

## THOMAS HUT

### **Booking for MCSA members only**

Contact the secretary of the Worcester Section, Erika van Niekerk, on her email [erieks@mweb.co.za](mailto:erieks@mweb.co.za) a minimum of three days in advance with the following information:-

1. Name and cell number of Leader
2. MCSA-section and member number
3. Number of people (**ratio regarding guests: 1 MCSA member/2 non-members – MAX 20**)
4. Vehicle registration numbers (**MAX 6**)
5. Time and date of arrival (**not before 07h30**)
6. Time and date of departure (**not after 17h30**)

Hut fees must be paid to the secretary in advance. (R20 for MCSA members and R40 for non-members per night) MCSA WORCESTER, STANDARD BANK 050407, ACC NR 386248044. Mail proof of payment to the secretary: [erieks@mweb.co.za](mailto:erieks@mweb.co.za)

This hut is situated in the Hex River Mountains north of Worcester at Disa Dell on the north-eastern flanks of Brandwacht Peak. Overlooking Meirings' plateau, it's often the first stop on an exploration of the Hex River Mountains. It's an ideal base from which to explore Brandwacht Peak, Meiring's Plateau, Audensberg, Perry Refuge, Chavonnesberg and of course Fonteintjiesberg. The hut also forms part of the Classic Hex Traverse to Ceres, the Hex River Valley or Waaihoek. **Drive in time** About 1 hour 30 minutes from Cape Town. **Walk-in time** 3 hours 30 minutes

- The MCSA has a verbal agreement with the Fairy Glen Nature Reserve allowing members to cross their land to reach the hut. Due to the sensitivity of this agreement, hikers are requested to refrain from stopping and photographing the animals and to keep within the speed limit.
- No permit is required, but booking has to be made a minimum of three days in advance, in order to arrange access over the Fairy Glen Nature Reserve. At arrival, you will receive a "passport" from the resort's office, which has to be handed in at the gate on departure.
- Vehicles may only be parked in the designated MCSA Parking area - the jeep track is strictly out of bounds for vehicles.
- The hiking path follows the jeep track, which starts near the causeway, 50m back from the parking area, then continues as a footpath up Tierkloof.

The one-room hut is at a height of around 1 395m, with the path leading to it starting at 445m in Tierkloof. Since the official opening on 7 August 1931, many improvements have been made including the addition of an outside toilet, a stoep and a pergola.

There are twenty mattresses, utensils, inside kaggel, outside braai and solar lights. Bring your own cooking appliances, gas stove, wood and toilet paper. Note: The metal shutters on two of the windows open with a special key. The window on the stoep opens with an Allen key. These keys, as well as the key for the toilet, hang inside the hut near the deposit box.

Cell phone reception at "Sitkamer", "Lemoendraai", "Witklip" and sometimes at the inside of the north facing window inside the hut. Bring your own firewood. Please place a protecting sheet under the mattresses if they are used on the stoep.

Remove all rubbish, clean and dry dishes, clean the inside kaggel and sweep the hut. Before you leave, sign the visitors' book and ensure all windows (including the two in the roof) are closed and the toilet and hut are locked.

- **Co-ordinates** 33°32'57.95"S 19°24'19.25"E **Map** 1:50 000 – 3319CB - Worcester