



# BEACH, RIVER, LAKES, DAMS & WETLAND



Garden Route, South Africa

GEORGE  
WILDERNESS  
UNIONDALE

GEORGE  
naturally



# Beach, river, lakes and dam



## George

### Herolds Bay

#### Popular for:

Sunbathing, swimming, eating ice cream and hot chips, surf lessons, bodyboarding

#### Facilities and features:

Tidal pool, braai facilities, grassed area, ablutions, showers, snack vans, campsite, lifeguards in season, promenade

### Victoria Bay

#### Popular for:

Surfing, sunbathing, swimming, fishing

#### Facilities and features:

Rock pools, tidal pool, braai facilities, grassed area, ablutions, showers, disabled parking and wheelchair access, pier, promenade, restaurant, lifeguards in season, campsite

### Gwaiing Beach

#### Popular for:

Sunbathing, surfing

#### Facilities and features:

Campsite, 'gorgeous Gorge', braai area, lifeguards in season, ablutions, showers, grassed area, promenade

### George Dam

#### Popular for:

Walking, kayaking, mountain biking, picnicking

#### Facilities and features:

Security, rudimentary ablutions, hiking trails, cycling tracks

# Wilderness

## Bo-langvlei

**Popular for:**

Birdwatching

**Facilities and features:**

Minimal infrastructure

## Flat Rock Beach

**Popular for:**

Fishing, rock pools, dog friendly

**Facilities and features:**

Staircase to beach, the beach is covered in rocks, plentiful birdlife

## Island Lake

**Popular for:**

Camping, boating, picnicking, swimming

**Facilities and features:**

Picnic benches, campsite, ablutions

## Kaaimans River Mouth

**Popular for:**

Swimming, kayaking, fishing, inflatables

**Facilities and features:**

Waterfall, river meets beach, Southern temperate forest

## Kleinkrantz Beach

**Popular for:**

Dog friendly, fishing, walks to Sedgfield, paragliding

**Facilities and features:**

Staircase to beach, sand dune, beach cave

## Leentjiesklip Beach

**Popular for:**

Sunbathing, paragliding, fishing, volleyball, whale watching

**Facilities and features:**

Ablutions, shower, braai area, lifeguards in season

## Rondevlei

**Popular for:**

Birdwatching, aquatic wildlife, canoeing

**Facilities and features:**

Bird hide

## Serpentine River

**Popular for:**

Canoeing, birdwatching, stand up paddleboarding, nature photography

**Facilities and features:**

Snake-like curves through reed beds and wetlands

## Swartvlei

**Popular for:**

Boating, canoeing, sailing, water skiing, stand-up paddleboarding, fishing, swimming, picnicking, birdlife

**Facilities and features:**

Swartvlei is an estuarine lake, with a mix of fresh and salt water, making it ecologically unique. Picnic spots, boating launch sites

## Touw River

**Popular for:**

Swimming, canoeing, bird watching

**Facilities and features:**

SanParks permit required. Inside Garden Route National Park Tarentaal Picnic Area (Day Visitors) - ablutions, canoe hire, boat rides, lapa with benches, braai facilities, grassed area, jungle gym.

## Wilderness Main Beach

**Popular for:**

Surfing, sunbathing, swimming, paragliding

**Facilities and features:**

Ablutions, disabled toilet, disabled parking, lifeguards in season, restaurant, meets the Touw River mouth, provisional Blue Flag status, NSRI

## Wilderness Lagoon (Touw River)

**Popular for:**

Canoeing, SUP, swimming

**Facilities and features:**

Braai facilities, grassed area, boardwalk, ablutions in season, disabled parking, lifeguards in season

**Wilderness:**

# A wetland treasure of global significance



**Did you know that Wilderness is home to one of South Africa's officially recognised Wetlands of International Importance?** Designated on 28 June 1991 under the global Ramsar Convention, the Wilderness Lakes system is a natural jewel that plays a vital role in sustaining local biodiversity, supporting the health of our ecosystems, and offering unforgettable nature experiences.

Managed by South African National Parks (SANParks), this wetland system includes Rondevlei, Langvlei, Island Lake, and the Serpentine River. These interconnected lakes form part of the Touw River catchment, which flows into the Indian Ocean along Wilderness's stunning 18-kilometre stretch of beach.

**This special ecosystem is a haven for a remarkable range of life:**

- Around 285 indigenous plant species
- 32 fish species, several of which depend on these wetlands as nursery areas
- Up to 300 bird species, including both breeding and migratory birds
- A rich variety of aquatic invertebrates

The Ramsar Convention promotes the conservation and wise use of wetlands globally. These ecosystems are essential - not only for wildlife - but also for human wellbeing, through flood control, water purification, climate regulation, and opportunities for sustainable tourism. For both locals and visitors, the Wilderness wetlands offer more than scenic beauty - they are a living, breathing example of how nature and community are deeply interconnected. Whether you're birdwatching, paddling the tranquil waters, or simply enjoying the serenity, you're engaging with a landscape of global ecological importance.

