

GEORGE
WILDERNESS
UNIONDALE

GEORGE naturally

Hello Summer!



Visitor Safety

Your well-being matters. Stay safe with beach guidelines, mountain info, and emergency contacts.



Municipal Contacts

George Municipality is here to help! Get in touch to log a service ticket or obtain information.



Explore Tourism

Get all the tourism information you need on the official destination website. Maps, suppliers, events and more to inspire your trip.



Visitor Guide

Experience top golf course, pristine beaches, railway adventures and adrenalin fueled fun. Wander lush trails, savour great gastronomy and so much more!



Events

View our events calendar and discover the best events in town!



Official Tourism
Bureau of

visit   
george
.co.za

Visitor information centres

George

124 York Street, George
+27 44 801 9295
info@visitgeorge.co.za

Wilderness

198 George Road, Wilderness
+27 44 877 0045
info@visitwilderness.co.za

Uniondale

Virtual assistance
+27 44 518 0030
info@visituniondale.co.za

TOURISM FESTIVE FUN AND MORE!

This festive season, George is buzzing with events and activities that promise joy and excitement for the whole family! From sports and live music to holiday markets and magical light displays, George is the place to be to celebrate the holidays in style.

Dotsure George Arts Theatre Pantomime: A Festive Fairytale Adventure

From 4 to 14 December 2024, experience the magic of live theatre at the Dotsure George Arts Theatre with this year's festive pantomime, *Sleeping Beauty*. Perfect for families and kids, this beloved fairytale comes to life with enchanting performances and vibrant characters that will captivate all ages. Located in the heart of George, it's an ideal holiday outing. Tickets are available online—don't miss out on this holiday classic!

Family Cheer at the Uncle George Christmas Party

The Uncle George Christmas Party is a festive favourite, welcoming families to an event filled with joy, gifts, and Santa himself! Kids can enjoy fun activities, games, and meet their holiday hero, creating lasting memories in a warm, community-oriented setting. It's an ideal event for families looking to get into the Christmas spirit together, taking place from 6 to 22 December 2024.

Bush Lapa Music Festival: Rock the Holidays in Herolds Bay

Get ready for an unforgettable live music experience at the Bush Lapa in Herolds Bay from 6 to 30 December 2024! This holiday lineup includes top South African artists like Spoegwolf, The Parlotones, Bok van Blerk, Matthew Mole, Steve Hofmeyer, Juan Boucher, Dodo, Elandré, and Appel. Enjoy electrifying performances in a unique setting, celebrating summer with fantastic music, great vibes, and the beautiful backdrop of Herolds Bay. Tickets are available online.

Light Up the Night at the Festive Lights Festivals

Nothing says the holidays quite like twinkling lights. George's Lights Festivals offer multiple evenings where the town shines with dazzling light displays, holiday music, and an electrifying atmosphere. These festivals, held at various locations, bring the community together and make for a magical night of photo-worthy scenes and festive spirit. The George Lights Festival is on 7 December, with Uniondale and Haarlem on the 14 December.

Outeniqua Christmas Market: Festive Finds and Holiday Cheer

From 9 to 21 December at the George Museum, the Outeniqua Christmas Market invites you to discover a treasure trove of holiday gifts and treats. Enjoy the cozy market ambiance with handmade crafts, jewellery, toys, farm-fresh produce, and delightful holiday goodies.

With live demonstrations and art displays, this market offers a memorable experience for the entire family—perfect for holiday shopping and festive fun!

Step Back in Time at the Train Museum Market

Experience history and holiday cheer combined at The Market hosted at the Outeniqua Transport Museum. Surrounded by vintage trains, visitors can browse an assortment of crafts, gifts, and foods, making it a festive shopping experience in a truly unique setting. It's a great stop for families and history buffs alike. The market is taking place from 13 December to 5 January.

