

ALOE HIKE (ASHBURTON) 5 July 2025

Leader: Luis Esteves
Number of hikers: 11
Distance: 10km
Report by: Luis Esteves



Tersia Grobler



Libby Deysel



Renata Ruggeri

The start of our hike was Impala Bend in the Lower Mpushini Conservancy. By 8.30am, when we got going, Impala Bend was already a hive of activity as various groups got ready to host the many expected visitors for the weekend's Aloe Festival.

In glorious sunshine we set out into the bushveld, admiring the aloes dotted about in full bloom.



Renata Ruggeri



Tersia Grobler



Tinks Weindle

After a very pleasant 6 km of bushveld hiking we came to the Rocky Wonder Aloe Nursery. Here we paused for a while to admire the many species of aloes from over Africa. Some of us also enjoyed the refreshments and delicious eats on sale.

After the nursery we made our way to Mawingo (another one of the festival venues). The main highlight here was the terrific mini-gorge hike which took us into a self-contained world of coolness and silence.



Tersia Grobler



Luis Esteves



Tinks Weindle



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After Mawingo we made our way back to our start point, Impala Bend. It was now about 12.30 and this venue was a busy place with all sorts of activities going on. Most of us hikers enjoyed a bite to eat and some refreshments before heading home.



Renata Ruggeri



Libby Deysel



Tersia Grobler



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Tinks Weindle

All-in-all it was a very pleasant hike, with a fair amount of variety, which ultimately made for a most enjoyable experience.