



Guest Information



Welcome to the Houw Hoek Hotel.

We wish to make your stay a happy one. The information in this booklet will help you enjoy your time spent with us.

Please contact Reception (dial 9) if you need anything at all.

Have a wonderful stay!



www.houwhoekhotel.com

Babysitting

We offer a **babysitting service**, please enquire for our rates.
Please reserve this service at least 24 hours in advance.

Bar

The **Stage Coach Bar** is the oldest licensed bar in South Africa.
The bar is open daily from 11:00 until 23:00.

Bedding

Additional blankets and pillows are available on request. Please dial 9 for Reception.

Conferences

We have **five air-conditioned conference rooms** of different sizes that can accommodate from 5 to 250 delegates, perfect for conferences, parties, banquets and wedding receptions.
Please contact Veronica for assistance at 087 874 1226, or email events@houwhoek.com.

Electricity

We have solar power and generators, so you will **seldom be subjected to loadshedding**.

Gratuities

The norm in South Africa is 10%. A service charge is not included. Should you wish to leave a tip for the staff, you may do so at Reception. This will be shared among the staff.

Keys

For your own security, please ensure that your room key is not left on the outside of the door.
Please return your room key upon departure.

Laundry

For your convenience, a price list and **a laundry bag** are supplied. Please complete a laundry form and dial 9 for Reception to let them know to collect your laundry.

Ironing to be arranged between 08:00 and 17:00. No irons are to be sent to the rooms.

Restaurant Hours

Our main restaurant serves delicious à la carte lunches and dinners daily. We are also well known for our scrumptious breakfast buffet, relaxed lunches and fine dinners.

Breakfast 07:30–10:00 Lunch 10:00–14:30 Dinner 18:00–21:00

Room Maintenance

Should you experience any room maintenance problems, please call Reception (dial 9).
We will do our utmost to attend to the matter promptly.

Safes

A digital safe is available in your room. For larger items, please use the free security deposit service at Reception. The hotel is not liable for any loss of or damage to property.

Saturday Dinner Dance

Our traditional Saturday Dinner Dance is usually held in the Barn where we serve a delicious buffet. **Dinner is served from 19:00 and the music starts at 21:00.** Please enquire at Reception.

Telephones

To make internal calls (no cost):

Dial 9 for Reception, 24 hours a day.

To dial another room (no cost):

Dial 3 and the room number (e.g. Room 11 – dial 311).

Rooms 81 to 86, 91 to 96, 181 to 186 and 191 to 196:

Dial the room number (e.g. Room 181 – dial 181).

Television

Our rooms have a flat-screen TV and access to **20-channel DSTv.**

There is a TV Channel Card in your room. If you have a problem with your television, please call Reception by dialling 9.

Wake-up Calls

Please dial 9 and let us know your requested wake-up time and we will telephone your room to wake you up.

Water

Our water comes from boreholes and is **perfectly safe and healthy to drink.**

On arrival, you will find complimentary mineral water in the minibar fridge in your room.

Weddings and Functions

Our hotel is the perfect setting for conferences, birthday parties, year-end functions and **simple or elaborate weddings.** Please dial 9 for Reception and ask to speak to our Events Manager, or email events@houwhoek.com.

You could also try the **Arniston Spa Hotel.** Call 028 445 9000 or email info@arnistonhotel.com.

Wine Tasting

We offer wine tasting at the hotel. Here you can savour our house wines and the diverse range of wines from the local area. You can purchase these wines at affordable prices.

Activities at the Hotel

The Houw Hoek Hotel has two games rooms and many exciting outdoor activities, for both young and old.

Fun for Everyone

You may want to just put your feet up and relax, but for the more energetic, our family-friendly hotel offers many exciting things to do, **both indoors and outdoors**. If you are visiting us for a conference, we offer the perfect opportunity for **team building with our many activities**. For the warmer months, we have **two refreshing swimming pools**. We also have **two indoor games rooms** with much on offer, for all ages.

Our child-friendly hotel will make your children's stay an enjoyable one. Our wide range of activities will keep your children occupied and entertained all day long! **Child minders can be booked** in advance – please enquire at Reception.



Indoors and Outdoors

Indoors, our **two games rooms** feature a host of activities. Adults can enjoy **snooker, pool** and **darts**. Other games include **table tennis** and a host of **video games**. There are many **board games** for younger children.

