



Journeys of a lifetime

THE GRAND CIRCLE SELF DRIVE AND FLYING TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA



Highlights:

We start our tour of South Africa in the beautiful cosmopolitan city of Cape Town where we will be staying at a charming city centre guesthouse. You will have plenty of time to explore and enjoy all that this city and the surrounding area has to offer.

Our next port of call is the Garden Route which we reach via a flight from Cape Town to George. Once again we have the use of a hire car from which to explore the fabulous beaches, coastal and mountain scenery from our base at a lovely lodge in the centre of the Garden Route

We then fly on to Durban, South Africa's third city and the main city of KwaZulu Natal, we will self drive to our beach hotel in Ballito on the Indian Ocean Coast. From here we will take a scenic self drive tour through Zululand to the Battlefields of Rorke's Drift and Isandlwana which were immortalised in the film "Zulu"

The final leg of our tour is a three night visit to the Sabi Sands Private Game Reserve in the Kruger region, home to the "Big Five" and many other iconic African wildlife species. Here we can explore this game rich wilderness in specially adapted, open 4x4 safari vehicles and on foot with our expert guides.

Day 1

Our representative will meet you off your flight at Cape Town International Airport and will hand

over your VIP document pack which will include your car hire and hotel vouchers and other useful information. You will be transferred by private road transfer to Four Rosmead where you will be based for the next four nights on a bed and breakfast basis.

Your group "b" hire car will be delivered to your hotel.

Cape Town and the Cape Peninsula is a great place to visit, here culture, scenic splendour, superb dining, history and top class sporting events and facilities combine in a fascinating mixture.

You may choose to take a mixture of guided tours and also to explore on your own, both in your hire car and on foot. Among the sights not to be missed are Robben Island the prison home of Nelson Mandela for many years, the shopping and dining to be enjoyed on Cape Town's restored waterfront, a trip to the top of Table Mountain on the cable car, the stunning coastal scenery of Chapman's Peak Drive, the penguin colony at Boulders Bay and Kirstenbosch botanical gardens.

Also possible for any easy day trip are the Winelands with their stunning scenery and vineyards and the whale watching centre of Hermanus.

Four Rosmead

Four Rosmead Guest House is situated on the slopes of Table Mountain in the vibrant suburb of Oranjesicht, this 1903 building is a classified provincial monument, now stylishly re-modelled into a Cape contemporary classic. The interiors are chic with a subtle, yet distinctive African spirit enhanced by original South African artwork within the urban sanctuary of a landscaped garden and inviting pool deck.

The 8 superior rooms enjoy unsurpassed views of either Table Mountain, Lions Head, Signal Hill, Table Bay and the city. They have a modern, uncluttered feel with the highest quality linens, extra-length beds, coffee and tea facilities, snack selections, broadband wifi, satellite TV, DVD's and IPOD docking stations.

Enjoy the relaxing atmosphere and the Pamper Spa, or take intriguing walks to the vibrant Kloof street cafés, museums & art galleries, parliament buildings and the renowned Green Market square.

<http://www.fourrosmead.com/>

Day 5

You will drive to Cape town Airport where you will return your hire car and board your flight to George on the Garden Route. You will collect your hire car at the airport and take a scenic drive towards Plettenberg Bay and your base for the next three nights at Lairds Lodge where you will be staying in a standard room on a bed and breakfast basis.

The lodge is located between Kynsna, a beautiful little town located on a lagoon which is surrounded by fabulous, coastal, mountain, forest and river scenery and Plettenberg Bay. Both towns contain many nice restaurants serving the excellent local produce for which South Africa is famed.

Your four days on the Garden Route allows time to explore the many scenic coastal and

mountain highlights in your hire car. There are also opportunities for coastal boat trips, walking, horse riding, fishing, whale watching, canoeing or playing golf on one of the many superb local golf courses.

