MAGUGA DAM

Maguga dam has an overall height of 115m, a crest length of 870m and a base width of 400m. It's embankment comprises of about 800 000m3 of clay, 2 800 000m3 of granite rock and 43 000m3 of filter material. The Komati River flows through the dam.
The dam was constructed by KOBWA (Komati Basin Water Authority), completed in 2001, after the Governments of Swaziland and South Africa signed a Treaty in 1992 for the Development and Utilisation of the Water Resources of the Komati River Basin. In the terms of the treaty the cost of the project and the distribution of the water from the dam is shared 60% 40% between South Africa and Swaziland respectively.
Several fish species are found in the Dam which make it ideal for artificial lure angling. Barbel; Eel; Carp; Yellow Tail; Largmouth Black Bass; Bream; Mozambican Tilapia; Blue Kurper; Vlei Kurper Dwarf Tiger and Mosquito Fish.
The main fishing attraction is the dam's 'Monster Bass'. The current Swaziland record stands at 5.4kg, caught in mid September 2007.
The bird life is also fantastic with other 83 species of birds including several African Finfoot.

GEOLOGY SURROUNDING MAGUGA

Maguga Lodge is surrounded by some of the oldest mountains in the world: the Makhonjwa Mountains, which are part of the Barberton Greenstone Belt. A group of geologists from South Africa worked on this discovery and put a report together to encourage the area to become part of a World Heritage Site.

"I am the geologist who worked on the project and yes, you are situated in an integral part of the Archaean rocks which are a part of the greenstones. You do not lie within the greenstones as such, of the Makhonjwa Mountains, but rather in the ancient granite gneisses (which are part of the whole story)."
Dr Dion Brandt, Pr.Sci.Nat., Concession Creek Consulting

The Barberton Greenstone Belt is a truly unique remnant of the ancient Earth's crust, containing the oldest best-preserved sequence of volcanic and sedimentary rocks on Earth. These highly accessible ancient exposures present a continuous 350 million year sequence of rocks, starting 3 600 million years ago. Their physical and chemical characteristics provide an unparalleled source of scientific information about the early Earth. The outstanding value of these rocks lies in the large number of sites and features that, when combined, provide a unique, and as yet only partially explored, scientific resource.
The Makhonjwa Mountains comprised of the Greenstone Belt rocks, pre-date the granite domes around Nelspruit and Mbabane, and provide the best source of information about the early earth anywhere in the world. As required by the World Heritage Convention, they are "the best of the best" examples of this form of most ancient (Archaean) geology.

The outstanding value of these rocks is due largely to their remarkable state of preservation. They are not entirely unaltered, but enclaves exist where original components are intact for most rock types in this thick Archaean sequence. From these rocks, geologists and paleobiologists have learned more about the Earth's early history, than from any other comparable site. It is for these unique attributes that the area has been accepted on to the World Heritage Site Tentative List by UNESCO. Beyond the geology the area has other significant geomorphological attributes, set in deeply folded mountainous terrain that stretches from the Lochiel Plateau in the south, to the Nelspruit-Komatipoort area in the north, and straddles the Swaziland border. It includes part of the Komati river catchment in the south west, the de Kaap catchment in the north, and Mahlambanyathi and Crocodile Rivers in the northeast.

"This region offers a virtual library of information at the limits of terrestrial time and allows us to study and learn about the origins and earliest history of our planet."
Prof Chris Heubeck, Free University of Berlin
"Rocks from these areas provide the only direct information from which the earliest history of our planet can be reconstructed with confidence ... Because the world's oldest fossils have been found here, the area is a Mecca for scientists interested in how the young Earth worked 3 500 000 millennia BC, and in searching for new clues to the origin of life."
Prof Maarten De Wit, University of Cape Town

You are surrounded by history whilst here at Maguga Lodge!

REMEMBER If you require any further information, or assistance – please don't hesitate to contact our reception.

We hope to see you soon!

MAGUGA LODGE
Swaziland's Highveld Magic