

# OTTER TRAIL GUIDE

## TIDES MAY 2023

### DAY 1

**HUT:** Ngubu  
**DISTANCE:** 4.8 km  
**TIME:** 3.5 hours

**NOTES:**  
Swim at the water-fall. The huts are not too much further so there is no rush to get there.

### DAY 2

**HUT:** Scott  
**DISTANCE:** 7.9 km  
**TIME:** 5.5 hours

**NOTES:**  
One of the toughest days. Don't miss Bloubaai beach - see Profile Map below.

### DAY 3

**HUT:** Oakhurst  
**DISTANCE:** 7.7 km  
**TIME:** 5.5 hours

**NOTES:**  
Keep costume and sandals close to hand for two river crossings.

### DAY 4

**HUT:** Andre  
**DISTANCE:** 13.8 km  
**TIME:** 8 hours

**NOTES:**  
Major river crossing at Bloukraans River\*. See Profile Map below.

### DAY 5

**HUT:** De Vasselot  
**DISTANCE:** 8.8 km  
**TIME:** 3 hours

**NOTES:**  
Only one major climb left. Order the special Otter Drink at the restaurant at Natures Valley and you'll get a certificate too!

\* Your starting time on the 4th day will depend on the time of low tide - this may be very early in the morning. You need to be at the Bloukraans half an hour either side of low tide. Crossing at high tide is exceptionally dangerous. It will take approximately 4.5 hours from Oakhurst to the Bloukraans (about 10 kilometers). If you are walking in the dark (the trail is well marked at this point if you do need to start walking before dawn) allow half an hour extra.

It is better to wait for the tide to soften than get there after it has started pushing in, resulting in the chance of having to take the escape route round. If you cannot cross the river then walk up the escape route shown on your Sanparks map, when you reach the top of the cliff call the ranger on duty and they will take you around and drop you at the top of the cliff about half an hour walk from the Andre huts.

**Please note:** This document is only intended to supplement your map and documents issued by Sanparks. The Tidal information is to be used as a **rough guide only**, it has not been officially verified and we do not accept any responsibility for incorrect tidal information or incidents that occur as a result of using this guide.

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low tide
1	0702	1748	0132	1351	0743	1948
2	0703	1747	0204	1425	0814	2019
3	0704	1746	0235	1458	0844	2048
4	0704	1745	0306	1530	0914	2118
5	0705	1744	0338	1604	0945	2150
6	0706	1743	0412	1638	1018	2223
7	0707	1742	0447	1713	1052	2259
8	0707	1741	0524	1750	1128	2339
9	0708	1740	0603	1831	1207	----
10	0709	1740	0648	1920	0025	1253
11	0710	1739	0744	2029	0122	1348
12	0710	1738	0901	2220	0243	1510
13	0711	1737	1054	2352	0450	1721
14	0712	1736	1219	----	0615	1834
15	0713	1735	0051	1317	0709	1923
16	0714	1735	0138	1404	0753	2003
17	0715	1734	0220	1446	0832	2040
18	0716	1733	0259	1524	0907	2114
19	0716	1733	0337	1601	0941	2148
20	0717	1732	0412	1635	1014	2221
21	0718	1731	0446	1707	1045	2254
22	0719	1731	0519	1738	1117	2328
23	0719	1730	0551	1809	1149	----
24	0720	1730	0624	1842	0003	1223
25	0721	1729	0700	1923	0043	1302
26	0722	1729	0746	2021	0133	1349
27	0722	1728	0853	2157	0245	1456
28	0723	1728	1034	2331	0439	1639
29	0723	1727	1158	----	0559	1801
30	0724	1727	0027	1255	0650	1852
31	0724	1727	0110	1341	0731	1933

## THE OTTER TRAIL HEIGHT PROFILE

Thanks to Magnetic South (who organise the Otter Trail Run) for the use of this height profile. [www.theotter.co.za](http://www.theotter.co.za)

