



**Highlights of South Africa Tour**

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## Tour key information

### Tour departure dates

Every Friday

### Tour duration

- 15 days / 14 nights

### Tour type

- Group tour

### Max

- Maximum 30

### Tour & stay

- No

### Child age

- Minimum 12 years

### Tour pace

- Active pace

### Seasons on sale

- Summer 25, Winter 25, Summer 26, Winter 26





# Highlights of South Africa Tour

## Where is South Africa?



**Flying into:** Cape Town

Available airlines:

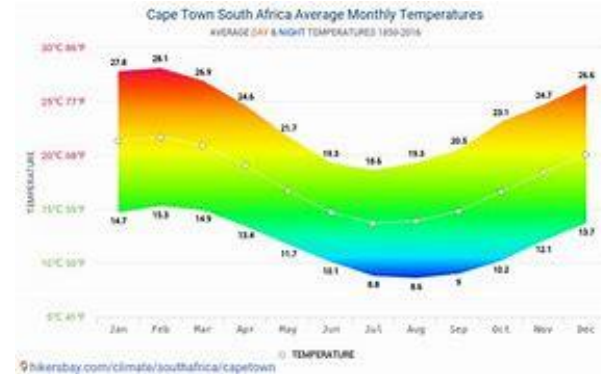
- Emirates
- Turkish Airlines
- Virgin Atlantic

Flight time: 12 to 13 hours

Time difference: +2 hours GMT

## Key facts

- What to bring: Comfortable and light clothing, suncream and sunglasses.
- Language: Afrikaans and English.
- Entry requirements: For the most up-to-date passport and visa information, visit [www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice](http://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice).
- Food and drink: Biltong, Bunny chow and Boerewors, a traditional type of South African sausage, are popular in South Africa. One night you'll get to eat a boma dinner with the locals.
- Currency: South African Rand.
- Shopping: Tea, wine and Amarula, South Africa's best-loved liqueur, are some of the top take-me-homes.
- Tipping: South Africa has a tipping culture. The general rule is 10% for restaurants and taxis.
- You tip the driver and guide on the last day of the tour (guidelines for driver: ZAR 30/person/day and for guide: ZAR 60/person/day). The rangers in the Kruger Park and Hluhluwe receive a separate fee, which you can give them after the safari. How much you wish to give obviously depends on your satisfaction.



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## Useful information

### Load Shedding notice

What is load shedding?

The country's national electricity utility, Eskom, announced that it was unable to supply power to the entire country at the same time.

In order to prevent the entire power grid from collapsing, they need to implement a blackout schedule, called load shedding.

What does this mean for you?

Load shedding typically occurs in two-hour blocks, and at its worst this will likely be twice daily. If you're staying in a hotel, staff there should be aware of the schedule and be able to inform you accordingly.

Fortunately, as a visitor to South Africa, it's unlikely your day-to-day activities will be significantly impacted, and load shedding is no reason to cancel a holiday to the country.

Most businesses in the tourism industry, from restaurants and hotels to shopping malls and wine estates, have measures in place to counteract the impact of the power cuts, to the point that you may not even notice the disruption.

Please inform us if you're travelling with a CPAP (sleep apnea device) or medicines that need to be stored in a fridge.



### Bookable up until

- 30 days before departure

### Customs Notice

Travellers arriving in South Africa are advised to declare all electrical equipment including cameras and laptops. Although officials may not always enforce this rule, it's important that the declaration process is followed to avoid any issues when travelling.

The declaration process can be found below:

Online Traveller Declaration System:

<https://www.sars.gov.za/travellerdeclaration/>

Manual Declaration: Complete the physical Traveller Card (TC01 form) upon arrival at customs.

Returning home: When departing South Africa, travellers are not required to declare the same equipment again if this was declared upon arrival and proof (online confirmation or stamped TC01 form) has been retained.

Officials may charge a refundable cash deposit or import duty tax for items taken into the country. Refunds are provided once the items are shown to have left the country. You can access the SARS Traveller Leaflet here <http://tinyurl.com/5ahw4hye> which provides essential information on prohibited items, restrictions, duty-free allowances, and other important customs details.

