

South African Essentials: Johannesburg - Cape Town (TIRB-S)



Departures from November 2016 – 31 October 2017

Departure Dates: 2016-2017											
Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
7,21	5	9,23	6,20	6,20	3,17	1,15,29	12	10	7,21	4,18	9,23

Travel down South Africa's coastline. Enjoy "Big Five" game viewing in the Kruger National Park. Visit the rugged Wild Coast, experience a rare interaction with ostriches and visit the World Heritage Sites of Table Mountain and iSimangaliso Wetlands.

Note: this journey is also possible departing from Cape Town

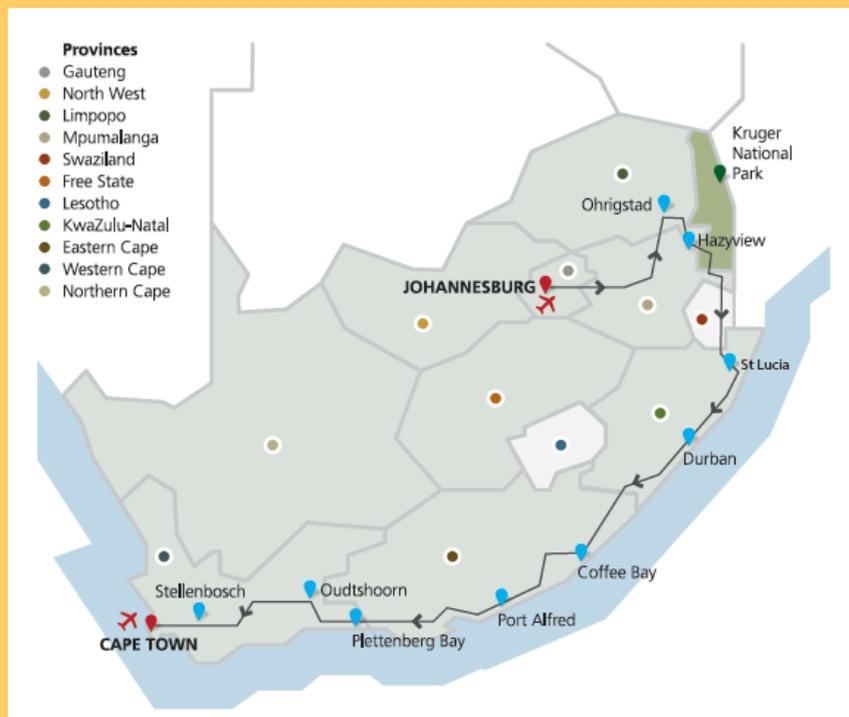
- Departure time:** Selected Mondays from the Protea Hotel Balalaika
- Guiding:** Bilingual English/German speaking
- Participants:** 2 – 26 per vehicle
- Accommodation:** 3/4 star hotels
- Vehicles:** Luxury sedan, minibus or coach
- Meals:** 15 x breakfast, 5 dinners
- Entrance fees:** Taal Monument, Stellenbosch Walking Tour, Brandy Tasting, River Cruise, Storms River Bridge conservation fee, St. Lucia Estuary Boa Cruise, Ostrich Farm, Cango Caves, Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Park open safari vehicle morning game drive, Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Park conservation fee, Kruger National



Park conservation fee, Blyde River Canyon, Bourke's Luck Potholes and Wonder View

Optional excursions: Cape Town City and Table Mountain Tour, Cape Point Full day tour, Knysna full day tour, full day game drives in Kruger National Park in open 4x4 vehicles, Soweto morning tour, cultural activities

TRAVEL ITINERARY



DAY 1: MONDAY - ARRIVAL IN JOHANNESBURG (+/- 30 km)

Today you will be at leisure or alternatively take an optional guided afternoon city tour of Johannesburg (own account and excluding lunch). Share highlights of our City of Gold and its great historic and modern significance bridged by Nelson Mandela, joining two cultures and erecting the pillars of our Constitution. Return to your hotel late afternoon, where you will be met by your tourist guide for a tour briefing at 18h30. Tonight enjoy dinner (own account) at your hotel.

Protea Hotel Balalaika or similar – bed and breakfast

Note: Your transfer to O.R. Tambo International Airport is not included in the package price and must be booked separately.



