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## WEST COAST KAYAK TRAILS

<b>Grading:</b>	<b>1 (easy)</b>
<b>Length:</b>	<b>various</b>
<b>Season:</b>	<b>All year</b>
<b>Length of drive from Cape Town:</b>	<b>Langebaan/West Coast National Park: 1 hr 30 mins</b> <b>Cape Columbine Nature Reserve: 2 hrs</b>

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Gravity operates sea kayaking trips and hire in the beautiful West Coast National Park and Cape Columbine Nature Reserve. With the jewel-like Langebaan Lagoon as its centerpiece, the West Coast National Park offers adventurers paddling in protected waters. Cape Columbine offers boulder strewn bays and kelp forests near to the picturesque fishing village of Paternoster. Stunning bird life, magnificent scenery, excellent local seafood and exciting fishing are just some of the elements that make the 'weskus' so special.

We offer a variety of day trips as well as some overnight options. All our trips are suitable for paddlers of all skill levels and are especially fun for families with kids.

### **West Coast National Park**

The Island Kayak Trail gives you a taste of the lagoon – starting on the Main Beach in Langebaan, this is a 2-hour paddle around Schaapen Island with its protected bird colony and white bunnies (yes, really!). Also available as a SUP tour by prior arrangement.

The **Explorer Kayak Trail** is for those who want to explore deeper into the National Park. You'll spend around four hours on the water, exploring the island, sandbanks and bays, stopping for a tasty lunch on a deserted beach along the way. This trip can also be done from across the lagoon, in the idyllic Kraal Bay, with its warm, clear water and powder sand beach. There is an additional logistics charge for this option.

### **Cape Columbine Nature Reserve**

The Boulder Garden Kayak Trail is one and a half to two hours in length and takes you through the beautiful, rounded boulders and gullies of the reserve. Also available as a SUP tour by prior arrangement. Minimum group size is 6 people.

### **Jacob's Bay to Cape Columbine**

This trip is for those who have some paddling experience. It takes you into the open ocean where you'll round Cape Columbine and end at Paternoster. Autumn, Winter and Spring is the best season for this paddle, and we usually have great marine life sightings. It's a self-supported trip with one night spent wild camping on a remote beach. Minimum group size is 4 people.

## Trekoskraal to Cape Columbine including 2 nights at SeaShack

This trip offers an open ocean paddling experience but with comfortable accommodation included. It's also a great option for a group with a combination of more experienced paddlers and novices (or young kids). SeaShack is a unique beach shack style accommodation right on the water in the Cape Columbine Nature Reserve and offers the perfect base camp for an adventurous west coast stay. Price on application (depends on group size)

### Kayak and SUP Hire

We have kayaks and Stand Up Paddleboards (SUPs) for hire in Langebaan.

### Accommodation

Our beach house, Indigo Blue, in Langebaan, is available on a self-catering basis. There are a variety of other accommodation options in the area. Ask us for more info if you are interested.

## PRICELIST

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### ISLAND KAYAK TRAIL, LANGEBAAN

*2 hours on the water and experience seals, bird life and kelp forest*

Number of pax	Rate
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2-20 pax	R475pp
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### EXPLORER KAYAK TRAIL, LANGEBAAN

*Paddle into the Langebaan Lagoon and experience the bird and marine life as well as the fascinating history, includes lunch.*

2-20 pax	R950pp
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Logistics charge if done from Kraal Bay (no wind)	R1,350 for the trip
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### BOULDER GARDEN KAYAK TRAIL, CAPE COLUMBINE

*1.5 hours on the water and experience seals, bird life and kelp forest. Minimum group size is 6 pax.*

Number of pax	Rate
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6-20 pax	R450pp
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### KAYAK HIRE Langebaan

Per hour, each kayak seats 2 pax. Includes paddles and PFDs ('lifejackets')	R175
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Minimum group size is 4 or 6 pax. Maximum group size: 20. Minimum age is 8. Prices subject to change. Larger and custom groups by arrangement. Includes boating and safety equipment, qualified guide, lunch (where applicable)

