

SOUTH AFRICA & SAFARI

10/11 days



ITINERARY OUTLINE

DAY 1 – Arrival in South Africa, Cape Town

DAY 2 – Cape Town, the complete tour

DAY 3 – Hermanus, Walker Bay, the Tip of Africa

DAY 4 – Cape Peninsula, Cape Point, Simonstown, Kirstenbosch Gardens

DAY 5 – Sambona Wildlife Reserve

DAY 6 – Sambona Morning and Afternoon Safari

DAY 7 – Sambona Morning and Afternoon Safari

DAY 8 – Hoedspruit, Timbavati Game Reserve, King Camp

DAY 9 – Timbavati Game Reserve morning and afternoon safari

DAY 10 – Timbavati Game Reserve morning and afternoon safari

DAY 11 – Timbavati Game Reserve morning safari, Departure to Johannesburg



Day 1, Thursday, December 15

Arrive Cape Town International Airport off flight from the US. You will be met by our representative and transferred in a luxury Mercedes Sprinter to the Cape Grace Hotel (situated at the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront).

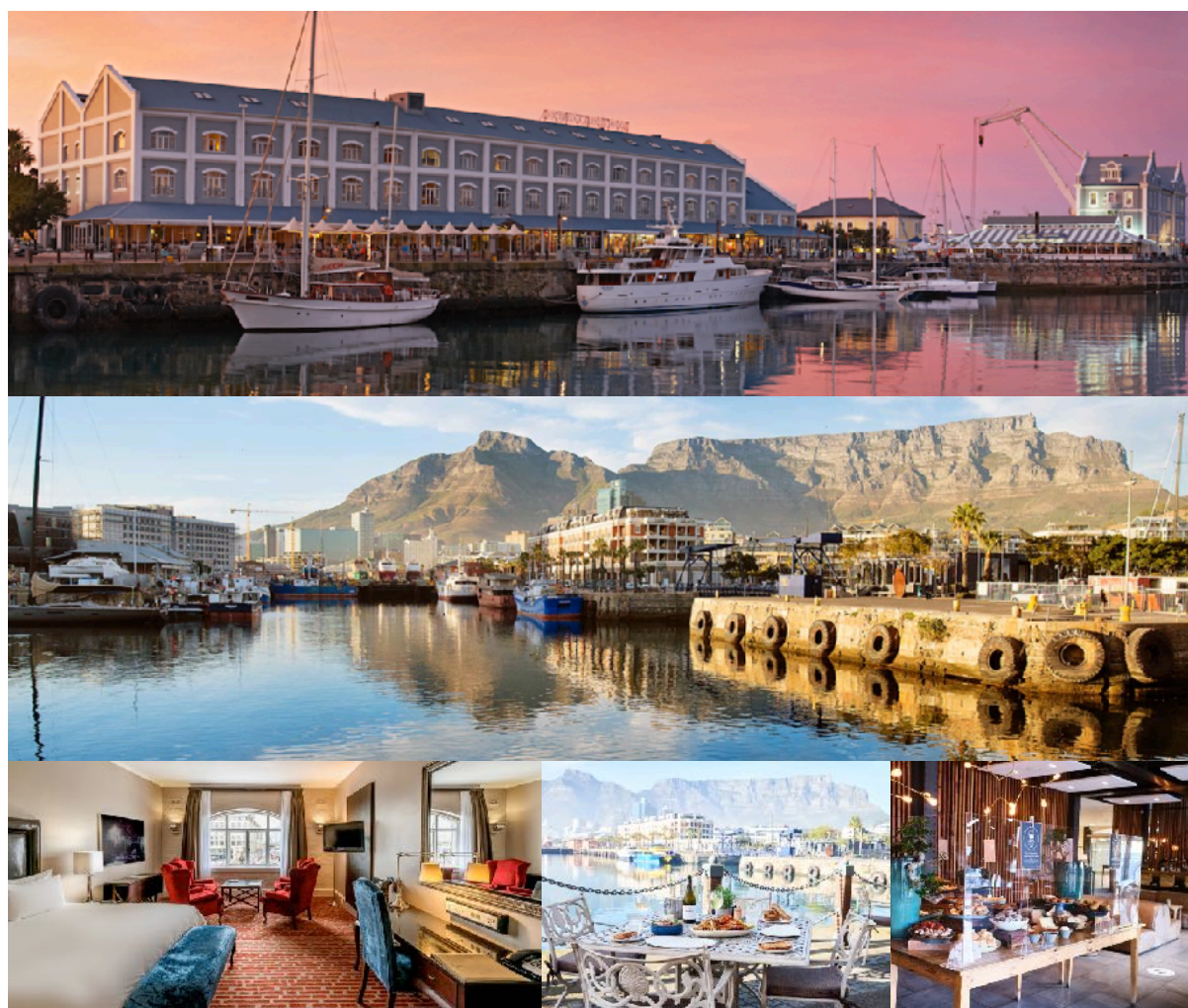
Check in time 2:00 PM

Freshen up in your rooms and relax for the rest of the afternoon.

