

# OTTER TRAIL GUIDE

## TIDES MAY 2026

### DAY 1

**HUT:** Ngubu  
**DISTANCE:** 4.8 km  
**TIME:** 3.5 hours

**NOTES:**  
Swim at the water-fall. The huts are not too much further so there is no rush to get there.

### DAY 2

**HUT:** Scott  
**DISTANCE:** 7.9 km  
**TIME:** 5.5 hours

**NOTES:**  
One of the toughest days. Don't miss Bloubaai beach - see Profile Map below.

### DAY 3

**HUT:** Oakhurst  
**DISTANCE:** 7.7 km  
**TIME:** 5.5 hours

**NOTES:**  
Keep costume and sandals close to hand for two river crossings.

### DAY 4

**HUT:** Andre  
**DISTANCE:** 13.8 km  
**TIME:** 8 hours

**NOTES:**  
Major river crossing at Bloukraans River\*. See Profile Map below.

### DAY 5

**HUT:** De Vasselot  
**DISTANCE:** 8.8 km  
**TIME:** 3 hours

**NOTES:**  
Only one major climb left. Order the special Otter Drink at the restaurant at Natures Valley and you'll get a certificate too!

\* Your starting time on the 4th day will depend on the time of low tide - this may be very early in the morning. You need to be at the Bloukraans half an hour either side of low tide. Crossing at high tide is exceptionally dangerous. It will take approximately 4.5 hours from Oakhurst to the Bloukraans (about 10 kilometers). If you are walking in the dark (the trail is well marked at this point if you do need to start walking before dawn) allow half an hour extra.

It is better to wait for the tide to soften than get there after it has started pushing in, resulting in the chance of having to take the escape route round. If you cannot cross the river then walk up the escape route shown on your Sanparks map, when you reach the top of the cliff call the ranger on duty and they will take you around and drop you at the top of the cliff about half an hour walk from the Andre huts.

**Please note:** This document is only intended to supplement your map and documents issued by Sanparks. The Tidal information is to be used as a **rough guide only**, it has not been officially verified and we do not accept any responsibility for incorrect tidal information or incidents that occur as a result of using this guide.

Day	Sunrise	Sunset	High Tide	High Tide	Low Tide	Low tide
1	0702	1748	0338	1602	0943	2145
2	0703	1747	0407	1632	1010	2214
3	0704	1746	0435	1659	1038	2243
4	0704	1745	0503	1728	1106	2313
5	0705	1744	0532	1756	1134	2345
6	0706	1743	0602	1826	1205	---
7	0707	1742	0636	1903	0022	1240
8	0707	1741	0719	1956	0106	1324
9	0708	1740	0818	2127	0209	1426
10	0709	1740	0951	2323	0353	1615
11	0710	1739	1139	---	0541	1801
12	0710	1738	0025	1245	0640	1854
13	0711	1737	0112	1336	0726	1937
14	0712	1736	0155	1421	0808	2017
15	0713	1735	0238	1505	0849	2057
16	0714	1735	0321	1548	0930	2139
17	0715	1734	0405	1631	1012	2223
18	0716	1733	0449	1714	1055	2309
19	0716	1733	0535	1759	1138	2358
20	0717	1732	0623	1846	1223	---
21	0718	1731	0713	1941	0053	1311
22	0719	1731	0811	2050	0157	1406
23	0719	1730	0923	2219	0322	1516
24	0720	1730	1049	2337	0459	1649
25	0721	1729	1205	---	0610	1806
26	0722	1729	0034	1303	0701	1859
27	0722	1728	0120	1350	0742	1941
28	0723	1728	0159	1431	0816	2017
29	0723	1727	0235	1507	0848	2051
30	0724	1727	0309	1541	0920	2124
31	0724	1727	0343	1613	0950	2157

## THE OTTER TRAIL HEIGHT PROFILE

Thanks to Magnetic South (who organise the Otter Trail Run) for the use of this height profile. [www.theotter.co.za](http://www.theotter.co.za)

