Mountain Zebra National Park

This fine wilderness area, 24km south-west of Cradock in a great amphitheatre of the Bankberg range, was established in 1937 to preserve the last small remnant of the once numerous Cape mountain zebra (which are quite distinct from the familiar Burchell’s variety). The exercise proved highly successful: about 200 of the animals now graze on the hillsides of the 6 500-ha reserve, which is about the optimum number for the area. Surplus animals are translocated to other sanctuaries.

The part is home to 57 other types of mammals, including eland, black wildebeest, mountain reedbuck, springbok, African wildcat, black-footed cat, black-backed jackal, Cape fox, bat-eared fox, aardwolf. Dassies (rock rabbits) are a common sight.

For visitors there is luxurious but remarkably inexpensive, accommodation in 18 two-bed-roomed chalets (bathroom, living room, fully equipped kitchen, barbecue facilities) and in the lovingly restored Victorian Karoo farmhouse ‘Doornhoek’.

Amenities include:

Conference centre

Restaurant

Shop

Petrol station

Pool

Riding stables

Picnic areas

From: Traveller’s Giude To South Africa by Peter Joyce