

# Rock Art Custodians



Rock Art Custodians are trained to ensure appropriate visitor behaviour and prevent vandalism



- In response to damage and graffiti at rock art sites , only a limited number of rock art sites are now open to the public.
- Persons wishing to visit these sites may only do so in the company of a ROCK ART CUSTODIAN.
- ROCK ART CUSTODIANS are drawn from the local community and are trained to inform visitors about appropriate behavior at rock art sites, and to ensure that damage to the sites is prevented. They also complete monthly monitoring forms which assist Amafa in identifying threats to the art.
- ROCK ART CUSTODIANS once trained and accredited , are not employed, but operate independently under the supervision of the conservation and heritage authorities. The custodian fee is standardised and is their only source of income.
- ROCK ART CUSTODIANS are not trained as guides and are not expected to deliver such a service.
- ROCK ART CUSTODIANS are required to wear identification whilst on duty.
- Persons visiting rock art sites without a valid permit or not in the company of a custodian are liable to be prosecuted in terms of the KZN Heritage Act (Act 10 of 1997).
- By making use of a custodian you are assisting in upliftment of the local community as well as participating in conservation of your heritage.



# Code of conduct at Rock Art Sites



- Never touch the paintings
- Do not lean on or lean objects against the paintings
- Do not draw, scratch, decorate or damage the walls of a shelter
- Do not wet or pour liquid onto paintings.
- Avoid creating dust when entering shelters
- No camping is permitted in or near shelters containing rock art
- No fires are permitted in or near shelters containing rock art
- Rock art is a depiction of religious experience, please respect this.
- No person may visit a rock art site unless accompanied by a rock art custodian ( see overleaf for the custodian rationale)



Damage: The horse rider has been outlined in charcoal



Damage: Panel used for target practice



Damage: liquids thrown onto the art



Damage: The art has been scratched away