Lunch & dinner is not included.

Optional Dinner reservations at a local restaurant in the Waterfront area or the hotel.

Overnight: Cape Town hotel including breakfast



Day 2, Friday, December 16

Breakfast at hotel. Meet your private guide and luxury vehicle and start your full day excursion of Cape Town city and the wine regions. Highlights of the tour include:

- **Table Mountain** optional hike depending on cable car tickets (weather dependent)
- Visit the **Company Gardens, The South African Museum, and the Planetarium** *(The Company Gardens in the middle of the Cape Town Business District, is also home to a beautiful rose garden, Japanese garden, fish-pond, and bird aviary. The tree lined avenue with its benches and resident squirrels makes it a perfect location for a stroll with the kids. Stop to browse the creations of local crafters and buy a bag of raw nuts and allow the kids to feed the many squirrels who call the gardens home. You will also explore the South African Museum and Planetarium. The museum in Cape Town has an excellent dinosaur exhibition which the kids will love. A whale well and underwater exhibition, displays of South African rock carvings and a showcase of the life of indigenous people in South Africa.)*
- Onto **Babylonstoren Wine Farm** for some wine tasting and farm style platters to share. After lunch it is recommended to take a walk around this 8 acres of cultivated fruit and vegetable gardens. The garden comprises of 15 clusters of spanning vegetable areas, stone and pome fruit, nuts, citrus, berries, bees, herbs, ducks and chickens, a prickly pear maze and more.
- Visit **Giraffe House** where you can meet Gerry the Giraffe and learn about all the other animals which form part of their wildlife education program. Time permitting, we proceed onto Franschhoek for a walk around this French inspired village before returning to Cape Town.



Optional dinner reservations at local restaurant in the Waterfront area or the hotel.

Overnight: Cape Town hotel including breakfast.

Day 3, Saturday, December 17

Breakfast at hotel. Meet your guide and depart for a day excursion to the whale watching cliff town of **Hermanus** (situated approximately 1½ hours from Cape Town).

Hermanus lies along the shores of Walker Bay near the southernmost tip of Africa. Magnificent mountains watch over the town, which is home to the Southern Right Whales which frequent our shores annually from June to November. Nature lovers from all over the world visit Hermanus to view these magnificent creatures from the best land-based whale watching sight in the world. Listen out for the whale crier's horn which is sounded upon sightings in the bay.

Highlights of the tour includes:

- *Scenic Coastal Drive*
- *Visit the Penguins at **Stony Point Nature Reserve***
- *3 course lunch menu at the Fisherman's Cottage*
- *2 hour **whale watching walking tour** along the clifftops to view the whales with Dave De Beer (the best guide in Hermanus and a wildlife photographer). Your tour will include the Whale Museum and a signed book of his work.*



Return to Cape Town in the late afternoon. Rest, refresh and enjoy a true African dinner experience at the **Gold Restaurant interactive drumming session**, followed by a special **14 dish African feast dinner and entertainment** (round trip private transfer included).



Overnight: Cape Town hotel including breakfast and dinner.

Day 4, Sunday, December 18

Breakfast at hotel. Meet your guide and depart on a full day excursion of the Cape Peninsula including Cape Point, Cape Point Nature Reserve, Simonstown Naval town and Kirstenbosch Gardens. Highlights includes:

- **Clifton and Camps Bay Beaches**, *The Mother City has some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. The beaches of Camps Bay and Clifton are white and sandy offering spectacular views and sunsets.*
- **Chapmans Peak Drive**, *one of the most spectacular marine drives in the world.*
- **Cape Point**, *within Cape Point the treacherous cliffs forming the most southwestern tip of Africa are some of the highest in the world and mark the spot where the cold Benguela current on the West coast and the warm Agulhas current on the East coast merge. Hop aboard the funicular and you'll be whisked away on a scenic trip 238 metres above the ocean to where the old lighthouse keeps watch over the seas.*
- **Cape of Good Hope** *is one of the two world-renowned landmarks within the Table Mountain National Park, the other is Table Mountain. This part of the park is home to an array of fynbos, over 250 species of birds, buck, baboons, and Cape Mountain zebra.*
- **False Bay** *has one of the Cape Peninsula's most tranquil and picturesque stretches of coastline. Known for its scenic beauty, it encompasses small seaside villages along the coastline. The most popular small towns include the historical naval village of Simon's Town, Muizenberg (known for its epic waves), St James (with its colorful huts), Kalk Bay (with great seafood restaurants), and Fish Hoek (with one of the best beaches).*
- **Optional visit to the African Penguins at Boulders Beach***, Boulders Beach in Simons Town is home to the 'Jackass' African penguin now said to number over 3000, though the species, is listed as endangered. Wooden walkways allow visitors to view the penguins in the natural habitat. Children will love the penguins and their antics!) *Entrance fees excluded* **(*since you already visited the penguins at Stony Point the day before)**
- Lunch in Kalk Bay at the **Harbour House Restaurant** (3 course)
- **Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden** *founded in 1913 is world renowned for the beauty and diversity of the Cape flora it displays and for the magnificence of its setting against the eastern slopes of Table Mountain.*

