

# 15 DAY SOUTH AFRICAN NORTH TO SOUTH

20<sup>TH</sup> December 2010 – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2011

## Day 1: Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Dec Arrive JHB – Airport Grand\*\*\*\*

On arrival and touchdown on your SAA flight from London Heathrow we transfer to our accommodation to allow everyone the opportunity to relax and unwind, a shopping centre is not far from our accommodation and easily reached by taxi. A good opportunity to purchase those items which may have been forgotten in the packing. This evening we will have a thorough breakdown of the tour and what to expect. This is dependant on the flights we are able to secure. Please ensure that you have your passport as well as your medical insurance details available for your guide.

**Depart: N/A**

**Stops: N/A**

**Activities: N/A**

**Lunch: N/A**

**Dinner: N/A**

## Day 2: Tue 21st Dec Escarpment - Mountain View - Moholoholo or similar

We depart the "Big Smoke" generally referred to as Johannesburg and make our way East toward the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest canyon in South Africa and the escarpment. From our various viewpoints you can see where the original Gondwanaland tore itself apart to give birth to the African continent. Also on the cards for the day is a stop at Bourkes Luck Potholes another wonder of nature with a book of history to go with it. We overnight at a hidden gem at the foot of the escarpment on the banks of the Olifants River. Tonight we get together to discuss in detail the rest of the tour.

**Stops: Lydenburg for provisions and snacks**

**Activities: Panorama Route, Bourkes Luck Potholes, Gods Window, 3 Rondawels**

**Lunch: N/A**

**Dinner: At your accommodation**

## Day 3: Wed 22nd Dec Escarpment – Mountain View - Moholoholo or similar

We have a relaxed morning and enjoy the tranquillity of the lodge and peace of the surroundings. We may also be able to head to Ya – Mati for a dip in the pool and a lunch on one of the decks overlooking the river.

After lunch we load into our vehicle and head to the Moholoholo Rehabilitation centre for a 2,5 – 3 hour guided walk through the facility. The rehabilitation centre is a project giving hope to injured or orphaned animals as well as wildlife that has suffered due to the habitat loss. Always a popular activity it incorporates wildlife awareness based message as well as the opportunity to interact with the animals on site. This is also a great way to get background information on species that we are likely to see in Kruger National Park. After this we head back to Mountain View.

Please be aware that although we as a company normally distance ourselves from animals in captivity the good work and awareness which is achieved in the Rehab centre is of huge importance and we fully endorse its ideals.

**Depart: N/A**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Moholoholo Rehabilitation and Training Centre**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: At your accommodation**

#### **Day 4: Thu 23rd Dec Kruger National Park or similar**

Without a doubt the most famous park in South Africa is our destination today. We overnight this evening in the Southern Portion of the park and settle in for the night. Available for those who would like to make use of the facility are night game drives offering the opportunity of seeing cats by way of spot lamps a eerily different way of seeing anything in the night.

Time here is dedicated to game, walk within the safety of the camps fence and try and spot a Hyena or one of the multitudes of nocturnal animals to be seen.

The area hosts White Rhino, Kudu, Impala, Giraffe, Elephant, Reedbuck, Klipspringer, Grey Rhebok and Warthog. Leopard are seen regularly in the region - some lucky people have even seen them drinking at the dam in front of the camp, while on a Kruger National Park safari tour. Wild Dog's are also found in the area. Lion are usually found in the lower plains on the roads to Skukuza and Crocodile Bridge. Not that this guarantees sightings of course - luck is always a part.

**Depart: 09:00**  
**Stops: Hoedspruit for provisions and snacks**  
**Activities: Slow game drive to accommodation, Optional Sunset Drive with Parksboard Vehicles, approx 3 hours.**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: In the Park**

#### **Day 5: Fri 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Kruger National Park or similar**

For those wanting to go out on an (optional) early game drive your guide will arrange this for you, alternatively after breakfast we head South and have a slow game drive down to our next accommodation in our vehicle and arrive early to mid afternoon. After checking in the afternoon is free. The vehicle will go out for a late afternoon game drive for those interested.

