

42 Southern Africa Circle – Cape Town to Cape Town

Day 1 South Africa – Cederberg Mountain Region

Leaving Cape Town, there's one last photo stop at Table View for a spectacular panorama of Table Mountain. On the way to the Cederberg we visit !Kwa ttu where we enjoy a San guided tour & museum visit. After the tour lunch will be prepared and afterwards we continue to Piketberg for wine tasting at a local wine farm. We arrive at our accommodation and your guides will give you a full briefing on the tour.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Blommenberg Guest House: www.blommenberg.co.za

Day 2 Namibia – Gariep (Orange) River

Today we travel through the Northern Cape and Namaqualand, stopping at the remote town of Springbok for any last requirements. After crossing the Namibian border we check in to the lovely chalets overlooking the river that forms the border between South Africa and Namibia.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Felix Unite Cabanas: www.felixunite.com/accommodation/cabanas

Day 3 Gariep (Orange) River – Fish River Canyon

This morning there's the optional chance to canoe down the Gariep River (in the summer) or to spend some time relaxing in the camp along the river. After lunch we travel north to the Fish River Canyon and take a scenic hike along the rim in order to gain some perspective as to just how large this natural phenomenon is, later we return to Ai-Ais to check in to our accommodation and enjoy the hot springs.

Optional Activities: *Half-Day Canoe Adventure*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Ai Ais Resort: www.nwr.com.na/ai_ais_hotsprings_spa.html

Day 4 Ai-Ais - Kokerboom Forest

This morning we travel into the Kalahari area of Namibia in order to visit the Kokerboom Forest. The Kokerboom is sometimes known as the Quiver Tree as it was often used by the indigenous Khoisan people for making quivers for their arrows.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Auob Lodge: <http://www.namibialodges.com/auob.html>

Day 5 Bushman Community – Namib-Naukluft Park

The Namib-Naukluft NP is one of Namibia's geographic gems. There are massive sand dunes in the Sossusvlei desert area as well as the remarkable landscape. After an optional morning's tribal interaction with the !Xung (San) people we travel to the Namib and stay the night outside the park.

Optional Activities: *African Tribal interaction*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Hammerstein Lodge and Rest Camp: www.hammerstein.com.na



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Day 6 **Namib-Naukluft National Park**

We have a full day in the Namib-Naukluft National Park that starts by being transported in to Sossusvlei. Later we travel to Dune 45 where you have the chance to hike up the dune for an amazing view and photo opportunity. In the afternoon there's a short walk into the Sesriem Canyon.

Optional Activities: Transfer to Deadvlei, Wild Cat Walk
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Hammerstein Lodge and Rest Camp: www.hammerstein.com.na

Day 7/8 **Swakopmund**

We are joined by an expert local guide for a nature walk. Exploring on foot, this local guide will share his detailed knowledge of the ecosystem. Afterwards we cross the Tropic of Capricorn on our way from the Atlantic Coast. Our first stop is Walvis Bay where we may see some flamingos. Then it's on to Swakopmund, the adventure capital of Namibia, where you will be briefed on the many optional activities available.

Optional Activities: Dinner Out, Quad biking, Sand boarding, Sky Diving, Scenic Flights etc.
Meals: Breakfast x 2, Lunch x 1
Overnight: Hotel A La Mer: www.pension-a-la-mer.com

Day 9 **Kamanjab - Himba Tribe**

Today we head inland towards Kamanjab in the north-west of Namibia. The following morning we will spend time with some of the semi-nomadic Himba people. The Himba are a pastoral people and are easily recognisable by their unique style of hair and dress

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Oase Lodge: www.namibweb.com/oasehouse.htm

Day 10/11 **Etosha National Park**

We travel south-east to Etosha NP. The open plains allow spectacular elevated game viewing from the truck whilst on game drives. Our quality bungalow accommodation is inside the park at Okaukuejo and/or Halali which both boast floodlit night water holes where the animals come regularly to drink.

Optional Activities: Morning or Night Drive with expert Namibian Game Ranger
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Halali and Okaukuejo Lodges: www.nwr.com.na/etosha_national_park.html

Day 12 **Windhoek**

En-route to Namibia's capital, Windhoek, we stop at a craft market where you can buy authentic African carvings and paintings. On arrival in Windhoek we take a short driving tour around the city in our truck.

Optional Activities: Dinner out
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
Overnight: Hotel Safari: www.safarihotelsnamibia.com



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Day 13 Botswana - Ghanzi

We say goodbye to Namibia and cross the Botswana border. Later we arrive at our lodge in Ghanzi, and this evening we experience some traditional tribal dancing from the local San community.

