

## Virginia Trails Hike, Eston 1 June 2025

Number of hikers	29
Distance	17,56 km
Weather conditions	hot with a high temperature of 30 degrees
Severity of the hike	easy walk with less than 500meters challenging areas.
Report author	Nonhlanhla and Sthabiso

The Eston is predominantly a sugar cane farming area since the 1800s.

We started our hike at 08H00 with a group of 29 enthusiastic club members. The trail initially took us through the sugar cane fields and we were blessed to have experienced sugar cane farmers Ed Hohls and David Sclanders in our group. They gave us valuable lessons on how sugar cane fields are planted and processed, and the importance of conservation. Most of us had a feast of sugarcane and boosted our sugar levels. The monkey's sugar cane peels were noted along the path, they eat the soft part of it.



Our path took us through the beautiful scenery of indigenous bush, deep valleys, streams and dams. We had a 30minute lunch by the dam relaxed under the trees. Hettie Randall gave us a short talk about the club after lunch and we are grateful for that.



The hike was also very educational touching on the history of the area. We learnt that Ingwehumbe is the isiZulu word of (Ingwe: leopard and humbe : cave)

Though the distance was longer, the perfect terrain and the shade made it easy to finish as planned, just before 14h00.



We thank the Midlands Club Members for making another memorable hike.