



## **NALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

'The Adventurous weekend destination'

This Local Municipality is named "Naledi" Sesotho word for star and it is located in the eastern highland of the region and a border gate to Lesotho is just 7 km from Wepener.

## **WEPENER**

It lies on the banks of the Caledon river and it also an ideal gateway to the Lesotho mountain Kingdom and a stopover to Durban from Easter cape vice versa on the Maloti route. This town was named after General Louw Wepener who was defeated by the Basotho after he tried to storm their stronghold at Thaba Bosiu during the Second Basotho War. The town and surroundings were also the scene of many battles fought during the early nineteenth century and the many unidentified graves in the valley of the Jammerbergspruit bear witness to this sad fact. Van Rooyen's Gate Border Post, the gateway to Lesotho, lies 7 km from the town. Today Wepener is also famous for agricultural production[ sheep, cattle] . For those who are enthusiasts of weekend breakaways this is an ideal place, The famous Lord Fraser Guest House (the house were Lord Fraser, who started the Frasers franchise, stayed) and the Kneelpoort dam [Mohokare Lodge] cater for all your accommodation needs.

## **ADVENTURE AND SPORT**

Wepener district has couple of major dams (Knelpoort, Welbedacht Dam the two supply water to Wepener and to as far as the city of Bloemfontein , a full day tour around the Water City[Purification process plant] is available on request

4x4 routes: 4x4 Enthusiasts are regular visitors to the region. The 4x4 trail in the area are organized from the Lord Frasers Lodge, 4x4 Getaways to Lesotho [Malealea Lodge] are easily be arranged.

Hiking: There are several hiking trails in town, such as those in the Caledon Nature Reserve.

Mountain biking: Mountain bikers are welcome to try out Wepener's mountain bike Angling and water sport: The Welbedacht, Caledonia) and the nearby Caledon River, is a prime angling and water sport area wild life is also available. The floating bush camp accommodation offer an adventurous experience during your stay at the Caledon Nature Reserve, Caledon Nature Reserve is one of several trails in the area. An off-road race is held here every September. Knelpoort is also offering angling, boating, hunting camping and caravanning.

Horse riding , fishing wing shooting and camping are available facilities at the Fleewood country

Recreational facilities include a golf course, tennis courts are available in town and Welbedacht Dam [Bloem Water Purification Plant]

## **ARCHAEOLOGY AND PALAEOLOGY**

San Rock art can be viewed on Ventershoek Farm.

## **FAUNA AND FLORA**

The 3 700 ha Caledon Nature Reserve is located just off the R26 route on the R701 route to Smithfield and it has it own floating bush camps with its own barbecue and ablution facilities. The reserve has a variety of wild species and birds.



## HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE

Louw Wepener statue in front of Wepener City Hall

Thaba Bosiu Memorial stone at the entrance of the City hall

Jammerbergdrif Battlefield site near the Caledon River

Dutch Reformed Church: The sandstone Dutch Reformed Church, in Kerk Street,

Lord Fraser's House: The house of Lord Ian Fraser, an early local inhabitant, has

Sandstone Bridge: The sandstone street bridge [Jammersberg Bridge] over the Caledon River has been declared a national monument.

## DEWETSDORP

Dewetsdorp lies 75 km south-east of Bloemfontein and was named after the father of the Boer General, Christiaan de Wet. De Wet Senior was also the founder of the town, which became a municipality in 1890. When a British garrison occupied the town during the Anglo-Boer War, General Christiaan de Wet's men rallied to its defense and within four days the British surrendered. The town lies in a prime sheep and cattle area where wheat and maize are also cultivated.

## ADVENTURE AND SPORT

Golf: Enjoy a relaxing game at the beautiful 9-hole golf course

Dewetsdorp is the home of the OSRAM Car race which is held annually

Wing shooting

Hunting farms

**Red hill hiking trail**

## HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE

The town is part of the Battlefields Route.

British War Graves and Monument: The British Monument and War Graves lie on a hill at the entrance of the town from Bloemfontein and was erected in honour of the British soldiers who died during the Anglo Boer war.

The Centenary Festival Monument in front of the town hall was erected in 1938 to commemorate the centenary of the Great Trek. The Twins Memorial was erected in the grounds of the Dutch Reformed Church in honour of a set of twins who both lost their lives during the Anglo-Boer War.

Morojaneng Ethiopian church has its own unique architecture and old history.

## VAN STADENSRUS

Situated between the Free State towns of Wepener and Zastron, this relatively

young town was proclaimed in 1925 and named after the owner of the farm on which the town was laid out at the farm Oumook.

## ADVENTURE AND SPORT

Water sport: Egmont Dam, on the Wepener Road, is the ideal venue for those interested in water sport.

## HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE

Anglo-Boer War Grave: The grave of CWA Durand, a Boer commander during the Anglo-Boer War, is located in this area