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West Coast Flower Update

31 August 2015



**WEST COAST
FLOWER HOTLINE**

072 938 8186

CONTACT
US FOR
MORE INFO

T: +27 (0)22 433 8505
E: tourism@wcdm.co.za
W: www.capewestcoast.org



Enquiries: Lizl Swart

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Flower Shows & Viewing Tips

Please scroll down past the regional info, to find out when and where this year's Flower Shows will be, as well as how to get the best out of your flower viewing experience!



NAMAQUA WEST COAST

Klaver & Trawal

Location of flowers:

Along the N7 - yellow, orange and white daisies - fields
 Along the N7, Trawal Cellars and Kransburg - yellow and white daisies - fields
 Along the N7 from Trawal Truck In to bridge - yellow and white daisies - fields
 On the winding road between Vredendal and Klaver - yellow, white daisies fields, pink vygies - fields

Strandfontein & Doringbaai

Location of flowers:

On road R362 from Lutzville towards Strandfontein and Doringbaai - white, orange and yellow daisies - fields. Yellow perdebos - fields, gazanias - patches

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In Strandfontein around town - yellow and white daisies - fields

Vanrhynsdorp & Hardeveld

Location of flowers:

On the R27 between Vredendal and Vanrhynsdorp - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 On R27 (Kobee road) - daisies,surings,geelmelkbos and sigaretyvgies - patches
 Lankverwacht Farm - wilderoosmaryn,Hongerblomme en Beesvygies - patches
 Maskam Guest farm - daisies, veldkool, bobbejaantjies, sporries, varkslaai, froetangs - fields
 (flower routes can be done on the farm)
 Urionskraal road - Vanrhynsdorp -orange daisies - fields
 On N7 between Klawer and Vanrhynsdorp - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 Brand se Baai - yellow and orange daisies, fields
 Lepelsfontein - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 Brand se Baai - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 Molsvlei - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 Nuwerus area - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields

Vredendal & Lutzville

Location of flowers:

On road R362 from Vredendal towards Lutzville - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 R362 in Vredendal area - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 On the winding road between Vredendal and Klawer - pink vygies - patches, white,yellow and orange daisies - fields
 Bultweg in Vredendal - white,yellow and orange daisies - fields

Succulent Show - Kokerboom Nursery

August - September 2015

Open 08:00 - 17:30, 7 days a week

Christene - 027219 1062

www.kokerboom.co.za

*** Pictures below taken at Urionskraal (left), and on 30 Aug at Doringbaai (right).*



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CEDERBERG AREA

Clanwilliam

Location of flowers:

Boskloof; Ramskop Nature Garden; N7 direction Klaver as well as N7 direction Citrusdal; R364 direction Lamberts Bay; Ou Klaver pad via Nardouwsberg and Pakhuis Pass.

Type of flowers:

Daisies; Vygies; Clanwilliam Daisies; Hongerblom; Sambreeltjies; Pietsnotjies; Ridderspoor; Vygiebos; Perdebos; Sporrie

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.

(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Boskloof (Plenty); Ramskop Nature Garden (Plenty); N7 direction Klaver/Citrusdal (Plenty); R364 direction Lamberts Bay (Fields & Plenty); Ou Klaver Pad via Nardouwsberg and Pakhuis Pass (Plenty)

Nature's Playground...

They are a boutique excursion operator that offers electric mountain bike tours throughout the Cederberg this flower season. For further information or to book a tour please email

meghan@naturesplayground.co.za or book online at www.naturesplayground.co.za.

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BERGRIVIER

Velddrif

Location of flowers:

All the empty plots around Velddrif. Bergrivier Golf course, Vygielaan, Velddrif. On the road to Pikerberg. On the shoulders of the R27.

Type of flowers:

Bobbejaantjies, Kantblom, Wilde Kamille, Blou Koringbos, Feëklokkies, Bobbejaankool, Weeskindertjies, Vyfpondbos, Wit Daisies, Oranje bitter Gousblom, Duinebessie, Geel Hongerblom, Pers kantblommetjies, Biddouw, Kinkelbos, Ghoebos, Gansogies, Geel Melkbosse

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.

