

Geister Trail



Colour Code: **Green Arrows**
Distance: 12.7 km
Duration: approximately 4 hours
Grading: Intermediate to Advanced
Start: Geisterschlucht or Eagles Nest Info Kiosk



The Geister Trail is perfect for enjoying the diverse succulent flora and stunning mountain landscape of the area. Due to its length and difficulty, it should only be walked by experienced hikers. Starting at Geisterschlucht cabin the trail follows the steep winding track that the foot soldiers, mules and horses used during World War I.



After the climb, the path leads through a rocky area full of succulents. Walking through this landscape feels like being in a natural garden embedded into the



mountain scenery. The trail continues on the former transport route and passes an old well of the Schutztruppe. Back in colonial times, this well provided German soldiers and their animals with water. These days, the well is a welcome source for the wild animals, however only holding water during the rainy season.

Following the idyllic path in the riverbed and climbing up in-between striking rock formations, you soon reach the canyon that leads down to Eagles Nest. Take a minute and absorb the stunning view over the desert plains before climbing down. Please stay on the right side of the gorge and always pay full attention to the trail, as it gets very steep and rocky.

Once you have reached the bottom of the canyon, you can see the Eagles Nest chalets in front of you. The Geister Trail leaves the chalets behind and guides you around the mountains to your right.

You will pass by a fully split boulder on your left hand side. Grasp the immense power that chemical weathering processes have on solid rock. Look for the natural greyish colour of the un-weathered gneiss. Shortly after, the trail passes an old rusty Hudson. Please read the information board next to the car to learn about the legend. After having walked on the sand road for some time, you will reach the Geisterschlucht cabin where this trail ends and you can rest from this adventurous day.



Featured plants on this trail: *Aptosimum spinescens*, *Dyrophytum africanum*, *Galenia Africana*, *Pelargonium sp*, *Jamesbrittenia spp*, *Psilocaulon sp*, *Zygophyllum spp*, *Pteronia sp*, *Sarcocaulon crassicaule*



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 Geister Trail (12.7 km) takes approx. 4 hours

Ramparts

 Old Car

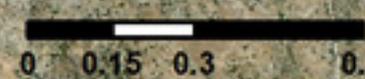
 Geister Schlucht Cabin

 Eagle's Nest Chalets

 Gate

Ladder



 Kilometers
0 0.15 0.3 0.6

Geographical Data Source: Garmin GPS Tracks and Google Earth
Scale: 1:25,000

Geographic Coordinate System: WGS84
Map was produced in September 2011