

About the Garden

The Garden was established at Whitehill, near Matjiesfontein, in 1921. In 1945, the Garden moved to Worcester. Concentrating on plants from arid and semi-arid regions of southern Africa, the Garden has a large, well-known succulent collection. There are 400 plant species that occur naturally in the Garden and another 2 500 species are propagated in glasshouses.

The Garden is currently 154 hectares, with only 11 hectares under cultivation. The remaining 143 hectares is a protected natural area that includes two vegetation types, the Robertson Karoo and the threatened Breede Shale Renosterveld. Numerous animals like the Small Grey Mongoose, Shrub Hare and various Tortoises are frequently seen in the Garden. Well-planned paths will give the visitor hours to discover hidden secrets of the Karoo.

Spring is the most popular time to visit the Garden when the annuals and mesembs or *vygies* (Afrikaans) are in bloom.

Physical location

The Garden is situated just off the N1.

GPS co-ordinates of the entrance are S 33° 37' 00.2" E 19° 27' 01.7"

Operational hours

Garden: 07:00–19:00, seven days a week.

Office: 07:30–13:00 and 14:00–16:30, weekdays.

Contact the Garden for our weekend office hours.

Contact information

P.O. Box 152

Worcester

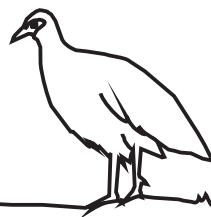
South Africa

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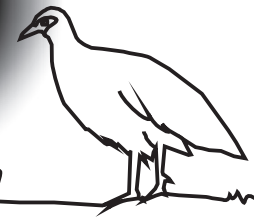
Karoo Desert National Botanical Garden

Bird Checklist



Take time to do the Desert Birds Trail

The Garden is home to more than 90 bird species that are well adapted to this area's dry conditions. The trail is about 900m long and will take you through different habitats where you will be able to see a diversity of bird life. The nine information stations on the trail aims to inspire you to probe deeper and to gain a better understanding of the fascinating lives of birds.



<input type="checkbox"/>	62	<i>Ardea cinerea*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	71	<i>Bubulcus ibis*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	81	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	91	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	94	<i>Bostrychia bagedash</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	102	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	103	<i>Tadorna cana*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	127	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	131	<i>Aquila verreauxii</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	136	<i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	148	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	152	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	155	<i>Accipiter rufiventris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	158	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	162	<i>Melierax canorus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	168	<i>Circus maurus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	169	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	171	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	172	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	181	<i>Falco rupicolis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	190	<i>Francolinus africanus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	195	<i>Francolinus capensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	203	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	255	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	297	<i>Burbinus capensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	344	<i>Pterocles namaqua*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	349	<i>Columba guinea</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	352	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	354	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	355	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	356	<i>Oena capensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	385	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	386	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	392	<i>Tyto alba*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	401	<i>Bubo africanus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	412	<i>Apus barbatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	415	<i>Apus caffer</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	417	<i>Apus affinis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	418	<i>Apus melba</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	424	<i>Colius striatus*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	425	<i>Colius colius</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	426	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	451	<i>Upupa africana</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	465	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	476	<i>Indicator minor</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	480	<i>Geocolaptes olivaceus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	512	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	518	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	526	<i>Hirundo cucullata</i>

Grey Heron
Cattle Egret
Hamerkop
African Sacred Ibis
Hadedda Ibis
Egyptian Goose
South African Shelduck
Black-shouldered Kite
Verreaux's Eagle
Booted Eagle
African Fish Eagle
Jackal Buzzard
Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk
Black Sparrowhawk
Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk
Black Harrier
African Harrier Hawk
Peregrine Falcon
Lanner Falcon
Rock Kestrel
Grey-winged Francolin
Cape Francolin
Guinea fowl
Crowned Lapwing
Spotted Thick-knee
Namaqua Sandgrouse
Speckled Pigeon
Red-eyed Dove
Cape Turtle-Dove
Laughing Dove
Namaqua Dove
Klaas's Cuckoo
Diederick Cuckoo
Barn Owl
Spotted Eagle-Owl
African Black Swift
White-rumped Swift
Little Swift
Alpine Swift
Speckled Mousebird
White-backed Mousebird
Red-faced Mousebird
African Hoopoe
Acacia Pied Barbet
Lesser Honeyguide
Ground Woodpecker
Large-billed Lark
Barn Swallow
Greater Striped Swallow

