

Dirt Route 4

Zuurberg Pass – Kinkelbos – Salem

2012

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Grahamstown to Alicedale.

Leave the Monument and turn right onto the N2. After 2.1km, turn right and immediately left. The road becomes gravel after about 1km.

After about 20km of dirt, you will find St Cyprian's church on the right. The church, which was originally built in 1878 as the railway engineer's residence, was reconstructed and dedicated as the church in 1893. It is still in good condition and in regular use.



500m further you will pass under this picturesque railway bridge. A geocache is also hidden here.

Immediately after the bridge, the road forks. Keep left, as the right hand fork ends up on private property and is closed off by 2 huge gates protected by electric fencing.

After 5.8km you will reach a T-junction. Turn right onto a gravel highway of 20km to reach Alicedale.



Alicedale to Zuurberg Mountain Inn

Exit Alicedale where a further 28km brings you out onto the N10, very close to Anne's Villa. Caution should be exercised on this stretch as there are a number of concrete causeways over dry river beds. The approaches and exits to these causeways are very rocky and rutted. Wildlife is in abundance so please keep the speed down. There are also a number of gates on this stretch so please consider the farmers and "maak toe die bleddie hek!"



Turn left onto the tar and proceed for 5.7km before turning right onto another gravel highway. After 12.4km turn left onto the R400 to Zuurberg Pass. Within 1.5km you will reach Anne's Villa and museum. 27.5 km further you will reach Zuurberg Mountain Inn for refreshments.

Please be cautious on the pass, especially if carrying a pillion, as there are a few washaways and deep ruts with long rocky sections. Despite this, the scenery is spectacular.

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This is what you can expect:



Geocaches can be found at *S33 16.441 E25 46.569* and *S33 20.663 E25 44.863*.

Stop over at the inn for some refreshments.

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The Return Trip:

The down run from Zuurberg Mountain Inn is easy going. Please be aware of oncoming traffic on this stretch as it is well used. Keep well to the left of the road, especially in the tight, blind corners.

Another geocache can be found at S33 22.726 E25 43.047

After 13.5km of reasonable gravel you will once again reach the tar. Turn right and head for Addo.



After 11km of tar and as you enter Addo (don't blink, or you'll miss it!), turn left. This stretch of gravel is 21.2km and will take you through a section of Addo Elephant Park. You will have to sign in when entering the reserve. Please be aware that there is a time limit imposed from entry to exit. There is no need to rush however, and a slow 30-40km/h will see you safely out the other gate and possibly reward you with plenty of wildlife. Also note that after exiting the park, a further 6km on the right of the road is still part of the reserve. Wildlife is often spotted in this area, with elephant often walking next to the fence on the side of the road.

Turn right onto the N10 and proceed for 9.5km to Kinkelbos Police station, stopping off at Nanaga Farm stall for refreshments about halfway along.

At Kinkelbos Police station, turn left.

Please note that this section has a few tight "S" bends as the road criss-crosses the railway line. The blind corner at S33 40.747 E26 04.295 especially has caught many a rider out.

One of the "S" Bends crossing the railway line.

After 31.7km, turn right at the T-Junction



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After another 4.4km, you will come to this sign.

Be aware that the road becomes a very narrow “twee-spoor” with overhanging shrubs and a few sandy patches. Inexperienced riders or those carrying pillions can choose to turn left at this sign and exit directly to the R72 tar road to Alexandria, reaching the tar approximately 11km sooner than the proposed route. In either case, turn right onto the R72 and head for Alexandria.



From Alexandria the route runs directly north to Salem.

In Salem, geocaches can be found at *S33 28.300 E26 28.710* and *S33 28.242 E26 29.020*.

From Salem, continue another 24km north back to Grahamstown.

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Route 4 - Away Ride



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Route 4 - Return Ride

