

MBC Overnight Hike Fixtures Q4-2021

Dates (days)	Description	Dist / Elevation	Leader	Contact	Grd
02-Oct	See day hikes below				
9-10 October (2)	Injasuti: Tenting hike to Marble Baths Cave. Hiking tents required!	18 km 400 m	Farouk Omarjee	031-5776336 081-5308447 farouk.omarjee@gmail.com	3
16-17 October (2)	Cobham: Mzimkhulwana Hut via the Giant's Cup Trail, returning via Siphongweni Rock National Monument rock art site, Tortoise Rocks and Baboon Cave. Also visit Gorilla Cave.	20 km 340 m	David Gay	cougar1@telkomsa.net	3,5
Sun 24 Oct	See day hikes below				
23-24 October (2)	Injasuti: Wonder Valley Cave via van Heyningen's Pass. Max. 10 participants.	18 km 470 m	Ryan West	073-4517000 raw.designs22@gmail.com	3
30-31 October (2)	Garden Castle: Wave Cave via Hidden Valley, returning via bottom of Mzimude Pass (North) and Sleeping Beauty Cave. Some off-path sections on the second day, not suitable for beginners.	25 km 580 m	David Gay	cougar1@telkomsa.net	3.5
6-7 November (2)	Injasuti: Lower Injasuti Cave. Bring your cossies!	16 km 340 m	John & Christine Pickup	WhatsApp: Christine 082-7826025 John 072-1512031	3
6-7 November (2)	Witsieshoek: Tenting hike to the Tugela Falls via the Chain Ladders. Hiking tents required!	14 km 400 m	Farouk Omarjee	031-5776336 081-5308447 farouk.omarjee@gmail.com	3,5
13-14 November (2)	Monk's Cowl: Zulu Cave via seldom-visited Eagle Gorge, Eagle Cave and Cat Cave. Climb Intunja and visit the hole (optional). Return via Hlatikhulu Nek. Head for heights required for the optional climb, but we do need a scarecrow or two!	30 km 765 m	David Gay	cougar1@telkomsa.net	4
17-21 November (5)	Northern Traverse: Escarpment hike from the Amphitheatre to Mnweni with an emphasis on landscape photography opportunities. Hiking tents required! Transport to Sentinel and pick up from Mnweni has been arranged for 7 hikers. Total cost is R1 395 each for 7 participants (incl. transport from Durban and QwaQwa permits).	60 km 1300 m	Geoff Tennant	0837935045 geoffwtennant@gmail.com	4

27-28 November (2)	Garden Castle: Exploratory hike to Cod's Eye Cave via Pillar Cave, returning via Sondomzima Ridge and the Tunnel Caves. Most of this route is off-path, so it is not suitable for beginners.	14 km 525 m	David Gay	cougar1@telkomsa.net	3.5
Sun 5 Dec	See day hikes below				
4-5 December (2)	Cobham: Easy beginner's hike along the Giant's Cup Trail to the Mzimkhulwana Hut. Tap water, cold showers and toilets available.	18 km 250 m	Farouk Omarjee	031-5776336 081-5308447 farouk.omarjee@gmail.com	3
11-Dec	See day hikes below				
16-19 December (4)	Vergelegen: Kaula Cave; escarpment campsite via Mangaun Pass; Bird's Nest Cave via Ka-Ntuba Pass and the Sulphur Spring. This is true wilderness. Hiking tents required!	45 km 1855 m	David Gay	cougar1@telkomsa.net	4.5
29 December 2021 - 2 January 2022 (5)	Cobham: Up, down and roundabout! Day 1: Gxalingenwa Cave via Ndlovini Mountain exploration Day 2: Head of Pitsaneng Valley via Masubasuba Pass (tent) Day 3: Wilson's Cave via Sandleni Pass (mostly off-path) Day 4: Mzimkhulwana Hut via Mzimkhulwana River Day 5: Return to Cobham car park via Giant's Cup Trail Hiking tents required!	65 km 1610 m	David Gay	cougar1@telkomsa.net	4.5
30 December 2021 - 2 January 2022 (4)	Bushman's Nek: Celebrate New Year in style using the Bushman's Nek Hut as a base for day hikes. Beautiful area with unlimited number of day hikes available: rivers, pools, waterfalls and Bushman paintings. Only about 1,4 km from the car park to the hut. Tap water, cold showers and toilets available. Hut fee: R120 pppn X 3 nights = R360 each.	10-16 km each day	Keith Ashton	keimarg@iuncapped.co.za Please provide cell number when booking.	2,5

ADVANCE NOTICE

Dates	Description	Dist / Elevation	Leader	Contact	Grd
12-21 January 2022	Wild Coast: White Clay (Coffee Bay) to Kei River Crossing. Approx. R5 000 for accommodation as we plan on overnighing in the various hotels, resorts and backpackers en route. Bookings to be made in early December 2021.	TBA	John & Christine Pickup	WhatsApp: Christine 082-7826025 John 072-1512031	3

DAY HIKES

Sat 2 Oct 2021	Virginia Bush Durban North Hike through all 3 sections of Virginia Bush, a DMOS coastal forest area that's home to a surprising amount of birdlife and a few mammals, in the middle of suburbia. Book by Thur 30 Sept. Rain stops play.	+5km	Heidi Cox	0827064283 heidi.dinan@gmail.com	2+
Sun 24/10/2021	MKHOMAZI - Day hike to Cyprus cave – with option to see Bushman's paintings. Day entry fee R45	+10km	Keith Ashton	Keith Ashton – by e-mail only & please provide cell number. keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	2+
Sun 5 Dec 2021	UMGENI VALLEY NATURE RESERVE – Day hike – various trails, good local reserve with game & birds.	16km	Keith Ashton	Keith Ashton – by e-mail only & please provide cell number. keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	2+
Sat 11 Dec 2021	Beach Walk, venue (likely either Umdloti or Bluff) to be advised once beaches are open again - lunch afterwards. Book by Thurs 9 Dec. Rain stops play.	+12km	Heidi Cox	0827064283 heidi.dinan@gmail.com	2

Please note that we love to have visitors but request that, as non-members, a contribution towards the running costs of the club, to an amount of R100 for overnight hikes, and R50 for non-overnight hikes (unless otherwise stated) be paid into the club's account ahead of the event.

Note: If you join within a month, this amount will be deducted from your annual membership fee!

Banking details as follows:

Bank: FNB

Westville Branch Code: 223526

Account Name: Mountain Backpackers Club

Account Number: 50780007264

SOCIAL CALENDAR Sherwood Bowling Club King Cetswayo Highway, Sherwood, Durban

28-Oct	Enviro-Fixers - Indigenising a verge or park near you! These amazing ladies & their team have been bringing back biodiversity across the north of Durban and are happy to share their know how to help everyone do the same.
25-Nov	End of Year Party - Bring your festive cheer!