

# South Africa Adventure!

## September 2010

Tour Leader - Randy Gregson, NETT Owner

A special safari capturing the best of South Africa! Begin with amazing wildlife and beautiful accommodation then head to the "Mother City" - Cape Town to experience the culture and famous landscapes. Carry on to the winelands to finish up with some relaxing time in the quaint countryside.... or extend your vacation with 3 nights on the Garden Route exploring the nooks and crannies!

**September 23 - D'Oreale Grand Hotel, Johannesburg (1 night):** Arrive in Johannesburg early morning where you are met and transferred to your hotel for a well-deserved rest! Rest of day at leisure.

**September 24 - Ngala Tented Camp (3 nights):** Your adventure begins as you head back to the domestic airport and depart at 1240hrs arriving Ngala landing strip at about 1345hrs. Here you will be met and transferred to Ngala Lodge on a full board basis (all meals, beverages, laundry & 2 game drives per day).



Peering out onto the banks of the seasonal Timbavati River from the shelter of dense indigenous trees, six tented suites offer a tranquil escape for wired city dwellers and frazzled travelers alike. The sights and sounds of the bush provide a gentle backdrop to life at Ngala, as the ancient patterns of African life carry on around the Camp. Every step unveils a

new surprise, whether it's a dainty impala tripping down the camp path or a smart detail in the clean lines and flamboyant styling of the guest areas.

Mounted on raised platforms, large gauze screen windows let the bushveld breeze into your tent, stirred and amplified by swirling overhead fans. Stone partitions and wooden sides carve cosy niches in the spacious suite. An oversized bathtub awaits on a wooden platform, where gauze screens open up to the outside and give the effect of bathing in a giant leafy chamber. An outside shower invites and entices from the embrace of a thick stone screen.



Caught between dense riverine forest and the sandy bed of the Timbavati River, extensive viewing decks give guests front row views of game wandering down to drink. A rim flow pool mimicks the contours of the river bed, inviting in for a refreshing dip. At night, when tales of the day's adventure are shared and compared, a roaring fireplace springs to life. The stirring scents of Africa's famous spices waft up from a meal shared in a spectacular setting - among islands or reeds in the dry Timbavati riverbed, beneath the canopy of massive trees or on our expansive deck.

At Ngala, the days are designed to thrill you with intimate wildlife encounters and the nights to delight you with the indulgence and romance of Africa.

### **Sept. 25 & 26: A typical day on safari.....**

- **Morning Game Drive** - As dawn breaks over the African bush, a gentle tap on your door will wake you to the delights of a new day. Your ranger will discuss what you hope to see that day over fragrant tea or coffee and morning biscuits or rusks. Ngala is home to all of the Big Five, but is particularly well known for its rhino and wild dogs, as well as the large herds of elephant and buffalo. Go in search of leopard, lion or wild dog sleeping off the exertion of the hunt from the night before.
- **Breakfast** - Return to your lodge for a delicious breakfast, with platters of fruit and cheese followed by a selection of hot breakfast dishes. Choose from eggs, oats, waffles or a number of other options.
- **Lunch** - If you wish, you can walk off your breakfast on a short walk near your lodge, accompanied by your ranger, who will share his insight into the smaller animals and vegetation in the area, before returning in time for lunch.
- **Afternoon Tea** - Cool off with a refreshing dip in the sparkling swimming pool, indulge in an afternoon siesta or simply watch the wildlife from your private veranda. Over a late afternoon tea, your ranger will discuss what you hope to see during the afternoon game drive.
- **Evening Game Drive** - This game begins in the late afternoon and lasts until after dark, when spotlights are used for a glimpse into the nocturnal bush life. Drive down to the Timbavati River to watch the animals drink and bathe or watch out for predator getting ready for the hunt. Enjoy sundowners in a scenic location as the sun slowly sinks beneath the horizon.
- **Dinner** - Return to your lodge for a mouthwatering dinner beneath the magnificent African sky.

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**September 27 - Kirkman's Camp (3 nights):** After your morning game drive and breakfast, we will be driven south, about 3 hours, through the local countryside, towns and villages to the world famous Sabi Sand Game Reserve arriving at Kirkman's Camp for 3 nights on a full board basis.

Adjacent to the world renowned Kruger National Park, the Sabi Sand Game Reserve is famed for its intimate wildlife encounters, particularly leopard viewing. Home to a host of wildlife, including the Big Five, Sabi Sand is part of a conservation area that covers over two million hectares (almost five million acres), an area equivalent to the state of New Jersey and larger than some independent countries.

With no boundary fences between the reserve and the Kruger National Park, Sabi Sand benefits from the great diversity of wildlife found in one of the richest wilderness areas on the

African continent along with the additional benefits experienced on a private game reserve. Daily and nightly game drives led by highly trained rangers and trackers allow for intimate game experiences from the comfort of your open safari vehicle.

Game drives traverse an area of 6 300 hectares (15 700 acres) and strict vehicle limits at sightings ensure the exclusivity of your game viewing experience. Off-road driving ensures that you have the best possible view of any exceptional sighting and rangers are constantly in touch with each other to keep track of animal movements.