Outdoors, our rolling lawns are an endless playground. The hotel also has **a putt-putt course, a volleyball court, and a boules playing area**. At the front of the hotel are **tennis courts**. You can collect balls, racquets, golf clubs, boules sets and whatever you need from Reception.

There is a **child-friendly play area** that is fenced all round. It has **two jungle gyms and a trampoline**. In summer we often have a **jumping castle and water slides**.

Several scenic hiking and mountain-biking trails start at the hotel. Please ask at Reception for a map.

Our Relaxation Spa

Rejuvenate your body, relax your mind and feed your soul.
Visit our tranquil relaxation spa nestled in scenic surroundings.



Our spa is operated by the renowned Ginkgo Spa and Wellness Group, so it goes without saying that our soothing treatments are the product of years of experience.

Our wide range of treatments are based on hands-on touch therapy principles and the experienced therapists will leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated.

Set in the peaceful grounds of our hotel, you will be immersed in the serenity of the surrounding nature. Come and enjoy our personal service and let us help you unwind.

Our Luxurious Facilities

- Sauna
- Rasul (a Turkish Steam Chamber)
- 3 Manicure & Pedicure Stations
- 2 Twin Facial Rooms
- 3 Massage Rooms
- Hydro & Exfoliation Room
- Heated Indoor Pool with relaxation area



recapturing the forgotten sense of wellbeing



Special Spa Rates for Hotel Residents

We have special Ginkgo Spa rates for our hotel residents. Please scan the QR code to see the special rates.



Grabouw

Rivendell Wines

Horse Riding,
Quad Biking
and Ziplining

4x4 Trails

Oude Molen Distillery

Grabouw
Golf Course

Elgin Railway Market

Oak Valley
Wines

Paul Cluver
Wines

Peregrine
Farm Stall

The Hickville
Smokehouse



**HOUW HOEK
HOTEL**

★★★

Animal Encounters

Elgin Vintners

Elgin Ridge
Wines

Luddite Wines

Paul Wallace
Wines

Botrivier

Almenkerk
Wines

Houw Hoek
Farm Stall

Beaumont Family Wines

River Cruises

Highlands
Road Estate

South Hill Wines

Charles Fox MCC

Wildekrans Wine Estate

Barton Wines

Genevieve MCC

Honingklip Brewery

Arabella Golf Course

Kleinmond

Kleinmond Golf Club

**N
2**

Explore the Area

There is much to do in the surrounding area.
Please call ahead to check availability.

Activities

Animal Encounters



Get up close to some of Africa's majestic and beautiful animals at **Cornellskop**.

Tel 076 564 6961 www.cornellskop.co.za
Van Der Stel Pass, Botrivier
Distance from hotel **13 km**

Hiking at Almenkerk

Explore among the apple trees and vineyards, with fun activities along the route.

Tel 021 848 9844 www.almenkerk.co.za
Viljoenshoop Road, Elgin
Distance from hotel **18,2 km**

Horse Riding



Enjoy horse riding on the expansive **Wildeckrans Wine Estate**. Please book in advance.

Tel 028 284 9902 www.wildeckrans.com
R43, Botrivier
Distance from hotel **8,7 km**

Horse Riding, Quad Biking, Ziplining

Cape Adventure Zone offers exciting adventure among the apple trees and majestic fynbos.

Tel 076 251 8584 www.capeadventurezone.com
Worcester Street, Grabouw
Distance from hotel **16,6 km**

River Cruises



Take a gentle cruise down the river on a barge with **Elgin River Lodge**. Please call ahead.

Tel 021 846 8345 www.elginriverlodge.co.za
Appletiser Road, Elgin
Distance from hotel **22 km**

Ziplining

Cape Canopy Tours hosts this exciting experience in the heart of the Kogelberg. Ages 5 to 75.

Tel 021 300 0501 www.canopytour.co.za
R321 from Grabouw to Villiersdorp
Distance from hotel **26,4 km**



4x4 Trails

Honingklip 4x4 Trails feature an obstacle course, fun for the whole family or just an adults' day out.

Tel 083 287 5112 R43, Botrivier
Distance from hotel **14,3 km**

4x4 and AWD Trails

Enjoy 4x4 and AWD routes through the majestic Hottentots Holland and Groenlandberg mountains.

