



INTRODUCING

Sandstone Estates

Presenting a totally unique venue for:

- Product launches • Exco getaways • Team-building weekends
- Year-end functions
- TV, film, video & photographic location
- Student, Club and Tourist group outings

Sandstone Estates is a large agricultural estate close to the Maluti Mountain Range in the Eastern Free State, offering scenic wide open spaces, huge heritage collections, loads of old fashioned rides and even a 26km-long private Railway System — all of which can be tailored to suit your event.

Read on about our solution to help you make a really lasting impression!





THE MAIN COMPLEX AT SANDSTONE ESTATES — SOUTH EASTERN FREE STATE —

There is truly nowhere else on earth quite like this — a large agricultural estate with its own 26km private railway line and the largest collection of 2-ft Narrow Gauge steam locomotives in the world. There are more than 50 restored and unrestored locomotives, of which more than 30 are fully operational.

A place where traditional Afrikaner oxen are bred, trained and actually earn their keep by pulling wagons and ploughing the land. At Sandstone one can find a magnificent cross-section of almost 300 items of agricultural equipment dating back to the late 1800s. Included are steam traction engines and the earliest of early

vintage tractors, ranging from the huge Emerson Brantingham Big 4-30, right down to the diminutive Massey Harris Pony.

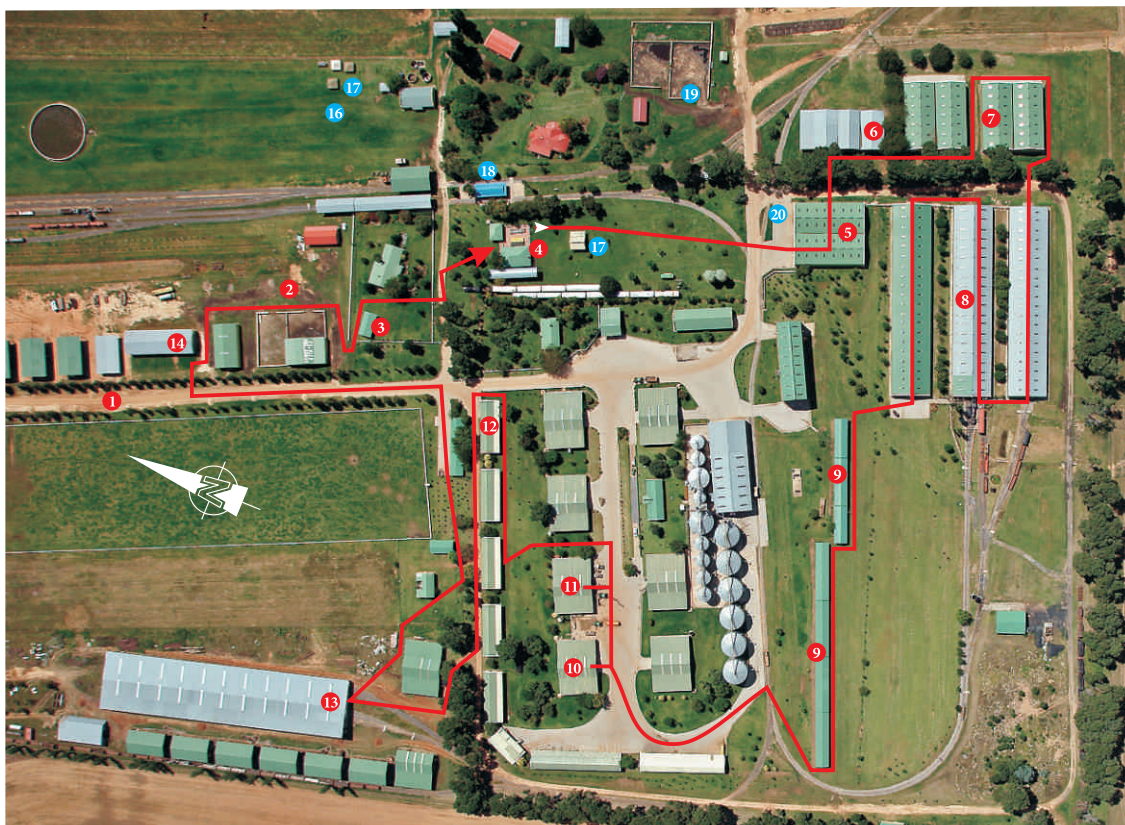
There is a collection of nearly 500 farm implements, a huge collection of old combine harvesters and threshing machines and, to top it off, a fleet of vintage earth moving machinery that we use constantly to improve Sandstone's infrastructure.

