and Anne Lise Vlok, in their book *Plants of the Klein Karoo*, provide descriptions of the vegetation types of the Klein Karoo, with accompanying maps. I thought we could expand a little on their description with some photos of typical plants to illustrate it.

The Vloks describe Apronveld as occurring on “gentle lower slopes of ridges and hills, where the soils are loamy or clayey, with a fair amount of surface rock.” Which means that most of the area surrounding Calitzdorp falls into the Apronveld category. Apronveld is further broken up into two units – **Quartz Apronveld** where there is an abundance of quartz rock lying on the surface (an example is Jakkalskop on the town outskirts), or **Gravel Apronveld** which is much-disturbed and is abundant on old raised river terraces where gravel and rocks are common. The latter accounts for most of the Apronveld in the Calitzdorp district and it flanks the deep loams of the bottomlands along the Nel, Gamka and Olifant rivers – the habitat where most of the agriculture around Calitzdorp takes place.

Because of the long history of settlement around Calitzdorp, there is very little Apronveld that is undisturbed and not transformed around the town. But if you can find a pristine patch, there are some plant species that are regarded as indicators of relatively healthy Apronveld. Two of the showy species include *Berkheya cuneata* (Flenniebos) and *Hirpicium integrifolium* (Haarbossie). The indicators of damaged Apronveld are – predictably – much more common around town. They include the very common blue-flowered bulb *Moraea polystachya* (Bloutulp), as well as *Aloe microstigma*, *Cotyledon orbiculata* (Plakkies or Pig’s Ears), and even Renosterbos (*Dicerotheramnus rhinocerotis*).

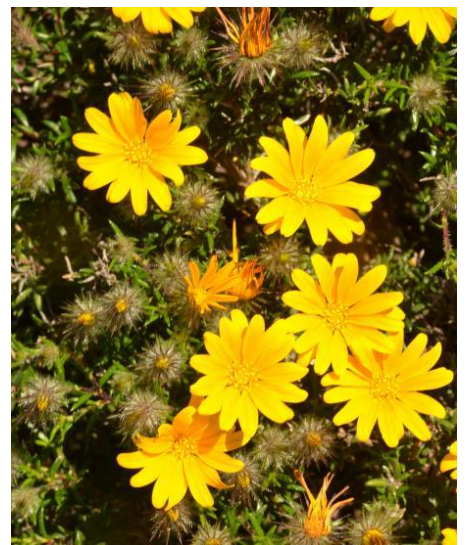
So if you walk around Calitzdorp and take note of how common the Bloutulp, *Aloe microstigma* and Plakkies are around town, it tells you how just much the veld around Calitzdorp has been damaged. Sad, but that’s the history of our progress.

John Burrows ([botartburrows@gmail.com](mailto:botartburrows@gmail.com))



above: relatively undisturbed **Quartz Apronveld** on Jakkalskop, Calitzdorp.

from above right, clockwise: *Berkheya cuneata* (Flenniebos) and *Hirpicium integrifolium* (Haarbossie) are indicators of healthy Apronveld; *Cotyledon orbiculata* (Plakkies), *Aloe microstigma*, and *Moraea polystachya* (Bloutulp) are all indicators of Apronveld that has been disturbed and degraded.



# COMMON CONSTELLATIONS AND THEIR PROMINENT STARS

## The constellation of Orion (The Hunter)

(Visible from November to May)

Orion is visible from all over the world and is one of the most well known constellations. The important stars in this constellation are Rigel, Saiph, Betyelgeuse, the Great Nebula and the Three kings (the belt).

The hunters one knee is represented by the star **Rigel**. This star is the seventh brightest star and is 900 light years distant. The other knee is represented by the star **Saiph**.

The three kings or the belt of Orion are represented by three stars called **Mintaka**, Alnilam and Alnitak.

The three stars diagonally from the belt represent the 'sword' of the hunter. The centre faint star in the hunters sword is in fact not a star, but a gas cloud that can be seen with the naked eye. This is called the **Great Nebula** of Orion. It is a small cloud studded with many bright stars, consisting mainly of hydrogen, other gasses and dust.

## **Betelgeuse** (meaning the armpit of the giant)

This is the shoulder star of Orion. It is the twelfth brightest star in our sky. It shows up as a red star (known as a red giant), and is colder than our sun but thousands of times larger.



## **The three Kings** (or belt of Orion)

They are situated at the Celestial equator of the sky, right above the Earth's surface equator. When Orion appears in the East, the three kings indicate true East, and when Orion sets in the West, they indicate true West.

The three stars of Orion's Belt are among the most distant stars that can be seen by the naked eye. Alnitak and Mintaka are at distances of 820 and 915 light years, respectively. Alnilam, the central star of the Belt, is an incredible 1 340 light years away; we see it today as it was around 670 AD, about the time that Britain was being introduced to Christianity.

Ref – FGASA training manual

# VERHURING VAN CALITZDORP TOERISME RAADSAAL RENTAL OF CALITZDORP TOURISM BOARDROOM



## AFRIKAANS

Die Calitzdorp Toerisme raadsaal is te huur vir vergaderings en privaat byeenkomste, binne kantoor ure (weeksdag 08:30 – 17:00). Vakansiedae uitgesluit.

### Ingesluit by huur van lokaal:

Gebruik van lokaal vir gekose tydperk met langtafel en 12 stoele. 'n Blaai bord (Flip Chart) met papier en merkpenne, 'n kragpunt vir gebruik van eie projektor/rekenaar asook 'n multi prop vir selfoon laaiers. Hout is addisioneel beskikbaar vir vuurmaak in die kaggel tydens die koue winter maande. Privaat ingang. Badkamer geriewe is beskikbaar. Geen Wi-Fi beskikbaar nie; gebruik asseblief jou eie.

### Tariewe vir lokaal (maksimum 12 sitplekke):

09:00 – 12:00 = **R100**

14:00 – 17:00 = **R100**

09:00 – 17:00 = **R200**

### Ekstras:

- Die self-help koffiestasie sal addisioneel beskikbaar wees teen R20 per persoon. Dit sluit in: kookwater, Jacobs Krönung kits koffie, Engelse tee, Rooibos tee, melk en suiker.
- Drukwerk (R3 per bladsy, slegs swart ink), eposse stuur (R3 elk), skandering (R3 per bladsy).
- Hout vir kaggelvuur teen R30 per sakkie (bespreek asb vooraf).

## ENGLISH

The Calitzdorp Tourism boardroom is available for hire for meetings and private gatherings, during office hours (weekdays 08:30 - 17:00). Excluding public holidays.

### Included in venue hire:

Use of venue for selected period with long table and 12 chairs. A Flip Chart with paper and markers, a power point for using your own projector/computer as well as a multi plug for mobile phone chargers. Wood is additionally available for making a fire in the fireplace during the cold winter months. Private entrance. Bathroom facilities are available. No Wi-Fi available; please use your own.

### Rates for venue (maximum 12 seats):

09:00 – 12:00 = **R100**

14:00 – 17:00 = **R100**

09:00 – 17:00 = **R200**

### Extras:

- The self-help coffee station will be additionally available at R20 per person. This includes: boiling water, Jacobs Krönung instant coffee, English tea, Rooibos tea, milk and sugar.
- Printing (R3 per page, black ink only), sending emails (R3 each), scanning (R3 per page).
- Wood for fireplace at R30 per bag (please book in advance).

## **DISCLAIMER**

Any views or opinions presented in this newsletter are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Calitzdorp Tourism. We will not accept any liability in respect of such communication, or for the consequences of any actions taken on the basis of the information provided, and the author responsible will be personally liable for any damages or other liability arising.