Bloureier
Bosluivoël
Hamerkop
Skoorsteenveer
Hadedda
Kolgans
Kopereend
Blouvalk
Verkruisarend
Dwergarend
Visarend
Rooiborsjakkelsvoël
Rooiborssperwer
Swartspewer
Bleeksingvalk
Witkruispaddaveerter
Kaalwangvalk
Swerfvalk
Edelvalk
Kransvalk
Bergpatrys
Kaapse Fisant
Gewone Tarentaal
Kroonkiewiet
Dikkop
Kelkiewyn
Kransduif
Grootringduif
Gewone tortelduif
Rooiborsduifie
Namakwaduijie
Meitjie
Diederikkie
Nonnetjie-uil
Gevlekte ooruil
Afrikaanse Swartwindswael
Witkruiswindswael
Kleinwindswael
Witpenswindswael
Gevlekte muisvoël
Witkruisuisvoël
Rooiwangmuisvoël
Afrikaanse Hoepoep
Bonthoutkapper
Kleinheuningwyser
Grondspeg
Suidelike dikbeklewerik
Europese Swael
Grootstreepswael

<input type="checkbox"/>	529	<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	530	<i>Delichon urbica</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	533	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	550	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	551	<i>Parus afer</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	566	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	572	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	577	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	581	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	586	<i>Oenanthe monticola</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	589	<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	601	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	614	<i>Cercitrichas coryphoeus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	621	<i>Parisoma subcaeruleum</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	622	<i>Parisoma layardi</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	645	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	651	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	669	<i>Cisticola subruficapilla</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	686a	<i>Prinia maculosa</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	698	<i>Sigelus silens</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	706	<i>Stenostira scita</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	713	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	717	<i>Anthus similis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	732	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	742	<i>Tchagra tchagra</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	746	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	757	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	759	<i>Spreo bicolor</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	769	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	773	<i>Promerops cafer*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	775	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	783	<i>Nectarinia chalybea</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	788	<i>Nectarinia fusca</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	796	<i>Zosterops pallidus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	801	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	803	<i>Passer melanurus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	813	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	814	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	824	<i>Euplectes orix</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	846	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	850	<i>Estrilda melanotis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	872	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	874	<i>Pseudochloroptila tottus</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	879	<i>Serinus albogularis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	881	<i>Serinus gularis</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	885	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>

Rock Martin
Common House-Martin
Brown-throated Martin
White-necked Raven
Grey Tit
Cape Bulbul
Sombre Greenbul
Olive Thrush
Cape Rock-Thrush
Mountain Wheatear
Familiar Chat
Cape Robin-Chat
Karoo Scrub-Robin
Chestnut-vented Tit-Babbler
Layard's Tit-Babbler
Bar-throated Apalis
Long-billed Crombec
Grysbagked Cisticola
Karoo Prinia
Fiscal Flycatcher
Fairy Flycatcher
Cape Wagtail
Long-billed Pipit
Fiscal Shrike
Southern Tchagra
Bokmakerie
Common Starling
Pied Starling
Red-winged Starling
Cape Sugarbird
Malachite Sunbird
Southern Double-collared Sunbird
Dusky Sunbird
Cape White-eye
House Sparrow
Cape Sparrow
Cape Weaver
Southern Masked-Weaver
Southern Red Bishop
Common Waxbill
Swee Waxbill
Cape Canary
Cape Siskin
White-throated Canary
Streaky-headed Seedeater
Cape Bunting

Kransswael
Huisswael
Afrikaanse Oewerswael
Withalskraai
Piet-tjou-tjougrysmees
Kaapse Tiptol
Gewone Willie
Olyflyster
Kaapse Klyplyster
Bergwagter
Gewone Spekvreter
Gewone Janfrederik
Slangverklikker
Bosveldtjeritkik
Grystjeritkik
Bandkeelkleinjantjie
Bosveldstompstert
Gysrugtinkinkie
Karoolangstertjie
Fiskaal vlieëvanger
Feevlieëvanger
Gewone Kwikkie
Nicholsonse Koester
Gewone Fiskaallaksmen
Grysborstjagra
Bokmakerie
Europese Spreeu
Afrikaanse Witgatspreeu
Rooivlerkspreeu
Kaapse Suikervoël
Jangroentjie
Klein Rooiborssuikerbekkie
Namakwasuikerbekkie
Kaapse Glasogie
Huismossie
Gewone Mossie
Kaapse Wewer
Swartkeelgeelvink
Suidelike Rooivink
Rooibeksysie
Suidelike Swie
Kaapse Kanarie
Kaapse pietjiekkanarie
Witkeelkanarie
Streepkopkanarie
Rooivlerkstreepkoppie

*Rare sightings

Total: 95 species

If you have a verified sighting of a new species please let us know and we will update the list.