

Gwahumbe Game reserve – Mid Illovo 23 Nov 2025 (Report by Megan Loots)

The day was wet and grey and the mist hung in the low valleys. We had some visitors join us from DBN Hiking group, so we were a large group, all ready to tackle the ups and downs of this beautiful valley.



Started off easy we made our way down the first gentle valley down to the stream and 'cave' where we had a short break to capture the beauty and refuel some energy.

Then came the first big uphill back up to the top of the valley.

A short walk along the top and then we started back down the other side along an old unused 4x4 track.

This led us down to 'Hippo pool' which is always a magnificent sight with its cliff face and pool at the base.

A short walk on led us to exploring the campsites, along with 2 more river crossings.

By this time the humidity was high, but luckily the sun was still hiding away.

A short distance following the stream brought us to the main campsite/picnic with it's lovely waterfall and pool, we all rested and refuelled with snacks.

The final stretch was a killer, with an approximate 700m altitude gain we had to climb back up out the valley.

This was challenging and got the muscles working hard for their lunch time reward waiting up at the restaurant.

Thank goodness the sun did not break through the clouds, there was lots of breaks, sweating and huffing and puffing on this never ending uphill.

Everyone made it and once refreshed we all relaxed and enjoyed the scenic beauty from the restaurant veranda, enjoying our drinks and delicious lunches served by the lodge's restaurant.

