

The view back over Hout Bay from Chapman's Peak is breathtaking (see the last picture last week) but as the road winds down towards Muizenberg the vegetation starts to change. First, along the Ou Kaapse Weg (Old Cape Road), there is the rocky Silvermine Nature Reserve with its beautiful Cape Fynbos and before one passes the Tokai Forest and the world renowned Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden. Then on the right, but out of sight, are the famous Newlands rugby and cricket grounds (who remembers watching the New Year's Day cricket internationals from under the oaks?). We are now in the shadow of Table Mountain (the wettest part of Cape Town in the winter!) before driving past the imposing buildings of the University of Cape Town and swinging round to the right next to Groote Schuur Hospital (where the world's first heart transplant took place).



Kirstenbosch



University of Cape Town

From there it is on the N2 motorway as far as the turnoff to the Strand and Gordon's Bay before hugging the rocky coastline passing the holiday "villages" of Rooiels Bay, Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay and finally coming to Kleinmond with its lovely beach and small, picturesque harbour.



The coast road from Gordon's Bay



The beach at Kleinmond



The harbour at Kleinmond

From Kleinmond it is back to the national road. Initially one can't help but notice the number of farm shops which indicate that it is quite a productive farming area. There is a turnoff to Cape Agulhas, the southernmost point of the African continent but with little to commend it (take Speedy Springbok's word - he has been there!). After that the scenery becomes rather monotonous until one George. At that point towards a viewpoint with its beautiful very dangerous so DON'T swim there water looks!).



is past Mossel Bay and the road winds upwards overlooking Wilderness stretch of sandy beach (but because of strong currents, no matter how inviting the

After Wilderness, one passes through the Lakes Area before arriving in Sedgefield. The town was proclaimed on the farm Sedgefield, which was named after the village of the same name in the UK where the father of the then owner of the farm was born. In 1947 the road through Sedgefield was completed, thus integrating it into the commercial route between George and Knysna. In fact, it now forms part of Knysna. The main economic activity revolves around tourism.



Sedgefield from the air looking back towards the Lakes

Path down to the beach



There are only 16 miles to go before reaching Knysna at the end of the Trek. More about that final leg of the journey next week!