



South Africa: Cultural Cities & Wildlife Safaris

17 days | 20 days with Johannesburg & Victoria Falls extension

No other destination offers such a spectacular combination of scenery, cities, and amazing wildlife sightings. One day you're out on the savanna, spying on leopards and lions on this small group Adventure Tour; the next, you're sipping a crisp chenin blanc and feeling the breeze off the Indian Ocean.



Your tour package includes

- 14 nights in handpicked hotels
- 14 breakfasts
- 5 lunches
- 7 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 liquor tasting
- 15 sightseeing tours
- 4 game drives
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach
- 1 on-tour flight

Included highlights

- Table Mountain
- Cape of Good Hope
- Featherbed Nature Reserve
- Tsitsikamma National Park
- Pumba Private Game Reserve
- Addo Elephant National Park
- Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve
- Great St. Lucia Wetland Park
- Chimp Eden
- Kruger National Park

Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1 hour daily across mostly flat terrain, including dirt paths and unpaved walkways, with some hills and stairs.

Group size

12-22

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Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Cape Town today.

Cape Town → 4 nights

Day 2: Arrival in Cape Town

Welcome to South Africa! Settle in to your hotel this evening.

Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Cape Town

Included meals: breakfast, welcome dinner

Join your Tour Director for a tour of Cape Town, a beautiful and culturally rich city.

- Take a cable car ride up Table Mountain and soak in panoramic views of the city below (*weather permitting*)
- See Signal Hill and the Castle of Good Hope
- Catch glimpses of City Hall and the Houses of Parliament as you drive through the city
- Take a walking tour of the Bo-Kaap area, home to Cape Malay culture and some of the city's most vibrant architecture
- Visit the District Six Museum to learn about the diverse communities that were forcibly removed under apartheid
- See how the museum staff are helping to rebuild the communities and strengthen the rich cultures in District Six and beyond

Spend a free afternoon in Cape Town or add an excursion.

Enjoy a welcome dinner with your fellow travelers this evening.

Please note: On some departures, the optional excursion will be offered in the morning and the sightseeing tour will take place in the afternoon.

In the event of inclement weather, the visit to Table Mountain will be moved to day 4 or 5. In the unlikely event of poor weather both days, Table Mountain will be replaced with a visit to Signal Hill. For departures during July and August, travelers will visit Signal Hill and enjoy an included lunch due to annual maintenance of the Table Mountain cable car.

+ Robben Island

Day 4: Sightseeing tour of the Cape Peninsula & choir performance

Included meals: breakfast

Spend the day exploring the Cape Peninsula.

- Drive along the Atlantic seaboard, passing the Clifton and Camp's Bay beaches
- Visit the Cape of Good Hope and the lighthouse at Cape Point and enjoy views of where the Atlantic and Indian oceans meet
- Visit Boulders Beach, a protected marine habitat for the endangered African penguin
- Learn how your visit helps support the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds, a local NGO

As you travel back to Cape Town, stop to enjoy a performance by the Major Voices South African Choir.

- Listen to Afro-gospel, and jazz music by the talented a cappella group, Isicathamiya
- Hear about the group's mission to give youth community members an opportunity to be involved in music and the arts

Day 5: Free day in Cape Town

Included meals: breakfast

Enjoy a full free day in Cape town or add an excursion.

+ Cape Winelands Tasting & Lunch

Knysna → 2 nights

Day 6: Knysna via Pinnacle Point & gin distillery

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, liquor tasting

Travel along the Garden Route to Knysna, making several stops along the way.

- Enjoy a guided tour of Pinnacle Point, known as the Point of Human Origins
- Enter cave 13B to learn about the archaeological site, which contains a record of human occupation and evolution over a period of 170,000 years
- Enjoy an included lunch at a local restaurant in Mossel Bay
- Sip a gin cocktail at a local distillery as you learn about the local herbs used to produce the liquor
- Make your own bottle of handcrafted gin to bring home

Then, continue on to Knysna.

Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Featherbed Nature

Reserve & Knysna Township

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Cross the scenic Knysna Lagoon by ferry and get ready to explore the pristine beauty of Featherbed Nature Reserve on a guided tour.

- Join your naturalist guide in a 4x4 vehicle and ride up the Western Head
- Stop along the way to admire views of the lagoon, mountains, and Knysna village
- Learn about the area's coastal forest and fynbos, a shrubland with a diverse array of plants, on a nature walk
- Enjoy an outdoor lunch under the grand milkwood trees

Travel back across the Knysna Lagoon by ferry. Then, meet up with a local guide for a tour of Knysna Township.

- Learn about Xhosa culture and interact with the community members, who are part of South Africa's second-largest ethnic group
- Visit the library before meeting a local resident at their home to learn about Xhosa song and drum traditions
- Discover the roots of the language, which eight million South Africans speak

Port Elizabeth → 2 nights

Day 8: Port Elizabeth via Tsitsikamma National Park

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Today, travel to the sun-drenched shores of Port Elizabeth, set on the beautiful Algoa Bay, making several stops along the way.

- Follow the Garden Route to Tsitsikamma National Park and Storms River
- Walk along the Storms River suspension bridge for an incredible photo opportunity

Then, continue on to Port Elizabeth and venture out on an orientation tour before sitting down for an included dinner this evening.

Day 9: Pumba Private Game Reserve

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Visit the Pumba Private Game Reserve for a game drive today.