Kickstart the Festive Fun with the George Tens Sports and Lifestyle Festival

Sports enthusiasts can dive into the spirit of competition with the WeBuyCars George TENS Sport and Lifestyle Festival, a lively event featuring rugby, netball, and golf for all skill levels. It's more than just sports—it's a fun-filled day of camaraderie, laughter, and entertainment with food stalls, music, and activities for all ages, making it the perfect way to start the holiday festivities, taking place from 13 to 19 December 2024.

The Jakkalberry Gravel Bike Race for Adventure Seekers

For those looking to add a touch of adventure to their holiday season, the Jakkalberry Gravel Bike Race on 14 December is a thrilling event on scenic gravel trails. Cyclists of all levels can take part, enjoying breathtaking mountain views and the excitement of an off-road race in a vibrant holiday setting.

Unique Finds at the Boerevintage Gift Market

This bustling holiday market is a must-visit for anyone seeking unique gifts with a local flair. The Boerevintage Gift Market offers an array of handmade goods, from crafts and jewellery to home décor and delicious treats. With a festive atmosphere, it's a perfect spot to find that one-of-a-kind present while supporting local artisans, from 14 December 2024 to 6 January 2025.

Live Music and Sunlit Evenings at the Fancourt Summer Concerts and Wine Festival

The Fancourt summer concerts bring renowned local artists to George, creating a relaxing ambiance where visitors can enjoy live music under the open sky. Whether you're a jazz lover, a rock enthusiast, or a fan of soulful acoustics, these concerts provide the perfect backdrop for a memorable summer evening. Concerts start from the 15th of December and end on 6 January 2025. The Summer Wine Festival on 15 December features 28 wineries and passionate winemakers, with live music all day and live cooking stations.

Celebrate with Carols by Candlelight

Embrace the warmth of the season at Redberry Farm's Carols by Candlelight, an enchanting evening on 19 December filled with holiday music, candle-lit caroling, and festive treats. This event captures the heart of Christmas, offering a family-friendly atmosphere where visitors can sing along, enjoy delicious farm fare, and take in the beautiful farm scenery.

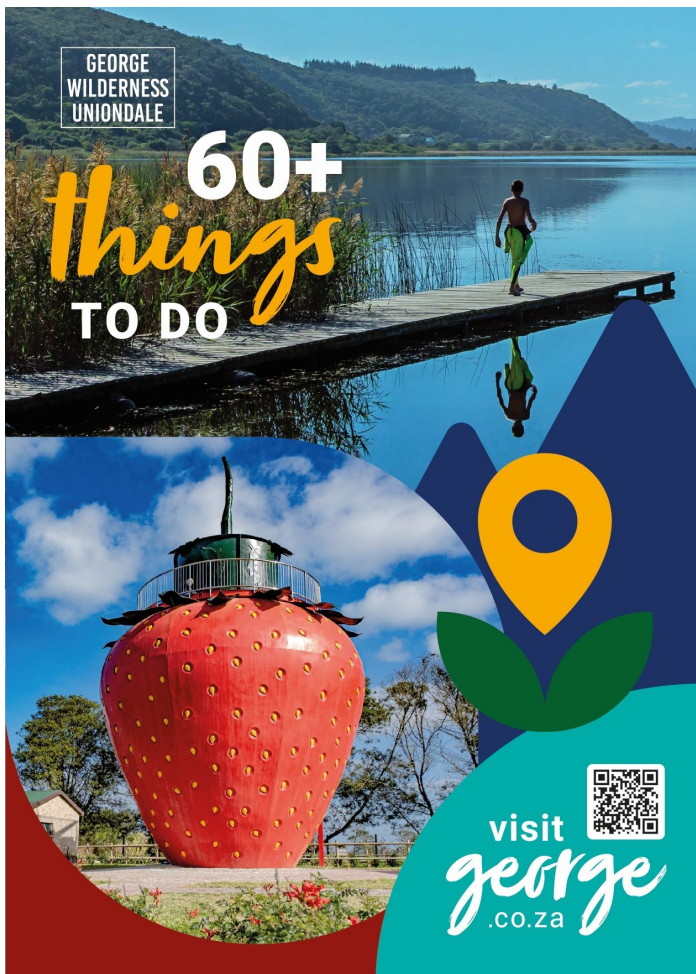
George is alive with activity this festive season, offering something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're seeking adventure, a peaceful concert, family-friendly festivities, or unique holiday shopping, the holiday events in George ensure an unforgettable season for locals and visitors alike.