# Highlights of South Africa Tour Itinerary

## Day 1

Travelling distance: 4km

Welcome to South Africa! Due to guests arriving individually and at different times at the Airport, we have chosen a hotel which offers a free shuttle service for your first night's stay. There will be no tour guide at the airport, so please make your own way to the shuttle bus. As you exit the terminal turn left. Continue to the nearest pedestrian crossing. The sign "Public Transport" will be visible. Continue over the pedestrian crossing into the Car Hire Foyer. Follow through the foyer until you exit into the "Shuttle Pick up point". Your hotel name will be displayed on the shuttle bus. Arrive at your accommodation, collect your travel documents from your guide and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure, please see the hotel concierge if you would like to begin exploring. If you miss the guide, they will leave your documents for you.

Meals included: None

Hotel: Garden Court or Tambo, Johannesburg or similar

## Day 2

Travelling distance: 270km



After breakfast, you will join a Pretoria orientation tour, including a stop at the Union Buildings and Disong Kruger Museum, travel towards Mpumalanga, one of South Africa's 9 Provinces and known as the province of the rising sun.

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Kloppenheim Country Estate, Mpumalanga or similar

## Day 3

Travelling distance: 300km

Start the day with breakfast and then travel past Lydenburg and Ohrigstad on your way to the Panorama Route. Its scenery includes a spectacular canyon, awe-inspiring mountains, waterfalls and tranquil lakes. The 26-kilometre-long valley is one of the most important natural wonders of South Africa. Viewpoints, spanning several hundred meters down into the Canyon, are situated all along the Panoramic Route. To the North of the route lies the Three Rondavels, the Blyde River Canyon's most striking feature. Huge rocks resemble mushrooms growing out of the mountain and are similar in appearance to traditional African round huts, namely Rondavels. Bourke's Luck Potholes are a complex of smooth, cylindrical potholes and natural rock sculptures that have been hollowed out by water erosion through the Blyde River over millions of years.

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Umbhaba Eco Lodge, Hazyview or similar



# Highlights of South Africa Tour Itinerary

## Day 4

### Travelling distance: 0km

Our day starts early, hence there's no time for a sit-down breakfast. Collect your breakfast pack from reception where you also find tea, coffee and some local rusks to enjoy. We'll embark on a full day open safari vehicle game drive in Kruger National Park, famous for the Big Five and guided by knowledgeable local game rangers. Return to the lodge, where a very special dining experience awaits you: a dinner under the African sky.



**Meals included: Breakfast and dinner**

**Hotel: Umbhaba Eco Lodge, Hazyview** or similar

## Day 5

### Travelling distance: 260km

After breakfast, enjoy the beautiful lodge or take part in an optional, early morning game drive in search of the Big Five. We leave the lodge for eSwatini late morning and drive towards Nelspruit. Mpumalanga Province's capital is situated in a fruit producing area. The sub-tropical climate is just ideal to grow citrus fruit, avocado, litchi and nuts. In the close-by Crocodile Valley Estates, 300 tons of oranges are harvested daily during harvest time. Leave South Africa via the border at Jeppe's Reef and enter eSwatini/Swaziland. The Kingdom covers an area of 17 000 km<sup>2</sup> and is one of the smallest independent countries in the world. Mountains are the natural border in the west to South Africa and in the east to Mozambique. The rest of the afternoon is at leisure.



**Optional AM Game Drive in Kruger Park Excursion** From £80 pp Available to book pre-departure

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Hotel: Mantenga Lodge, Ezulwini** or similar

## Day 6

### Travelling distance: 210km



Following breakfast, the journey continues through Eswatini to the south and along the Ubombo Mountains to Golela. Enter the province KwaZulu Natal, where many battles and fights of the mighty Zulus took place. The Elephant Coast area is a remote wilderness of South Africa. Here, human presence is felt less and nature provides sanctuaries for rare plants and animals.



