

Driving Directions

+27 66 398 6928- Lodge Contact Number

+27 72 246 6386- Reservations Contact Number

LODGE COORDINATES

31°17' 17.552" S 30° 0' 39.045" E

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO GWEGWE BEACH LODGE FROM EITHER DURBAN, KING SHAKA AIRPORT OR BALLITO VIA PORT EDWARD

- Travel down the N2 in a south-westerly direction to Port Edward following the coastal highway all the way.
- Drive straight past Margate.
- About 40km before Port Edward, you can make a last coffee stop or shop at the large Shelley Beach Mall (off to your left-hand side). It is best to refuel here.
- Once through Port Edward, you leave KwaZulu-Natal by driving over the Umtamvuna Bridge and enter the Eastern Cape Province. Continue past the Wild Coast Sun / Casino on the R61.
- Travel inland through Redoubt then Bizana.
- At the first big T-junction, turn left and back onto the N2 towards Flagstaff, Lusikisiki and Port St Johns.
- Turn off left to Mkambati about +1.5km before Flagstaff at the top of a hill. Do not go into Flagstaff – the traffic is hectic! There should be a sign at the top of the hill for Holy Cross and maybe Mkhambathi.
- Follow signs to Holy Cross Hospital and then Mkambati (or Mkhambathi). The last 47km or so is on a dirt road.
- You will be asked to sign in at the main entrance gate for Mkambati Nature Reserve and pay a R34 pp park fee in cash.
- Once inside the reserve, you will be on a concrete strip road.
- Don't stop at the main administrative centre and keep travelling straight on the concrete strips towards the coast.
- As one drives down the ridge towards the sea, keep an eye open for the first turning to your left.
- Turn left onto another strip road and keep going all the way to GweGwe Lodge where the strip road stops.

NOTES:

Drive time: Depending on your vehicle, it should take around 5h30m to 6 hours plus time for any stops on the way.

NB: When driving in the Eastern Cape, every school has hectic speed bumps that have lost their paint so are often difficult to see. The trick is to drive 50m or so behind a taxi or another local vehicle and watch their brake lights. That will tell you where to slow down to avoid hitting these speed bumps at speed and also any potholes.

The drive through to GweGwe and Mkambati takes you through attractive rural countryside with just 30km on dirt roads. Please ensure that you are driving a car with a reasonable clearance that has a full spare tyre (and not a "biscuit" / temporary tyre). While a 4x4 is a nice-to-have, it is not essential, and a crossover may be suitable depending on the model. Overall, the key is decent clearance.

The emergency contact number for GweGwe Beach Lodge is 071 282 6668. It is best to send a WhatsApp message to this number if you are lost, require additional directions or any other assistance.

Emergency Contacts:
Heather - +27 82 336 8716
Chloe - +27 74 364 5567

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO GWEGWE BEACH LODGE FROM JOHANNESBURG VIA KOKSTAD

- Take the N3 for Nottingham Road or Howick and overnight in one of the Midlands lodges, hotels or B+Bs.
- The following day continue on the N3 and turn off just past Mimir Dam onto the R617, travelling through Bulwer, Underberg for Kokstad with the 'Berg' on your right.
- Travel through Kokstad looking for signs for Umtata / Mthatha, driving past Mount Currie Inn. Please refuel in Kokstad before continuing onto the N2 aiming for Brooks Nek following signs for Umtata / Mthatha.
- At around +6.8km from Mount Currie you will enter the Eastern Cape Province and a further +6.7km from the border on the N2, you will need to be on the lookout for the turnoff onto the R394 for Flagstaff / Lusikisiki / Port St Johns. Use your Waze or Google Maps for directions in conjunction with these directions.
- Turn left off the N2 by turning sharply backwards onto the R394. That tight 270-degree left turn will direct you towards Flagstaff, Lusikisiki and Port St Johns. Continue on the R394. From now on, its best to follow a taxi or a local driver as they will know where the (painful) speed bumps are.
- Approximately +1km before Flagstaff at the crest of a hill, you turn left to Holy Cross. There should be a small sign at the turnoff at the top of the hill for Holy Cross. Do not go into Flagstaff – the traffic is hectic.
- Follow signs to Holy Cross Hospital and then Mkambati following signposts and Google Maps. The last 30km or so to the reserve entrance is on a dirt road. Drive slowly and you will be fine.
- You will be asked to sign in at the main entrance gate for Mkambati and pay a R34 per person park fee. Once inside the reserve, you will be on a concrete strip road.
- Don't stop at that main administrative centre, keep travelling straight on the concrete strips towards the coast. (The administrative centre used to be the old hospital, parts of which were built over 100 years ago. So, it's a bit derelict.)
- As you drive down the ridge towards the sea keep an eye open for the first concrete strip road to your left. Turn left onto this concrete strip road and keep going all the way to GweGwe Lodge where the strip road ends

Please scan for guest information

