

Gross-Barmen Hot Springs

A Rhenish mission station was established here in 1844 as one of Namibia's earliest mission stations. The German missionaries named it Neo Barmen after Barmen, the headquarters of the Rhenish Mission Society in Germany.

Situated 25 km west of Okahandja and 100 km from Windhoek, Gross-Barmen is a popular day resort for Namibians and a stopover for tourists. Water from the mineral-rich spring has a temperature of about 65 degrees Celsius, which is cooled to about 40 degrees for the revitalising indoor thermal pool.

Park size 1 km²

Proclamation Gross-Barmen Hot Springs in 1968

Natural features Hot springs

Vegetation Tree and Shrub Savannah Biome.

Vegetation type: Highland Shrubland

Wildlife Kudu, warthog and baboon. The 191 bird species recorded include Rufus-bellied Heron, Dwarf Bittern, Macoa Duck, African Jacana and Palm Swift.

Tourism Thermal hall and outdoor pool. Bird-watching. Camping and bungalows. Conference facilities. Restaurant, kiosk and shop. Ruins of the original mission house still visible.

Key management issues

Reeds around the dam attract rats and become thick, hampering bird viewing. The area is too small to manage effectively as a game park.

Future plans

Namibia Wildlife Resorts plans to renovate this resort.



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