DAY 2: TUESDAY – JOHANNESBURG – HAZYVIEW via PANORAMA ROUTE (+/- 500 km)

After breakfast, you will travel through the Panorama Route to Hazyview.

The awe-inspiring Blyde River Canyon and Three Rondawels, which may be the world's largest green canyons, is the first stop along the beautiful Panorama Route. You will also visit Bourke's Luck Potholes and Wonder View, the highest viewpoint on this route. These are some of the country's most beautiful views and cherished natural marvels.

Stop for lunch (own account) in Graskop. Arrive in the late afternoon at your overnight accommodation, on the fringe of Hazyview. Relax prior to a leisurely dinner at the hotel.

Casa do Sol Hotel & Resort or similar - dinner, bed & breakfast

DAY 3: WEDNESDAY – KRUGER NATIONAL PARK (+/- 250 km)

Leaving the hotel after an early breakfast we travel to the iconic Kruger National Park.

Enjoy a guided closed vehicle game drive prowling the bushveld looking for the “Big Five”, their friends and natural enemies, inside the legendary Kruger National Park, a place where elephants always have the right of way. The Kruger National Park covers 19,485km² and runs 360km from north to south. It supports a staggering variety of fauna and flora including 147 mammals and 507 birds species, some rare and indigenous to the area. Staying inside the park, fill up on lunch (own account) while enjoying the wild scenery at one of the park's rest camps, before continuing on your bush adventure. Exit the Kruger National Park and head back to the hotel to freshen up and enjoy pre-dinner drinks (own account) dinner.

Casa do Sol Hotel & Resort or similar – dinner, bed and breakfast

Note: Optional full day safari in an open safari vehicle available (own account and excluding lunch)

DAY 4: THURSDAY - HAZYVIEW to MALELANE via KRUGER NATIONAL PARK (+/- 200 km)

Enjoy an early breakfast before spending a second day on a guided closed vehicle game drive in the Kruger National Park.

Lunch (own account) while enjoying the wild scenery at one of the park's rest camps, before continuing your journey to the Malelane Gate.

Arrive in the late afternoon at your overnight accommodation, situated on the fringes of the famous park. Enjoy pre-dinner drinks (own account) on the deck overlooking the Crocodile River and Southern Kruger National Park before dinner at the hotel.

Pestana Kruger Lodge or similar - dinner, bed & breakfast

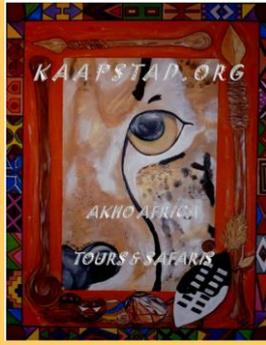
Note: optional full day safari in an open safari vehicle available (own account and excluding lunch).

DAY 5: FRIDAY – MALELANE TO HLUHLUWE VIA SWAZILAND (+/- 420 km)

Depart from the hotel after an early breakfast, and travel along the N4 highway, with a comfort stop in the Malelane area, before entering the warm and welcoming Kingdom of Swaziland at Mananga Border post.

Swaziland is a beautiful and culturally rich country

The Ezulwini Valley is commonly known as the 'Valley of Heaven'. The Valley contains a number of notable wildlife sanctuaries and crafts markets. Enjoy lunch (own account) en-route.



Exiting Swaziland, we enter the sub-tropical Zulu Kingdom of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa and make our way to Hluhluwe. Hluhluwe is situated on the Elephant Coast, an area known for its national parks, natural diversity and cultural heritage.

Arrive early evening at the lodge in time for dinner (own account).

DumaZulu Lodge & Cultural Village or similar - bed & breakfast.

Note: When entering the Kingdom of Swaziland, please ensure that you are in possession of a valid passport, and for nationals of certain countries, multi-entry visa entry and conditions will apply.

DAY 6: SATURDAY – HLUHLUWE

Before a hearty breakfast, depart on an open vehicle game drive to the nearby Hluhluwe-Umfolozo Park. In this park the Big-5 can be found. Hluhluwe is situated on the Elephant Coast, an area known for its National Parks, natural diversity and cultural heritage.

There are numerous activities to be enjoyed in the area, these include a visit to the Zulu cultural show and the bird and reptile park (own account).

Once you have returned to the lodge in the evening, tuck into a decadent dinner (own account) before retiring for the night.