Step back in time into the gracious atmosphere of this original homestead and marvel at the spectacular views of the unspoiled wilderness from each of the 18 guest cottages. Rolling lawns carve out a niche in a wild and tumbling wilderness that hosts memorable game viewing in one of the world's most celebrated Big Five wildlife regions. Spacious sitting, dining and

bar areas contain mementos of a time long past, while the untamed wilderness outside whispers a promise of adventures not to be forgotten. Slip into the leisurely pace of yesteryear at the charming and historic Kirkman's Kamp. Located high on a ridge, the camp overlooks the Sand River like a stylish matriarch gazing down upon the landscape. The green tin roof and manicured grounds carve out a soft and cultured niche in the wild and tumbling bush. Enjoy the ritual of afternoon tea served on the spacious veranda or rolling lawn, perhaps in the company of a wild but friendly visitor or two.

While gracious style abounds at Kirkman's, the wilderness beyond is never forgotten. Wander through the spacious guest areas and admire the many mementos of a time gone by. Clean lines and authentic furniture transport you to the 1920s, while sheer creature comfort is never compromised. Indulge in private time in the fascinating library or while away a few hours in front of the roaring fireplace in the guest sitting room. Leisure hours can be spent by the pool admiring the bush landscape and enjoying a special wildlife sighting in the river valley.

**September 30 - Cape Royale Hotel - [www.caperoyale.co.za](http://www.caperoyale.co.za) (3 nights):** After your morning game drive and breakfast, we drive (2 hours) to Nelspruit Airport in time to connect with your SA8664 flight at 1305hrs arriving Cape Town at 1545hrs. You will be met and transferred to your "home" for 3 nights on a B&B basis.



**October 1:** Free Day to explore the Waterfront or optional visit to Robben Island where Nelson Mandela spent so much of his life.

**October 2:** After breakfast you will take off for a full day Cape Point Tour. Drive via Hout Bay fishing harbour with an option to take the ferry to Seal Island, then on via Chapman's Peak. Next a visit to the penguin colonies at Boulders Beach and then a wild and beautiful Cape of Good Hope, with an option to take the funicular to the light

house. If time, visit the spectacular and world famous beautiful Kirstenbosch Gardens, home to 9,000 of Southern Africa's flowering plants, situated under the south side of the Table Mountain. Return to the hotel at approximately 5:00pm. (Entrance fees and lunch not included).

**October 3 - Le Quartier Francaise - [www.lqf.co.za](http://www.lqf.co.za) (2 nights):** Check out of your hotel today as you set off to explore the winelands! Your private guide will advise you on the options best to visit depending on any special events and weather conditions. Excludes entrance fees, Wine Tasting costs and lunch. You will be dropped at Le Quartier Francaise Hotel in the little village of Franschoek in the Cape Winelands at about 5pm. Rest of evening at leisure.

**October 4:** Free day to explore the village.

**October 5 - In transit:** Today you will be taken back to Cape Town to either connect with your flight home or extend your vacation with time on the Garden Route.... or Victoria Falls....

## South Africa Adventure! Approx. \$9695CDN per person sharing

**Price Breakdown:** Land only - \$7695.00CDN per person sharing

Economy Air - From \$1800 - \$2500CDN per person

(Includes 1 stop over - extra stop is \$100CDN)

Air pricing dependent on routing and availability with KLM, BA or South African Airways

### ALL INCLUSIVE OF:

- Predeparture package with unlimited information
- Luxury accommodation as stated in itinerary
- Air and ground transportation between lodges
- All meals at lodges while on safari, bed and breakfast in Johannesburg, Cape Town & George
- Game activities and park entry fees.
- Donation to wildlife conservation group enroute
- Gratuities for lodge staff and portering
- Tour leading services with Nature Encounters Tours owner Randy Gregson

### WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:

Round trip economy class airfare, Items of a personal nature; cancellation, baggage, emergency evacuation or medical insurance; and their respective fees; drinks; laundry; meals and activities not stated on itinerary; any new Government taxes; Departure taxes of approximately US\$30 per person

*\*\*\*Please Note: We at Nature Encounters Tours & Travel work very hard to keep our pricing competitive for our guests, however, we do not have control over increases in game park fees or fuel surcharges. We will endeavor to inform our guests of increases as soon as we hear about them and add those increases, at our cost only, to our guest invoices.*

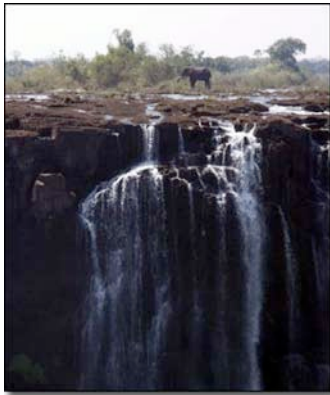
## Safari Extensions . . . . . Where would you like to go?

