



A Walk in the Park: Travels in & around South Africa's national parks

Roxanne Reid

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From the Kalahari to the Limpopo, from Cape Town to the Kruger National Park, and from the Karoo to the Garden Route, this book follows the author's journey through 12 national parks in South Africa, meeting fascinating people and having exciting adventures. This is no dry catalogue of the topography and ecology of South Africa's national parks, no boring list of their facilities. Instead, it's a dynamic string of experiences both inside and outside the parks. On the menu are activities, people, cultural heritage and food, all peppered with interesting facts and liberally spiced with gentle humour.

"This is a delicious book. It evokes things we love about the country around us. It conjures up places that soothe the soul. Its huge fault is that ... well, people are going to read it. And then where will all our best-kept secrets be?" (Denis Beckett, author and TV presenter)

The book has two aims. The first is to inform and entertain the average armchair traveller who wants to live vicariously. That's why you'll find answers to some intriguing questions, such as why your partner is potentially more dangerous than a black mamba, why hippos are vegetarians and vultures need a spin doctor, and why a barnacle has a penis that's 20 times longer than its body.

The second aim is to provide inspiration and practical ideas for people who want to get up out of their armchairs to visit South Africa and do things for themselves. There are nearly 300 ideas to choose from, so almost everyone should find at least a handful to wrap a holiday around – where to catch up on some cultural history, enjoy good food or a relaxing sundowner, and of course some more extreme adventures like paragliding or skydiving. And lots of stuff in between – a horse trail, a wilderness hike among lions, elephants and creepy crawlies, a Tarzan-and-Jane swing among the treetops, a 4x4 trail, even a walk in the Kalahari desert with a San tracker who has a gazillion-gigabyte memory of fascinating stuff.

"Part nature guide, part travelogue, it can be read like a story book because Reid writes in a chatty and accessible way. Her candour and self-deprecating humour is disarming. A well-priced, helpful, fun guide for adventurous spirits." (Sawubona magazine)

"Through the characters she meets, Reid endeavours to turn her readers into travellers, soaking up the wisdom and outlook of people in different settings. Get your own copy of this highly entertaining book. It's packed with 'joy diary moments'." (Getaway magazine)

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