

# Malaria-free Hiking & Safari Tour

19 Days at your preferred date



**19-Day South Africa Tour for Nature and Hiking Lovers including:  
Drakensberge - Lesotho - Garden Route - Little (Klein) Karoo - Cape Town**

I believe that South Africa is the most beautiful place on Earth; of course I am biased, but if you combine the natural beauty of our sunny South Africa with the kindness and cultural diversity of our people and our enchanting wildlife, then even stubborn critics must agree with us that we South Africans are blessed with a dreamlike country. Come visit us and see for yourself the uniqueness of South Africa. -Nelson Mandela-

Who could resist this call from the great politician, due to his charisma; he has so brilliantly initiated and advanced the incredibly difficult balancing of the peaceful reunification of Blacks and Whites after decades of Apartheid. This private study & hiking safari, led by us, is for a maximum of six guests who do not want to travel with conventional package holidays in large groups with limited schedules. I'll show you the size and vastness of the country, its diversity and beautiful, varied landscapes. We hike in the Drakensberge Mountain Range, in the Kingdom of Lesotho and on the Cape Coast. We have deliberately selected small and lesser-known guest houses that have retained their special charm and character and make the holiday a special experience through personal service. In the national parks we live in the remaining camps. Due to the small number of participants, I can respond specifically to special requests and make short-term changes on site. The services, meals and excursions mentioned in the program are all included in the travel price and thus help to save additional costs.

This is South Africa – Experience it



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 **Day 1: Johannesburg - Drakensberge (330km)**

- ❖ We meet at the airport in Johannesburg and head straight to the Drakensberg Mountain Range, South Africa's highest mountain range and the natural border between South Africa and Lesotho. In the late afternoon we reach our camp with a great panoramic view of the Drakensberg Mountain Range. We stay in beautiful mountain chalets, on the edge of the steepest peaks.

 **Day 2: Drakensberge: Day of hiking (20km)**

- ❖ Today's full-day hike shows the overwhelming beauty of the Drakensberge. We hike into Tugela Gorge, a magnificent valley full of flowers and wild mountain streams with an impressive view of the "Amphitheatre" mountain range.

 **Day 3: Drakensberge - Lesotho (330km)**

- ❖ Today we drive along the Mountains through the Golden Gate Highlands National Park. This unique park along the border of the Orange Free State protects 4,900 hectares of sandstone highlands with an unsurpassable (incredible) variety of rock formations and colours. After stops in Clarence and Ladybrand we drive across the border to Lesotho, the kingdom of the (in the) sky with over 30,000km<sup>2</sup>, the size of Belgium. No point in Lesotho is below 1,400 meters of altitude. Our goal today is the 2,000m high little village of Malealea, consisting of a shop and a simple but cosy lodge.

 **Day 4: Lesotho: Day of hiking (20km)**

- ❖ Our lodge, an original trading base, is the best starting point to experience Lesotho. Today we will be on a horseback trail or explore Lesotho on foot through the mountainous landscape and deep gorges, past the Botsoéla waterfall and local Basotho villages. In the evening the Malealea Children's Choir sings for us.

 **Day 5: Lesotho - Mountain Zebra National Park (450km)**

- ❖ Today we leave Lesotho and drive through the dry Karoo to the Mountain Zebra National Park. Where the survival of the mountain zebras was assured. This national park is one of the most visited in South Africa, not only because of its unique wildlife, but also because of the charming landscape scenes. In addition to the mountain zebras, there are large herds of eland antelopes, springboks, white-tailed wildebeest, kudus, duikers and cow antelopes. The high plateau with the wide view over the Karoo is a paradise for all photographers.

 **Day 6: Mountain Zebra National Park - Addo Elephant National Park (210km)**

- ❖ This morning we start our day before sunrise to enjoy the landscape and animals in the best light. After breakfast we continue our journey to the Addo Elephant National Park, which was declared in 1931 to protect the last elephants in the Cape region. For many years now, the Addo Elephant Park is home of the "Big five" and other big game species of South Africa. We spend the rest of the day in the 14,500 hectare Addo Elephant National Park, which is a home to more than 600 elephants.

 **Day 7: Addo Elephant National Park – Tsitsikamma National Park (200km)**

- ❖ After an early morning Game Drive and a short city tour through Port Elizabeth, we continue to Tsitsikamma National Park. The Tsitsikamma forest is a rugged, densely covered region with ferns, many native flowers and very old tree species such as Yellowwood, Blackwood and many more.

