

Rules of our Reserve

Keep your speed to 30kph

Why? Because there are kids on bikes, neighbours walking their dogs or riding horses, and wildlife constantly crossing the roads. Please don't speed on our reserve - after all, what's the rush?

Dial down the noise

Don't worry - nobody expects you to tiptoe around or speak in hushed tones. All we ask is that you're considerate of your neighbours. Here, we love the sounds of nature: birds, bees, the call of a fish eagle... not (um) someone else's party playlist. Feel free to play music inside your house - at reasonable levels, of course. Just please don't play music in the common areas (i.e. lakes, look-outs, and yacht moles). Most of us prefer being serenaded by frogs, ducks and the soft rustle of a gentle breeze.

Drones are grounded

Sorry, filmmakers - the noise from drones is disturbing to people, animals, and birds... and then there's the privacy issue too.

Don't use other people's boats without their permission!

This should go without saying - but for some bizarre reason, it continues to happen. If you'd like to borrow a boat but aren't sure who to ask, chat to Mbona Management (see front page for their numbers) or post a request on the Mbona Social/Fun WhatsApp group. There are plenty of generous, accommodating shareholders who'd be happy to help - if you ask first.

Don't trespass on other shareholders' properties

Leave Rover with a pet sitter

Only shareholders may bring dogs onto the reserve. **Dogs must be leashed at all times** when in the common areas - whether on the roads, on hikes, or at the yacht moles.

Stick to the roads

Please don't drive off the roads - it damages the drainage, erodes the verges and grassland, and poses a serious threat to nesting grassland birds.

Lakes & Fishing Rules:

- Only fly-fishing tackle is permitted -- except at Lake Crystal, where bass tackle is also allowed.
- Float-tubes are only allowed in Crystal, Laughter, and Evergreen Dams.
- Catch Limit: 4 trout per day.
- Boating is permitted on Lake Crystal only. No motorised craft allowed.

Photograph the pretty flowers - don't pick 'em

Please don't pick the flowers or interfere with any animals, birds or plants. Let nature be.

Our Recycling Depot is NOT a Garbage Dump!

PLEASE DO NOT dump big black bags filled with rotting food, poo nappies, stompies, half-eaten KFC, used serviettes, or any other trash at our recycling depot when you leave Mbona. Our recycling depot is ONLY for washed, sorted recycling. Please see the separate sheet on how to properly dispose of your rubbish - including food waste - when visiting Mbona. Please also note that the yacht moles and tennis courts are now bin-free areas.

Shareholders: kindly ensure that your guests are aware of Mbona's trash & recycling protocol.

And finally: A big, adoring, appreciative THANK YOU to every shareholder and guest who continues to responsibly dispose of their waste (and often the waste and litter left by others). You guys are awesome!

Keep it clean! Keep it green! And enjoy your stay!



Welcome to Mbona!

This is our nature reserve, where we - the shareholders - collectively own and care for almost 700 hectares of critically endangered Midlands Mistbelt Grassland and vulnerable Eastern Mistbelt Forest.

Here you'll find rolling hills and crystal lakes... giant yellowwood trees in ancient forests... gurgling streams, gushing waterfalls, sweeping grasslands, rocky hilltops and (of course) all manner of creatures great and small.

Tucked within these gorgeous surrounds are 100 homes, owned by the shareholders. Some are holiday homes, but many of us live here permanently.

We're a diverse bunch - retired professionals, engineers, artists, doctors, writers, teachers, filmmakers, scientists - but we all have something in common: a love of nature... and of peace.

So... if this is your first visit (or if you're unfamiliar with our 'rules'), please take a moment to read through the following pages. We want our guests to relax and enjoy themselves, but we also want to ensure that the rules and guidelines of our reserve are respected.

With a bit of kindness and consideration... everyone wins!

Thanks for
your co-operation!

These pages were created & illustrated by
Heather Costaras from H45.

