

Karkloof trails

Karkloof Howick Kzn

20 June 2026

14Km lead by Iain Kerr



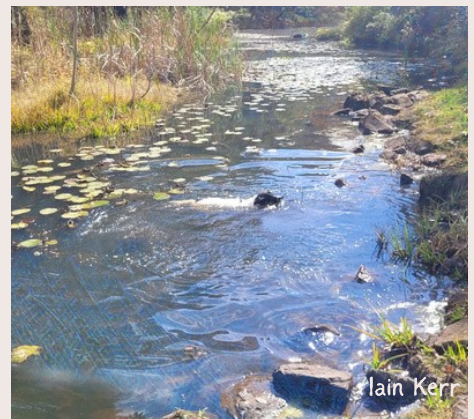


On a crisp winter's morning, twelve hikers and three enthusiastic dogs gathered at Karkloof Country Club for a leisurely 14 km ramble through the plantation. The day began with jackets zipped up and hands tucked into pockets, but it wasn't long before the glorious sunshine had everyone shedding layers and enjoying the warmth.

Our route wound through stretches of dappled shade beneath trees, occasionally emerging onto gravel roads that offered glimpses of the surrounding countryside. There was a moment of concern when a member of our group took a tumble and injured her nose, but thankfully soldiered on with admirable determination.

Our four-legged companions - Blitz, Molly and Jake - were in their element and seemed convinced they were leading the hike. They guided us to the viewpoint, where we stopped for a well-earned tea break and soaked up the sunshine. The dogs made the most of the nearby stream, splashing about with great enthusiasm before transforming into soggy, slightly muddy hazards for the remainder of the day.

After tea, the trail climbed gently towards the main road before delivering the highlight of the hike: a lunch-stop beside a small, picturesque dam. Reaching it proved to be an adventure in itself, requiring us to traverse the narrow dam wall. Amid much laughter and repeated advice to "make sure you fall to the left!" (into the water rather than onto the rocks), everyone made it across safely and enjoyed a well-deserved rest. It was also the perfect opportunity for an impromptu boot repair when one hiker's sole decided it had other plans for the day.



Our homeward journey followed gravel roads before dipping back into the cool shade of the trees. We made it back somewhat muddier but fully content.

Author - Amy Jacobs

