



**NATURE
ENCOUNTERS**
TOURS & TRAVEL LTD.

The Best of South Africa

Start/End: Johannesburg/Cape Town S.A.

Includes: Kruger National Park, Addo Elephant Park and The Garden Route

Length of Stay: 7 Nights/8 Days

Accommodation Style: Hotels/Rest Camps

Transportation Style: Minibus

Departs Every Monday – Minimum 2 passengers

Day 1 (Monday) – Rest Camp, Kruger National Park (2 nights) - Early morning departure from Johannesburg. Leaving the city behind travel across the Gauteng

Highveld to Waterval Boven. The route almost exactly coincides with that taken by Winston Churchill after he had made his dramatic escape (through a lavatory window) from Boer imprisonment! Descend into the subtropical Lowveld region of Mpumalanga and enter the Kruger National Park. More than two million hectares, the Kruger boasts more than 146 mammal species, 507 bird species and 400 different tree varieties. Spend the rest of the afternoon game viewing before arriving at your accommodation situated inside one of the parks rest camps. Overnight in an en-suite, air-conditioned bungalow. Dinner is included at the camp.

Overnight: Rest Camp D

Day 2 (Tuesday) – Kruger National Park - To make the most of the day we recommend an early breakfast so as to commence game viewing soon after sunrise. A full day game drive is undertaken in search of wild animals. No guarantees can be given that you will encounter the "Big Five" (lion, rhino, elephant, leopard and buffalo), but you are certain of seeing, at very close quarters, an abundance of antelope, birds, mammals and possibly reptiles. Return to your rest camp at sunset in good time for drinks and a hearty dinner. O/N: Rest Camp B, D
Option: Can upgrade to a private safari lodge for Day 2 – price dependent on season.

Day 3 (Wednesday) Port Elizabeth (2 nights) - After an early breakfast enjoy one last game drive in this enormous wildlife sanctuary. Return to Johannesburg along the "Panorama Route". Highlights are the Blyde River Canyon, God's Window and the twisted Bourke's Luck Potholes. Also visit the gold rush town of Pilgrims Rest. Frantic activity took place here during the late 1800's. Fortunes were made, but more were lost. Arrive back in Johannesburg in the very late afternoon after a memorable African wildlife safari. Board your flight to Port Elizabeth. Arrival at Port Elizabeth, set along the beautiful shores of Algoa Bay, the city offers the best mix of eco-attractions as a holiday destination with a rich diversity: scenic nature trails and wildlife experiences, long golden beaches, historic heritage and a unique coastal climate. Overnight: The Courtyard Hotel/Similar B, L

Day 4 (Thursday) Port Elizabeth - Collection from your hotel for a full day excursion to Addo Elephant National Park. Addo Elephant National Park has a unique place in the story of the struggle to conserve the African elephant. It is home to the densest population of elephant in the world. Apart from elephants, other mammals in Addo include the endangered Cape buffalo and black rhino, as well as zebra, jackal, warthog, suricate, and numerous species of antelope, such as kudu, red hartebeest and bushbuck. Over 150 different bird species have been recorded in Addo, ranging from the large ostrich to the tiny Cape white-eye. There are around 600 different plant species in the park, with five distinct vegetation types. A picnic lunch is included. Return to your hotel in Port Elizabeth where the rest of the evening is at leisure. Overnight: The Courtyard Hotel/Similar B, L

Day 5 (Friday) – Knysna (2 nights) - Depart from Port Elizabeth, the Friendly City, as you make your way to the beautiful and mystical Garden Route. Arrival at the Tsitsikamma National Park. Tsitsikamma is the Khoi-San word for a place of many waters. The park is internationally recognized for its forests, which harbour and conserve the giant Outeniqua Yellowwood - one of the few true monarchs of the world's forests. Here you join a guided tour by tractor drawn wagon or Land Rover through the breathtaking and tranquil forests of the Garden Route.

A picnic lunch is included. Continue to the up-market holiday town of Plettenberg Bay. Originally and rightly christened "Bahia Formosa" (beautiful bay) by early Portuguese explorers, it is home to the rare Knysna forest elephant, delicate ecosystems in wetlands and lagoons, gigantic trees, and a bay large enough for the great whales of the Southern Ocean to calve and protect their young. Here you will visit Monkey land, the world's first free roaming primate sanctuary for a walking safari through the dense forest. Proceed to Knysna for overnight. (Dinner for own account) Overnight: The Knysna Log Inn or Similar B, L

Day 6 (Saturday) – Knysna - This picturesque town is known as the Jewel of the Garden Route and lies on the banks of a shimmering lagoon. Knysna is synonymous with fine indigenous timbers; famed for the craftsmanship of its furniture and timber products. Join a tour to the Featherbed Nature Reserve in the late morning. Featherbed Nature Reserve is a unique 150 ha private Nature Reserve, encompassing the whole of the Western Head of Knysna and is one of South Africa's Natural Heritage Sites. The tour includes return ferry trip on the lagoon, a tractor drawn trailer ride to the top of the reserve, a guided nature walk and a spectacular fish lunch. In the afternoon you are taken to the Knysna Oyster Company for a tour of their operational Oyster farm. Since, as early as 1949, the Knysna Oyster Company has been titillating gastronomes from all over the world by cultivating the finest oysters in the pristine Knysna River Estuary. The remainder of the day is spent at leisure, for shopping, taking in the beautiful scenery or just relaxing in one's room. (Dinner for own account)

Overnight: The Knysna Log Inn/Similar

B,L

Day 7 (Sunday) – Oudtshoorn (1 night) - This morning depart along a scenic drive through lakes and lagoons to George; nestling below the magnificent Outeniqua Mountains is the sixth oldest town in South Africa. Thereafter you are taken to Oudtshoorn, the ostrich capital of the world. Visit the Cango Caves, one of the world's great natural wonders, sculptured by nature through the ages. See mysterious and breathtaking limestone formations in a wide variety of natural colours, a subterranean wonderland. Continue to a fully operational Ostrich Ranch, where you are taken on a guided tour, which includes an opportunity to ride an ostrich! These flightless birds are rapid runners and can reach speeds of approximately 65 km/hr (40 mph). Dinner included at the Ostrich Ranch.

Overnight: Hlangana Lodge/Similar

B, D

Day 8 (Monday) – Cape Town - Depart Oudtshoorn in the morning and travel to Mossel Bay. This popular holiday town is surrounded by a sunbathed peninsula and the refreshing waters of the Indian Ocean and is the end of the Garden Route. Visit the Old Post Office Tree and Bartholomew Diaz Museum before heading inland again to the historic town of Swellendam. After lunch the tour continues through Winelands and fruit orchards to Cape Town, the Mother City. The tour terminates at your hotel or at the airport in the late afternoon.

Lunch included. Tour Ends.

B,L

Option to stay in Cape Town to explore the area – price dependent on level of accommodation, length of stay and tours included – call for more details!

The Best of South Africa - From \$4025CDN per person Single Supplement Available

Price per person based on double occupancy. If paying by credit card please add 4%

ALL INCLUSIVE OF:

Accommodation, meals, transfers, activities, as stated in the itinerary.

Ground transportation between lodges and hotels

Game activities and park entry fees

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:

International flights; cancellation, baggage, emergency evacuation or medical insurance; visas; internal and international departure taxes; gratuities; meals, transfers, flights, activities and accommodation, not stated in the itinerary; items of a personal nature; drinks, laundry and any extras, any new Government taxes

**To Book
Your Safari Seat
Contact:**

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