DumaZulu Lodge & Cultural Village or similar – bed and breakfast

DAY 7: SUNDAY - HLUHLUWE to SAN LAMEER via ST. LUCIA (+/- 465 km)

Leaving the lodge after breakfast, you will travel to St. Lucia.

Drive up the KwaZulu-Natal coast and arrive at St. Lucia, the only town in South Africa that lies inside a World Heritage Site. The iSimangaliso Wetland Park is the largest estuarine system in Africa. Enjoy a boat cruise around the estuary. With rare and wild birdlife, mangrove swamps and vegetated sand dunes, the estuary makes for an interesting and educational cruise. Savour the sensational views of the lake while enjoying lunch (own account).

A few hours drive down the South Coast, arrive at San Lameer, near Southbroom on the warm Indian Ocean. This evening enjoy dinner out (own account) at one of the many local restaurants.

Peermont Mondazur Hotel and Spa or similar - bed and breakfast

DAY 8: MONDAY – SAN LAMEER to MTATHA (+/- 300 km)

Partake in an early breakfast at the resort, before departing San Lameer for Mthatha.

Tuck into lunch en-route. Once in Mthatha, follow in the footsteps of this great South African icon and father of the nation. The Mandela Route moves through Bhisho, home of the provincial government, and takes a scenic drive on the N2 to Mthatha which hosts the Nelson Mandela Museum.

Arrive at the hotel in the late afternoon and freshen up before enjoying your dinner for the evening.

Garden Court Mthatha or similar - dinner, bed & breakfast



DAY 9: TUESDAY MTATHA to PORT ALFRED (+/- 365 km)

Stop-over in the village of Qunu. Nelson Mandela was born near Qunu (and laid to rest in Qunu) in the village Mezo next to the M'bashe river. He grew up in Qunu after his father was deposed as the chief of Mvezo. Discover the legacy of this South African icon in his hometown.

Qunu, which is part of the former Transkei, consist of a number of little villages. These are the green hills and pastures where Madiba herded sheep and cattle and which today is still recognised as his family home.

An area steeped in ancient Xhosa traditions and culture, taking you back to a simpler and humbler time.

Venture further south along the coastal road to East London. Lunch en-route (own account). The coast road brings you to Port Alfred at the heart of the Sunshine Coast, on the banks of the Kowie River.

Arrive later afternoon at your hotel. Enjoy refreshing drinks (own account) before savouring the delightful local cuisine.

The Royal St. Andrew Lodge or similar - dinner, bed & breakfast.

DAY 10: WEDNESDAY – PORT ALFRED TO PLETTENBERG BAY VIA EASTERN GARDEN ROUTE (+/- 380 km)

After an early breakfast we take a boat cruise (weather permitting) along the scenic Kowie River before leaving the Sunshine Coast and travelling inland along the Garden Route.

The Garden Route derives its name from the ecologically diverse vegetation present in the area, which lies between the Indian Ocean and the Tsitsikamma Mountains. Tsitsikamma is the ancient San name meaning place of abundant water, an enchanting and fabled part of the country.

Lunch in Tsitsikamma (own account) before experiencing the wonderful views on the suspension bridge of the Storms River mouth. Here you will observe the Storms River meeting the Indian Ocean in grand splendour.

Your final stop for the day finds you in Keurboomstrand, near Plettenberg Bay at your hotel. Enjoy some time at leisure or take advantage of the resort's private access to an 8km stretch of pristine beachfront.

This evening take pleasure in the oceanic ambience while you dine at the resort's elegant restaurant (own account).

The Dunes Hotel & Resort or similar – bed and breakfast

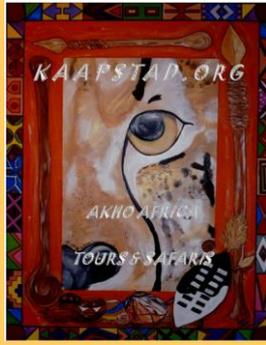
DAY 11: THURSDAY – FULL DAY AT LEISURE

Today is yours; enjoy a full day at leisure or venture on an optional excursion to a South African Heritage Site, Featherbed Nature Reserve and the Elephant Park in Knysna and/or animal rehabilitation centre (own account, including lunch).

