

BRAK X Press

December 2017

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 the Great Brak Tourism Office inside Wimpy at De Dekke (044 620 2550) and the Great Brak Museum (044 620 3338) for more information. Happy holidays!

CYCLE, WALK & RUN

KLIPHEUWEL MOUNTAIN BIKE @ 07h00 on 23 Dec (register www.chaingangevents.co.za)

KLIPHEUWEL NIGHT TRAIL RUN/WALK @ 19h30 on 23 Dec (register www.chaingangevents.co.za)

FRIEMERSHEIM MOORDKUIL FOREST RUN on 23 Dec @ 08h00 (15 km) and 4 km fun run @ 08h10 (Kleintjie 072 8774 121; Adèle 082 562 5841; Total Great Brak, De Dekke)

GREAT BRAK GRABADOO on 30 Dec - 15th annual 4.8 km village Family Fun Walk & 15 km/36 km/53 km/ 71 km Mountain Bike Ride (Mimi Finestone 084 583 3144; Alewijn Dippenaar 082 457 5675)

GLENTANA WRECK CHALLENGE AND BEACH RUN @ 07h30 on 2 Jan (register www.trisport.co.za, 083 662 2022)

MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT

19h00 ON 13 DEC @ **BLACK VANILLA** - André Swiegers, tickets R120 - bookings Lize 072 956 2022.

18h00 ON 13 DEC @ **OYSTER WORLD** - Die Wasgoedlyn, tickets R60 - bookings essential (restaurant 071 187 2358).

COME MEET THE LOCALS AT LOCALS PUB & GRILL - Open every day 10h00-14h00. Live music/Karaoke Thursdays 19h00 till late. Sunday afternoon braai and Karaoke/music. Pizzas served from 12h00 or phone for take-away 081 564 4961 till 22h00. Kitchen opens 10h00 for breakfast. Daily specials from Burgers to Eisbein and Ribs. Between Christmas and New Year beach related parties/foam party. New Year Party - going big! Facebook @Localsgrootbrak.

HAPPENING IN THE VILLAGE

CRAFTS FOR KIDS FROM 12 DEC - At Periwinkle - interesting things for kids 6-12 years to do every Tuesday and Thursday, from 12 Dec to 4 Jan 10h00-13h00. R200 includes material, lunch, juice and adult supervision. Bookings essential, Zandra 079 835 0276 or Periwinkle 076 719 2641.

ANNUAL "GROOT BRAK-STAP" 16 DEC - Suiderkruis Beach, 06h30 for 07h00. Doggy walk and beach clean-up, donation of R50 for owner and dog. Lucky draw prizes! Barry 044-620 2826.

HYDRO POWER STATION TOURS 14 & 21 DEC - Both Thursdays 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. No fee, but donations to the museum most welcome. Duration: 1-1½ hours.

PICK ME PRODUCTS - Made in Great Brak River and the inspiration behind the Fragrance Route. Linen spray, body butter, bath salt, sugar scrub, lavender salt grinders & confetti available at Die Ou Pastorie and Pure Senses (details pickmeproducts8@gmail.com, 082 457 7897).

VORENTOE HOLIDAY CAMP - Second year at Laerskool Vorentoe in the heart of Great Brak River: 15 Dec to 7 Jan, www.komkamp.co.za; vorentoecamping@gmail.com; 044 620 2211 or 083 717 1975.

TASTE LOCAL COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE

BROTHERS COFFEE ROASTERY - At The Pink House on the Fragrance Route, open 09h00-15h00 Tues-Sat 12 Dec-9 Jan. Closed 25 & 26 Dec and 1 Jan. Enjoy coffee in a relaxed atmosphere, snack on eats and treats. Various stalls with gifts; great coffee gift ideas, especially for the men; speciality coffees for the connoisseur. Bookings essential for coffee cupping (tasting) sessions, R100 pp, duration 2 hours (contact Sunel 073 1596 734, Ben 078 9408 301).

LA CHOCOLATERIE ROCOCO - Open Mon-Fri 09h00-17h00, Sat 09h00-14h00; closed 25 & 26 Dec and 1 & 2 Jan. Amazing hand-crafted Belgian chocolate, now also new coffee & decadent chocolate cake of the day. Contact Charmain (083 786 0092) to enquire about 2018 chocolate pairings.

EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY!

DE VETTE MOSSEL - Bookings only (079 339 0170). Open every day from 14 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). Until 14 Jan: Mon-Sun lunch and dinner every day, kitchen hours 12h00-15h00 and 18h00-21h00. Closed 25 Dec, open lunch ONLY 31 Dec, closed 1 Jan. Open for lunch and dinner from 2 Jan.

ILITA LODGE - On top of the hill with amazing views of the village and beyond. Breakfast daily 07h00-10h00, Buffett or A La Carte. De Ja View Coffee Shop open daily 10h00-21h00: licensed, coffee, light meals and refreshing drinks. Christmas lunch set menu for the whole family - bookings 044 620 4143.

OYSTER WORLD - Open throughout the season; freshest seafood and fully licensed bar at this rustic eatery on the banks of the Great Brak River.

BLACK VANILLA - Open 08h00-17h00, closed in the evening. Tranquil garden setting; breakfast, banting, coffee, light meals, gifts and clothes.

PEPERBOOM RESTAURANT, DELI & BAKERY - Hours from 15 Dec 08h00-21h00 Mon-Sat, Sun 08h00-15h00. On 24 Dec 08h00-14h00; Christmas lunch 12h00-15h00 (bookings essential); 26 Dec 08h00-15h00; 31 Dec 08h00-15h00; closed 1 Jan.

GROOTBRAK SUPERETTE - Extended trading hours in December, full take-away menu available, orders 083 766 2769. Kiddies Special @ R25: Burger & chips (incl. 1 x Nik Naks + 300 ml cold drink + mini chocolate); Double Up & Share BBQ Burger Special @ R45: (incl. 2 x Double BBQ Burger + 2 x 300 ml cold drinks).

THIS AND THAT

MARNITZ STEYN ART hours 11 Dec-12 Jan Mon-Fri 10h00-17h00; Sat 08h00-14h00 @ Outeniqua Family Market, George (082 788 8500).

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 Mon-Fri 08h30-16h00, Saturdays on request (083 448 1966); enquire about walks conducted (044 620 3338).

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

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

VILLAGE MARKET 16, 23 / 30 Dec and 6 Jan (Melanie 072 837 8803) & **TRADERS AUCTIONEERS AUCTION** 30 Dec and 6 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 2018 will be on
Saturday 3 March

