



## *Paradise above Plett*

You don't have to choose what view of the iconic tourist town Plettenberg Bay you prefer when you stay at Sky Villa Boutique Hotel. This 5-star accommodation on the Garden Route, has it all. It is ingeniously built on Baron's View Estate for visitors to have an uninterrupted 360-degree panorama of well, whatever is your wont.

Words and photographs: **Kathy Malherbe**



**F**rom Keurbooms' beach to the ebb and flow of the lagoon, the Indian Ocean and its capricious moods, the Tsitsikamma and Langkloof Mountain or a pod of whales or dolphins gently undulating in the swell off Look Out Beach, it's an unparalleled vista, one usually reserved for the resident fish eagles soaring on the local thermals.

Sky Villa is part of Cape Summer Villas, a boutique collection of exclusive accommodations along the Cape Coast to Plettenberg Bay. The properties all have magnificent locations but Sky Villa is the Conquista. It's a luxurious retreat, far from the madding crowd but in very close proximity to the popular tourist hotspots. While the boutique hotel is stately and regal with cutting edge design, the indoor outdoor flow, contemporary colours, soft furnishings and lush indigenous gardens, dotted with contemporary South African sculptures, make it both sumptuous and relaxed.



There is a stylish sense of creativity throughout, with keen attention to detail. Elegant interiors are light and bright, vivid upholstery and wallpaper combine with beautiful works of art.

Sky Villa may be centrally situated with easy access to restaurants, beaches and local tourist attractions but you will find it hard to budge from the warm hospitality and mesmerising views. Whether you are having a cocktail next to the Sky/Zen pool or watching the sunset at the Sky Bar while you enjoy an award winning wine from the cellar, you want for nothing and there seems no earthly reason to leave.

In fact it's difficult enough leaving your luxurious, well-appointed room with its private terrace and a shower cleverly designed to make the most of the spectacular views of the bay. Sky Villa has 14 rooms which are the epitome of sumptuousness and comfort. Each offers air conditioning, soft oversized fluffy white bathrobes, beach towels, a flat screen TV with Netflix and a hairdryer as standard. The coffee and tea station has a Mini Bar and a Nespresso coffee machine.

The entire estate mirrors the natural splendor of the area with art inspired by the local birdlife and indigenous gardens. Nature is seamlessly brought in, even down to dishes garnished with fresh lavender from the garden. Most meals feature home grown herbs and vegetables which add to the appeal of the excellent cuisine.



Breakfast, in the dining room overlooking the garden and bay, is harbinger of good things to come. It is beautifully presented and ordered from an 'à la carte' menu, rather than the traditional buffet style. The restaurant, which is open to the public for breakfast, lunch and supper offers seasonal menus

The chef and team work closely with the hotel's dedicated landscapers, local farmers and award-winning suppliers to ensure every ingredient is individually selected for seasonality, quality and flavour before making its way into the kitchen and onto guest's plates.

There is nothing formal about the dining experience and the conviviality of the venue and warmth of the staff make it arguably one of the Garden Route's most spectacular culinary destinations. The superb cuisine is even more reason not to leave this relaxing eyrie on top of the world.

And you can over indulge without conscience because there's a high end, fully-equipped gym where you can burn off some of the excesses. Or you take choose to take a leisurely meander amongst the fynbos, taking in the peace and tranquility. You will in likelihood cross the path of one of the several blue cranes, walking ballerina-like, en pointe round the pool and between the luscious vegetation.



No venue, no matter how luxurious, is memorable without friendly, but attentive service. At Sky Villa it's unobtrusive, yet every need is taken care of ... often before you even ask. Top-notch service is of utmost importance and every effort is made to guarantee your comfort and wellbeing – even amidst a global pandemic!

If experiencing paradise is on your bucket list then Sky Villa will not disappoint – it delivers a luxurious, tranquil escape with unmatched views. ✨

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