On arrival at the Knysna Waterfront, board the ferry that will take you to Featherbed Nature Reserve on the Western Knysna Head. On arrival at the reserve, board a Unimog-drawn trailer and drive up to the top of the reserve. While stopping at a scenic lookout point, our specialist guide will share fascinating tales about Knysna and the surrounding area while you enjoy the panoramic views. An optional 2.2 km guided nature walk takes you through the forest onto the cliffs into the caves and along the scenic coast. This is followed by a buffet lunch at the Forest Restaurant, a unique outdoor restaurant situated on the edge of the Lagoon under a canopy of Milkwood trees. After lunch we depart for an educational elephant interaction experience.

Enjoy time at leisure before dinner (own account).

The Dunes Hotel & Resort or similar – bed and breakfast



DAY 12: FRIDAY – PLETTENBERG BAY TO OUDTSHOORN (+/- 160 km)

After a hearty breakfast depart to Keurboomstrand for the Klein Karoo via the scenic Knysna and surrounds.

This morning's excursion presents you with some wonderful photographic opportunities at the lookout points at the Knysna Lagoon and the Heads.

Tavel inland to the ostrich capital of the world, Oudtshoorn, driving over the Outeniqua Pass.

Constructed by prisoners of war from 1943 – 1951 now bridges the coastal Garden Route and the semi-arid Klein Karoo.

For lunch (own account) we arrive at an ostrich farm on the outskirts of Oudtshoorn. A tour of the farm will introduce you to these strange and exotic birds, as well as the ostrich industry.

In the Cango Valley we discover the spectacular subterranean world of the Cango Caves.

This 20 million year old wonder features an impressive display of gold and vermilion dripstone stalagmites and stalactites.

Arrive at your hotel and enjoy some time at leisure. Delight in the charming country setting as you enjoy a dinner (own account) of local fare and hospitality.

Protea Hotel Riempe Estate or similar – bed and breakfast

DAY 13: SATURDAY – OUDTSHOORN – STELLENBOSCH VIA ROUTE 62 (+/- 410 km)

After breakfast, our journey takes us west, via Route 62, to Stellenbosch in the heart of the Cape Winelands. Route 62 is an iconic route with intoxicating and ever changing landscapes. Running along orchard lined valleys, towering mountain ranges, rivers and indigenous fynbos, Route 62 bridges the Western and Eastern Cape through the Klein Karoo, and includes what is possibly the world's longest wine route. Lunch en route (own account).

Next is a visit to an award winning brandy distillery in Robertson, where you'll have a fun and an educational experience in brandy tasting.

We journey further into the heart of the Winelands and arrive, late afternoon, in the beautiful and heritage proud town of Stellenbosch and see you safely to your hotel.

Leisure time to enjoy the comfortable and luxurious settings and views before drinks and dinner (own account) at one the hotel's restaurants.

Protea Hotel Stellenbosch or similar – bed and breakfast

DAY 14: SUNDAY – STELLENBOSCH – CAPE TOWN (+/- 100 km)

After a walking town tour, venture further into the Winelands via Paarl and onto the city of Cape Town. Embark on this morning's walking tour of Stellenbosch; Explore the town's historic sites and colonial Cape Dutch architecture (some of the country's oldest buildings), along its oak lined streets and mountainous backdrop.

Stop for lunch and wine tasting (both own account) at one of the many wine farms in Paarl, which is south Africa's third oldest town and is a beautiful town that gets its name from the enormous granite boulder that shimmers like a pearl (or Paarl in Dutch) after rain showers.

Radisson Blu Le Vendome Hotel or similar – bed and breakfast

DAY 15: MONDAY – CAPE TOWN – FULL DAY AT LEISURE

Cape Town the oldest city in South Africa lingers on the edge of Africa where oceans meet and cultures fuse under the presence of the majestic Table Mountain.

After breakfast, spend the morning at leisure discovering your Mother City or join an optional guided, full day Cape Point tour (own account), which incorporates Cape Point, Boulder's beach (entrance fee for own account) and Kirstenbosch Gardens.



This evening enjoy more of the Cape's cuisine and wines, when you dine out or alternatively at your hotel (own account).

Radisson Blu Le Vendome Hotel or similar – bed and breakfast

DAY 16: TUESDAY – DEPARTURE FROM CAPE TOWN

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before spending the last day of the tour at leisure. Alternatively select an optional Table Mountain and city tour (own account).