Lairds Lodge country Estate

Lairds Lodge Country Estate is located between Knysna and Plettenberg Bay in the heart of the Garden Route. This gracious Cape Dutch homestead is situated on a 24 acre estate with distant mountain views and wide open spaces creating an ideal getaway to traditional country living. The main lounge presents sections of coloured walling, dark wood furnishings and tasteful Nguni Hide floor mats. Some of these main areas have the traditional reed ceilings and the intimate cognac and cigar lounges, all look out onto landscaped gardens of courtyards and koi ponds. Sumptuous breakfasts and dinners of seafood and venison, flavoured with fresh herbs from the garden, are served in the colonial dining room, or out in the sunny courtyard, under shady umbrellas.

Peace and tranquillity is the main emphasis at Lairds lodge and this is carried through to the 18 elegant rooms which are set within the main building or in other buildings on the rolling property. They all have traditional high ceilings, they are air-conditioned and equipped with electronic safes and tea and coffee stations. The twin or king beds don luxurious percale linens and the spacious en-suite bathrooms offer hairdryers and quality amenities. The Luxury rooms boast heated towel rails, lavish bath tubs separate walk-in showers. The sitting areas are adorned with cushioned comfort of natural hues, splashed with reds and rusts, and most of the rooms open to private terraces.

<http://www.lairdslodge.co.za/>

Day 8

You will return your hire car to George Airport and catch your flight to Durban. On arrival in Durban you will collect your hire car and drive to your overnight accommodation at Canelands Beach club located on the North coast, a short drive from the airport. You will be staying here for one night in a standard room on a bed and breakfast basis.

Canelands Beach Club

Canelands Beach Club is situated directly on the beach in Salt Rock, which is just five minutes from Ballito, on KwaZulu-Natal's beautiful North Coast. The homely lounge welcomes you into its warm tones of suede and the private dining area offers an indoor space, with comfy high back chairs, as well as an outdoor space, which flows onto the elevated deck and pool area, all overlooking the sea.

There are 10 rooms, four of which are sea-facing, with private balconies and un-interrupted views through floor to ceiling 'glass walls'. The other six rooms face the neat garden, which curves around the building, with terraces down to the beach. All the rooms are designed with absolute luxury and privacy in mind, they are air-conditioned and have satellite tv's and comfy sitting areas. The twin or king beds boast quality linens and the en-suite bathrooms are spacious, with modern finishes and either showers or baths.

You can spend hours on the pool terrace, or soak up the sun on the beach, with the therapeutic

sound of the waves ever present. There is also a 25 metre swimming pool, which stretches the length of the deck. Frolicking dolphins are regularly seen up and down this coastline.

<http://www.canelandssaltrock.co.za/>

Day 9

Today you will self drive through Zululand to the battlefields area of Isandlwana and Rorkes Drift which were immortalised in the film “Zulu” starring Michael Cane. You will be staying at the splendid Fugitives Drift Guest House, in the heart of this area, for two nights on a full board basis. This historic area is home to much Anglo–Zulu war memorabilia and the base for some of the finest guide historians in Southern Africa

Day 10

We suggest that today you take a highly emotive, guided tour, of the two major battlefields; the double tour starts in the morning with a visit to Isandlwana where the biggest and most humiliating defeat in British Colonial history occurred. Then after lunch the story continues with a visit to Rorkes Drift, scene of the battle depicted in the film Zulu where a small contingent of British Troops held off an onslaught from the all conquering Zulu army fresh from their victory at Isandlwana the previous day. A record number of Victoria Crosses were awarded for bravery to the troops who defended the garrison on that fateful day.

(Tour costs extra)

Fugitives Drift Guest House

Fugitives’ Drift Guest House is situated on the 2,000 hectare Fugitive’s Drift Game Reserve in the KwaZulu Natal battlefields, just an hour from the midlands town of Dundee. The guest house is privately set 800m from the main Lodge, it was originally the home of Mr Johan Potgieter, one of the great storytellers of this area, and it has been transformed into a charming sitting and dining room, filled with fascinating memorabilia. The traditional “Natal House” verandas wrap around the home, offering peaceful shaded areas and outdoor dining, with views across the gardens to the mountain of Isandlwana in the distance. Meet like-minded travellers at meal times, with personal attention offered by your hosts within this intimate atmosphere.