(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Plenty and Patches

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WCNP Postberg 20/08/2015 - Northernhaye Tours

[CAPE WEST COAST PENINSULA](#)

Langebaan

Location of flowers:

Postberg, West Coast National Park
 Langebaan Gate to Geelbek
 Oostewal & Sunbird Drive
 Langebaan Town / Langebaan Country Estate
 Myburgh Park, Oliphantskop
 Road to Geelbek and Kraalbaai
 Kraalbaai to Tjaarbank
 Road between Saldanha and Langebaan
 Langebaan Park gate to Seeberg
 Postberg Gate left to Plankiesbaai

Type of flowers:

Suring (Yellow & Pink Flower)
 Reenblommetjies (White)
 Orange Gousblom
 Sukkelbossie
 Sporrie
 Geel Hongerblom
 Harpuijsbos
 Blombos
 Kapokbossie
 Strand Sallie
 Bietou
 Vygies
 Bobbejaankool
 Geelmelkbos
 Froetang
 Pietsnot
 Vygies
 Kapokbossie
 Bloubekkie
 Varklelie

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Vygiebos (Purple)
Blouflaks

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.
(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Plenty

****WEST COAST NATIONAL PARK: Postberg open until 30 September!!! TEL: 022 772 2144**

Entrance Fees:

South African Adult Citizens - R60 / Kids under 12 - R30

International Tourist R123 per adult / Kids under 12 - R64

****Open Week: 14 - 18 September FREE entry for South African Citizens!!**

(Bring ID Book)

Hopefield**Location of flowers:**

In town on vacant plots
Next to Soutriver in town
Langebaanweg (R45)
Next to roadside from Bloemendal farm to R27
Plaasmol (R45) 5km outside Hopefield
Gravel road between Langebaanweg and Cloeteskraal
Next to the road at the entrance of the farm Sandvlei
Road between R45 and Moorreesburg (R311)
Next to Library
At Hopefield Sports Grounds
Entrance to town from R45 via Church Street

Type of flowers:

Wit Reënblommetjies (Daisies),
Orange Gousblomme
Geel Bobbejaantjie
Pienk en Geel surings

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.
(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Plenty

Jacobsbaai:**Location of flowers:**

Surroundings of Jacobsbaai

Type of flowers:

Kleinkruid
Bietou
Soetkop dikblaar
Ossierrapuis
Hongerblom
Reënblommetjies
Gousblom
Suring
Varkoor
Bokbaaiwygie
Weskus Daisy
Blou Pypie
Elandsvy

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.
(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Plenty

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St Helena Bay

Location of flowers:

MAIN ROAD/BRITANNIA BAY/DUYKER EILAND/DA GAMA MONUMENT
 Brittanica Heights
 Roadside coming into St. Helena and in the village
 Veld, roadsie and hills between Stompneus and Brittanica Bay
 SHELLEY POINT

Type of flowers:

Zantedeschia aethiopica (varkblom)
 Dimorphotheca pluvialis (reenblommetjie)
 Arctotis hirsuta (gousblom)
 Arctotis breviscapa (sandveld gousblom)
 Oxalis compressa (baster suuring)
 Grielum humifusum (pietsnot)
 Chrysanthemoides monilifera (bietou)
 Eriocephalus africanus (kapokbossie)
 Jordaaniell dubia (kruipvygie)
 Dorotheanthus bellidiformis (bokbaai vygie)

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.
(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)
 Plenty

Paternoster

Location of flowers:

On smallholding Pelgrimsrust before entering town
 Bekbaai
 Cape Columbine Nature Reserve

Type of flowers:

Slymbos
 Surings
 Kattekruie
 Bobbejaankool
 Bokbaai Vygie
 Sand Viooltjie
 White Rain Daisy
 Gousblom
 Bruinsalie
 Poprosies
 Various Veldkool
 Bont Leeubekkie
 Baster suring
 Rolbos Kool
 Vredenburg Froetang
 Seepampoen
 Koringblommetjie
 Vygie
 Elandsvy

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.
(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)
 Varies in flower types from plenty - patches / overall plenty of different species

Saldanha

Location of flowers:

From Blue Bay Lodge
 Drive into Camp Street on way to town

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Diazville

SAS Saldanha Nature Reserve - Between Malgaskop and Moresonkop

Drive between Langebaan and Saldanha

Type of flowers:

White Rain Daisies

Gousblom

Suring

Piempiempies

Pienk Froetang

Saldanha Piempie

Silwer Lewertjie

Wilde Malva

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.

