

THIS WEEKEND

Watch a duck parade, escape to these green spots in Pretoria, holiday in Hermanus.

STAY HERE • DO THIS • TAKE FIVE • TOWN OF THE MONTH



STAY HERE

BELLWOOD COTTAGES, KZN MIDLANDS

This working stud farm about 2 km from Nottingham Road rolls everything we love about the Midlands into one laid-back and affordable package. The cottages overlook a lake set against rolling pastures dotted with cattle. The farm also boasts a large stand of pines and poplars, where you're almost guaranteed to spot a duiker or a bushbuck. You can fish, walk or paddle on the farm and you can eat, drink and craft yourself silly on the nearby Midlands Meander.

Facilities: Bellwood is a popular wedding venue and the lakeside cottages (all named after birds) sleep between 14 and 16 people each. The cottages all have DSTv, inside and outside fireplaces and very well-stocked kitchens. (Sixteen shot glasses might be overkill...) Two smaller, historic cottages located near the central farmyard sleep two (Yellowwood) and six (Cypress) respectively.
Things to do: The farm's two dams are regularly stocked with trout. Fishing costs R100 per person per

day and each angler can keep two fish. Each cottage has its own boat and paddles, which can be used free of charge. Life jackets are not provided so bring your own if you have small children.

The "Enchanted Forest" is dotted with gnomes and toadstools and the playground features a marvelous merry-go-round with lifelike horses. Real horses, cows and vervet monkeys abound.

How to get there: Nottingham Road is about 470 km from Joburg and 140 km from Durban, via the

N3. From Nottingham Road, take the Fort Nottingham road for 2 km. Bellwood will be on your left.

GPS: S29.37673 E30.00509

Rates: On weekends and in season, there's a minimum charge of R3 350 per night for the lakeside cottages (up to 10 adults). Cypress cottage starts from R900 per night; Yellowwood from R750 (low-season rates). Discounts are available midweek and out of season.

Contact: ☎ 082 495 5033;

📍 bellwood.co.za

– Nick Dall