**Depart: 09:00**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Optional Game Drive in our vehicle**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: 20.00 at your accommodation**

#### **Day 6: Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Dec Port Elizabeth – The Kelway \*\*\*\* or similar**

After breakfast we load up and head back toward Johannesburg where we will catch our internal flight to Nelson Mandela bay and the industrial heartland town of Port Elizabeth. Your guide will accompany you on the flight on arrival at the PE Airport he will arrange the vehicle and pick you up at the exit doors. On arrival we will be transferred to our accommodation venue overlooking the ocean and a jump away from the Aquarium. Just down the road is the casino and The Boardwalk Centre. The evening is free for you to do as you please but your guide will be happy to accompany or make relevant dinner bookings for you on request.

Arrival in Port Elizabeth marks the beginning of our Garden Route leg of the journey and often referred to as the paradise of South Africa. Your guide will give you an overview and orientation on the drive from the Airport to the hotel.

**Depart: TBC**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: N/A**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: N/A**

**INTERNAL FLIGHT: JOHANNESBURG - PORT ELIZABETH - TBC**

**Day 7: Sun 26<sup>th</sup> Dec Port Elizabeth – The Kelway \*\*\*\* or similar**

Relax during the day or opt to partake in an optional real City tour of Port Elizabeth. Just down the road is the casino and The Boardwalk Centre. Then time to relax in the late afternoon.

**Depart: 09:00**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Optional visit to Aquarium in Port Elizabeth, Casino, Boardwalk or a last swim in warm water.**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 8: Mon 27<sup>th</sup> Dec Knysna – The Graywood \*\*\***

Leave Port Elizabeth and make our way to Knysna on the N2. There are a few areas of interest we may stop at, beside the scheduled stop off at Tsitsikamma National Park for Lunch and a stroll to the Hang Bridge if desired.

Second stop at Monkeyland Sanctuary and then into Knysna. Monkeyland has as one of its aims, to create awareness about the plight of primates and to show that with a greater understanding of our primate cousins, that we can all live in harmony. A small town with a big presence... Knysna has a well-deserved international reputation as the Garden Route's vacation hot-spot. It remains a characterful village set in an area of outstanding natural beauty, yet offers an astonishing array of activities and attractions

Your guide will point out areas of interest. Being situated in town makes exploring a pleasure. The Graywood Hotel is a short 300m walk from both the town centre and Knysna Waterfront, which is the departure point for boat cruises and ferry rides to the Knysna Heads and Featherbed Nature Reserve.

**Depart: 09:00**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Tsitsikamma National Park, Monkeyland Sanctuary, Sormsriver Bridge**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 9: Tue 28<sup>th</sup> Dec Knysna – The Graywood \*\*\***

Our personal favorite activity here is the Elephant Park, an amazing experience as well as an ideal awareness campaign. Guests are transported to the elephants on a tractor & trailer where they will have the opportunity to touch, feed and photograph these gentle giants. Elephants love eating, so don't forget your bucket elephant feed. There are no barriers or fences to spoil the close encounter. Guests are then transported back to unique elephant curios shop and Askaris restaurant. ( Please do not confuse the training of these Elephants with the Asian Elephant, The African Elephants do not get maltreated at any time to encourage "tame " behaviour. )

In the afternoon we depart for the Featherbed Nature Reserve for outstanding views of the towering Knysna Heads, The Knysna "Lagoon" and Thesens Island. This is a half day activity. On returning to the mainland we reunite for dinner at the Waterfont.

**Depart: 08:30**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Elephant visit, Featherbed Nature Reserve**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 10: Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Dec Montagu – Montagu Hotel \*\*\*\***

We move North today and cross the imposing Outeniqua Mountain Range en route to Oudtshoorn for an hour in the underground labyrinth of the Cango Caves one of the most extensive Limestone cave structures in the world. At 12.30 we depart and make our way East to the heart of the infamous Route 62 and overnight in the slumber town of Montagu set in the heart of the wine producing region of the Overberg Region. We also have an optional visit to the Ostrich Farm where we can indulge in a three course lunch.

**Depart: 08:30**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Cango Caves, Route 62**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 11: Thu 30<sup>th</sup> Dec Cape Town – Montagu Hotel \*\*\*\***

We leave this morning and head toward **Graham Beck** for a wine tasting at this institution on the longest wine route. Having produced quality **Cap Classique Method** bubbly since 93 they carry a reputation for one of the most prolific producers in South Africa with quality being carried with the Beck name. We will have a wine tasting with the winemaker and the possibility of a cellar tasting of their bubbly range. Following this we head toward **Springfield** for some fabulous wines... especially the Methode Ancienne and Life from Stone Range and a finger lunch.