(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Plenty

Vredenburg**Location of flowers:**

R45 exits from town towards Paternoster, Saldanha and Velddrif

Between Hopefield and Vredenburg pass Fossil Park

Juffroushoogte guest Farm

Windstone R45

Type of flowers:

Gousblomme (Orange and Yellow)

White Rain Daisy

Surings

Arum Lillies

Gousblomme

Vygies

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.

(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Plenty

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SWARTLAND

Darling

Still very early especially after this dry early winter but after some good rains and the recent warm days we're predicting that the flowers will come quickly. Predictions are that the early season and late season flowers will merge.

Location of flowers:

Darling Renosterveld Reserve (Access at top of village behind the Darling Primary School or lower down gate in Langfontein street); also on the plot just below this reserve on Petunia Street
!Khwa ttu San Cultural & Education Centre
Groote Post Vineyards - Darling Hills Road

Type of flowers:

Renosterveld - Gladiolus gracilis - early blou pypie; small showing of yellow Moraea galaxia (horlosieblom); early Spiloxene (yellow sterretjies); pink and white oxalis; lampranthus (vygie), arums and struthiola
!Khwa ttu - Sandlelie (veltheimia) and rooipypie (gladiolus priorii)
Groote Post - mostly arum lilies, daisies starting to come through

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.
(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Patches

Tienie Versfeld Reserve R315 & Groenekloof Reserve - Not much yet, another 2 weeks and some warmth and it should look a lot better. We saw lots of small plants and leaves, so the flowers are just going to be a bit later. The season should last till into October.

Groote Post Vineyards

Our nature walk is open daily. Visitors can sign in at the tasting room where they will be given a map of the route. We also do the farm (flower) drives still at R170 pp and R75 for kids under 3 free. Enquiries 022 492 2825

Yzerfontein:

A variety of colour can now be found in Yzerfontein. We are currently still in a slight dry season but it is looking quite hopeful. For veld flowers it is ideal to be on foot.

Location of flowers:

Driving through the whole of Yzerfontein you will see a great selection of colour.
Corner of outer street

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Corner of 1st street

Dassen Island drive

Just outside Yzerfontein before you enter town patches of white daisies in the fields

Schaap Island trail- trail must be done on foot to view vygies that grow in between the rocks.

Type of flowers:

Gousblomme (orange and yellow)

Vygies(yellow and purple)

White daisies

Orange daisies

Necklace vygies

Eland vygies

How many flowers:

Please note this is someone's perception, and not a guarantee.

(Fields/Plenty/Patches/Few)

Patches/few

Flower Walk

A flower walk will take place this Wednesday on the 2nd of September 2015. Anyone is welcome to join the group, please meet at the SPAR parking lot at 10:30 if you are interested. For more information please contact Libbes Loubser at 072 659 6269.

*** Pictures below were taken in Darling area during Aug15 by Wilferd Duckitt.*



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NAMAQUA NATIONAL PARK - NORTHERN CAPE

25 Aug 2015

There is not much change from the previous week and the report is very much the same. The flowers at Skilpad is currently the best in some years. The orange carpets looks thicker than previous years and covers more areas. It is interspersed with various purple, yellow and white flowers.

The lower lying areas of the park, in particular Soebatsfontein, Kookfontein and the Wildeperdehoek area, are exceptional. White and orange daisies are covering large areas, and the Wildeperdehoek flats have large purple patches of Sporries. A multitude of species is flowering all at once, with vygies and beetle daisies being very noticeable. These particular areas are accessible on gravel roads of average condition-but is worth the drive.