Tel 082 335 7071
Worcester Street, Grabouw
Distance from hotel **17,2 km**

Golf

Arabella Country Estate



Experience one of the Western Cape's top golf courses, ranked in the top 10 in South Africa. Located on the shores of the Botrivier Lagoon. Tel 028 284 0105 www.arabellacountryestate.co.za R44 to Kleinmond Distance from hotel **18 km**

Grabouw Mashie Golf Course

This challenging 9-hole golf course has its shortest hole at 66 m and the longest at 213 m. Please call ahead to book. Weekends only. Tel 084 517 9610

Main Road, Grabouw
Distance from hotel **15 km**

Kleinmond Golf Club



This coastal 9-hole golf course has breathtaking mountain and sea views. Tel 028 271 3525 www.kleinmondgolfclub.co.za Botrivier Road, Kleinmond Distance from hotel **27,3 km**

Mountain Biking

Honingklip

The Honingklip Brewery offers several mountain-biking trails, from easy to challenging.

Tel 082 542 6484 www.honingklip.co.za
R43, Botrivier
Distance from hotel **14,3 km**

Oak Valley



These picturesque biking trails take you through beautiful forests, vineyards, orchards and pastures. Tel 021 859 2510 www.oakvalley.co.za R321, Oak Avenue, Grabouw Distance from hotel **16 km**

Paul Cluver

Amazing bridges and flowing singletrack through the Elgin Valley. Group bookings and events only. Tel 021 844 0605 www.cluver.com N2, Elgin Distance from hotel **10,7 km**



Wildeckrans

Wildeckrans Wine Estate offers scenic mountain biking and running trails. Contact the tasting room for info. Tel 028 284 9488 www.wildeckrans.com R43, Botrivier Distance from hotel **8,7 km**



For more information on things to do in the area

Scan here for the most up-to-date information on what our local area has to offer. Enjoy!

Restaurants and Wine Tasting

Almenkerk Wines

Come and enjoy the spectacular views.

Tel 021 848 9844 www.almenkerk.co.za

Viljoenshoop Road, Elgin

Distance from hotel **18,2 km**

☙☙ Beaumont Family Wines

A family-owned farm in the heart of Botrivier.

There is also a deli selling fresh, seasonal fare.

Tel 028 284 9194 www.beaumont.co.za

Compagnes Drift Farm, Botrivier

Distance from hotel **7,7 km**

Charles Fox Wine Estate



One of the Cape's premier Cap Classique producers.

Tel 082 471 3444 www.charlesfox.co.za

Valley Road, Elgin

Distance from hotel **17 km**

☙☙ Elgin Railway Market

Enjoy a variety of tasty foods, wines and beers, and handmade arts and crafts.

Tel 021 204 1158 www.elginrailwaymarket.co.za

Oak Avenue, Elgin

Distance from hotel **14,3 km**



☙☙ Elgin Vintners

This partnership of six farmers produces fine quality wines. Light meals are also available.

Tel 021 848 9587 / 072 548 2462 (tastings)

www.elginvintners.co.za

Appletiser Road, Elgin

Distance from hotel **17,2 km**

Everson's Cider

Taste a variety of these popular local ciders at the Everson's tasting room. See website for hours.

Tel 066 166 1736 www.eversonscider.com

Viljoenshoop Road, Elgin

Distance from hotel **16,8 km**

Genevieve MCC

Genevieve MCC is a boutique Méthode Cap Classique producer nestled in the Botrivier Valley.

Tel 083 302 6562 www.genevievemcc.co.za

Klein Botrivier, Karwyderskraal Rd, Botrivier

Distance from hotel **14 km**

☙☙ Hickville Smokehouse

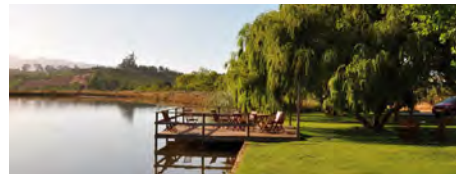
The Hickville Smokehouse is a smokehouse in the style of a traditional Texan BBQ.

Tel 079 831 0840 www.hickville.co.za

N2, Elgin

Distance from hotel **14,9 km**

Highlands Road Estate



The picturesque setting will keep you occupied for hours, and that's before you've tasted their wines.

