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Modjadji Cycad Reserve

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Nature Reserve in or near Duiwelskloof

Visit South Africa's own natural Jurassic Park, the Modjadji Cycad Forest, which has the largest concentration of a single cycad species in the world. This stunning 530 hectare reserve is home to some of the oldest and largest cycads in the world – some up to 13 metres high and bearing cones weighing in to up to 34 kilograms.



Mysteriously situated near the home of the fabled Modjadji Rain Queen in the misty Lobeu Mountains, it's an awesome place to go walking or to chill out with a picnic basket. Between December and February these living fossil plants are in seed. When the mist lifts there are sweeping views over the cycad forest to the Lowveld and the Kruger National Park.

Well constructed walks meander from the cycad forest to the acacia and grass lands below. Here you can spot large game such as blue wildebeest, waterbuck, nyala, impala and bushbuck. There's a good chance of seeing monkeys, dassies and bushpigs too. The birding is fantastic with over 170 species recorded.

GPS Latitude: -23.7168394840149 Longitude: 30.2319717407227

