Pieter Cruythoff Route – Kasteelberg

Pieter Cruythoff was the leader of a party sent out by Commander Jan van Riebeeck to scout the hinterland. When they arrived at this mountain, one of the party, Peter van Meerhoff named it Riebeeck’s Casteel, in honour of the first commander of the Cape. At the parking spot on Bothmanskloof Pass is a memorial commemorating this event, and this is the starting point of the hike. Once you have parked and admired the view, walk up beside the road to the top of the pass, being extremely careful of the passing traffic, especially large trucks. At the top, on the northern side, you will see a stile (GPS 33°24’9”S 18°52’13”E) – this is the beginning of the hiking trail.

After walking a short distance through the cleared patch, you will see the route indicated on your left by a white footprint on a rock (see red arrow). From here the path is clear and similarly marked. As soon as you start up the incline cast a look to the south west where you will see Table Mountain on the horizon; as you ascend so more of this symbol appears.

Please note that this route is through private property, and permission for access has been given by Mr Pieter du Toit of Kloovenburg and Mr Gert Kotze of Meerhof. At all times respect this and do not stray from the marked route. The exception is that you may enter the Waterval Kasteelberg Nature Reserve (see map), which is a free ramble without marked paths. For this you must have experience in mountain exploring in wild terrain.

For security reasons you must be in possession of a permit whilst on the mountain – it may be obtained from: Riebeek Valley Tourism, on the square in Riebeek Kasteel during published opening hours.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY: All persons entering this area and using its facilities, do so entirely at their own risk. The farmers, Riebeek Valley Information and Riebeek Valley Tourism and/or their employees and/or agents and/or its successors in title shall not be liable for any damage, loss, theft, injury, accident or death suffered by any person, howsoever caused. Right of Admission Reserved.