Visiting Sandstone in 2020

A totally unique venue for:
Product launches
Exco getaways
Team-building weekends
Weddings
Year-end functions
TV, film, video & photographic location
Student, Club and Tourist group outings

Read on about how we can help you make some lasting memories.

Sandstone Estates is a large agricultural estate close to the Maluti Mountain Range in the Eastern Free State, offering scenic wide open spaces, huge heritage collections, loads of old fashioned rides and even a 26km-long private Railway System — all of which can be tailored to suit your event.

Accommodation at Sandstone

Whether you are a day visitor to Sandstone to view our heritage collection or looking for affordable accommodation while visiting the Eastern Free State, Sandstone can offer self-catering accommodation in our Victorian Cottages for up to 24 people. The Victorian Cottages can sleep four in two twin bedded rooms and have a kitchen and bathroom with shower.

Pricing is R1771-00 per cottage per night, inclusive of VAT.
Our Railway Cottages offer accommodation only for 8 people in twin bedded single rooms with a bathroom with shower. Meals can be arranged at the Waenhuis in the main complex of Sandstone. Pricing is R295-00 per person sharing per night inclusive of VAT.

![The Victorian Cottage](image1)

![The Railway Cottages](image2)

**Camping**

We can also offer camping on site with pre-paid electricity for our visitors. A modern fully equipped ablution block is on site. Pricing is R380.00 per stand per night inclusive of VAT.

**Conference and Function Facilities**

We can accommodate up to 32 people at Sandstone in our Victorian and Railway Cottages and our conference room is equipped with white boards and an overhead projector. Additional equipment can be arranged. We have full catering facilities on site at the Waenhuis Cafe. The Sandstone Complex is also available for larger functions such as weddings where we can design the function area to suit your requirements. These facilities together with the numerous other attractions at Sandstone can create a function or conference with a difference.

![The Waenhuis Cafe](image3)
Sandstone Attractions

Sandstone Estates is open to visitors all year round and we have put together a programme which enables you to select from a menu of options. Once you have had a chance to review these options we will provide you with a quotation to suit your requirements.

1) A simple walking tour of all our Heritage assets

The walking tour involves approximately a 2-hour visit. We walk you through all the buildings including our tractor collection, 2-ft Narrow Gauge workshops, Traction Engines, Buses, Cars, Military Vehicles and many other items of interest. The cost is as follows:

- Minimum charge R645.00 inclusive of VAT, thereafter R 270.00 inclusive of VAT per person.

2) Our tractor collection and stationary engine museum which is visited as part of the walking tour

Our 1924 Waterloo Boy tractor, the forerunner of the John Deere range of tractors and Oom Jannie’s International Harvester collection

3) See the farm by tractor/trailer

For groups who would like to travel around by tractor/trailer this can be arranged at an additional cost of R830 incl VAT for 2 hours. The maximum group is 10 people.
4) A trip to the Lesotho Border and back in our 1910 BSA Rail Car or Wickham Rail Trolley

If time is of the essence and it is a small group we can offer a trip in our BSA Rail Car. This is a 1910 classic Edwardian Rail Car which has been updated with new technology. However, in all respects it provides an authentic experience. Although it is original and not from Uganda it is modelled on one that was owned and used by the High Commissioner for Uganda in 1910 as his private rail car. An alternative tour, lasting around ninety minutes, encompasses the entire rail system.

The cost per trip in our BSA (3 passengers) or Wickham Rail Trolley (8 passengers) which can be used with your tour is as follows:
- R 925.00 incl VAT per trip to the Lesotho border.
- R 2750.00 incl VAT per trip covering the entire Railway.

5) Our Narrow Gauge Steam Railway

We have the largest private 2-ft Narrow Gauge Railway in the world with over 20 locomotives in use. Obviously it is not possible simply to steam a locomotive either at short notice or for small groups because it is not financially viable. However, if you have a group of over 20 people we could justify providing a steam excursion with one of our rare and very unique locomotives. At one end we have a half hour steam trip to the border and back, but for larger groups which can cater for 100 passengers or more, we have a 2-hour trip around the entire circuit using one of our big Narrow Gauge Garratts. These obviously have to be planned in detail in advance. The latter trip requires bigger locomotives to go around the mountain and therefore is obviously proportionally more expensive. The photographs below show examples of the range of locomotives that we have. If you are interested in either of these two options please let us know and we will provide you with a quotation.
Fowler locomotive “Sandy” on a train for Grootdraai.