For more information on these events and more, go to visitgeorge.co.za or download the latest events calendar:



LOCAL SPECIALS

Find a list of special offerings like Christmas lunches, NYE dinners and special deals at visitgeorge.co.za/deals.



TOP ATTRACTIONS

Garden Route National Park, Wilderness

Discover the breathtaking beauty of Wilderness in the Garden Route National Park, a lush, forested area with rivers winding through, offering incredible hikes, scenic boat rides, and canoeing. Accommodation and campsites are available, making it an ideal spot for nature lovers to stay and explore.



Woodville Big Tree, Hoekwil

Stand in awe of the ancient Woodville Big Tree, a Yellowwood that's over 800 years old and 33 meters tall, one of South Africa's largest and oldest. Enjoy a picnic nearby and explore two beautiful forest trails (2-3 km and 7 km) in the heart of Hoekwil.

Island Lake, Wilderness

Island Lake is the perfect spot for a sunny day picnic and is a favourite for boating, tubing, and waterskiing. With campsites available, it's an excellent location for a relaxing day by the water or a weekend retreat.

Timberlake Village, Wilderness

Timberlake in Wilderness is a charming eco-centre featuring cafes, art galleries, unique shops, and outdoor activities. One of the highlights is Acrobranch, a treetop obstacle course complete with a zipline, ideal for both kids (from age 3) and adults.

Redberry Farm, George

Just outside George, Redberry Farm is a must-visit destination for berry picking and family fun. Pick strawberries straight from the fields, navigate the Southern Hemisphere's largest hedge maze, and climb the 14.5-meter-tall giant strawberry. With playgrounds, pony rides, bumper boats, mini train and eateries, Redberry Farm is a day of endless enjoyment.

Garden Route Botanical Garden, George

A refreshing oasis in the centre of George, this garden is great for a leisurely walk or a bike ride with little ones. Highlights include the bird hide, spiral 'koppie,' Mushroom Meander trail, and the Garden Route Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Centre. A nursery and a cozy restaurant complete the experience.

Transnet Transport Museum & Outeniqua Power Van, George

Explore real-life retired Transnet trains, vintage cars, and more at the museum, then hop on the Outeniqua Power Van tram for a scenic mountain adventure.

Herold Wines, Herold

A visit to Herold Wines offers a unique taste of George's wine culture, with tastings, cellar tours, and light meals. Located in a scenic setting, it's perfect for an afternoon of relaxation.



Golf Resorts, George and Herolds Bay

Golfers and luxury seekers can indulge at the renowned Gary Player-designed courses at Fancourt or the Ernie Els designed course at Oubaai, with each offering world-class facilities, stunning views, and multiple dining options. Fancourt's Links course ranks second in South Africa, while Oubaai's cliffside location on the Indian Ocean adds to its charm. With additional courses at Kingswood, George, and Glenwood, golf lovers are truly spoiled for choice.

TOP ACTIVITIES

Paragliding in Wilderness

Soar from the iconic Map of Africa viewpoint down to the beach, taking in panoramic views and thrilling flight experiences.

Hiking and Mountain Biking Trails, in George, Wilderness and Uniondale

With over 1,000 km of trails, George is a paradise for hikers and mountain bikers alike. Discover hidden waterfalls, scenic rural roads, and the secrets of the mountains with the guidance of local experts. Each route offers a unique journey into the natural beauty of the area. For an unforgettable biking experience, tackle the thrilling descent from Uniondale down the Prince Alfred Pass —a route known for its stunning landscapes and challenging terrain.

