

Deep South Retreat



The retreat is on Firglen Farm, 18 km from Makhanda on the Highlands Road. The secluded valley is a natural sanctuary, with bush-covered hills, areas of indigenous forest, and clear water springs.



Indigenous forest

Peace and quiet: During retreats we discourage noise. The natural soundscape changes all the time: baboon and bushbuck barks, occasional jackal howls at night and a wide range of birdcalls from forest, valley bushveld, and mountainous habitats.

Space to walk around: Visitors can walk through the bush, along a forest stream, across grassy fields, or hike up steep slopes. You can swim in a beautiful dam with clean spring water flowing through it – a 10-minute walk from the retreat centre.



Dam fed by forest spring



Eastern Cape thornveld

The Retreat Centre

We offer comfortable short-term (weekend) or long-term (2-4 weeks) retreats, from solo to groups of up to 8 (for a daytime bosberaad we can accommodate up to 20).

Full or partial catering is available for short-term stays. For longer retreats, there are four kitchens for self-catering.

The building has three connected units – East unit, Middle unit, and West unit. Each unit has its own bedroom(s) with writing desk, a kitchen & living area, ablutions + outside space. In addition, there is a shared meditation/meeting room with its own kitchen and ablutions.

For art retreats, we can accommodate 4 artists, each with their own studio.

Wifi is continuous in all units, unaffected by loadshedding.

There is a braai area, and firewood is available.



The **East Unit** has one double bedroom plus a small bedroom and a separate study, as well as shower, toilet, large studio- kitchen-living room and a covered verandah.



East Unit living room & kitchen



East Unit kitchen area



East Unit double bedroom



East Unit small bedroom

The **Middle Unit** has 2 bedrooms, a living room with fireplace (which can be a 3rd bedroom), shower + toilet, and a studio-kitchen with a view of the garden.



Middle Unit bedroom 1



Middle Unit bedroom 2



Middle Unit studio/kitchen

The **West Unit** has a large double bedroom with a view into trees. The kitchen is open plan with a living room + fireplace, and a closed-in verandah, warm in winter. The unit also has an extra room which can be used as a study or second bedroom.

For a group retreat, the West Unit is the natural gathering place, as the living room and kitchen are large and accommodating.



West Unit sunroom



West Unit living room



West Unit double bedroom



West Unit kitchen

The Meditation Unit

The meditation room is a quiet empty space at the centre of the retreat.
It has its own kitchen and ablution area.

It has been used for meditation retreats, but it can also be a conference room or
an artist's studio.



Meditation room



Meditation unit kitchen



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