Garratts powering our Mountain Wanderer Train

6) Our Military collection

We have a substantial collection of Military vehicles including a Ratel, Samil 100, Elands, Ferrets, Casspir, Buffel, and many others. For people that are interested in these vehicles and particularly those that would like to see more of the local countryside we do offer Military vehicle experiences. Obviously many of our Military vehicles are not designed to carry many passengers so once again we have featured a few of those below that can be used for this purpose. Our pricing for these excursions is for a 20 minute trip depending on which vehicle is chosen.

- Samil 20 – seats 15 passengers. R970.00 incl VAT per trip.
- Power Wagon – seats 12 passengers. R775.00 incl VAT per trip.
- Samil 100 Gun Tractor – seats 8 passengers. R1095.00 incl VAT per trip.
- Willy’s Jeep - seats 3 passengers. R650.00 incl VAT per trip.
For larger groups we can put together Military convoys involving a number of vehicles. Prices can be quoted on request.

7) Our famous Afrikaner Oxen

We have a team of trained Afrikaner oxen who can be in-spanned at the client’s request. We have a variety of ox wagons and we can seat up to 8 people on what is a very bumpy and slow ride. We recommend a slow trip out to our airfield and a return by foot or you can be collected in a Samil 20 Troop Carrier or the BSA Rail Car depending on the size of the group. The price is R1030.00 incl VAT per trip. Pre booking is essential.
8) Catering

We can offer a meal service at our Waenhuis cafe. The food is traditional Eastern Free State fare depending on the season - bean soup, potjiekos, fresh pumpkin, and pap as an example. Pricing is on request and pre booking is essential.

9) The Sandstone Shop

Our shop is open to visitors and has a large selection of Sandstone memorabilia such as clothing, books and DVD’s for sale to complete your Sandstone experience.

10) Contact us

For all visitor enquiries contact
Alina T: +27(0)51 933 2235 / alinah@sandstone.co.za
Or Leigh C: +27(0)79 327 7649 / leighs@sandstone.co.za
Or book online at www.sandstone-estates.com via the Enquiries tab.

Please remember that Sandstone Estates is a working farm. All visitors must sign an indemnity form before entering the Estate.

Sandstone reserves the right to change the advertised programme without notice.

11) How to get to Sandstone

FROM JOHANNESBURG:

Take the N3 South (Durban Highway) to 2nd turn off to Villiers/Frankfort (this is the one just before the Toll Gate), turn right to Frankfort and bypass it (you are now on the R26). 2km past Frankfort, turn left, following the sign to Reitz, Tweeling and Bethlehem. After 1 hour, you arrive in Bethlehem and turn right down the main street to the town centre. * Turn left at the Fouriesburg and Ficksburg sign (Commissioner Street). Drive for 30 minutes to Fouriesburg and bypass it. ±30km beyond Fouriesburg,
turn left when you see the Sandstone Estates signboard - onto a dirt road. You will need to sign in with the guard at the security gate.

FROM DURBAN:
Take the N3 to Harrismith and then turn left to Bethlehem. Follow from * in panel above.

FROM CAPE TOWN:
Take the N1 to Bloemfontein, take the Ladybrand exit and continue to Ficksburg.

FROM FICKSBURG:
Take the Fouriesburg Road for ±14 km and turn right when you see the Sandstone Estates signboard - onto a dirt road. You will need to sign in with the guard at the gate.

FINDING SANDSTONE ESTATES on GPS

BY ROAD: Our GPS co-ordinates are S28° 50' 41.12" E28° 00' 15.94"
We are situated on the R26, just north-east of the town of Ficksburg in the Eastern Free State, South Africa.

FOR LIGHT AIRCRAFT:
Fly in to our 1000m grassed airstrip at S28° 50' 36" E28° 00' 18"

BY AIR:
The nearest International Airport is Johannesburg Oliver Tambo.
The nearest Regional Airport is Bloemfontein.

For Chartered aircraft, Ficksburg.
The coordinates for Ficksburg Airport are S28° 49' 30" E27° 54' 30"
Car Rental at Bloemfontein Airport

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By Coach

The only coach company servicing Ficksburg is Intercape Coaches but this is only in peak season (i.e. in December)

By Train

The "Shosholoza Meyl" between Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth and another train between Johannesburg and East London both stop in Bloemfontein but from there a car would be required.

Alternatively should you need or prefer professional assistance with your travels plans The Association of South African Travel Agents website http://www.asata.co.za/general/search.asp  will help you to find a travel agent in the Free State area as well as other parts of South Africa.