Scenic Viewpoints, in George, Wilderness and Uniondale

Take a scenic drive to popular spots like the Map of Africa, Dolphin's Point, the Outeniqua Pass and the Uniondale Nature Reserve for stunning views, enjoyed with a 'lekker' cup of coffee and snack.

Clay Café and Pottery Studios, George

Unleash your creativity at the Clay Café or The Pottery, where you can enjoy a meal while painting ceramics to take home as a personalised souvenir.

HIDDEN GEMS

Arts, Culture, and History

- Township and Cultural Tours: Explore George's rich history with guides from Explore our Hood or local experts.
- Ancient San Rock Art: Discover San rock art with Outini Xais.
- Historical Walking Tours: Take a guided walk through George's CBD or Pacaltsdorp, rich with Khoi-san heritage.
- Tuk-Tuk Tours: Discover the history and unique quirks of Uniondale by tuk-tuk.
- Art Galleries: Visit galleries like Langkloof Gallery and Sculpture Garden in Uniondale, Wilderness Art Meander, and local artist studios showcasing diverse styles and mediums.

Adventure and Outdoor Experiences

- Surfing at Victoria Bay: Renowned for its waves, George is ideal for beginners to learn surfing.
- Horse Riding and Quad Biking: Explore scenic trails through forests and farmland on horseback or rev it up with quad biking adventures.
- Wild X Adventure Centre: Enjoy archery, Segway rides, and other outdoor fun in a forested setting in Wilderness.
- Kloofing, Abseiling, and Rock Climbing: Experience the thrill of kloofing, abseiling, and rock climbing through scenic gorges with expert local guides.
- Paintball in Herolds Bay: Gear up for exciting paintball games, perfect for family and friends.

Gastronomy

- Oysters R Us: Savour fresh oysters in Wilderness with unique toppings.
- Caloroso Café: Enjoy artisan coffee and chocolate pairings in George.
- Honeybush Tea Tastings at Herold Meander: Sample this endemic tea known for its unique properties.
- 10 Oxes Gin Tastings: Delight in gin tastings in the picturesque Waboomskraal area.
- Public Cooking Classes at Francois Ferreira Academy: Join a cooking class and learn from local culinary experts.

GEORGE BEACHES AND RIVER MOUTHS

George and Wilderness have an abundance of beaches, whether you want smooth waves for surf sessions or a social beach for suntanning, or calm estuaries for relaxing. Water temperatures remain in the balmy 16-to-21-degree range throughout the year. Pods of dolphins are regularly spotted in our surf. The Common, Dusky and Bottlenose Dolphin are all well-known locals.



Victoria Bay is the region's most famous beach.

'Vic' is well known for its consistent right-hand point break, making it one of the most popular surf spots on the Garden Route. The narrow sandy cove is surrounded by rocky, forested cliffs and usually lined with bikini clad sunworshippers. At the end of the paved promenade, the point is strewn with huge boulders that offer fascinating rock-pooling opportunities for small children, with a tidal pool. The pier offers a spot to cast a line from. There is a beach bar, toilets, showers, and disabled parking and wheelchair access are available.



Herold's Bay is ideal for busy families.

This beach has been trending in the holiday guide books since the 1900's. Photos in the George Museum show Voortrekkers camping out on the beach next to their fully laden ox wagons. Surfers and bodyboarders enjoy the left-hand reef break, which picks up plenty of groundswell. It's a popular spot for lunch, with a few snack vans. The bay is protected from the wind by a rocky headland and is a wonderful swimming beach with plenty of space to stretch out, play bat and ball, and bask in the sun.

Herold's main attraction for families is the warm and calm tidal pool. It's warmer than the open ocean and large enough to do laps in. The salt-water pool hosts tiny shoals of fish, sea anemones and even the odd octopus – so make sure to bring your snorkel and mask. Parking and ablutions are available.