A new Stationary Engine Museum has recently been completed which showcases man's ingenuity in pumping water and generating electricity for well over 100 years.

All this will be showcased in an event known as *Stars of Sandstone 2017* which will be held from 30 March to 9 April 2017. Whatever your interests, you will find something to fascinate you. The owners, directors and staff of Sandstone Estates cherish their landscape and work hard to give it the vibrancy that a biological approach to farming inevitably provides. A 400 ha chemical-free zone has been declared around the main complex and that trend towards self-sufficiency without the use of invasive chemicals in agriculture will continue.

It's a big place, with much to see and do!

MAIN COMPLEX SITE MAP & THE ROUTE FOR THE WALKING TOURS



- 1 Entrance Road
 - 2 Parking
 - 3 Ticket Office
 - 4 Walking Tours depart from
The Waenhuis Café
 - 5 Military Vehicles
 - 6 Tractor Display
 - 7 Ox Wagon Shed
 - 8 Steam & Vintage Sheds
 - 9 Vintage Machinery
 - 10 Vintage Workshop
 - 11 Main Workshop
 - 12 Stationary Engine Museum
 - 13 Rolling Stock Shed
 - 14 Sherman Tank Shed
 - 15 Walking Tours end at
The Waenhuis Café
-
- Other key amenities:**
 - 16 Camping Grounds
 - 17 Ablution Block
 - 18 Steam Trains depart from
Hoekfontein Station
 - 19 Ox Wagon Rides board here
 - 20 (by prior arrangement) Military
Vehicle Rides depart from here

The Sandstone Railway



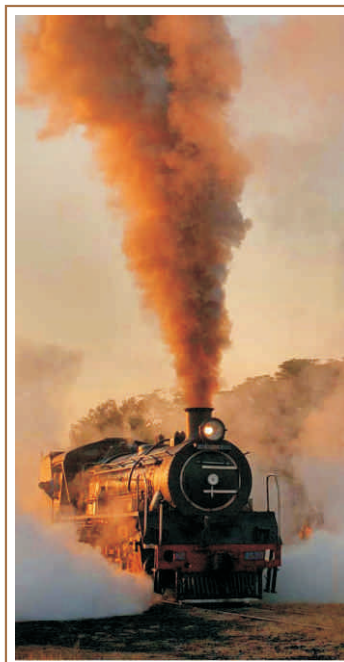
Picture by David Benn

From a dinky Kiddies Train right up to monster triple-headed Garratt thundering into the Maluti foothills, Sandstone can provide the entire experience on its private Railway System.

Sandstone has the largest collection of 2-ft Narrow Gauge locomotives in the world, all in tip top working condition. One thing that we can offer corporates is a Steam Locomotive Driver's footplate experience, which would be almost impossible to accomplish on government railway systems. There is no train configuration we cannot assemble.

A recent addition is a 2.4km Children's Railway which will allow, for example, Easter Egg hunts and alternative transport for Father Christmas in years to come. This provides another element to further enhance event dynamics.

There are scheduled Steam Weekends available for the public, but also for group events by arrangement. There are two standard routes currently on offer:



The Mountain Wanderer

This route covers the entire 26km Sandstone Rail System from Hoekfontein Station southwards to Grootdraai, then northward to Vailima and the mountain section, and return to Sandstone's Hoekfontein Station.

