

# Kleinmond's Hidden Gems

A Curated Guide by Your Hosts at Villa Chad

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## Welcome to Kleinmond

*Where wild horses roam, whales breach near the shore, and stillness lingers in the air.*

Just 90 minutes from Cape Town lies Kleinmond, a quiet gem tucked between the majestic Kogelberg mountains and the crashing waves of the Atlantic Ocean. This is no tourist hotspot and that's precisely its charm.

Whether you're seeking secluded beaches, boutique wine tastings, cliffside walks, or close encounters with nature, Kleinmond offers a slower rhythm, a deeper stillness, and the kind of travel that lingers in memory. In this guide, you'll find handpicked places, personal tips, and practical information to help you explore at your own pace ... all curated by your hosts at Villa Chad.

Let's discover Kleinmond's magic; one meaningful moment at a time.

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## 1. Kogelberg Nature Reserve

**Where the soul goes to breathe.**

A UNESCO World Heritage Site and the heart of the Cape Floral Kingdom, the Kogelberg Reserve is home to over 1,880 plant species, of which 150 found nowhere else. Hike among wild fynbos, wade through pristine rivers, and take in panoramic views.

### Top Trails

- *Palmiet River Trail*: ±10 km | Moderate | ±3 hrs | Natural pools
- *Rooisand Trail*: ±6 km | Easy | Birdlife, estuary views, wild horses

- 📍 6 minutes from Villa Chad
- 💰 R60 (SA residents) / R100 (international)
- 🕒 Open Daily: 07:30–16:00
- 🌐 [www.capenature.co.za](http://www.capenature.co.za) | 📞 +27 (0)87 087 9262

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## 2. Walk with Wild Horses at Rooisand Lagoon

**Silent mornings. Mist rising. A rare and sacred encounter.**

This small, free-roaming herd- the ONLY wild one in South Africa - has adapted to the wetlands of the Bot River estuary. Early mornings are your best chance to see them grazing peacefully.

✨ **Villa Chad Tip:** Book a private horseback ride with Suzanne, our local amazone and coach. Includes transfers, guided trail, and optional wine pairing.

📍 **Start at:** Rooisand Trail boardwalk (Free entrance)

📍 **Parking:** Rooisand Reserve Parking (Google Maps)

🕒 **Best time:** Before 9:30 am

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## 3. Stony Point Penguin Colony (*Betty's Bay*)

**Waddle into nature's cutest conservation success story.**

Far quieter than Boulders Beach, this boardwalk winds through a protected breeding ground for endangered African penguins.

🎫 R30 adults | R20 kids/pensioners

🕒 08:00–16:30 daily

🌐 [www.capenature.co.za](http://www.capenature.co.za)

☎ +27 (0)28 272 9829

📍 22 minutes from Villa Chad

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## 4. Hemel-en-Aarde Wine Valley

**Pinot, terroir, and storytelling.**

One of South Africa's most elegant wine regions, just over the mountain pass. Boutique estates, spectacular views, and slow, soulful tastings.

🍷 **Our Recommendations**

- *Ataraxia Wines* — Art + wine | [ataraxiawines.co.za](http://ataraxiawines.co.za) | +27 (0)28 312 1219

- *Newton Johnson* — Iconic Pinot | [newtonjohnson.com](http://newtonjohnson.com) | +27 (0)28 312 3862
- *Spookfontein* — Rustic bistro + views | [spookfontein.co.za](http://spookfontein.co.za)

✨ **Villa Chad Tip:** Book a private vineyard tour with Ludvig, our in-house sommelier. Includes tastings, transfers, and curated storytelling.

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## 5. Whale Watching in Walker Bay (June–November)

They come to give birth. You come to witness wonder.

Southern right whales arrive each winter to calve and breach close to the shoreline. No binoculars needed.

### Top Viewing Spots

- *Hermanus Cliff Path* (Start at Gearings Point)
- *Kleinmond Coastal Walk* toward Sandown Bay

### Boat Tours

- *Southern Right Charters* | 2 hrs | R1200 pp  
 [southernrightcharters.co.za](http://southernrightcharters.co.za)  
 +27 (0)82 353 0550
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## 6. Harold Porter Botanical Garden

Fynbos, waterfalls, and forest trails.

Ideal for a peaceful walk or shaded picnic. Don't miss the Leopard's Kloof waterfall: access is limited, so book at the gate.

 R35 adults | R15 children

 08:00–17:00

 Betty's Bay – 12 min from Villa Chad

 [www.sanbi.org](http://www.sanbi.org)

 +27 (0)28 272 9311

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## 7. Kleinmond Harbour Road & Artisan Market

Crafts, coffee, and coastal air.

A small but lively harbor with cafés, art galleries, and local design.

### Favourites

- *Stoep Café* — G&Ts, ocean views
- *Bistro 14* — Best lunch in town

 Monthly Market: 1st Saturday | Local produce, crafts, music  
 5 minutes from Villa Chad

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## 8. Kayaking & Marine Adventures

From calm lagoons to sea cliffs and kelp forests.

- *Sea Kayak Hermanus* | R450 pp | Marine tours with seal sightings  
 [kayakhermanus.co.za](http://kayakhermanus.co.za) |  +27 (0)82 739 0159
  - *Kleinmond Lagoon Rentals* – Seasonal, at main beach
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## Practical Info & Local Contacts

### Tourism Office

31 Main Road, Kleinmond |  +27 (0)28 271 5657

### Groceries

OK Foods, 25 Main Road | Daily until 19:00

### Pharmacy

Kleinmond Apteek, 33 Main Rd | Closed Sundays

## Medical

Kleinmond Medical Clinic | 📞 +27 (0)28 271 5000

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## Where to Stay: Villa Chad

**Luxury guesthouse. Soulful hospitality. Curated experiences.**

Just 900m from the beach and 6 minutes from the Kogelberg Reserve, Villa Chad offers elegant rooms, a tropical garden with pool, and warm, personal service from your hosts Suzanne and Ludvig.

- ✓ Sommelier-led wine tastings
- ✓ Horseback rides through fynbos trails
- ✓ Custom day trips, hikes, and nature walks

📞 +27 (0)76 765 8652

✉️ [info@villachad.com](mailto:info@villachad.com)

🌐 [www.villachad.com](http://www.villachad.com)