Optional Activities: Game drive and bushman walk
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Tautona Lodge: www.tautonalodge.com

Day 14/15/16 Maun – Okavango Delta

Maun is well known as the gateway to the Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta. We spend one night in Maun and prepare for this excursion. Small planes transport us over this amazing area to our tented camp; Moremi Crossing. Once in the Delta we take a nature walk with a local expert and a guided afternoon boat cruise. If the water level allows there will also be a traditional mokoro (dug-out canoe) trip.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight Maun: Delta Rain, Sitatunga: www.deltarain.com
Overnight Okavango Delta: Moremi Crossing: www.moremicrossing.com

Day 17 Gweta

A second scenic air-transfer will return us to Maun and the truck. This afternoon we drive to Planet Baobab where our evening accommodation is set amongst the majestic Baobab trees.

Optional Activity: Baobab Bush Walk – if the time allows it
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Planet Baobab: www.unchartedafrica.com/page.php?p_id=59

Day 18 Chobe National Park

After continuing north to Kasane, we enjoy the included sunset river cruise on the Chobe River (in the National Park) where animals such as hippos, buffalo and elephants are plentiful.

Optional Activities: Chobe Game Drive (next morning)
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Thebe River Lodge: www.theberiversafaris.com

Day 19 Zimbabwe - Victoria Falls

After an early morning optional game drive we cross into Zimbabwe where we have a short briefing on all the activities available here. Then we enter the much-anticipated Victoria Falls NP where we will experience the might of the great Zambezi River. The next day after breakfast most people will spend the day White Water Rafting.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
Overnight: Elephant Hills Hotel: www.elephanthillsresort.com



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Day 20 Victoria Falls

Most people will spend the day on one of the many activities on offer here such as a walk with lions, or a helicopter flight over the Victoria Falls.

Optional Activities: White Water Rafting, Bungee Jump, Elephant Excursion and many more. Meal Out
Meals: Breakfast
Overnight: Elephant Hills Hotel: www.elephanthillsresort.com

Day 21 Victoria Falls to Palapye / Martinsdrift

Departure is at 6.00 am from Elephant Hills Hotel. We drive south through Botswana to Palapye, or the border post at Martinsdrift, where we will spend the night at a lively campsite.

Optional activities: South African Braai (BBQ) / All Meals
Meals: No meals included.
Overnight: Camp Itumela: www.campitumela.com

Day 22 Palapye / Martinsdrift to Johannesburg

After another 6.00 am departure, we enter into South Africa. Covering the next 450 – 550 km on sealed roads we should get to Johannesburg as early as possible. Take the time to experience some of the nightlife Johannesburg has to offer.

Optional activities: All Meals
Meals: No meals included
Overnight: Garden Court OR Tambo: www.southernsun.com/garden-court/or-tambo-international-airport/pages/overview.aspx

Day 23 South Africa – Panorama Route

Leaving Johannesburg we travel along the Panorama Route one of South Africa's most scenic drives. The Panorama route consists of Bourke's Luck Potholes and the Blyde River Canyon including God's Window and Three Rondavels. This evening we will enjoy a traditional Shangaan Dinner with dancing.

Meals: Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Timbavati Safari Lodge: www.timbavatisafarilodge.com

Day 24/25 Kruger National Park

We get up early to visit Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre where injured or lost animals are rehabilitated to be released back into the wild. This is a wonderful opportunity to see some very special species up close, as well as learn about the positive achievements being made here. Later we enter the world famous Kruger and immediately start with an afternoon game drive. The next day is a full day's game viewing from the advantageous height of our wonderful truck.

Optional Activities (subject to availability): Night Drive and/or Game Walk with, Full day open vehicle game drive in Kruger NP.
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
Overnight: SANP Camp: www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger



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Day 26/27

Swaziland - Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary

After a final game drive as we depart the Kruger we travel to Swaziland, stopping on the way at one of the interesting local markets. The Kingdom of Swaziland is a landlocked country bordered by South Africa and Mozambique. We spend the next two nights in the Mlilwane Nature Reserve. Exploring the area on foot allows you to appreciate the scenery as well as the animals; there are no dangerous predators here. We will experience unique Swazi traditional dancing on the second evening after dinner.

Optional Activities: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Guided Birding Walks, Horse Riding and Sunset Game Drive.
 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
 Overnight: Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary: www.biggameparks.org/3parks_mlilwane.html

Day 28

South Africa – Isimangaliso (Greater St Lucia) Wetland Park

We leave Swaziland and take a scenic drive towards the warm Indian Ocean coast, re-entering South Africa. Soon after our arrival at iSimangaliso Wetland Park we board a boat for a sunset cruise on the lagoon for some bird and hippo viewing! This UNESCO recognised area is extremely varied and includes: lakes, beaches, coral reefs, wetlands, woodlands, coastal forests and grasslands together supporting an astounding diversity of animal, bird and marine life.