Kaaiman's River Mouth and Beach is a jealously guarded local secret and a phenomenal spot for families. A tiny car park is located directly off the N2, and the beach is accessed via a 200-metre hike alongside the whizzing main road. You must get there early!

Hikers descend onto a massive and secluded sandbar at the mouth of the **Kaaiman's River**, with breath-taking views of the forested cliffs on either side. A dark cola-coloured river meets the blue Indian Ocean under a towering train bridge. The tidal estuary is a great place for kids to cast a line, swim, float or paddle a canoe. Small children love the shallow warm water and are unlikely to be bowled over by a wave or swept away by breakers. There are no ablutions on the beach, no lifeguards and no rubbish bins. Pack everything that you need and take every scrap of litter with you when you leave.

The little village of Wilderness is locally renowned for having one of the longest, cleanest beaches in South Africa, with pristine white sand and crystal water. The first section of the beach (at the western most corner) is called **Leentjiesklip**. Visitors will find parking, clean ablutions, a cold-water shower and a braai area. Leentjiesklip is popular for sunbathing, fishing, volleyball and whale watching. The beach bathroom features a stunning mural by local artists.

Further along **Wilderness Beach**, the local NSRI Station is situated next to Salina's Beach Restaurant. Parking and ablutions are available and there is access to a large sandy beach at the mouth of the Touw River. Stop in at Salinas restaurant for a chilled glass of wine or a fish supper after some swimming.

Kleinkrantz is ideal for escaping the crowds. Tall sand dunes slope down onto a seemingly endless expanse of sand. Walking east, hikers can enjoy 20 km stroll all the way to Swartvlei. The westward direction takes walkers back to Wilderness.

Gwaing River Mouth and Beach is a hidden gem known for its natural beauty and relaxed atmosphere. The beach features golden sands, rocky outcrops, and a scenic river estuary ideal for swimming, picnicking, and fishing. Popular among locals, it offers a quiet retreat from busier beaches. Amenities include picnic areas and ablutions.

Although all our beaches are very inviting, currents and riptides at some locations can be very dangerous. Please swim at lifeguard monitored beaches and read the beach safety tips found on the municipal website.

Find all this and more at <https://www.visitgeorge.co.za>
Other

Local Safety

Your wellbeing matters. Stay safe with beach and mountain guidelines, safety tips, as well as emergency contacts:

<https://zurl.co/tcCx>

Municipal Contacts and App

Connect with the right contacts for municipal services and assistance at george.gov.za/contact/ or download the My Smart City app to conveniently log tickets and get relevant notices and news.

<https://zurl.co/Yxzh>

Discover the best of George with these helpful links! Whether you're exploring scenic attractions, staying safe while you play - especially on the beaches and mountains - or connecting with local services, we've got you covered:

<https://zurl.co/PRlm>

George, Wilderness and Uniondale Tourism

This December and January, keep an eye out for George, Wilderness, and Uniondale Tourism teams bringing festive cheer to local beaches, the Outeniqua Family Market, and Redberry Farm!

Spot them to say hello, pick up a map and brochure, download the official tourism guide, and take a spin on the "Win & Spin" wheel for a chance to win exciting prizes!

Get in touch with the local tourism office for more information on accommodation, events, things to do and restaurants:

GEORGE TOURISM 124 York Street, George Central, George, 6529 | +27 44 801 9295 | info@visitgeorge.co.za

WILDERNESS TOURISM 198 George Road, Wilderness, 6560 | +27 44 877 0045 | info@visitwilderness.co.za

UNIONDALE TOURISM Virtual assistance | +27 44 518 0030 | info@visituniondale.co.za

Festive Season Operating Hours

- Wilderness Visitor Information Centre
WEEKDAYS 08:00 - 17:30 | SATURDAYS 15:00 - 17:00
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 09:00 - 13:00 | Closed Christmas and New Years.
- George Visitor Information Centre
WEEKDAYS 08:30 - 16:30 | Closed on weekends and public holidays.

