Dirt Route 5

Katberg Pass

Rated Orange to Red

One of the options on this route is VERY RED, and if wet not negotiable at all!

This route is ONLY recommended for the EXPERIENCED rider and is not pillon friendly.

An early start is essential – as the total distance is more than 300 kilometers

It is recommended that this route is negotiated in groups with a minimum of 4 bikes.

While the going is tough, the scenery is spectacular!

This old marker marks the ox wagon outspan area of the 1800s.
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Katberg Pass

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Proceed along the R67 to S32 32.601 E26 46.242 via Ecca Pass and Fort Beaufort. Turn Left and continue up the Old Nico Malan Pass.

Please take care along this route as there is an abundance of wildlife, including warthog that jump out to surprise you.

At S32 24.081 E26 49.678, turn left. You will soon start the decent along the back of the mountain. The area around S32 21.584 E26 48.217 is particularly steep, rocky and rutted. Please ensure that ABS is disabled.

When you reach the tar, turn left. After approximately 24km you will now start the accent up “Devil’s Bellows”. At S32 22.191 E26 40.357 there is a slight detour across the field on the left of the road.

At S32 26.621 E26 38.799 you now have a choice to continue down Katberg Pass, or the turn right and take the gentler slope down via Post Retief.

Katberg Route – red option:
If taking the Katberg Pass route, be aware that despite being shorter, it is rocky, rutted and slippery in places. When reaching the tar, turn right and continue back along the R67 to Grahamstown.

Post Retief route:
This route has a gentler decent than Katberg Pass but is a little longer. It also incorporates Mpofu Game Reserve. If taking the Post Retief route, the Post Retief Barracks can be found at S32 30.238 E26 31.722 and the Piet Retief Monument at S32 30.699 E26 31.763.

Turn left at S32 34.633 E26 31.046 and proceed through the Mpofu Game Reserve. Please take care and ride slowly through the reserve.

You will reach the tar again at Blinkwater, where you will turn right and continue back along the R67 to Grahamstown.
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Route 5 - Away and Return Ride

Grahamstown to bottom of Katberg is 124km and used for the away and return ride
Dirt Route 5

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Route 5:

Red option: Devil’s Bellows/ Katberg (RED) – 110km Loop

Orange option: Devil’s Bellows/ Post Retief – 136km Loop