

Picnic Beat (Smalblaar 1) (0.9 KM) - Detailed Instructions

Parking:

Picnic Beat (Smalblaar 1) lies on the Smalblaar River (sometimes called the Molenaars River) which runs parallel to the N1 on the east side of the Huguenot Tunnel.

Traveling east from Cape Town, drive 6.7 km from the exit of the Huguenot Tunnel on the N1 (2.7 km from the Du Kloof Lodge). Past the lodge the road dips into a valley, be on the look-out for a gate and the weir parking on the left on the way down the hill (Figure 3). **This is not where to park**, but serves as a good landmark.

After passing the weir parking, slow down and pull into the right hand lane when it is safe to do so. The beat's parking is directly after the Klip river bridge (Figure 1) on the gravel island between the inbound and outbound N1 carriageways [GPS: **S33 43.340 E19 10.927**] (Figure 1). The bridge is small and one can easily drive too fast to stop safely if the parking is not anticipated.

If one misses the parking the only options are to stop in the shoulder on the left hand side and reverse back if it is safe to do so, OR, continue down the N1, 7.2 km to the Rawsonville turn-off [GPS: **S33 42.267 E19 14.670**]. Take the turn off on your right and do a careful U-turn. Then proceed back on the N1 towards Cape Town.

This parking serves members for both the Picnic Beat (Smalblaar 1) and the Helderwater Beat (Smalblaar 2). **Please park considerately and correctly – behind the barriers and not anywhere in the through road. Traffic police will likely fine vehicles in the throughway for obstruction and distracting on-coming traffic. Even parking as suggested may still attract a fine.**

Accessing the start of the beat:

The parking is close to the upstream end of Picnic Beat. Walk 850 meters down the N1 to where the storm drain flows under the road (Figure 2). Cross over the storm drain to be on the downstream (east) of it. Climb down to the storm drain and follow the clearing created by it onto the river.

The beat starts where the storm drain flows into the Smalblaar River [GPS: S33 43.193 E19 11.398]

End of the beat and exiting:

The Beat ends at the inflow of the Klip River into the Smalblaar [S33 43.321 E19 10.880].

There are no obvious landmarks to indicate the end of the beat on the river aside from the inflow of the Klip River. It is recommended that first time members make their way to the end of the beat to familiarise themselves before heading off to the start of the beat as the river can be difficult to see amongst the bushes.

To access the upstream end of Picnic beat from the parking cross the N1 carefully to the clearing on the east bank of the Klip River. Follow the path down to the water along the high side of the Klip River bank.

To exit the river, climb the bank on the downstream (east) side of where the Klip River joins the Smalblaar. On the east bank of the Klip River a fairly well-worn path leads up back to the N1.

Beat marker rules

GPS:

The GPS co-ordinates are only approximate. The physical description of the start and end points of beats take precedence.

Where to fish and walk:

One may fish and walk freely between the start and end points of the booked beat. One may not fish outside of this range, even if one is standing within one's beat. Walking in or close to the river outside of the range is prohibited except when accessing a designated footpath into, or away from one's booked beat.

Photographs and Descriptions

The photographs and descriptions in the document can be readily changed. Please email improved photos or descriptions to the CPS office for consideration in the next update.



Figure 1. Klip river bridge, showing parking on the right between the incoming and outgoing N1 carriageways. Note: the car in the image is incorrectly parked in the throughway.



Figure 2. Two photos of the Storm drain that marks the point from which to walk down to the start of the beat. The path is on the east (far) side of the storm drain.

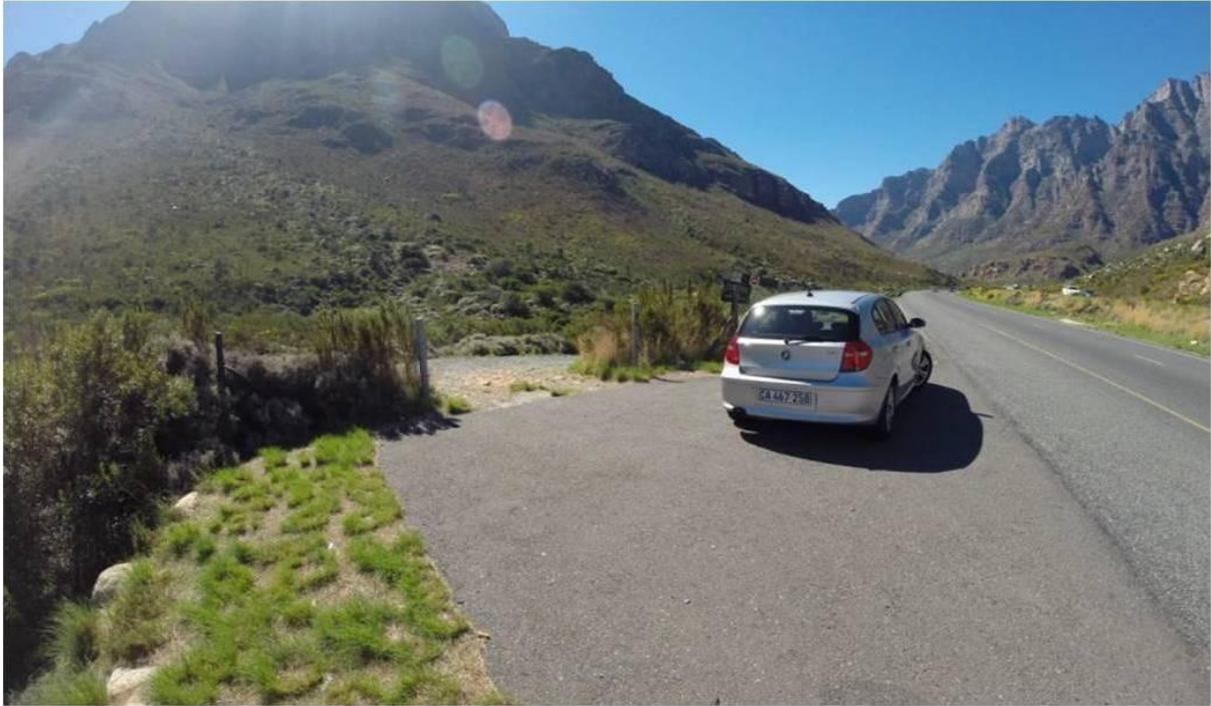


Figure 3. Parking at the weir. The weir can be seen from the road as one approaches this point. This is NOT where to park for this beat but is a good land mark at which to slow down and change lanes to the right hand side.