Optional Activities: Traditional Zulu Village
 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
 Overnight: Shonalanga: www.shonalanga.net

Day 29

Hluhluwe - Imfolozi Game Reserve and Durban

This morning we drive to the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve for a game drive in open 4x4 vehicles. The park is the only state-run park in the province of KwaZulu-Natal where all the Big Five occur. Due to conservation efforts, the park now has the largest population of white rhino in the world. In the late afternoon we arrive at Durban, South Africa's largest marine port and well-known surfing destination. The evening can be spent enjoying authentic Indian cuisine as Durban is also home to the largest population of people of Indian decent outside of India.

Optional Activities: Dinner out at local Indian Restaurant
 Meals: Breakfast
 Overnight: Garden Court South Beach: www.southernsun.com/garden-court/south-beach

Day 30/31

Ukhahlamba Drakensberg Park

We leave behind the beautiful beaches of KwaZulu Natal and travel inland to the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg or Royal Natal National Park, part of the huge and incredibly scenic, Drakensberg escarpment. The Drakensberg is South Africa's highest mountain range with peaks at over 3000 metres. Hiking is the most popular activity here and your guides will take you on a lovely hike if you are not already busy with optional activities, such as horse riding, which can be a very satisfying way to explore this mountainous area.

Optional Activities: Horse Riding, Hiking.
 Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
 Overnight: Drakensville Resort: www.drakensville.co.za

Day 32/33

Lesotho - Malealea

It's a visually impressive drive up to the Lesotho border, where the popular pony trekking excursion (optional) requires an early morning start. Before we depart we visit the local village and primary school. On the optional overnight trek Lesotho villagers will guide



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you along remote trails where there are spectacular views. You can also remain at the lodge and relax, or experience an optional shorter ride.

Optional Activities: Pony Trekking Excursion, Hiking
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Malealea Lodge: www.malealea.com

Day 34/35 South Africa – Cintsa

Leaving the 'Kingdom in the Skies' behind we travel south to Cintsa. You can choose to relax, or participate in one of the many optional activities available!

Optional Activities: Boat rental, quad bike, abseiling
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Arena Resort: www.arena.co.za

Day 36 Addo Elephant National Park

This unique Eastern Cape Park is home to one of the densest concentration of African elephants on earth as well as boasting the 'Big Seven' (elephant, rhino, lion, buffalo, leopard, southern right whale and great white shark) as Addo is a land and marine park.

Optional Activities: Night Game Drive with SANP
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Addo Elephant NP: www.sanparks.org/parks/addo

Day 37/38 Tsitsikamma National Park

After a final early morning game drive we bid farewell to the elephants, take a quick stop at Port Elizabeth's airport and arrive in the afternoon at Tsitsikamma. The name means 'place of abundant water' and it does not disappoint, with its indigenous forests and dramatic coastline. This area is home to the famous multi-day Otter Trail hike and the first few hours of this hike is included in your Activity Package.

Optional Activities: Bungee Jumping (highest in the world), Treetop Canopy Tour, Hiking
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Overnight: Protea Hotel Tsitsikamma: www.proteahotels.com/protea-hotel-tsitsikamma.html



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Day 39 Knysna / Plettenberg Bay

It is a short distance to Plettenberg Bay. In the afternoon you can choose between remaining to relax at the resort or taking a short excursion in to nearby Knysna to explore.

Optional Activities: Knysna Elephant Park, Knysna Lagoon Cruise, Township Tour, Birds of Eden, Monkey Town, Predator Rehabilitation, Knysna 4x4 forest drive.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Forever Resort Plettenberg Bay: www.foreverplettenberg.co.za

Day 40 Oudtshoorn

Today we travel through the magnificent Outeniqua Mountains towards Oudtshoorn where we visit the world-famous Cango Caves. The caves contain spectacular halls and grand limestone formations, and a local guide will tell you all about the cave system, which extends for over 4km.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight: Kleinplaas: www.kleinplaas.co.za

Day 41 Stellenbosch Wine Route

We take a scenic drive to Stellenbosch taking in some of Route 62 and a possible stop at Ronnie's Sex Shop, not a sex shop at all, but a rather interesting country pub... Stellenbosch forms the heart of the Western Cape's wine region and second oldest European settlement in the Western Province. As this is the last night on tour we head to a local restaurant for dinner.

Optional Activity: Ostrich Farm Visit, Dinner Out

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Overnight: Rivierbos Guest House: www.rivierbos.co.za

Day 42 Cape Town

After a leisurely breakfast, we stop at The Spier Wine Estate to taste some of South Africa's finest wines. We also visit the Cheetah Breeding Project to meet these beautiful animals up close and finally the tour ends in Cape Town.

Meals: Breakfast

