Marakele Birding Event: Unique, exclusive and exciting!

Marakele National Park's Honorary Rangers invite enthusiastic and fit birders to an amazing weekend (23-25 October 2009) in a magic section of the Park where tourists are not normally allowed, with rustic accommodation and walks on the wild side. Adventurous viewers will be given the opportunity to visit mountain, wetland, grassland and/or forest habitats, accompanied by a gun-carrying Ranger.

A limited number of enthusiasts will be accommodated in an old farmhouse with two bedrooms sleeping 4-6 sharing, or in tents. Bring your own linen, blankets, beverages, snacks, personal items and drinks.

Enjoy the peace and quiet without electricity or other campers; search for birds like the Orange-breasted Bush-Shrike and Gorgeous Bush-Shrike in kloofs where 30m tall Outeniqua Yellowwood (*Podocarpus falcatus*) can be found; relax at the dam with water fowl and water iguanas while the African Fish-Eagle dive-bombs the Egyptian Geese and White-faced Whistling Duck; surprise blue wildebeest and waterbuck while scanning the grasslands and finding the Crimson-breasted Shrike, White Helmet-Shrike and Pied Babbler; scan the wetlands from a spill-way for Waxbills, Firefinches and Canaries; or do your birding around the house amongst the lovely indigenous trees at the foot of the majestic Waterberg.

You will not have to suffer speeches and goody-bags, but will be able to sit around a camp fire in the veld beneath the brightest African stars during or after evening meals before embarking on a bonus night drive along the Alma Road searching for owls and Nightjars (even the Pennant-wing).

Venue: De Ridder's house in Marakele National Park (near Thabazimbi in Limpopo)
Date: 23-25 October 2009
Price: R2 000,00 p.p. – including all meals, internal transport, and Park entrance
NB: Single people are welcome. Unfortunately no children will be allowed.

Please request detailed information from proflouw@telkomsa.net if you are interested. Reservations with full payment must be made to the Marakele HR Chairperson, Ampie Venter at ampie2@vodamail.co.za , phone 0832585924.

Marakele Voëlkykavontuur: Uniek, ekslusief en opwindend!

Marakele Nasionale Park se Ereveldwagters nooi entoesiastiese en fikse voëlkykers uit na ‘n ongelooflike naweek (23-25 Oktober 2009) in ‘n magiese gedeelte van die Park wat nie normaalweg toeganklik is vir toeriste nie. Avonturiers kan berg-, woud-, grasveld of vleilandhabitatte besoek onder begeleiding van ‘n geweerdraende Veldwagter.

‘n Beperkte aantal entoesiaste sal tuisgaan onder ongesofistikeerde omstandighede: in ‘n ou plaashuis met twee slaapkamers vir 4-6 mense elk wat deel, of in tente. Bring u eie linne en komberse, drinkgoed, persoonlike benodigdhede, knibbelkos en drank.

Kom geniet die vrede en vreugde van ‘n wildernisgebied sonder elektrisiteit of ander kampeerders; soek voëls soos die Oranjeborsboslaksman en Konkoit in klowe waar die Outeniekwageelhout (*Podocarpus falcatus)* tot 30m hoog staan; ontspan langs die dam in die geselskap van waterlikkewane en water- en waadvoëls terwyl die Visarend Kolganse en Nonnetjie-eende verjaag; verras waterbok en blouwildebees tydens ‘n speurtog na grasveldspesies soos koesters en lewerike asook die Rooiborslaksman, Withelmlaksman en Witkatlagter; bespied die vleilande vanaf die dam-oorloop vir sysies, vuurvinkies en kanaries; of span ‘n verkyker rustig in rondom die huis tussen welige inheemse bome aan die voet van die Waterberg.

Geen toesprake of geskenkpakkies nie! Kom sit net saans lang die vuur in die veld onder die helderste Afrikasterre tydens of na aandete voor u vertrek op ‘n ingeslote nagrit op die Alma-pad op soek na uile en naguile (selfs die Wimpelvlerk).

Plek: Die De Ridderhuis in Marakele Nasionale Park (naby Thabazimbi)
Datum: 23-25 Oktober 2009
Prys: R2 000.00 p.p. – insluitend alle etes, interne vervoer en Parktoegang.
NB: Enkellopers is welkom. Ongelukkig word geen kinders toegelaat nie.

Verdere inligting beskikbaar van proflouw@telkomsa.net.
Besprekings met volle betaling word gedoen by die Marakele EV-voorsitter, Ampie Venter, by ampie2@vodamail.co.za of telefoon 083 2585924.