A city with bountiful offerings of platinum beaches, an impressive mountain range, inviting night life, extensive shopping venues and art and cultural events, the Mother City has something for everyone to enjoy.

Table Mountain is a unique conservation area which presents its visitors the best views of Cape Town, ancient caves and some amazing hiking trails. It is also home to the Dassie or Rock Hyrax, a small, furry, guineapig like animal whose closest living relative is the African elephant. The Table Mountain Range is six times older than the Himalayas and five times that of the Rocky Mountains, and is estimated to be 260 million years old. Its original name was Hoeri 'kwaggo, sea mountain, then named Taboa da Caba, Table of the Cape by Portuguese. Enjoy the revolving cable car ride up the mountain (own account and weather permitting) to marvel at its panoramic views.

At your Cape Town hotel we'll say hamba kahle, good bye.

Note: Your transfer to Cape Town International Airport is not included in the package price and must be booked separately

END OF THE JOURNEY

The tour price is quoted in ZAR and/or USD and is based on the cost (including hotel accommodation and other services as detailed above, to be provided by Kaapstad.org) at rates of exchange prevailing as at the date of the quotation.

Should there be any increase, between the acceptance date and the departure date, in the cost to Kaapstad.org for providing the Services as a result of increases in costs or any other reason over which Kaapstad.org has no control, Kaapstad.org will be entitled to increase the tour price proportionately. The client shall be obliged to pay the amount of the increase to Kaapstad.org prior to the departure date, failing which Kaapstad.org shall be entitled to cancel the contract, and retain deposits paid.

Upon acceptance of our quotation, reservations will be made. A deposit of 20% of the amount quoted will be required immediately upon confirmation. The balance of payment, as per the amount stated on the confirmation advice once reservations are made, is due no later than 4 weeks prior to your clients' arrival.

PAYMENT CONDITIONS

Kaapstad.org/Akho Africa Tours & Safaris accepts no responsibility for the progress of the confirmed services in the case of non-compliance to the following conditions of payment.

20%	15 Days from Booking
100%	30 Days before 1st Service

GENERAL CONDITIONS / GENERAL SALES CONDITIONS SOUTH AFRICA

- Quotation established subject to availability of hotels (and flights when applicable) after your confirmation.
- Standard practice: Check In from 14:00; Check Out before 11:00
- Private Game Reserves: Check In before lunch; Check Out after breakfast. IMPORTANT: Fully Inclusive packages include 3 meals per day. Our programs systematically indicate the meal basis. In practice, Lunch may be replaced by a High Tea and Breakfast by Brunch, depending on the Private Game Reserve and the season, according to what meal best complements the timing of the morning and afternoon game drives.

PLEASE NOTE:

That with immediate effect, anyone travelling to South Africa must have two consecutive blank pages in their passport, which lie side by side when the passport is open (i.e. left and a right hand page). Passports must also be valid for at least six months. Passengers travelling to South Africa with passports, which do not comply with these requirements, will either be stopped from boarding the aircraft or risk deportation on arrival in South Africa. In addition, a parent travelling with children, WITHOUT the other parent, will need a letter of consent from the absent parent. The police must certify the letter of consent.

PAYMENT CONDITIONS

There is no cancellation fee 30 days prior to arrival (except the relevant banking fees for full refund) for Walkersons
There is no cancellation fee 45 days prior to arrival for Ulusaba.

OUR RATES



- Taxes are included (currently at 14%)
- Our rates do not include personal extras and expenses, gratuities, or insurance for repatriation assistance, luggage or cancellation.
- Ground transport according to program
- Services according to the program
- Guide English or German speaking
- Excluding flights, visas, travel insurance, hotel portorage, gratuities, drinks and meals not mentioned
- All overland tours are subject to a minimum of 2 passengers on all departures. If booked more than 30 days prior to the tour departure, the tour will be guaranteed irrespective of the amount of people with a minimum of 2.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- 46 days or more prior to travel date 10%
- 45 - 36 days prior to travel date 15%
- 35-16 days prior to travel date 25%
- 15 days prior to travel date: 100%
- 100% cancellation fee applies for no-shows

Cost is based on a minimum of **2** paying guests travelling. A reduction in guests would result in a re-cost of the itinerary.