**Optional Sunset Cruise Excursion** From 950 ZAR pp Available to book in resort only

**Meals included: Breakfast and dinner**

**Hotel: Ghost Mountain Inn, Mkuze** or similar

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## Day 7

Travelling distance: 370km

We have to get up really early today and drive a little over an hour to the gate of the oldest Game Reserve in South Africa: Hluhluwe - Umfulozi, home to South Africa's indigenous rhino population. At the gate, we change the coach for open safari vehicles to enjoy a 3-hour game drive with hopefully many rhino sightings. Thereafter, we travel to a traditional Khula village and begin with a walking tour (approx. 2 hours). The marketplace is the first stop, followed by Veyane Cultural Village, Komthandayo backpacker, pass the traditional court and pick up a tree to plant in the forest rehabilitation site.

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Garden Court Marine Parade, Durban or similar

## Day 8

Travelling distance: 160km

After a short orientation tour in Durban and breakfast, we'll make our way to the airport and check-in for the flight to Port Elizabeth. We continue our journey to Surfer's Paradise in Cape St Francis.



Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Cape St Francis Club Break, Cape st Francis or similar

## Day 9

Travelling distance: 225km



On our way to Knysna we stop to visit Tsitsikamma National Park, Bloukrans Bridge and Plettenberg Bay for a beach walk and visit to Whale Tail lookout point or in season (June to November) for an optional whale watching boat trip.



**Optional Whale and dolphin boat Excursion** From 875 ZAR pp Available to book in resort only

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Graywood Hotel, Knysna or similar

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## Day 10

Travelling distance: 0km

After breakfast, today is at leisure. Visit the Waterfront, a central point of activity in Knysna. From here one can board a sunset cruise or ferry ride around the lagoon, do some shopping or enjoy a meal in one of the many restaurants. You also have the option of joining a 4-hour excursion to Featherbed Nature Reserve. The Featherbed Nature Reserve, situated on the Western Head in Knysna, is the premier eco-experience on the Garden Route.

Please ask your guide for further information



**Optional Featherbed Eco Tour Excursion** From 1100 ZAR pp Available to book in resort only

## Day 11

Travelling distance: 190km

Start the day with breakfast before heading inland to Oudtshoorn, the centre of ostrich farming. Here you enjoy a tractor ride over Safari ostrich farm. Thereafter visit famous Cango Caves, natural caves of gigantic proportions carved out of limestone, which are among the greatest natural wonders on earth, before arriving at your hotel.



## Day 12

Travelling distance: 400km



After breakfast, today's journey takes you through the semi-desert of the Little Karoo via Calitzdorp, Barrydale and the Tradouw Pass along R62. We stop for a wine tasting and cellar tour in Robertson before we arrive in Stellenbosch for a short stroll through the town's historic centre and a visit to the Stellenbosch museum.

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Graywood Hotel, Knysna or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: Queens Hotel, Oudtshoorn or similar

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: The Stellenbosch Hotel, Stellenbosch or similar



# Highlights of South Africa Itinerary

## Day 13

Travelling distance: 0km

Following breakfast, continue to Cape Town and check-in at the hotel. In the afternoon you discover the Mother city and Table Mountain (excluding areal ticket - weather permitting - to be bought at the spot) together with Company's Garden and Bo Kaap. Thereafter we drop you off at V&A Waterfront to be explored at your leisure.



**Optional Table Mountain Cable car** From 420 ZAR pp Available to book in resort only



Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: The President Hotel, Cape Town or similar

## Day 14

Travelling distance: 0km



After breakfast, enjoy a day at leisure, or come with us on a full day excursion across the Cape Peninsula. Drive along the Atlantic coast road through the suburbs of Clifton, Camps Bay and Hout Bay to the Cape Nature Reserve. On foot or by funicular (optional) you can reach the light house viewpoint. Please ask your guide for prices and further information. After visiting the penguin colony at Boulder's Beach, you will return to your hotel.



**Optional Cape Peninsula tour** From £60 pp Available to book pre-departure

Meals included: Breakfast

Hotel: The President Hotel, Cape Town or similar

## Day 15

Travelling distance: 0km

Start the day with breakfast before it is time to drive back to the airport for the journey back home. Transfer to Cape Town international airport. You will have an internal flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg. Please note, luggage allowance for this flight is 20 kg (not 23kg, like for the international flight). You will need to collect your luggage here and check in for your flight back to the UK.



Meals included: Breakfast