
BEDFORD COUNTRY GARDENS
BEDFORD
COUNTRY GARDENS
30 OCT - 1 NOV & 6 - 8 NOV 2026

GARDEN ROUTES 2026

TOWN ROUTE

Maasström	A favourite for many, easily accessible and truly spectacular.
Mandalay	Country-style garden with elegant French touches and mountain views.
SA Rosarium	Home to South Africa's national collection of heritage roses.
Nellie's Garden	An exceptional, semi-formal masterpiece in the heart of town.

MOUNTAIN ROUTE

Fairholt	Waterwise design with indigenous plants, salt bush borders and French Panarosa roses.
Belmont	Masses of roses and shrubs are planted in beds which make use of natural elements, river stones, and interesting pieces from the farm. Plants for sale. Bring your own picnic.
Lynedoch	(1st weekend only) – gather under the great oak against the setting of this historic home and enjoy a captivating talk by Dr. Viktor Radermacher specialising in dinosaur biology and evolution from Karoo Origins in Graaff-Reinet.
Eildon	A seventh-generation homestead with over 600 roses and majestic trees. Delight in the Ploughman's platter against the Baviaans backdrop.

COWIE VALLEY ROUTE

Donkerhoek	An ancestral stone home surrounded by lawns, fruit trees, aloes, and a thriving vegetable garden. Enjoy the famous homemade scones.
Cavers Guesthouse	Towering trees, sweeping lawns, and vibrant borders frame this gracious fifth-generation family home. Light lunches available.
Glen Gregor	A lush garden beside the Cowie stream, shaded by grand trees alive with birdsong.

HEADING WEST ROUTE

Kokskraal	A tranquil farm garden filled with vibrant blooms and ancient trees, featuring a pop-up shop with a variety of items for sale.
Olivewoods Farm	A lush green terraced garden where you can enjoy breathtaking panoramic views.
Glen Avon	English-style garden and historic homestead with craft gin tastings and self-guided mill tours. The mill will operate at specific times. (See Events) Purchase stone ground meal.
The Orchards Farm	A picturesque country garden among farm animals and old oaks, with 350 roses representing 95 varieties, and serving light lunches.

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Bedford Country Gardens

www.bedford.co.za

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30 OCT - 1 NOV & 6 - 8 NOV 2026

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Please note where allowed, pets must be leashed.

GARDENS OPEN
8:00AM - 5:00PM

ENTRANCE FEE
R30 entrance fee per open garden. Payable in cash at garden.



MAASSTRÖM



MANDALAY



SA ROSARIUM



NELLIE'S GARDEN



FAIRHOLT



BELMONT



BOTH WEEKENDS

EILDON



1st WEEKEND ONLY

LYNEDOCH



DONKERHOEK



CAVERS



GLEN GREGOR



KOKSKRAAL



GLEN AVON



THE ORCHARDS



OLIVEWOODS

CELEBRITIES VISITING

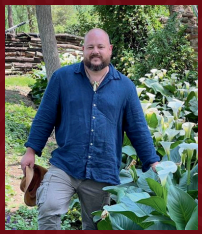
Karen McEwan



Born and raised on a Karoo farm outside Beaufort West, Karen McEwan's love for food, farming and the land has shaped her journey. After studying and working in the food industry, she settled in Middelburg, where cooking classes and catering grew into an organic garden producing fresh vegetables and seeds. In early 2025, she opened a farm-style restaurant showcasing garden produce, free-range eggs and farm meat in wholesome Karoo-inspired dishes. Today, she also champions local tourism, sustainability and the producers and entrepreneurs who make the region unique.

Topic: Proe Jou Groente Tuin / Taste Your Veggie Garden
31 October 2026 | 08:30 | R350pp | The Duke of Bedford

James Barry Slabbert



A multidisciplinary artist and garden designer with over 20 years' experience creating distinctive gardens across South Africa. Combining artistic vision with botanical knowledge, he designs immersive spaces that feel personal and deeply connected to nature. Trained at the Lifestyle School of Garden Design in Johannesburg, Barry also gained hands-on nursery experience before establishing his career. Now based in Ladysmith, KwaZulu-Natal, he continues his garden and art projects while helping run the family business. A dedicated plantsman, Barry grows and breeds rare and unusual plants and has a lifelong passion for roses. He is Chairman of the Midlands Rose Society, serves on the committee of the Heritage Rose Society of South Africa, and regularly speaks at garden clubs and societies around the country. His work uniquely blends painting, sculpture and plantsmanship to create beautiful, resilient gardens that feel like living works of art.

Topic: A gun, a Bible, and a packet of seeds
7 November 2026 | 08:30 | R200pp | The Duke of Bedford

EVENTS

29 OCT 2026 | 17:30 | The Duke of Bedford
Bedford Country Gardens 2026 Cocktail Party at the Duke of Bedford.
R120pp for champagne and canapés. Bar available. Card only.

31 OCT 2026 | 08:30 | The Duke of Bedford
Celebrity Breakfast at The Duke of Bedford: Karen McEwan
Chef and entrepreneur, 31 October 2026 | R350 pp. Enjoy a continental breakfast with a delicious twist, featuring Karen's own specially prepared accompaniments and flavours designed to delight food lovers. Book via Quicket.