Overnight: Overnight: Cape Town hotel including breakfast and lunch.



Day 5, Monday, December 19

Breakfast at hotel. 9:00 AM check out, meet your guide and luxury vehicle and depart Cape Town east to the **Sanbona Wildlife Reserve** (about 3 hours drive). Your drive will take you through the town of Paal and the Haweqwa Natural Reserve, stop at the Robertson, a quaint town for refreshments at the farm store.

Arrive around **12:30 PM** at the welcome lounge where you will be met by the lodge staff and transferred to Gondwana Family Lodge.

Upon arrival enjoy lunch at the lodge

Check into your rooms

In the afternoon you will depart on your first safari

Return to the lodge, refresh and enjoy dinner

Overnight: Sanbona Wildlife Reserve. Full Board Basis (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)



Day 6, Tuesday, December 20**Breakfast**

The remainder of the morning is

Morning safari into the Reserve (leaving around 7:30 AM)

at leisure. Optional activities for adults include (see next day for optional kids activities):

Guided wilderness walks - Discover the spirit of the Little Karoo on foot and see the many treasures on the Reserve. An optional walk with the guidance of a ranger can be arranged to cater for individual needs. From gentle strolls, taking in the breath-taking beauty of the indigenous fauna and flora, to challenging trails discovering isolated vistas, reveal the beauty of Sanbona Wildlife Reserve.

Rock Art - The San people of Africa roamed the area for thousands of years until 100 years ago. The Xam tribe, the nomadic hunter-gatherers living in harmony with nature realized then that man and nature together is sustainable. There are 7 recorded sites throughout Sanbona Wildlife Reserve, however many more can be found. Rock art sites date back to more than 3500 years and depict the spiritual beliefs and lives of these fascinating people. During their travels, members of the group would congregate around a communal fire, weaving stories and celebrating the gift of life while the Shaman would meditate through rhythmic dancing, singing, and clapping and while in a trance, receive visions and guidance. This medicine man or woman would ensure the well-being of the tribe, protecting them from evil and sickness, predicting the future and ensuring good hunting and rains. Certain animals such as the Praying Mantis and the Eland were honored and revered and were considered to have great spiritual powers.

Lunch

Afternoon safari (3:00 Pm)

Dinner (7:30 PM)

Overnight: Sanbona Wile Reserve. Full Board Basis (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)



Day 7, Wednesday, December 21

Morning safari into the Reserve

Return to the lodge for breakfast

The remainder of the morning is at leisure. Optional activities for kids include:

Interpretive trail – This takes your kids through the garden of Gondwana, to learn about animals on the reserve as well as their tracks, important plants, and more.

Sanbona Activity Book – An educational, fun, and interactive book, teaching children about the wildlife

Should the weather not cooperate, the Gondwana Family Lodge is prepared to accommodate the unpredictable Western Cape climate through

Safari Book: Create your own Safari book activity.

Arts and crafts

Puzzles of varying sizes and difficulties covering a broad age range

Documentary DVDs on various conservation topics and animals as well as animated movies

Entertaining and educational children's books

A selection of fun board games

Lunch

Afternoon safari

Dinner

Overnight: Sanbona Wildlife Reserve. Full Board Basis (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)



Day 8, Thursday, December 22

Today you will have an early morning departure. After check out you will depart the lodge and be transferred to the Cape Town International Airport for your flight to **Hoedspruit** Airport. Your flight departs at 10:50 AM and arrives in Hoedspruit at 1:10 PM.

You will be met by a Kings Camp representative and transferred to the lodge situated in the magnificent **Timbavati Game Reserve**. **Kings Camp** is in the northern corner of Timbavati Private Nature Reserve, adjacent to **Kruger National Park**. The Timbavati lies approximately 450 km north-east of Johannesburg. The Timbavati Reserve area is located within both the Mpumalanga and Limpopo Provinces of South Africa. Today this great wilderness area is often referred to as the Greater Kruger Conservancy.

