

BRAKXPress

December 2016 (updated)

Picturesque Great Brak River is THE place to be this season! With great eateries, interesting shops, a river, an island and the sea, this historic village has become a favourite day trip destination.

Below is a taste of what you can expect in and around the village in December, but visit www.greatbrak.info and the Great Brak Tourism Office at De Dekke (044 620 2550) for more information.

Contact details for numerous venues are on the printable Village & Fragrance Route Maps on www.greatbrak.info - and watch Facebook @greatbrakinfo for the latest updates. Happy holidays!

FRIDAY NIGHT HOLIDAY MARKET FROM 2 DECEMBER

Visit Peperboom Centre from 2 Dec and every Friday thereafter (9, 16, 23, 30 Dec plus 6 and 13 Jan) for a relaxed and fun-filled evening for the whole family (Zandra 082 743 3089).

PERIWINKLE: Late night shopping 17h00-21h00, both at the shop and at stalls in the garden and on the stoep.

POLKA DOT PARTY PALACE: Jumping castle and much more to keep the kids happy, busy and entertained.

PEPERBOOM RESTAURANT: Relax on their deck with a cocktail or glass of wine - the usual menu will be available (burger special on Friday nights).

BROTHERS COFFEE ROASTERY OPEN FROM 9 DECEMBER

The **ROASTERY AT THE PINK HOUSE** on the Fragrance Route will be open 09h00-16h00 from Friday 9 Dec to Saturday 7 Jan EXCEPT on public holidays, Sundays and Mondays. Also closed 24-26 Dec. Cupping sessions, open to cyclists for a stop-over, spectacular birding, a 1.5 km moderate walk in nature.

NEW PICK ME PRODUCTS

Made in Great Brak River and inspired by the Fragrance Route - Heleen Coertze's exciting new range, which includes a linen spray, bath salt and sugar scrub, will be available from 10 Dec at Periwinkle, Jakkalsvlei and Stoepsit, and at a pop-up shop next to Woolworths in the Langeberg Mall 13-24 Dec (082 457 7897).

CRAFTS FOR KIDS FROM 13 DECEMBER

At **PERIWINKLE** - interesting things to do every Tuesday and Thursday 11h00-14h00, from 13 Dec for the rest of the season (Zandra 082 743 3089).

AT THE PINK HOUSE ON 15 DECEMBER

Open day for young engineers: Open from 09h00 - the kids can build amazing models while the parents enjoy a Brothers coffee! Entrance free but bookings required, contact Sunel (073 159 6734). **Stalls, songs and candles:** From 15h00 until dark, bring the kids along and buy something to eat. Various stalls. Freshly prepared sandwiches with locally sourced cured meat and cheese, sweet goodies and coffee provided by Brothers Coffee Roastery. Bring own wine and glasses. Sing along and see the candles lit! (Please travel together because of limited parking.) Contact Sunel (073 159 6734).

HYDRO POWER STATION TOURS 15 & 22 DECEMBER

On Thursdays the 15th and 22nd at 10h00 - visit the last working power plant of this type in South Africa. Please register in advance with the museum on 044 620 3338 if you would like to come. No fee, but donations to the museum are very welcome. Duration: 1 - 1½ hours.

MUSIC FESTIVAL IN THE VILLAGE 16-18 DECEMBER

Friday to Sunday, 16-18 Dec, at **LOCALS PUB & GRILL**. "Local" talent only and outdoors, weather permitting. Three groups will perform Friday and Saturday 11h00-22h00. On Sunday jazz, blues and a few oldies 11h00-16h00. Wine and cheese tasting throughout the weekend. Delicious la carte menu as well as local "street food" on sale. Beer on tap.

Open from 10h00 until late every day 14 Dec to 8 Jan, breakfast to dinner prepared by professional chefs. Karaoke every Thursday the whole of Dec. Closed on Christmas day only.

JOE FOSTER @ PEPERBOOM 16 DECEMBER

From 17h30, relax on the deck while listening to Joe. A la carte menu, fully licensed. R120, bookings only (044 620 3081).

CYCLING, WALKING & RUNNING

DOGGY WALK 16 Dec at Suiderkruis Beach, 07h00-09h00 (044 620 2826).