The real magic of Springfield lies in the bottles of hand-crafted wine it produces, true gems of tradition, which offer both quality and individuality in keeping with the estate's motto: from the grape to the bottle with care and passion.

**Depart: 09:00**  
**Stops: N/A**  
**Activities: Champagne Tasting / Wine Tasting**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: At the hotel**

**Day 12: Fri 31<sup>st</sup> Dec Cape Town – The Lady Hamilton \*\*\***

Today we enter the most beautiful city in the world...mmmm a slight ring of bias from me, but maybe you will also be converted? En route we will stop off for a light lunch at one of the numerous wine farms in the Stellenbosch area. On arrival and weather permitting we head straight to the emblem of the city Table Mountain. ( Time availing we may stroll down parliament lane. ) Your guide will orientate you on arrival. He can also recommend restaurants of good quality for the night and wines of choice as Wine and Gourmet tours are a part of their passion. Or alternatively chat with your guide about other options.

**Depart: 08:30**  
**Stops: Waterfront**  
**Activities: 2 x Wine Tastings, Table Mountain ( Weather permitting )**  
**Lunch: N/A**  
**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 13: Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Jan Cape Town – The Lady Hamilton \*\*\***

Delve into our rich and at times shady history from the arrival of the first representative of the VOC in 1652 to the forced removals in district six. We meet up with one of our local Langa guides who will show us through the oldest group areas and African town and the vibrance which streams out of it. A truly amazing experience which focuses not on the hardships but the need of joy in survival. After lunch at the Waterfront you will join us on a comprehensive tour of Robben Island – a true testament to the human spirit and determination. The day is designed to give you a better understanding of where South Africa comes from and its role in broader African politics. Most importantly though what the future may hold in store for us. Truly moving and humbling.

**Depart: 08:45**

**Stops: N/A**

**Activities: Langa Township and Robben Island tour**

**Lunch: N/A**

**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 14: Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan Cape Town – The Lady Hamilton \*\*\***

Without a doubt the most popular of the tours in Cape Town We hug the Atlantic Seaboard passing through the Riviera of Cape Town on the Clifton and Camps bay road. We then head to Hout Bay where those who feel inclined can indulge in a Seal cruise. Then off to Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve via the winding and gravity defying Chapmans peak. We stop for lunch at The Two Oceans Restaurant. Staying with marine life we stop at the largest Jack Ass penguin colony in Africa ( Not really there name has only recently been changed to the African Penguin due to irreversible psychiatric problems experienced by the species. )

**Depart: 08:30**

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**Stops: N/A**

**Activities: Clifton / Camps Bay Drive, Hout Bay, Seal Island, Chapmans Peak, Cape Point, Boulders Beach.**

**Lunch: N/A**

**Dinner: Local Restaurant**

**Day 15: Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan Flight Home**

We have some time in the morning to do some last minute shopping or see Table Mountain if the weather hasn't been kind to us before we head to the airport for your flight home.

**Inclusions:**

All accommodations stated on the itinerary  
All breakfasts included  
All other meals as indicated  
Champagne Tasting at Graham Beck Cellars  
Wine Tasting at Springfield Estate  
Wine Tasting at Neethelingshof Estate  
Water on bus and dinners  
Luxury Vehicle Throughout, Fuel and Road Tolls  
Guide accommodation and meal allowance  
Tips with all meals included in tour and Portorage

**Entrance Fees and Conservation Fees for National Parks:**

Panorama Route  
Kruger National Park  
Tsitsikamma National Park  
Cape Point National Park  
Boulders Beach  
Table Mountain National Park ( Weather Dependant )

**Sightseeing included:**

Stormsriver Bridge  
Monkeyland Sanctuary  
Elephant Visit  
Featherbed Excursion – weather dependant.  
Cango Caves in Oudtshoorn  
3 Hour Robben Island Excursion including Ferry  
3 Hour Langa Township Visit  
Seal Island  
Cape Peninsula National Park  
Penguin Colony  
Table Mountain

**Tour Exclusions:**

Meals / Drinks not listed in the itinerary  
Personal Insurance  
Any visas you may require – these are entirely your responsibility.  
All items of a personal nature  
Any and all incidentals not listed expressly in the itinerary.  
All airfare taxes