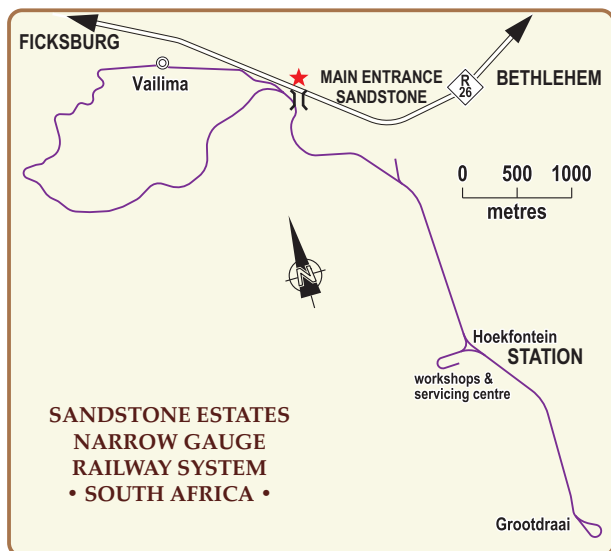
The Lesotho Meander

This trip starts at Hoekfontein Station and travels southwards to the Grootdraai Loop close to the Lesotho border, and back.

BRAND THE DAY

With over 300 wagons in our fleet, we are able to create period correct freight trains. It is possible to create a custom train, complete with branded crates, pallets, logos and goods specific to the client and event.

The Headboards on our locomotives can also be customised to suit the occasion.



Military, Aviation & the Big Outdoors

Sandstone's highly successful joint venture with the Armour Museum in Bloemfontein enables us to showcase every type of armour, both modern and old, in almost any configuration. There is also a large collection of Military Vehicles from other countries. We can take groups on convoys along the Lesotho border, arrange tank demonstrations etc.

At Sandstone, one can ride on a Casspir, Buffel, Ratel, and even in a restored Sherman Tank. There are generations of South African men and women who did their National Service, and this has proven to be a very popular, yet nostalgic experience.

This is not an aggressive display, but rather shows the quality of South African engineering in this field. South Africa still remains the world leader in the design of Mine protected vehicles.



There is a dedicated group of Aviators who land their pre-WW2 bi-planes, Harvards and other light aircraft on Sandstone's long grass airstrip as they would have in days gone by. A special treat for any guest is a flip in a Harvard or Tiger Moth.



Sandstone provides the amenities and the Heritage items from every walk of life from previous eras. It is our guest's job to make the best of it by exploring, riding, taking photographs or just relaxing.

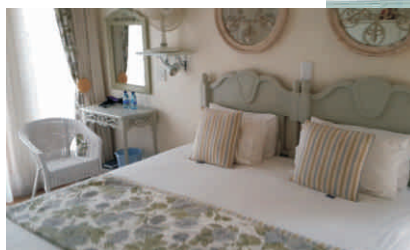
An experience at Sandstone is only as good as the imagination of the participant.

CAMPING AT SANDSTONE vs ACCOMMODATION NEARBY

While Sandstone is within driving distance of the main centres, there is too much to see and do to make it a day trip. There is limited accommodation on the estate, and camping is therefore available on site for both tents and camper vans. The camping ground includes a proper ablution block and has sufficient electric points added for our guests.

This suits many groups of outdoors people, but we realise it's not everyone's cup of tea!

There are also many guest houses within a 45 minute range of Sandstone, for instance the Fouriesburg Country Inn, shown in the two pictures on the right.



Sandstone Environment

We did say that there was a lot to see and do!

Sandstone is committed to sustainability and all that it does. Protecting the wildlife is one of those priorities — the wide variety of animals who live happily on the Estate, from the Springbok to the tame Meerkat in the main complex, the shy and reclusive ground squirrels and hundreds of bird species, to the fierce-looking horned tonnage of our impressive Afrikaner Oxen.