WOLWEDANS MTB 17 Dec (083 662 2022).

WOLWEDANS TRAIL RUN 17 Dec (083 662 2022).

SUNSET BEACH RUN 23 Dec at Glentana (083 662 2022).

WRECK CHALLENGE 27 Dec Fun Run Race at Glentana (083 662 2022).

GRABADOO 31 Dec Family Fun Walk & Mountain Bike Ride in the village (084 583 3144).

EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY!

DE VETTE MOSSEL Bookings only (079 339 0170). Open every day from 1 Dec to mid Jan @ 12h00 and 18h30. CLOSED every Monday lunch time. Times 31 Dec: 12h00 and 19h30. On 1 Jan only open evening @ 18h30.

TRANSKAROO RESTAURANT Book well in advance at this American Express Fine Dining Award winner (044 620 4163). During season also open Sunday nights and Monday lunch. Open 24 Dec, closed 25 Dec, open lunch ONLY 31 Dec, closed 1 Jan. Open for lunch and dinner from 2 Jan.

OYSTER WORLD Open throughout the season - eat locally harvested oysters and the freshest fish at this rustic eatery on the banks of the Great Brak River.

PEPERBOOM RESTAURANT, DELI & BAKERY Open every evening from 15 Dec to 10 Jan EXCEPT on Sundays. Open Christmas lunch (fully booked) & lunch 31 Dec; closed 1 Jan.

BLACK VANILLA Open 08h00-17h00, closed in the evening.

ILITA LODGE Now licenced, enjoy sundowners and platters around the pool at this venue with amazing views of the village and ocean. Christmas lunch set menu 12h00-14h00 with cash bar @ R250, children u/12 R150, kids under 3 free. New Year's Eve party in the lapa @ R300, children u/12 R50, kids under 3 free. Cash bar, music for all ages, 2 course braai menu, bonfire, evening kids club, prizes and fun activities. Bookings only and 50% deposit (044 620 4143).

GROOTBRAK SUPERETTE Special take-away menu during the season, open until 21h00 from Christmas until New Year. Vetkoek with mince filling can be ordered on Fridays (083 766 2769).

LA CHOCOLATERIE ROCOCO Hand-crafted Belgian chocolate - extended holiday hours 09h00-17h00 during the week and 10-15h00 on Saturday, only closed 25/26/27 Dec and 1/2 Jan.

THIS AND THAT

MARNITZ STEYN ART hours M-F 09h00-17h00, Sat 09h00-13h00, or by appointment (044 620 2381).

VISIT ARTISTS BY APPOINTMENT Spies Venter Studio (082 922 4663); Lynda Jacobsen Art (072 291 5541); Glass-On-Dewerf - Henk du Plessis (044 620 5248).

VISIT THE KOBUS HALLIDAY CAR COLLECTION by appointment only; check availability and book via 082 9707 213 (sms/phone).

GREAT BRAK MUSEUM open M-F 08h30-16h00, other days on request; enquire about walks conducted (044 620 3338).

RENT A PADDLE BOAT OR CANOE at Pine Creek Caravan Park (044 620 2434).

GOLF DRIVING RANGE during holiday opposite police station, fees for charity (Johann Muller 072 628 7966).

FACTORY SHOE SHOP open during the holidays (044 620 3453).

VILLAGE MARKET 24 / 31 Dec and 7 Jan & **TRADERS AUCTIONEERS AUCTION** 31 Dec and 7 Jan.

JAKKALSVLEI boutique wine farm with award-winning wines - only closed on Christmas, bookings essential (028 735 2061). Three sessions from 16 Dec to 7 Jan: 10h00, 13h00 and 16h00-19h00.

CHEESE TASTINGS at Leeukloof Cheeses, Ruitersbos (bookings 083 375 1287).

OUTENIQUA MOON, Ruitersbos for Sunday lunch and a Percheron experience (076 477 3632).

BONNIEDALE HOLIDAY FARM, Attaquaskloof - day-trip destination for picnics and outdoor activities (044 695 3175).

DIAZ EXPRESS service not available between Hartenbos and Great Brak during school holidays.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Fragrance Fest 2017 will be on
Saturday 25 February