 **Day 8: Tsitsikamma National Park: Day of hiking (20km)**

- ❖ After a hearty breakfast we hike today over a rocky coastal path to a beautiful waterfall. This 4 hour hike follows the "Otter Trail" along the coast. Our goal is a waterfall that plunges with several cascades into a natural rock pool where we can enjoy a swim. With a bit of luck we see whales, seals, dolphins and otters today. After lunch we take a walk through the coastal forest to the suspension bridges at the mouth of the river.

 **Day 9: Tsitsikamma National Park – Knysna (90km)**

- ❖ Early in the morning we take a short walk through the natural coastal forest to a hanging bridge. After breakfast we drive between the 2,000m high Outeniqua Mountains and the Indian Ocean past wild and beautiful coastal areas and through numerous year-round visited resorts to Plettenberg Bay, the St. Tropez of South Africa and on to the small town Knysna.

 **Day 10: Knysna (10km)**

- ❖ After a late breakfast we take a boat trip on the Knysna Lagoon. The afternoon will be free.

 **Day 11: Knysna – Oudtshoorn (110km)**

- ❖ Today we drive to Oudtshoorn in the Little (Klein) Karoo and visit the Cango Cave-System. Large halls gather here for a 1km long passage. Then we visit an ostrich farm. During a guided tour we will learn amazing things about the bird that can't fly. After the tour we enjoy an ostrich steak on the farm.

 **Day 12: Oudtshoorn: Day Tour (120km)**

- ❖ The over 2,000m high Swartberg Mountains form the natural boundary between the Little (Klein) Karoo and the Great Karoo. Today we drive through the deep Meiringspoort gorge to Prince Albert and on the way back over the Swartberg Pass, from where we will have a magnificent view of the surrounding Mountain Ranges.

 **Day 13: Oudtshoorn – Robertson (260km)**

- ❖ Along the magnificent Route 62 we drive through the "Little (Klein) Karoo" into the Breede River Valley. The fertile soil and warm climate make the valley ideal for fruit and wine growing. More than 50 wine farms and numerous stud farms are located here. Tonight we live stylishly in a wine-vault including wine tasting.

 **Day 14: Robertson - Cape Aghulas - Hermanus (270km)**

- ❖ Through wine-growing regions we drive today via Struisbaai to "Cape Agulhas", the southernmost point of the African continent. After picnicking at this striking point we continue along the coast to Hermanus.

 **Day 15: Whale Watching - Safari (10km)**

- ❖ During a boat trip on the Walkerbay we look out for Southern Right Whales, which visit Hermanus every year from May to December. Hermanus is also known as the capital of the Whale-Coastline. In the afternoon we walk on the "coastal path". This developed path is unique and never more than a few meters from the Atlantic Ocean and leads along the whole village. In the late afternoon we have wine tasting at the farm "Hamilton Russel".

 **Day 16: Hermanus - Cape Town (120km)**

- ❖ Today we explore Wine areas of Paarl, Stellenbosch and Franschhoek. We visit some of the old wineries and enjoy the day with a cellar tour & wine tasting and get to know something of the South African way of life. We taste fine cape wines, locally produced cheeses and stroll through Stellenbosch, the second oldest city in South Africa and the pretty French-inspired village of Franschhoek, where we will enjoy a lunch on a wine farm. Late afternoon we will arrive in Cape Town. Cape Town, between mountains and the Atlantic Ocean, is rightly known as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. A world of entertainment, recreation and attractions opens up for the visitor. Tonight we will have a stroll through the waterfront.

 **Day 17: Cape Town: Table Mountain / Robben Island**

- ❖ Today we take the cable car up to the top of the 1,086m High Table Mountain. There we have enough time to enjoy the view in all directions. From here we can see almost the entire Peninsula, the city and the Prisoner Island of Robben Island. The afternoon is at your disposal. Recommendation: Boat trip to Robben Island.

 **Day 18: Cape Town: Peninsula Tour (180km)**

- ❖ We leave Cape Town in a southerly direction, driving along the False Bay coastal road to Simons Town to visit the Penguin Colony. We continue our tour to the Cape of Good Hope, where you have time to explore. Walk to the lighthouse or choose the convenient way with the "flying Dutchman" to the highest point of the Cape Peninsula. We leave the nature reserve at the Cape and drive via Kommetjie, Noordhoek and the popular Surfer spot "Long Beach" to Chapman's Peak Drive. Chapman's Peak Drive, this coastal road, known for its impressive route between granite and sandstone, is a feat of engineers. Via Hout Bay, Llandudno, Camps Bay and Clifton and past the millionaire villas we drive back to Cape Town.

 **Day 19: Cape Town (30km)**

- ❖ After a leisurely breakfast we visit the Botanical Garden in Kirstenbosch and afterwards you have the opportunity to do some last shopping tour at the Victoria & Alfred (V/A) Waterfront. Then we make our way to the Airport.