We have strict policies on many things, including poaching, livestock theft, the use of chemicals in farming, litter and invasive flora species and the like.

It makes for a happy home.



Everyone puts in an old-fashioned day's work at Sandstone: humans, horses, mules and oxen. It's only the little ones that get to play.



Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter, the Sandstone country light is the best in the world



Sandstone Environment

Sandstone is a fully operational farm, and this continues, regardless of the visitors. We conduct Modern Farming tours which encompass different activities at different times of the year. We are a highly sustainable operation which has very strong biological and organic policies. We are currently running a programme to convert biomass from invasive species of trees along the riverbeds into high quality organic fertilizer.

No visit would be complete without us telling people about the importance of protecting our soils, and in turn, the planet.



Trucks, buses, old cars, motorcycles– we have them all. Just one collection spans 100 years of Ford vehicles.

Steam Traction Engines

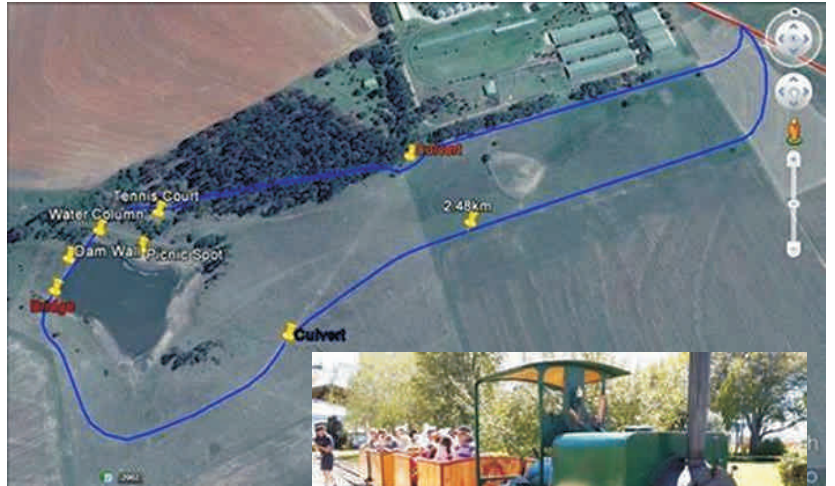
One always thinks of steam in the context of railways but in fact an awful lot of steam went by road. Apart from minor exceptions we have the only collection of heavy haulage traction engines in the country. The engine below is capable of pulling 80 tons and was built during the Boer War in 1901.



Our civil engineering machinery is in full working order and is deployed regularly all over the Estate

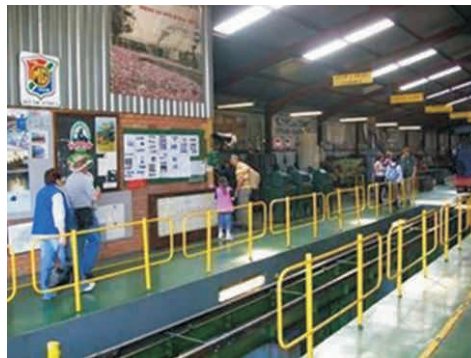
Never forget the Families

Although it is a very masculine environment, we never forget families, and there is more than enough for them to do — our Lounge Car, special Kiddies trains and to cap it all, our new 2.4 km Children's Railway.



Scenes from past events and gatherings, tours and family reunions held at Sandstone Estates

The sophisticated new cafeteria will soon be complete, and we prefer to offer food that South African people love — lamb on the spit, potjies, braais, and a wide range of local Eastern Free State delicacies. We have never diverted from our rural roots and this makes Sandstone very attractive to city people who, in some cases, have simply never been in such a big, wide open space where so much is happening and where people live in harmony with nature.



We trust that this has been an informative virtual tour for you.

Thank you for taking the time to read it, we look forward to designing your own unforgettable event in the near future.

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"Preserving the best of our past for the future"



SIMPLY UNFORGETTABLE