

Hike Report – Karkloof MTB Trails Hike on 14 December 2025

Report by; Iain Kerr

The hike was originally planned for Saturday 13 December, but due to adverse weather predictions it was postponed to Sunday 14 December. As a result, the number of hikers that could hike dropped from 10 to 5. We started off from the Dovehouse turnoff at just after 07H00 in cool overcast conditions. Ideal weather for hiking. The first trail we took is known as Keira's trail, which climbs steeply up until it meets Christopher's trail. It was very slippery on the steep sections and crawling up these treacherous slick, slippery sections was the order of the day for some, while some managed to negotiate their way around them.



This is an ideal time of the year for fungus/mushroom spotters and Margret managed to identify several species for us. Most were found along Puff Adder Pass, which we joined after crossing Christopher's:

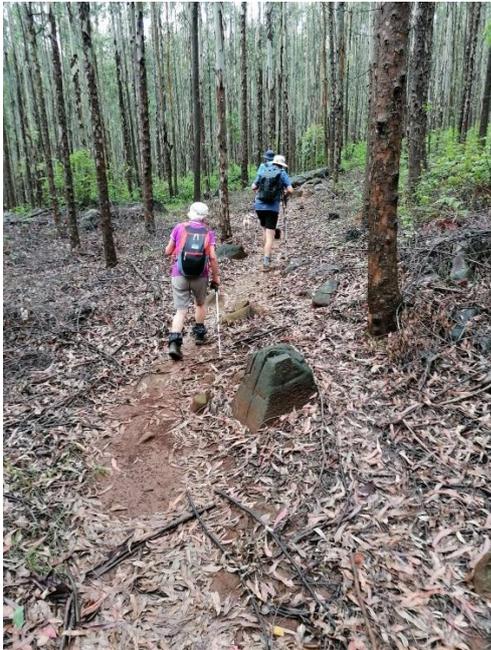




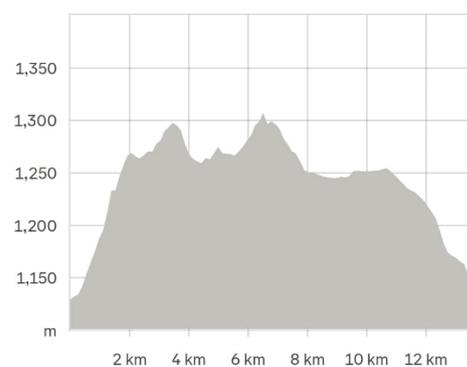
From Puff Adder Pass we entered the lower end of Sheep's Pass and from there, onto Alex's Alley which passes the dams where we planned to have a picnic.



The conditions were quite cool up there, so we didn't tally there for too long. After our picnic, we continued along Alex's Alley which leads into Siobhan's Saunter and we then joined up with back of Beyond, where we noticed some jackal spoor. There was a proliferation of Stinkhorn along Alex's Alley. We covered those sections at a brisk pace and then down Christopher's before branching off to join up with the Dovehouse turnoff. The last steep section was slippery and we tried to stick to the vegetation on the side to avoid an unexpected *bollemakiesie*.



Elevation



Elevation Gain **261 m**

Max Elevation **1,307 m**