Kings Camp is in a part of the reserve characterized by mopane woodlands, overlooking a waterhole frequented by a wide variety of wildlife. The **Timbavati Lodge** was established in 1995 as a premier ecotourism destination. In 1992 the western boundary fence separating the Kruger National Park and the Timbavati was removed to create a 2.2 million hectare open natural ecosystem that would enhance and promote natural ecological cycles.

Your arrival day schedule will include:

- 1:30 PM Lunch is served on the dining deck
- 3:00 PM Optional tea and coffee is served in the library
- 3:30 PM Depart on your afternoon game drive
- 6:45-7:00 PM Return to the lodge and refresh
- 7:30 PM Drinks at the bar followed by delicious served dinner

Overnight: Timbavati Reserve, Full Board Basis (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)



Day 9, Friday, December 23

Today you will start your Safari experience. Your day will include early morning and late afternoon game drives.

5:30 AM Wake-up call

5:45 AM Tea and coffee served in the library with your ranger

6:00 Depart for your morning game drive

9:30 Return from your game drive and enjoy a hearty breakfast

Optional bush walk after breakfast (16 years and older)

During the time between your scheduled activities, you can relax and soak up the African bush around the camp and enjoy some game viewing at the active waterhole in front of the camp or the animals that wander into the camp. A range of pampering spa treatments can be enjoyed in the Kings Camp Spa or in the privacy of your suite. A breath-taking helicopter flight enjoying the panoramic views over the Blyde River Canyon is a once-in a lifetime experience. The trip takes you over deep gorges, dramatic rock formations and cascading waterfalls and culminates in a spectacular picnic on top of a hill with views as far as the eye can see (these optional activities are all extra).

1:30 PM Lunch is served on the dining deck

3:00 PM Optional Tea and coffee is served in the library



3:30 PM Depart on your afternoon game drive

6:45-7:00 PM Return to the lodge and refresh

7:30 PM Drinks at the bar followed by delicious served dinner

Overnight: Timbavati Reserve. Full Board Basis (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

Day 10, Saturday, December 24

Today you will continue your amazing safari experience. Your day will include early morning and late afternoon game drives.

5:30 AM Wake-up call

5:45 AM Tea and coffee served in the library with your ranger

6:00 Depart for your morning game drive

9:30 Return from your game drive and enjoy a hearty breakfast

1:30 PM Lunch is served on the dining deck

3:00 PM Optional Tea and coffee is served in the library

3:30 PM Depart on your afternoon game drive

6:45-7:00 PM Return to the lodge and refresh

7:30 PM Drinks at the bar followed by delicious served dinner

Overnight: Timbavati Reserve. Full Board Basis (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

**Day 11, Sunday, December 25**

Today you will enjoy a morning game drive

5:30 AM Wake-up call

5:45 AM Tea and coffee served in the library with your ranger

6:00 Depart for your morning game drive

9:30 Return from your game drive and enjoy a hearty breakfast

Check out and transfer to Hoedspruit Airport for your flight to Johannesburg

Your flight departs at 12:00 and arrives in Johannesburg at 13:00.

Check in for your international flight back home.

Premier Safari Package Includes:

- All airport transfers in luxury air-conditioned Mercedes Sprinter with Professional Driver
- English Guide on all the tours
- 4 nights accommodation at the Victor & Alfred hotel including breakfast
- All entrance fees as per program with lunches included where indicated
- 1 dinner in Cape Town with private round trip transfer
- Round trip private transfers to Sanbona Wildlife Reserve
- 3 nights accommodation at Sanbona Gondwana Family Lodge on a full board basis (includes two safaris per day, guided wilderness walks for adults only, all meals, non-alcoholic beverages, all game drive snacks and beverages, internal transfers from the welcome lounge to the lodge and conservation levies).
- 3 nights accommodation at Kings Camp on a full board basis (includes 2 safaris per day, optional walking safaris for adults only, all meals, all beverages excluding premium brands, wine from the wine cellar and champagne). Includes conservation levy and airport transfers from Hoedspruit Airport.
- 24/7 support from our office in South Africa
- All taxes and fees

Package Excludes:

- International flights
- Domestic air fare – Cape Town / Hoedspruit / Johannesburg on SA Airlink (tickets will be booked by us on your behalf)
- All other meals and drinks not mentioned
- All optional tours and excursions which are not included
- All items of a personal nature
- Travel Insurance. Please contact us for a quote
- Tips and gratuity to Guides, Game Rangers and Trackers