There are 6 rooms which are laid out in clusters of free standing cottages, they are practical spaces, individually decorated with king or twin beds, minimal dark wood furnishings and soft, welcoming tones, contrasted with splashes of bright fabrics and throws. The en–suite bathrooms offer fluffy towels and separate baths and showers. All the rooms have private verandahs offering views over the rolling indigenous bushveld and the inviting pool.

From the verandas, you will see the resident giraffe, zebra, antelope and birds, which venture close to the quiet guest house. Be sure to visit the museum, which is filled with artefacts and relics, explore the region on foot or on horseback, or go fishing on the Buffalo River. The highlight of your stay is a tour of the Anglo–Zulu battlefields of Isandlwana and the Oskarsberg at Rorke’s Drift, where qualified guides “Bring to vivid life the struggle between one of the largest Empires in history and one of the smallest nations in the world”.

Day 11

Drive to Durban and return your hire car before checking in for your flight to Nelspruit, Kruger Mpumalanga Airport. You will be met off the flight and transferred to the private Sabi Sands Game Reserve in the game rich southern Section of Kruger. You will be staying at Nottens Bush Camp on a full board basis for the next three nights.

Nottens Bush Camp is a family owned and managed lodge, situated in the world renowned Sabi Sand Private Game Reserve. In 1986, the Nottens opened their family home to what is known today as Notten's Bush Camp, now in its third generation in the Notten, as well as the Matabula families. Specter Matabula was employed by the family in 1963 and he would be proud to know that his son and his grandchildren are still part of the preservation of this magnificent piece of South Africa. The lounge and dining area has cool stone tiled floors and totally open sides, leading onto a wooden deck overlooking an active pan offering excellent sightings of game and birds. The neat open boma is where candlelit meals are enjoyed under the African sky and many stories are told around the crackling camp fire.

The 8 individual private suites are elegantly styled using clean white furnishings on cool screeded floors, with ceiling fans rotating overhead. The spacious en-suite bathrooms boast large baths and elaborate sunken outdoor showers. All the suites open out to private wooden viewing decks. The purposeful absence of electric lighting creates a magical atmosphere under the ambient light of candles and lanterns.

Relax at the sparkling pool, or retain your fitness with a few laps in this secluded and shaded outdoor area. you can also enjoy soothing beauty treatments on the massage deck overlooking the natural surroundings. Your stay at Nottens Bush Camp includes all meals and daily game activities.

Day 14

Transfer to Kruger Mpumalanga Airport where you will board your flight to Johannesburg.

TOTAL PRICE PER PERSON ON A CAPE TOWN TO JOHANNESBURG BASIS

Price per person based on two sharing:

January to April 2012 ZAR34180 (£2849)

May 2012 to July 2012 ZAR30088 (£2507)

August 2012 ZAR30738 (£2562)

September 2012 ZAR33155 (£2763)

October 2012 ZAR34538 (£2879)

Notes:

Sterling price dependent on exchange rate at time of booking.

These are flexible tailor made tours and can be varied to suit guest's preferences and budget.

Five per cent early booking discount if booked before 31st December 2011

When to go:

This self drive and flying holiday is a gentle introduction to South Africa's magnificent scenery and other attractions. The highlight of the safari will undoubtedly be the visit to Sabi Sands with its excellent big five game viewing.

South Africa's pleasant climate makes this trip possible and very enjoyable at any time of year.

Who should go:

Perfect for first time visitors to South Africa a gentle introduction to this magnificent continent for those with a spirit of adventure.

We say

A wonderful and excellent value trip to some of the most beautiful and historic parts of South Africa, combined with a thrilling safari in the private Sabi Sands game reserves which has excellent big five game viewing and a very high predator density. Sabi Sands is probably the best place in Africa for wild Leopard sightings.

SAFARI CLUB PROMISE:

Our consultants are dedicated to providing you, our clients, with the safari holiday of your dreams, we will always endeavour to offer you the best value safari and beach holiday in line with the time available and budget guidelines you have supplied.

The camps, lodges and hotels included in our trips are regularly vetted by our consultants to ensure the highest standards are maintained and that every safari and associated beach stay is a unique and authentic African experience.

Safari Club will never compromise the quality of our safaris by offering a knowingly inferior product in the interests of price.



www.safari-club.co.uk

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