7 Nov 2026 | 08:30 | The Duke of Bedford
Celebrity Breakfast at The Duke of Bedford: James Barry Slabbert
Multidisciplinary artist and garden designer with more than 20 years of experience,
7 November 2026 | R200 pp. Continental breakfast included. Book via Quicket.

1 Nov 2026 | 11am & 2pm + 2 Nov 2026 | 11 am | Lynedoch
Lynedoch (1st weekend only): **Palaeontology talk** by Dr. Viktor Radermacher who specialises in dinosaur biology and evolution – Talk times Saturday at 11am and 2pm and Sunday at 11am (no bookings required). Saturday live entertainment by musician Ben du Toit starting at 2pm. The Shearing Shed natural fibre pop up shop available.

30 + 31 Oct & 6 + 7 Nov | 09:00, 11:00 & 14:00 | Huntley Glen
Ernest Pringle: Butterfly talks at Huntley Glen. Available both weekends Friday and Saturday at 9am, 11 am, and 2pm. Complimentary entry, donations welcome.
Booking essential - WhatsApp: 072 297 7840.

Friday Soirée 31 Oct + 6 Nov | 17:00 - 18:00 | SA Rosarium
SA Heritage Rosarium : Guided walks available. Nursery available, including herbs and companion plants for sale. Enjoy a magical Soirée on both Fridays from 5–6pm, with sundowners, beautiful garden views and a relaxed evening atmosphere - with the Bedford Country School Band bringing extra rhythm and energy to the second weekend.

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EVENTS

31 Oct - 1 Nov & 6 - 8 Nov | 11am + 3pm | Glen Avon
Mill tours (Glen Avon): Self-guided tours - Friday-Sunday (R20pp), and see the mill in action for a working tour on Fridays at 3pm, Saturdays at 11am and 3pm, and Sundays at 11 am (R50pp).

30 Oct + 6 Nov | 10am | 31 Oct + 7 Nov & 6 - 8 Nov | 11am + 2pm | Bedford Club
Bedford Town History Walk & Talk – with Sylvia Gaiser:
Step into Bedford's past! Starting at the Bedford Club, uncover fascinating stories and historic churches before ending at the Bedford Cemetery. Fridays at 10am, and Saturdays at 11am and 2pm. Wear comfortable shoes for the walk.

30 Oct - 1 Nov & 6 - 8 Nov | Bedford DR Church
Bedford DR Church: A lively festival stop filled with delicious food and refreshing drinks, colourful stalls to browse, the Shack Bar, and live music creating the perfect garden-festival atmosphere.

30 Oct - 1 Nov & 6 - 8 Nov | The Old Vicarage | 8am-5pm
The Old Vicarage: A charming stop for the whole family. Wander through the garden while the children enjoy the petting zoo and play area, then settle in for a light bite and browse the selection of plants and fresh vegetables for sale.

30 Oct - 1 Nov & 6 - 8 Nov | Mandalay
Mandalay Night Garden: Book in advance to enjoy the stunning scenery and a delectable Mediterranean Platter at the Night Garden – 082 776 3723.

30 Oct - 1 Nov & 6 - 8 Nov | Hope Street
Retail Therapy in Hope Street: Woodstock & Willow, Twigg & Co, and The Artlab.

30 Oct + 6 Nov | 9am, 12pm & 3pm | 31 Oct + 7 Nov | 9am + 12pm | Cookhouse Creamery
Cookhouse Creamery: Guided Tours of Factory
Tickets available at the Factory Shop (cash or card accepted). Friday: 9am/12pm/3pm with possible cheese production viewing and Saturday 9am/12pm. Guests arrive 10 min before the tour. Jackets recommended.

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BREAKFAST, BRUCH & LUNCH

- Apprentice Deli
- The Duke of Bedford
- The Old Vicarage Tea Garden
- DR Church Festival Terrain

FOOD ON THE GO

Apprentice Deli	Harvest table and set menu for takeaways.
SA Rosarium	Light eats and refreshments.
The Old Vicarage Market	Light eats and refreshments.

FOOD ON FARM ROUTE

The Orchard Farm	Light lunch available.
Kokskraal	Light meals and refreshments.
Eildon	Ploughman's platter and wine or homemade lemon cordial.
Lynedoch	Vetkoek & mince and refreshments.
Glen Lynden Church	Hearty potjiekos, sosatie rolls and boerewors rolls. (Open both Saturdays only)
Donkerhoek	Coffee & tea with homemade scones, assorted jams and cream.
Cavers	Coffee & tea, light lunches, and a cash bar.
Mandalay	Pastéis de Nata (Portuguese custard tarts) and refreshments.
Glen Gregor	Purchase biltong & droëwors.

BOOK FOR DINNER IN ADVANCE

Apprentice Deli	Freshly prepared pizzas available throughout the afternoon and evening 2pm-9pm:	073 269 2548
Bedford Club	Famous Steak Night on both weekends – Saturday	076 708 5585
Butcherbird	Dinner (only 2nd weekend)	082 359 7002
Duke of Bedford	Set menu & à la carte	078 511 9689
Mandalay	Night Garden (Mediterranean Platter):	082 776 3723
Bedford DR Church	Variety of meals and refreshments available.	
Festival Terrain	(no booking required)	