



Geo Trail – Barberton

The Geo Trail is a geology wonderland. Examine a 3.2 billion year old beach deposit, so well defined you can see tidal intervals; trace fossilized bio mats in sandstone, the first signs of life on earth that you can see with the naked eye; see piles of volcanic pillows formed by lava extruding on an ocean floor, or volcanic hailstones preserved in dove-grey chert sediments. All of these and more are to be found at geo sites along the scenic road to Bulembu.

Striking and informative roadside panels are installed along the 40km tarred road between Barberton and Swaziland. A dozen attractively landscaped geological lay-bys and viewpoints have been built, illustrating spectacularly how the earth evolved from a lifeless, hot steaming planet, to having an environment that supports life.

The trip can be done as a self-drive trip and it takes about 6 hours to complete. The trail starts from the Barberton Medi Clinic (corner of R38 and R40) and heads up to the Swaziland border and back. Information booklets regarding the trail are available from the Barberton Information Office in Crown Street. There are no bathrooms on the trail (except for at the border post), and guests should bring their own drinks, snacks and appropriate clothing (jackets and hats).

