

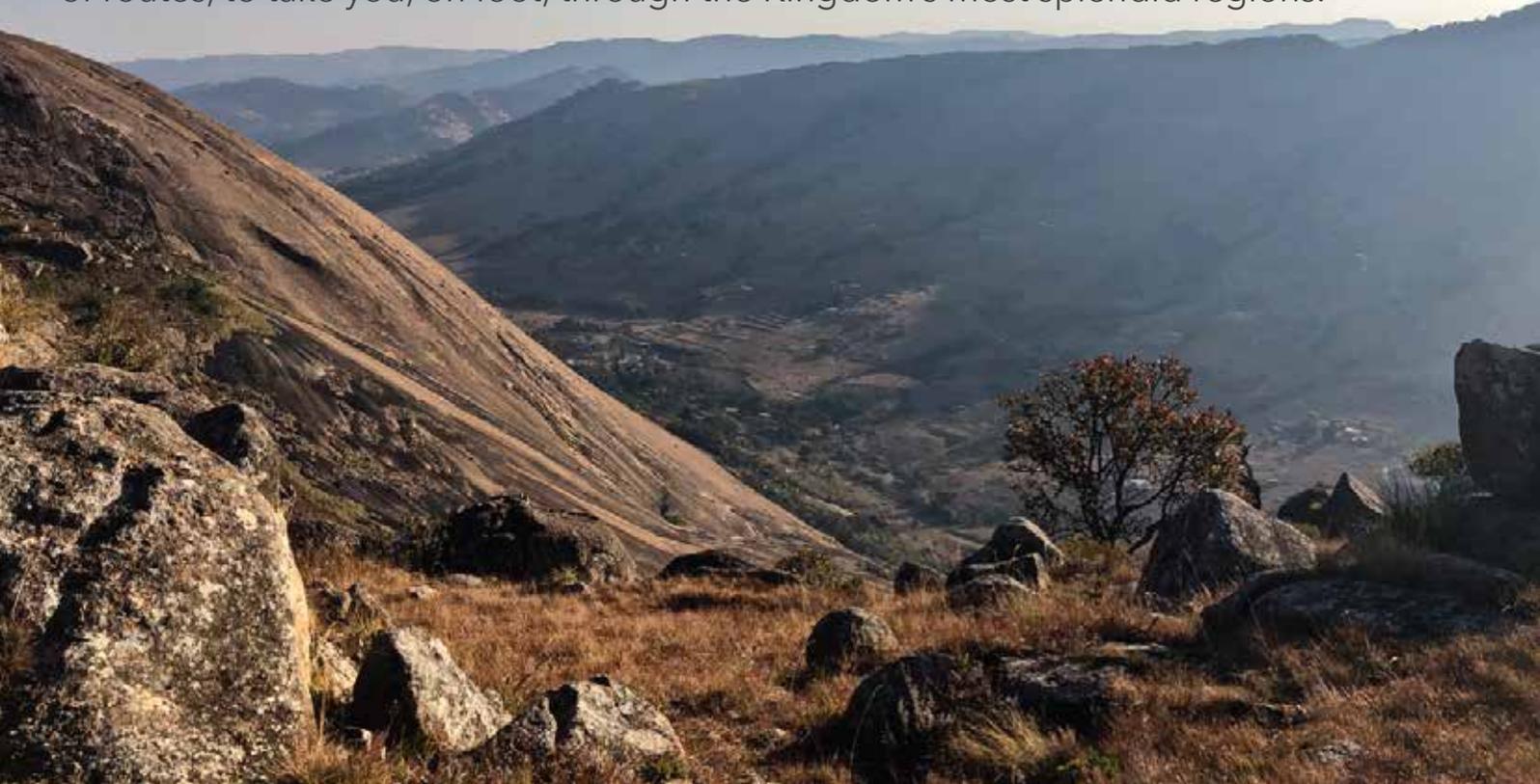


TRIP TREK TRAIL

EXPLORE ESWATINI ON FOOT WITH VAYA TRAILS

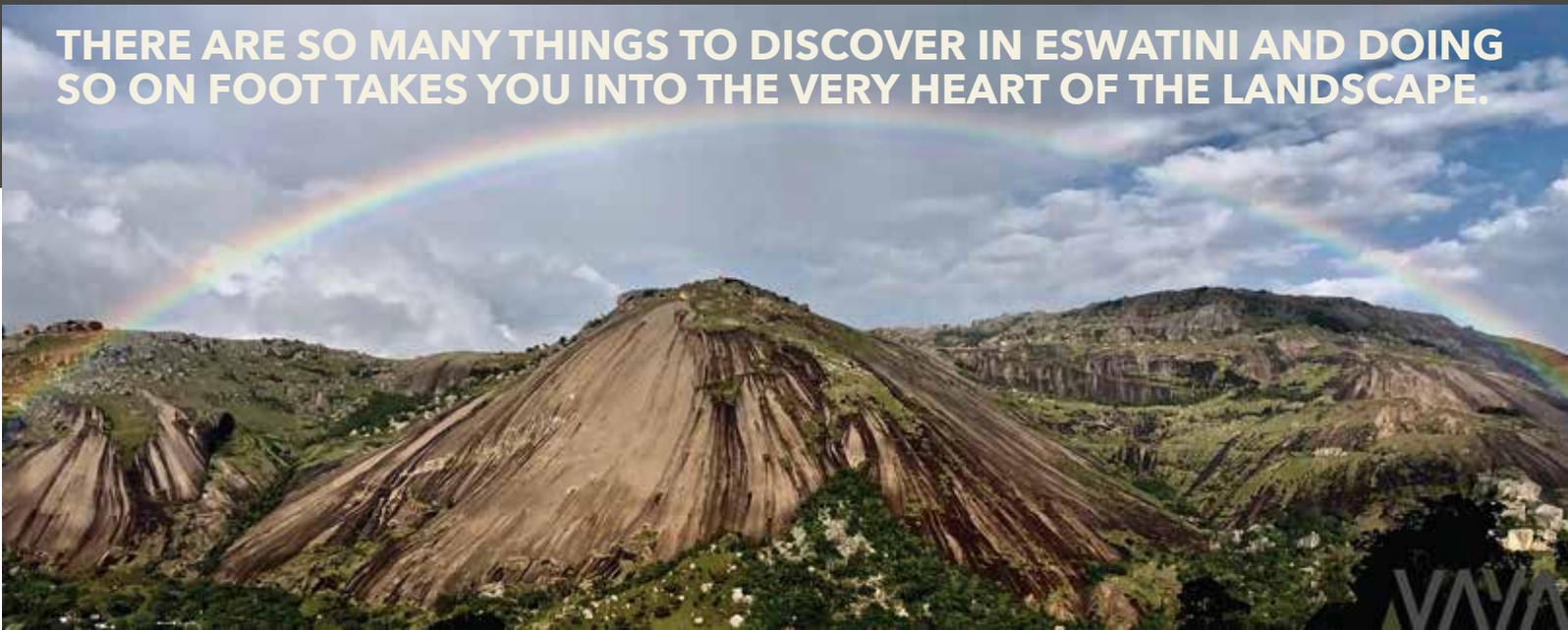
Vaya Trails work with a number of rural communities in Eswatini exploring the country sourcing trails that show off the superb landscapes.

We have connected existing footpaths and animal tracks to craft a bespoke network of trails - short or long, easy or difficult - that cater for everyone. We now have a portfolio of routes, to take you, on foot, through the Kingdom's most splendid regions.



Vaya Trails believe there are many ways we can help protect our environment and that sharing the value of our scenic and cultural wonders with the communities who inhabit them, and with you, is a step in the right direction to preserving our natural heritage.

THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS TO DISCOVER IN ESWATINI AND DOING SO ON FOOT TAKES YOU INTO THE VERY HEART OF THE LANDSCAPE.



SIBEBE

Sibebe is an immense, 3.5 billion year old monolith of granite rock covering 16,500ha with one of the world's largest whole granite domes. This protected area is an exceptional hiking region with so much to discover. At the top are crystal clear pools, waterfalls, dense and diverse afro montane forests, boulder fields, caves, crevasses and wonderful landscapes dotted with endemic wildflowers and a variety of birds.

There are a variety of hikes, gentle strolls along the grasslands at the top to challenging climbs up the rock face.

