

CYPRUS Cave

uMkhomazi, Cyprus Cave - 07.06.2026

Hike leader: Dusty Shaw

Photos from various hikers

Weather: Some cloud but mostly clear

Hikers: 7

Total Accent: 223m

Length: 4.2km

Severity: 2

You tube video watch here: [▶ YouTube](#)

On a crisp winter morning, with clear blue skies, wisps of cloud high above, and snow-capped mountains visible in the distance, we set off for uMkhomazi Ezemvelo Park.

As we drew closer to the park, the car's temperature gauge fluctuated between 1°C and -1°C, a reminder that winter was well on its way.

Our destination was Cyprus Cave, named after the distinctive cyprus grass that grows in the area. Arriving at the park at the planned time of 8:30 a.m., we quickly signed in and began our hike at 9:00 a.m.





The trail starts with a steep climb, soon warming us up and prompting the gradual removal of jackets and extra layers. As we reached the crest of the hill, we were treated to a brief sighting of a secretary bird running across the grassland in the opposite direction.

Unfortunately, it disappeared over the next rise before anyone could capture a photograph. From there, the trail descends gently towards the cave and the Nzinga River. Cypress Cave is tucked beneath an impressive rock overhang, with a stream flowing over the top and cascading into a crystal-clear blue pool below. On a hot summers day, it would be an ideal spot for a refreshing swim.

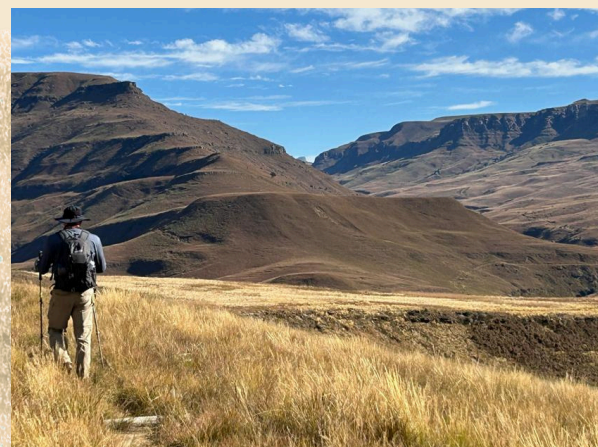
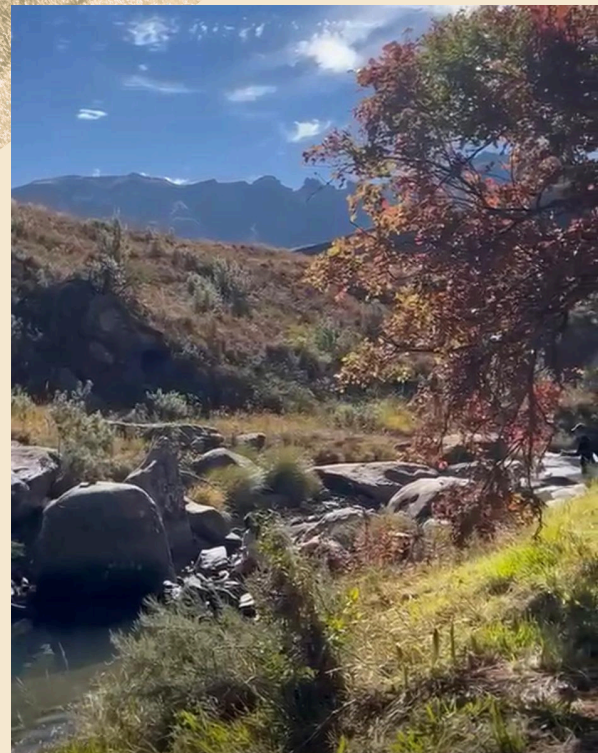
The cave itself can accommodate approximately six people, although the constant sound of water plunging into the pool echoes throughout the shelter.

A short distance downstream lies the Annex Cave. Smaller and more secluded, it offers a quieter overnight option and overlooks another beautiful pool fed by lively rapids.

Continuing downstream, the stream eventually joins the main river. Here, the scenery becomes truly spectacular. The river winds through smooth, marble-like rock formations, creating a series of deep, clear pools and a picturesque waterfall. Over a distance of about 70 metres, the water has carved an impressive channel through the rock, making this one of the most scenic sections of the hike.

The combination of dramatic landscapes, crystal-clear water, fascinating geology, and abundant birdlife made the journey to Cypress Cave a memorable and rewarding experience.

Report : Dusty Shaw



A last quote "The cave whispers ancient secrets while the waterfall sings nature's timeless song." Unknown