Meet at 09h00 at Main Beach, Langebaan or in Cape Columbine Reserve. Earlier in summer by arrangement. Excludes entry fee to Cape Columbine Reserve (R20pp). Excludes conservation fee for West Coast National Park (if meeting at Kraal Bay)

No refund if cancelled within 24 hours

Valid until end April 2023



## Why Gravity?

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Gravity has an unwavering attitude towards quality and safety on all of their trips – some of the aspects

which make Gravity one of the leading adventure companies in SA include the following;

- Small groups – for safety and environmental reasons
- Only APA qualified guides, in the recommended guide: client ratios
- Top notch equipment

### **Are you a member of APA?**

Yes, we are Operating Members of APA and our guides are all trained and qualified.

### **How do I get up to Langebaan?**

You can drive up in your own vehicle or we can arrange vehicle hire or transport if required. The road is a good tar road all the way up from Cape Town and takes around 1hr15mins. Full directions will be supplied on confirmation of booking.

### **What do I need to bring?**

We supply most of what you'll need on the water. For day trips, you'll need your costume and a change of clothes for after the trip. For overnight trips you'll need extra clothes and toiletries. A full kit list will be supplied on confirmation of booking.

### **Can I bring my camera?**

Yes. Although there can be no guarantees on a paddling trip, we will provide watertight dry bags for cameras, binoculars etc. It is also worth considering buying a disposable waterproof camera.

### **Do I need to be fit? What if I'm not a strong swimmer?**

This is a very relaxed trip and you don't need to be an athlete to enjoy it. A basic level of fitness and good health is required, though. There is no age limit but you should familiarize yourself with what the trip entails and make an informed decision on your ability to participate, based on your own fitness. Each client is issued with a PFD ('Lifejacket') and is instructed on how to handle themselves in the water, you don't need to be a strong swimmer but please let us know if you are not confident in the water.

### **Is it suitable for kids?**

Yes, the shorter trips are great, even for younger kids (5+) and we provide children's PFDs. The overnight trip is also perfect for family groups – ask about our family discounts.

### **Is it difficult to steer the boats? Will I fall out?**

We use 2-person plastic sit-on-top kayaks that are very stable and easy to paddle, even for beginners. You will be equipped with a PFD ('lifejacket') and will have been given instruction on exactly how to behave if you fall out of your boat. We also use only highly trained guides who will be on hand to rescue you if required.

### **Is it safe? What about if I hurt myself?**

Whilst there is an inherent element of risk in every adventure, a paddling trip with our professional guides should not be considered dangerous. Our guides are all trained in First Aid and we carry a First Aid kit. It is your responsibility to make sure you have any personal medication with you (e.g. asthma pumps, allergy medication etc.).

### **What will the weather be like?**

The weather on the West Coast is generally better than in Cape Town and autumn, early winter and spring are the best times to do a trip on the lagoon. In mid summer the wind can be very strong. In case of bad weather, we can usually make an alternative plan so that we don't have to cancel the trip – either by shortening the paddle section of the trip, choosing a different route etc.

### **What will the meals be like?**

The Explorer Trip includes a freshly packed picnic lunch which will enjoy on a secluded beach along the route.

### **What is the accommodation like?**

There are various accommodation options available – chat to one of our staff and they will be able to advise you on cost and availability options. Our own beach house, Indigo Blue, is situated right on the beach in the heart of the village and sleeps up to 12 people.

**What other activities are available in the area?**

The park itself offers bird watching, hiking and mountain biking trails. Gravity can also arrange water skiing, sailing and kite boarding on the lagoon. Other nearby activities include horse riding and a visit to the West Coast Fossil Park. There is also a range of conference & accommodation facilities in the area which will appeal to corporate or team building groups.

**Any restrictions?**

The APA code of safety requires us to warn you against consuming alcohol or drugs in the 8 hours preceding the trip as well as at all times on the water.



**More Questions? Give us a call!**

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