



HIGHLAND GATE
— GOLF AND TROUT ESTATE —



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ERNIE ELS
DESIGN

Statement by Ernie Els

When you hear golfers say they were torn between hitting their next shot or pausing to take a photo of the golf course or the surrounding scenery, you know it has to be a very special place. Highland Gate is definitely that kind of place.

It's now more than 10 years since Greg Letsche and myself first visited this site, on the edge of the Steenkampsberg plateau overlooking the Kwena Basin, but the memory is still fresh in my mind. As a golf course designer you feel blessed to be able to work with an area of outstanding natural beauty, but also a real sense of responsibility to do justice to such a wonderful location. We believe that's been achieved and we're so proud of what Highland Gate has become. A world class golf course in such a unique and special setting is a rare and powerful combination.

As a test of golf it is challenging and fair, with sound strategic values. It's the kind of golf course that can be enjoyed by players of all standards, which is one of the defining principles of our philosophy at Ernie Els Design. Also it's clear to see what an incredible job the guys are doing with the maintenance of the course; the greens are right up there with the very best putting surfaces in South Africa and the overall condition and attention to detail is of the highest standard.

Obviously it's a massive team effort getting a golf course, its club infrastructure and facilities, to this stage and I send my congratulations and best wishes to everyone involved.

- Ernie Els

