Köcherbaum / Quiver Tree Trail





Quiver Tree Trail

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- mountain vistas and an extraordinary collection of plants with a spectacular display of guiver trees set in rugged terrain
- excellent photography opportunities
- a trail following farm tracks and zebra paths, along river beds and into a gorge set in the heart of the Great Western Escarpment of Namibia, just off the Gamsberg Pass
- spotting of wildlife e.g. hartman's mountain zebra, oryx, kudu, chacma baboon, klipspringer, black eagle
- floristic highlights include: shepherd's tree (Boscia albitrunca), resurrection bush (Myrothamnus flabellifolius), quiver tree (Aloidendron dichotomum), mountain milk bush (Euphorbia avasmontana), cissus (Cyphostemma bainesii), bushman candle (Monsonia mossamedense)

Distance: 5 km

Duration: 2.5 hrs walking only (add 2 hrs exploring, resting ...)

Elevation gain/loss: 265 m

Best timing: Any time

Please ensure you take the following essentials:

- Hat
- Good hiking shoes/boots easy walking but rocky terrain
- Long-sleeved shirt for sun protection and sun lotion
- Water: 2-3 litres (can be very hot going uphill at midday)

1	Shepherd's tree, a protected and prominent tree in Namibia (origin of name: provides the only shade offered to herdsmen in arid landscapes). Continue on farm track. NB: If walking from the Pass: 700 m to this point (not included in elevation profile or timing indicator).
2	Turn left in the valley where a track joins from the right. Make your way down the slope along zebra paths towards the river bed. Look out for the resurrection bush on opposite mountain slope (small, brown bush clumps dotted all over the slope – seemingly dead – yet burst into leaf with the first rain).
3	Enter river bed and follow.
4	Another river bed joins in from the left, keep right and follow all the way into the gorge at no 6.
5	Old cattle post with kraal (animal enclosure) and windmill.
6	Gorge with rock pools – interesting rock formations eroded by water - ideal for a dip in the rainy season.
7	Quiver tree circuit – follow zebra paths whilst taking time to explore this scenic area set about with the sculpturally magnificent tree aloe – the quiver tree, and a variety of other

8 Join the old farm track and follow it all the way back to no 1.

ENJOY YOUR HIKE !

Please:

- \circ $\,$ Do not litter and leave no toilet or tissue paper in the veld
- \circ Do not smoke bush fires kill

interesting plants.

- $\circ~$ Respect all wildlife and be aware of snakes
- \circ $\$ Leave only footprints and take only photographs