Tel 071 271 0161 www.highlandsroadestate.co.za

75 Highlands Road, Elgin

Distance from hotel **15,8 km**

☙☙ Honingklip Brewery

Enjoy a range of Belgian-inspired beers in an idyllic location with pizzas, snacks, and a play area for kids.

Tel 082 542 6484 www.honingklip.co.za

R43, Botrivier

Distance from hotel **14,3 km**

Luddite Wines

Luddite makes wines naturally and is committed to farming as consciously as possible.

Tel 072 055 8660 www.luddite.co.za

Van Der Stel Pass, Botrivier

Distance from hotel **8,9 km**



🍷 Oak Valley Estate

This wine estate focuses on Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Please book tastings in advance. Enjoy global dishes at the Melting Pot. Tel 021 859 2510 www.oakvalley.co.za R321, Oak Avenue, Grabouw Distance from hotel **16 km**

Oude Molen Brandy Distillery



Take a guided tour and tasting to learn about the secrets of this very fine brandy. Tel 021 859 2517 www.oudemolen.co.za Worcester Street, Grabouw Distance from hotel **16,3 km**

🍷 Paul Cluver Wines and Cider



Offering wine and cider tastings; lots to do; and a restaurant with seasonal, locally sourced dishes. Tel 021 844 0605 www.cluver.com N2, Elgin Distance from hotel **10,7 km**

Paul Wallace Wines

The charming tasting room is open on Saturdays, and on other days by prior arrangement. Tel 083 255 1884 / 082 572 1406 www.paulwallacewines.co.za 63 Highlands Road, Elgin Distance from hotel **20 km**

🍷 Peregrine Farm Stall



The popular **Peregrine Farm Stall**. Tel 021 848 9011 www.peregrinefarmstall.co.za N2, Elgin Distance from hotel **13 km**

🍷 Rivendell Estate

Relax on the terrace surrounded by mountains and vineyards. Home of the Blissful restaurant. Tel 028 284 9185 www.rivendell-estate.co.za R43, towards Hermanus Distance from hotel **16 km**

🍷 South Hill Vineyards



This boutique wine farm is the perfect escape. Superb wines, and a gourmet country restaurant. Tel 021 844 0888 / 068 295 3128 (restaurant) www.southhill.co.za Valley Road, Elgin Distance from hotel **14,7 km**

🍷 Toad on the River

Enjoy hearty pub-style grub near the waterside at the **Elgin River Lodge**. Tel 021 846 8345 www.elginriverlodge.co.za Appletiser Road, Elgin Distance from hotel **18,3 km**

Villion Family Wines



Producers of premium local wines of international distinction. Tastings hosted at **Barton vineyard**. Tel 028 284 9248 www.villionwines.com R43, towards Hermanus Distance from hotel **10,7 km**

🍷 Wildekrans Wine Estate

Taste award-winning wines in the beautiful Botrivier Valley, or enjoy delicious, seasonal meals in their restaurant. Tel 028 284 9488 www.wildekrans.com R43, Botrivier Distance from hotel **8,7 km**





A Brief History of the Houw Hoek Hotel

The oldest licensed hotel in South Africa

The hotel at Houw Hoek was built in 1779 in the days of the Dutch East India Company. Back then it was called the Houw Hoek Inn. It was originally the site of a toll gate on the wagon road to the eastern interior. A second floor was added in 1861. The hotel was licensed in 1834 – it holds the oldest liquor licence in South Africa – and has been in continuous operation for longer than any other hotel in the country. It has seen many expansions and improvements over the years. In one form or another, the Houw Hoek Hotel has offered hospitality to travellers for more than two centuries.

The story of the giant bluegum tree

The massive bluegum tree that can be seen in front of the Houw Hoek Hotel might not be the tallest in the country, but it is almost certainly one of the oldest. In 1848 the proprietor of the hotel was a former German missionary, Johann Paul Beyers. He planted this bluegum tree to commemorate the birth of his fifth child, Maria Gertrude, on 28 August 1850. The birth is said to have taken place in the room opposite the bluegum tree. Maria married a Scotsman, Walter McFarlane, who became co-owner of the Houw Hoek Hotel. Walter went on to build the Marine Hotel in Hermanus in 1902 and was also the first Mayor of Hermanus. The tree has a circumference of 11 m and is still expanding.

Today the giant bluegum tree still guards the entrance to the hotel.



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www.houwhoekhotel.com



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