The [Caracal Ecoroute](#) in Namaqua National Park is highly recommended and definitely the way to go at this stage when visiting the park. Visitors will see a wide variety of flowers, from the mountains to the coast. The track from points no.1 – 4 in particular will keep you occupied for many hours. It is essential to get the Ecoroute guide booklet at one of our offices if you intend doing this route. The route takes all day and a 4x4 is required due to some sandy stretches along the coast.

The coastal area in the park (Groen river to Spoeg river) is also very good. The vygies will start coming out now, adding to the already spectacular variety to see. Please note that the [coastal](#) section of Namaqua NP can only be visited with a 4x4.

Around the park there are reports of very good flowers at Spoeg river and Wallekraal, and along the Hondeklip Bay road and Groen river road. In fact the whole Namaqua area have not looked this good for a long time.

Rainfall at Skilpad:	
June 2015:	90.93mm
July 2015:	52.32mm
August 2015 (to date)	3.81mm

It has been a while since we had rain and will need some soon to extend the lifetime of the flowers.

Attached are some photographs taken 5 days ago.

It should be noted that it is very difficult to predict with certainty what the flowers would be like and that

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we can only guess based on current weather conditions.

*BERNARD VAN LENTE
PARK MANAGER: NAMAQUA NATIONAL PARK*

**** Pictures below were taken at the coast and Skilpad on 19+20/08/2015**



NORTHERN CAPE

For more information on Flower Hotspots in the Northern Cape:

Pearl Heyn
Namakwa Tourism, Springbok
027 712 8036
pearlh@namakwa-dm.gov.za

**** Pictures below taken by Northernhay Tours at Skilpad on 19/08/2015, and Narab Se Vlake on 20/08/2015.**



FLOWER SHOWS

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Name: Hopefield Fynbos Show
Date & Time: 27-30 August 2015
Venue: Hopefields Sports Centre
Admission: R40 Adults, R20 Pensioner, R10 Children under 12
Contact detail: hopefield@sbto.co.za or (022) 723 1720

Download Weekend Show Programme [here](#) (Afr)

*Hopefield
Fynbos Show*

CLANWILLIAM:



Name: Clanwilliam Wild Flower Show
Date & Time: 27 Aug - 5 Sept 2015
 9am – 6pm
Venue: Clanwilliam Church
Admission: Adults R50 / Pensioners R35
 Children R10
Contact detail: cederberg@lando.co.za or (027) 482 2024

*Clanwilliam
Wild Flower Show*

DARLING:



Name: 98th Darling Wildflower Show
Date & Time: 18-20 Sept 2015 - 9am – 5pm
Venue: Darling Sports Club
Admission: Adults R50/Children (U18) R30
 Children (U13) free
 Pensioners (Friday only) R30
Contact detail: 084 916 1111

*Darling
Wildflower Show*

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www.capeflowerskingdom.co.za BREDASDORP 021 842 1803

BREDASDORP

VIEWING TIPS



Tips while viewing flowers

- The flowers are open between 11:00 and 15:00, the warmest part of the day
- The sun must be out for flowers to open, thus rainy or overcast days are not ideal
- The day temperature must be at least 18 degrees
- Flowers face the sun, thus for viewing and pictures keep your back to the sun
- Get out of the car and walk around, don't miss the special smaller species
- Tread lightly, don't unnecessarily trample plants, and never pick flowers or bulbs

What to wear when viewing flowers

- Long pants and insect repellent when walking around in the field
- Comfortable shoes

Advice to tourists

- Try to book your accommodation in advance
- The West Coast Flower Hotline is available from 08:00 to 20:00, 7 days a week
- Most towns along the flower routes have fuel stations, ATMs and mobile reception
- The further north, the further apart the towns, keep in mind when planning
- Stop and ask locals for advice on flower hot spots, distances, etc - they're friendly
- Namakwa/West Coast flower maps are available at all tourism information offices

For Updated Weather Reports, you can visit the following websites:

www.yr.no
www.accuweather.com

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www.windguru.com www.fallingrain.com www.weathersa.co.za

Remember that along with the flowers it is also **WHALE SEASON!**
For updates on sightings or to log sightings, [click here](#)



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