



PUBLIC STATEMENT

Dear FOM Members and General Public,

On Friday 17 January we informed you all of the closure of the entrance into the Plantation area and Marloth Nature Reserve, after having received a notice of closure from the current tenant of the Two Feathers Horse Trails property.

The reason for the closure was that certain Friends of Marloth (hereafter referred to as FOM) members do not adhere to the rules as stipulated by FOM. We still have visitors crossing the property and accessing Marloth Nature Reserve illegally without a membership card or cycling boards. We also have members illegally accessing the area with dogs.

The good news is that after further negotiations with the parties involved the tenant and landowner has agreed to keep the agreement as currently stated. All FOM members will have legal access via the Berg street entrance until March 2021 or until an alternative entrance has been identified, approved and opened.

We hereby ask and remind all members to adhere to the set of rules (stipulated here) as set out in your membership form.

No members of the public will be allowed into the area without valid

FOM membership. We also hereby inform all members that the FOM side-gate to the left of the main gate will be removed and the FOM lock will be allocated on a newly installed main gate for you to use.

We hereby also inform you that FOM, together with Swellendam Municipality, Swellendam Cycling club, Petrichor Adventures and all landowners involved are in a planning phase for newly built cycling routes to draw tourists into our beautiful town. Tourism meetings will be held in the near future regarding these routes and plans, and will be announced via our social media channels.

FOM is committed to be fair and open to all our members and also respects the wishes of landowners, tenants and government institutions. We are also committed to upkeep, respect and maintain the reserve and nature found in our town.

Please take special note of the following rules that apply in Marloth Nature Reserve, the surrounding plantations and Two Feathers Horse Trails areas:

- 1) No member may enter without a valid FOM membership card or Mountainbike board.**
- 2) No dogs or animals are allowed into any plantation area**

or inside the reserve. A spot fine of up to R2000 may be dealt to anyone caught breaking this rule.

3) You may be asked by a landowner or reserve marshal to display your membership card or mountain bike board.

4) If members of your party are not valid FOM members you must enter the Nature Reserve via the Marloth main gate with a valid Cape Nature permit and stay within the Marloth Nature Reserve boundaries. The FOM membership agreement covers single person access per card, or family access per card with allocated and signed members.

The cards can not be lent out or used as entrance for non-members in your group.

6) Without FOM membership you are not allowed entrance to the Two Feathers Horse Trails or plantation areas.

7) The plantation and Two Feathers Horse Trails are legal tenants who can legally deny anyone access.

Thank you for your continued support. Our purpose is to ensure legal access and partnerships for a sustainable, accessible and open relationship with all parties involved.

FOM Management