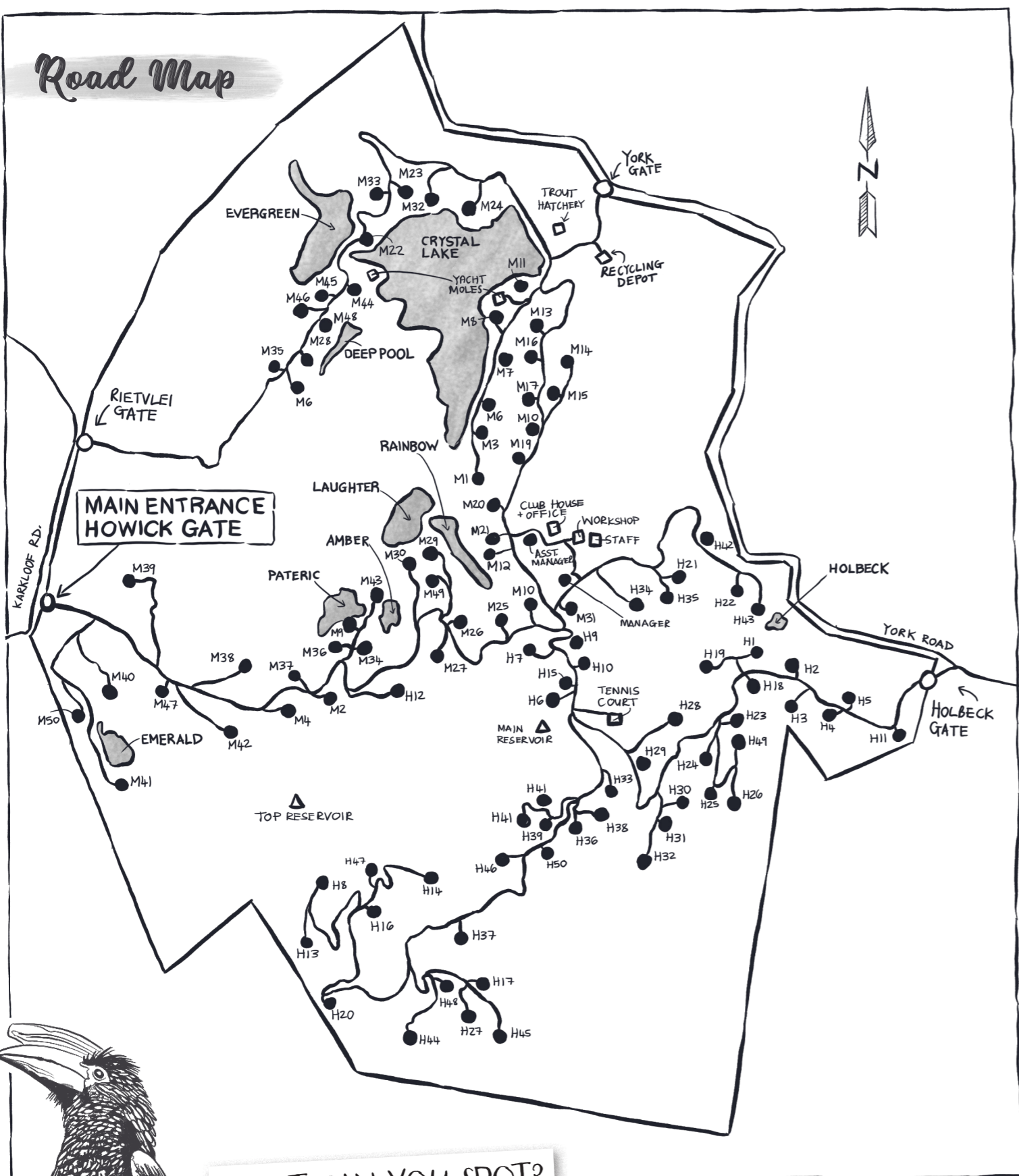
Stop over for a cuppa if we've never met!

hat@heathercostaras.com

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Garrick Geldenhuys (Manager): 071 640 9959
Dane Antrobus (Assistant Manager): 071 640 9950
Knight Security: 082 706 7575
Howick Gate: 071 251 6802

Road Map



WHAT CAN YOU SPOT?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cape porcupine | <input type="checkbox"/> African fish eagle | <input type="checkbox"/> black wildebeest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> grey duiker | <input type="checkbox"/> blesbok | <input type="checkbox"/> slender mongoose |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Narina trogon | <input type="checkbox"/> zebra | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Kite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knysna turaco | <input type="checkbox"/> Cape clawless otter | <input type="checkbox"/> rusty-spotted genet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> samango monkey | <input type="checkbox"/> African darter | <input type="checkbox"/> bushpig |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bushbuck | <input type="checkbox"/> scrub hare | <input type="checkbox"/> striped skink |
| <input type="checkbox"/> caracal | <input type="checkbox"/> trumpeter hornbill | <input type="checkbox"/> woodland dormouse |



Things to see and do...

Enjoy the birds!

Mbona is a birdwatcher's paradise, with over 270 species recorded here. The photos on the left were taken by some of our bird-loving shareholders.

Take a hike!

The reserve has a wide range of wonderful walks ranging from flat and easy to challenging and steep! Every home should have a copy of the full-colour Mbona booklet which includes a map and descriptions of each walk. Heather Costaras of H45 has also created a detailed, illustrated map of Mbona (which includes all the hikes). To order a copy, email her at hat@heathercostaras.com

Ride a bike!

With kilometres of tree-lined roads and gorgeous views at every every corner, Mbona is the perfect place for you - and your kids - to enjoy a bike ride.

Play ball!

Guests are welcome to use the reserve's tennis courts and basketball hoop - just bring your own racquets and balls. The courts are regularly maintained and suitable for casual play. A shady gazebo offers a spot for those who prefer relaxing over rallying.

Go jump in a lake!

Lake Crystal is the largest of our dams and is where we swim, boat, and fish. It has two yacht moles, with plenty of lawn and shade - perfect for laying down a picnic blanket, uncorking a bottle of wine, and... relaxing.

Catch a fish!

Our dams are stocked with trout, so fly-fishermen (and women) have a smorgasbord of choice when it comes to casting a line. If you haven't mastered fly fishing yet - don't worry, you're still welcome to use a fixed spool reel at Lake Crystal.

Say hi to the horses!

A number of happy horses - mostly owned by shareholders - live at Mbona. If you'd like to ride one of the Mbona horses, please book at the office (paddock rides only). Horse-loving visitors are also welcome to pop by and say hello or offer a treat. Just a note: please don't feed them bread - it's very bad for them. Rather bring along some chopped apples or carrots.

Picnic somewhere pretty!

There are numerous picturesque rest spots, look-outs and picnic areas scattered throughout Mbona. One not-to-be-missed favourite is the Waterfall Picnic Area, complete with a table and benches. Just follow the Waterfall Path, which branches off Ernie's Walk near Evergreen Dam. Pack some snacks and enjoy!



← broad-tailed warbler



← black-rumped buttonquail



← striped flufftail



← lemon dove



← eastern bronze-naped pigeon

JONATHAN CLARK