### The Garden Route! Pricing tailored to what you'd like to do, where you stay and length of time!

**Fancourt Hotel, George [www.fancourt.co.za](http://www.fancourt.co.za):** Your private guide will drive you through the amazing scenery from Franschoek to George, Knysna and Plettenburg Bay area on a "GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE" basis. There is no set plan, all depends on weather conditions and what you want to do, therefore, entry fees and meals not included. Your driver will drive you back to Cape Town and transfer to the airport for your departing flight.

Not inclusive of items of a personal nature, gratuities or drinks. Pricing is based on availability.\

### The Smoke That Thunders - Victoria Falls From \$995CDN per person sharing



**Day 1:** Depart Johannesburg mid-morning for flight to Victoria Falls. On arrival transfer to your hotel. Afternoon at leisure to explore the village.

**Day 2:** After breakfast a guided tour of Victoria Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of the world. Walk through the magnificent rain forest where you are able to view the largest falling sheet of water in the world, Livingstone's statue and a wide variety of birds and plants. Sunset cruise on the Zambezi. B

**Day 3:** After a leisurely breakfast mid-morning transfer to the airport for return flight to Johannesburg. B

\*\*Accommodation Choices:

Ilala Lodge - [www.ilalalodge.com](http://www.ilalalodge.com)

Victoria Falls Safari Lodge - [www.gotovictoriafalls.com/venue.asp?id=4](http://www.gotovictoriafalls.com/venue.asp?id=4)

Victoria Falls Hotel - [www.victoriafallshotel.com](http://www.victoriafallshotel.com)

\*\*Additional days, a visit to Chobe National Park or Hwange National Park can be added.

Inclusive of flights from Johannesburg, SA to/from Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Not inclusive of items of a personal nature, gratuities or drinks. Pricing is based on availability.

**To Book Your Safari Seat Contact:**

**Nature Encounters Tours & Travel Ltd. Toll Free 1-866-949-3007**

**[carol@natureencounterstours.com](mailto:carol@natureencounterstours.com)**

**Randy Gregson: (416) 617-1201 [randy@natureencounterstours.com](mailto:randy@natureencounterstours.com)**

**[www.natureencounterstours.com](http://www.natureencounterstours.com)**

## About Your Tour Leader - Randy Gregson

**Randy Gregson** has been part of Nature Encounters Tours & Travel since 2002 and an owner/operator since 2006. He has traveled extensively throughout sub-Saharan Africa, leading tours in South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania and Egypt as well. With a background in architecture and building, his interest in ancient civilizations was the major influence to explore Northern Africa and set up our Egypt program. Randy is excited to be assisting in introducing new destinations to our guests while maintaining his strong beliefs in ecotourism. Not only is he compassionate about wildlife, cultures and the land we travel to, Randy is our financial wizard, always ensuring our guests receive the quality and value they expect on their vacation.

Keep an eye out for Randy's tours, as he is eager to show you the special qualities of our many destinations. Randy can be reached at our Ontario office at (416) 617-1201 or [randy@natureencounterstours.com](mailto:randy@natureencounterstours.com)

## About Nature Encounters Tours & Travel

Welcome to Nature Encounters Tours & Travel! We have traveled the globe in search of destinations that will put you in touch with our passion – nature! Our experience, and that of our guides, is matched by a personalized service that keeps our clients returning to travel with us year after year. From the moment you inquire about a location to joining a small group departure – we are dedicated to ensuring your trip is memorable.

On safari, you can experience everything from watching a lioness care for her young in the hollow of an old tree to having a magnificent five-ton elephant display his enormous ears and mock charge your vehicle . . . or lay on a sandy beach that goes on for miles and miles while listening to the sound of the Indian Ocean. Your accommodation and meals, in either lodges or tented camps, range from truly comfortable to absolutely luxurious. Backpacking was never like this! Swimming pools, gardens and the fragrance of wild basil will surround you as your binoculars scout the magnificent scenery for cheetah, elephant, zebra, lilac breasted rollers, hyena, and tawny eagles to name a few. Your game activities can include driving in national parks watching for wildlife along the way, walking with an experienced guide looking for all the little things you may have missed by driving, and boating or canoeing – enjoying some of the most incredible rivers and lakes.

Ecotourism is an important part of the Nature Encounters Tours & Travel experience. Our clients are happy to contribute to a sustainable industry where the local people, as well as the wildlife, benefit from their visit. Be it the CAMPFIRE project in Zimbabwe, where the local fishing villages gain from having tourists visit and bring school supplies, or Daphne Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage in Kenya where our clients help provide financial assistance for anti-poaching efforts. Nature Encounters Tours & Travel Ltd. support many schools – such as the Jacob Basson School in Khorixas, Namibia, the A.I.C. Girls' School in Kajiado, Kenya, and conservation groups that are near and dear to us: the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia, Jane Goodall Chimp Research in Gombe Stream and The Serengeti Lion Research Project to name a few. We do indeed walk the talk . . .

Our goal is to give our clients an experience they won't ever forget – from dancing with the Maasai in East Africa to enjoying watching the antics of a pair of polar bears enjoy a tussle in the snow to photographing and observing the many species that live in our great world.

**Join us for the vacation of a lifetime!**