Sibebe Trail

This trail begins at the base of Sibebe and traverses up the grassy paths and sections of slightly sloping rock face to the pristine rolling landscapes at the top of the mountain. The walk has about 400m in elevation gain and areas where you can explore the steeper sections of the rock face, or stick to the grassy banks, with amazing views of the valley behind you.

Hiking distance: 5km

Hiking level: Moderate



Hholoshini Cave Trail

To the start of this walk is a 3km drive along a dirt road where a 4x4 is advisable. The walk is up the Hholoshini side of Sibebe, which is a totally different view from the 'regular' Mgogodla side of granite monolith. We go through indigenous forests, open grasslands and up a bit of rock face before we reach a 'village' of caves created by large boulders, and with signs of early human settlement.

Hiking distance: 5km

Hiking level: Moderate



MGOGODLA

Mgogodla, meaning backbone, is an impressive ridge running parallel to the Sibebe range. The ridge offers stunning views of the massive granite dome on the one side and the Mahebedla valley on the other. All our routes cross the scenic Mbuluzi River with its waterfalls and swimming spots.

Mgogodla can be walked in various ways depending on the time and level of effort you would like to spend.

Hiking distance: ranges from 3km to 10km

Hiking level: Gentle / Moderate / Challenging depending on your requirements.

Please note gentle Mgogodla hikes only available on weekdays



JUBUKWENI

We drive along a dirt road to the beginning of the hike, and then follow a stream along the bottom of the hills. We loop around the hills and walk up to the top where we have spectacular views of the valley. On a clear day we can see Sibebe and Mgogodla to the one side and as far as Driekoppies Dam in South Africa on the other side.

Hiking distance: 5km (plus 4km self drive on dirt road)

Hiking level: Moderate



THE GAP, ESICANCWENI

Walking along the nKomati River, passing homesteads and herds of cattle, this trail gives a feel for lowveld riparian vegetation and rural life in Eswatini. The Gap is an extraordinary geological feature where the wide expanse of the nKomati River disappears into a narrow chasm of black rock only a few meters wide.

Hiking distance 12km

Hiking level: Challenging



MALOLOTJA POTHoles

Malolotja Nature Reserve is the jewel of Eswatini's conservation areas and has more than 200km of stunning trails winding through the valleys and peaks of the Makhonjwa Mountain range. The potholes are one of the many spectacular sites in the reserve.

We take a 6km 4x4 drive to the start of the hike where we walk down to the lower Malolotja Valley.

The walk down to the potholes goes up and down a few hillsides, slowly descending 6kms down into the lowveld region of the reserve. The potholes themselves offer amazing picnic spots, swimming and exploring.

The walk is a loop and the way back is a relentless ascent and not for the faint hearted.

Hiking distance: 12km

Hiking level: Challenging.



OUR DIFFERENT HIKING LEVELS AND RATES

All our walks are guided because our trails are not marked as they are routes we have sourced by linking animal tracks and footpaths. Our rates include our guide fee and any community donation or park entrance fee. Our moderate and challenging trails include a breakfast or pack lunch depending on the trail location.

GENTLE

Suitable for people of all ages, including children and seniors, who are in fair condition. Type of terrain is flat to sloping hills, with little increase in elevation.

Hiking distances range from 2km to 4km.

Hiking time is about 1 hour, but these hikes are only available from Monday to Friday.

E120pp

MODERATE

Suitable for people of most ages who are in decent condition and have some previous hiking experience. Terrain might include rocks or obstacles with moderate increase in elevation.

Hiking distances range from 5km to 8km.

Allow half a day for these outings as they include either a breakfast or pack lunch, so require time for a break.

E270pp *including breakfast or pack lunch.*

CHALLENGING

Suitable for people of most ages, who are in good condition, and have previous experience hiking longer distances. Terrain might include rocky sections, river crossings or significant elevation gain.

Hiking distances of 5km to 15km. Distances over 8km tend to be full day outings, including picnic stop.

E540pp *including pack lunch.*

Please note we do not include transport to and from the start of the trail but this can be arranged on request.



WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

Must have:

- Hiking shoes
- Comfortable clothes to hike in
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Water
- Day-pack

Optional:

- Lightweight raincoat
- Trekking pole
- Camera
- Binoculars

FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO SEE SOME PHOTOS OF OUR TRAILS AND PICNIC SITES:



Visit our website: www.vayatrails.com



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48 hours booking notice preferred