

Ts'ehlanyane

The Ts'ehlanyane National Park is located deep in the front range of the Maluti mountains, with headquarters at the foot of the Holomo Pass. The reserve owes its origin to the access road to the Hlotse tunnel adit for the LHWP. This protected area lies at the junction of the Ts'ehlanyane and the Holomo rivers.

Over 5600 hectares of extremely rugged mountain terrain is protected within this park, which includes one of the very few indigenous woodlands in Lesotho. Some of the finest examples of *Leucosidea sericea* Ouhout, or Che-che, woodland are preserved at the heart of this area, with a number of undergrowth plants that are unique to this woodland habitat. On the banks of the rivers and streams are stands of berg bamboo, which besides being of significant cultural significance to the Basotho people, provide a habitat for the endangered butterfly species *Metisella syrinx*. The reserve also encompasses a reasonable proportion of mountain "fynbos" with a high degree of endemism.

The park is reached by a 32km-gravel access road that leaves the main A1 route 8km south of Butha Buthe. The route passes through the village of Khabo's and parallels the Hlotse river along a very picturesque valley until it reaches the park entrance.



* Be sure to visit the Dinosaur Footprints at Tsikoane, near Hlotse (Leribe)

Activities & facilities

- Ts'ehlanyane is operational 24 hours a day
- A campsite with standing tents and open sites
- Youth hostel-type accommodation
- Picnic site at the day visitors area
- A spectacular 39km hiking trail links the Ts'ehlanyane National Park with the Bokong Nature Reserve. Stone hiking huts are available at the two end points
- Photographic opportunities. Not only is the scenery spectacular, but the fauna and flora offer a boundless variety of photographic subjects.
- Day walks: experience nature first hand by taking a stroll into the woodlands.
- Bird watching: keep an eye out for the Bearded Vulture and Ground Woodpecker.
- Basotho pony rides offer an ideal way to explore nature from a higher vantage point.
- Swimming in the streams
- Small game viewing



Local Customs

The two official languages of Lesotho are English & Sesotho. It is always considered polite to greet people in their own language. The Sesotho word for "hello" is "khotso", which literally means "peace".

While Lesotho is a friendly country that welcomes all visitors, please take note that:

- Photographing Government buildings, the Palace or the airport is frowned upon.
- When photographing any person or personal items, including homesteads, remember the rules of common courtesy: ask first and expect to pay a small fee for the privilege.
- If you're in a vehicle, you have to wear a seatbelt at all times and carry two warning triangles.
- You must ask permission from the local headman or chief before camping or caravanning anywhere.
- Do not pick, collect or damage any vegetation as most plants belong to someone in the Basotho land use system.

Entrance Tariffs:

Adults:	M15.00pp
Children:	M5.00pp
School Group: Pre +Pri. School	M2.00pp
Tertiary	M10.00pp
High School	M5.00pp
Orders: Gov. Org.	M17.00pp
Vehicles:	M5.00pv

Accommodation:

Camping: (max. of 8 persons per site.)	
General Sites:	M20.00p
(Bring your own tents.)	
Exclusive Sites:	M30.00pp
(Bring your own tents.)	
Pitched Tents: Minimum M100.00	M50.00pp additional (max 4)

Bush Camp:

Rondavals:	(M200.00 per unit for 4)
	M40.00pp additional

Conference Center:

Conference Accommodation:	M120.00 per room
Conference Accommodation:	3/Bed: (min) M150.00 - M170.00
	2/Bed: (min) M120.00 - M140.00

Guest House:

Accommodation:	M350.00 per night (6 people)
	M460.00 for (Max 10)

Conference Facility:

Full Day	M150.00
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Horse Trails:

One Hour	One Hour
Half Day	M50.00
Full Day	M75.00
Children under 12 years not allowed.	
Overnight Hiking	M16.00 per night.
Guide Fee's	M30.00 per day.



Essentials

Passport, traveler's cheques, pocket knife, insect repellent/anti-itch gel, antibiotic cream, sunblock (The African sun is intense), hat, fishing tackle, sporting equipment, torch, travel guidebooks, English-Sesotho dictionary, plastic bags, warm clothing, waterproof clothing, compass or GPS, water bottle, binoculars, first aid kit and hiking shoes.

What to do

Lesotho is a wonderland for nature lovers. It has a rich cultural and natural history and boundless ecotourism options. Lesotho's startling variety of flora and fauna attracts visitors with a strong interest in ecology, palaeontology, geology; or those who simply appreciate the wonders of nature.

- Dinosaur trails: 200-million year old fossilised dinosaur footprints can be found throughout Lesotho, as can forests of fossilised wood.
- Rock art: Lesotho is scattered with examples of San rock art.
- Hiking: Explore the environment by taking nature hikes along the valleys and into the mountains. Utilising the services of a local guide is compulsory in some areas.
- Mountain climbing: The more energetic and adventurous can scale their pick of an abundance of cliff faces, ridges and chimneys in the Maluti and Drakensberg ranges.
 - Skiing: Skiing is available during the winter season from May to July in the Maluti and Drakensberg Mountains.
 - Fishing: The crystal clear waters of the Lesotho rivers are ideal for fishing enthusiasts. Trout, yellowfish and barbel populate streams & rivers.
 - 4X4 trails: Lesotho has introduced the "Roof of Africa" Scenic Route, which permits trailblazing in the Maluti and Drakensberg ranges. If you are willing and able to leave tar roads behind, it will be well worth your while.

- Mountain Biking: Mountain biking is an ideal way to explore the varied terrain. Many of the hiking trails are accessible to mountain bikers.
- Horseback Riding: The locally bred Basotho ponies offer an ideal form of transport and recreation in the mountains.
- Para- and hang-gliding: The crystal clear mountain air and strong breezes make Lesotho an ideal venue for these activities.
- Camping & Caravanning: Sites are available for both of these activities.
- Birding: Species of interest include the Bearded Vulture, Alpine Swift, Lanner Falcon, Ground Woodpecker, Greywing Francolin, Malachite Sunbird, Whitenecked Raven, Rock Kestrel and Black Stork. There are also the alpine endemics, such as the Drakensberg Siskin, Mountain Pipit, Sentinel Rock-thrush and Orange-breasted Rockjumper.
- Fauna: Indigenous mammals include the Ice Rat, Cape Clawless Otter, Black-backed Jackal, Rock Dassie, Smith's Red Rock Rabbit, Porcupine, Caracal, Rhebok, Mountain Rhebuck, Baboons and Serval Cat. Keep an eye out for snakes - particularly for the Berg Adder.
- Flora: Lesotho's national plant is the Spiral Aloe, among other varied and abundant alpine flora, including over 180 flowering species.
- Shopping: The Basotho people are renowned for their crafts and traditional products. Their fine wool and mohair weaving are highly sought after. The handwoven tapestries are valued for their beauty, softness and strength. Look out for locally made jewellery, clothing, footwear, pottery, sheepskin, leather goods and basket-work.
- Currency: The local currency of Lesotho is Loti, the plural of which is Maloti.



Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho

Ts'ehlanyane National Park

*"A montane wonderland, where
two rivers meet"*



Bookings



All bookings for Lesotho's protected area, including Ts'ehlanyane, can be made by calling ++266-22-913206 or ++266-22-460723, or fax ++266-22-461226, or write to The Booking Officer, LHDA Nature Reserves, PO Box 333, Butha Buthe, 400, Lesotho, email: nature@lhda.org.ls

