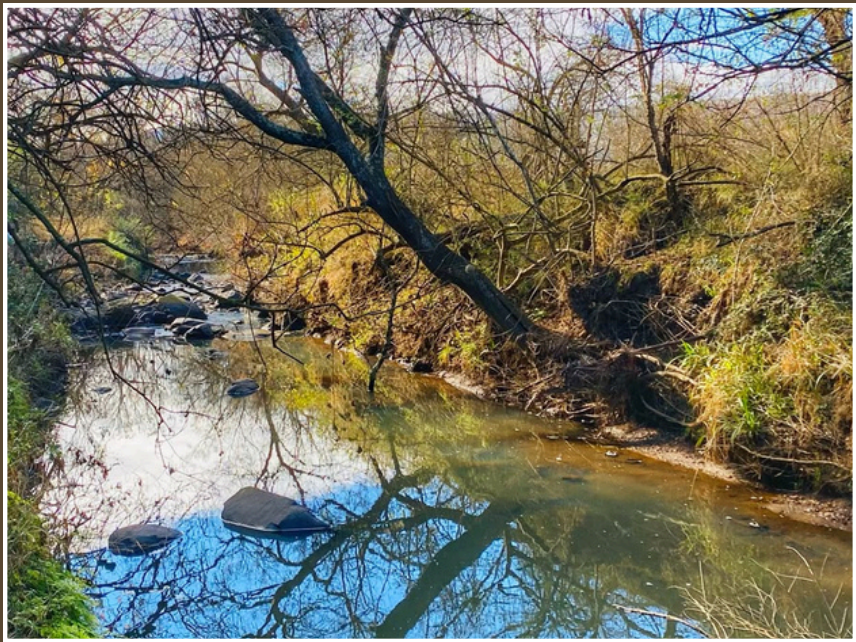




Tanya Adey



Tanya Adey



Candice Piek

Mabata Cave - Baynesfield 🐍

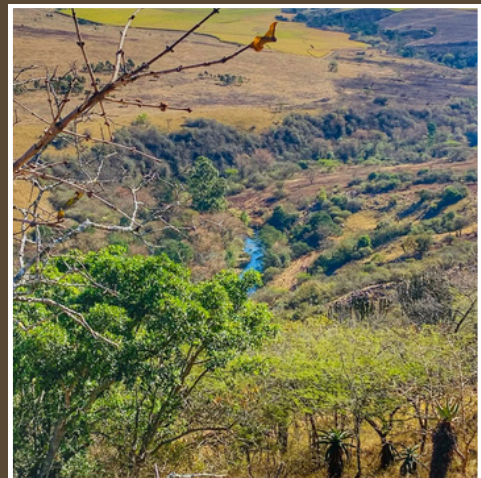
2 August 2026 led by Charmaine Grayson



Tanya Adey



Katey G



Tanya Adey

This was an exciting new trail for our hiking club situated just outside Baynesfield. This scenic route has something to offer in every season – winter brings spectacular flowering aloes, while spring transforms the landscape with beautiful white pear blossoms. Keep an eye on the skies, as this area is home to majestic Jackal Buzzards and Yellow-Billed Kites. The hike began with a gentle descent into the valley, where we crossed a small stream before climbing steadily onto an open plateau dotted with striking winter trees. Our route then took us to an elevation of 795 meters, where we reached the historic Mabata Cave, named after the Mbata Rebellion of 1906. Surrounded by impressive rock formations, we discovered the cave entrance. Although much of the cave has been sealed by rockfalls over the years, a small opening still reveals a glimpse into a larger chamber where more than 400 people sought refuge during the 1906 rebellion. Leaving the cave behind, we continued climbing to our highest point of 850 meters. Along the way, we weaved through fascinating rock formations before arriving at a remarkable Heritage site. Here, the landscape tells an ancient story, revealing evidence of volcanic activity from millions of years ago, together with geological features shaped by the movement of ancient glaciers. In summer a natural spring, fed by the volcanic formations, creates a stunning waterfall that plunges into the valley below. If you are lucky you may even spot the resident rock python sunning itself on a ledge. We enjoyed a leisurely descent through rolling farmlands, returning to the farm for a picnic before heading home after a memorable day on the trail.



Candace Piek



Candace Piek



Candace Piek



Sarah Allen



Kim Kuys



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