- Keep a lookout for white lions, elephants, and other wildlife

- Sit down for an included lunch at an outdoor boma restaurant

Durban → 1 night

Day 10: Addo Elephant Park game drive & flight to Durban

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Spend the morning learning more about South Africa's conservation efforts for some of its most beloved wildlife when you set off on a game drive through the Addo Elephant Park, where over 600 elephants and other animals like with lions, buffalo, black rhino call home. Later, fly to Durban and settle into your hotel. Afterwards, enjoy an included dinner this evening.

Hluhluwe → 1 night

Day 11: Transfer to Hluhluwe & Wetland Park

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Travel to Hluhluwe this morning, then pay a visit to the Greater St. Lucia Wetland Park, declared South Africa's first World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1999.

- Admire the flora and fauna of the St. Lucia Estuary on a river cruise
- Try to spot hippos, bush bucks, crocodiles, fish-eagles, monkeys, kingfishers, and mudskippers

Sit down for an included dinner tonight.

Eswatini → 1 night

Day 12: Game drive, Transfer to Eswatini & Swazi Candles

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Drive out into the bush to enjoy a catered, open-air breakfast complete with coffee, tea, and juices. Then, head out for a game drive at the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve. The game reserve is home to the Big Five and is one of the best places in all of Africa to view rhinoceroses. Later, enter the Kingdom of Eswatini, the continent's last absolute monarchy.

- Stop at the traditional markets in Manzini
- Pay a visit to Swazi Candles, a local fair trade organization that produces high-quality candles

- Tour the manufacturing warehouse and community garden, and receive a small candle to take home

Then, pass mountains, forests, and farms as you continue on to your hotel. Sit down for an included dinner.

Kruger National Park Region → 2 nights

Day 13: Kruger National Park Region via Chimp Eden

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Cross the border into South Africa and tour Chimp Eden, the Jane Goodall Institute South Africa Chimpanzee Sanctuary.

- Enjoy the unique opportunity to see chimpanzees in semi-wild enclosures
- Admire the viewpoints at some of the enclosures, which overlook the forest and foraging areas
- Hear how the chimps safely play in these areas and how they help positively reinforce their natural behavior

Continue on to the Kruger National Park region. Sit down for an included outdoor bush dinner at your safari lodge.

Day 14: Kruger National Park game drives

Included meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner

Set out for a full day of game drives in Kruger National Park.

- Hop inside your open-air safari vehicle and explore the park with a naturalist guide
- Try to spot the Big Five game animals: buffalo, elephants, leopards, lions, and rhinos
- Enjoy an included lunch at a private boma in the national park
- Continue riding through the park to see wild animals in their natural habitat

Later this evening, sit down for an included dinner with your group.

Johannesburg → 1 night

Day 15: Johannesburg via Panorama Route

Included meals: breakfast

See scenic landscapes at every turn as you head to Johannesburg along the Mpumalanga Panorama Route.

- Soak in breathtaking views at God's Window (*weather permitting*)

- Walk along a pathway to visit Bourke's Luck Potholes, a collection of natural rock formations
- Stop at the lush, green Blyde River Canyon, where you can see neighboring Mozambique on a clear day

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 16: Sightseeing tour of Soweto & departure

Included meals: breakfast, farewell lunch

This morning, set out on a guided sightseeing tour of the Soweto township.

- See the soccer stadium where the 2010 FIFA World Cup Finals game was played
- Pass Vilakazi Street, once home to both Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu—both recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize
- Enter the Hector Pieterse Museum to learn about the 1976 Soweto uprising

Afterward, raise a glass to your trip at a farewell lunch before transferring to the airport to board your flight home, or continue on the tour extension to explore Victoria Falls.

Arrive Home

Day 17: Travel day

Arrive home today.

+ Johannesburg & Victoria Falls extension

Spend a little extra time in Johannesburg (Jo'burg for short), then fly to Zimbabwe. Learn more about life in South Africa with visits to the Chinotimba Township and Community Peace Project. Later, visit Victoria Falls, the largest waterfall in the world. You'll fly back to Johannesburg before saying "so long" to Africa.

Johannesburg → 1 night

Day 16: Sightseeing tour of Soweto

Included meals: breakfast

This morning, set out on a guided sightseeing tour of the Soweto township.

- See the soccer stadium where the 2010 FIFA World Cup Finals game was played

- Pass Vilakazi Street, once home to both Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu
- Enter the Hector Pieterse Museum to learn about the 1976 Soweto uprising

Arrive Home

Day 20: Travel day

Arrive home today.

Victoria Falls → 2 nights

Day 17: Flight to Victoria Falls

Included meals: breakfast, dinner

Fly to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, located on the southern bank of the Zambezi River.

Then, sit down for an included dinner this evening.

Please note: On some departures, you may fly to Livingstone, Zambia instead which will require a visa. Afterwards, you'll transfer to your hotel in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe by bus.

Day 18: Sightseeing tour of Victoria Falls, Chinotimba Township & Rose of Charity visits

Included meals: breakfast, lunch

Explore Victoria Falls, the largest curtain of falling water in the world, on a guided tour.

- Walk along a network of trails to take in spectacular views of the falls from several vantage points
- Learn about the history, flora, and fauna of the area

Then, take a guided tour of Chinotimba Township, a village of the Nambya and Tonga people.

- Sit down in the shady garden of a traditional home in the village for an included lunch of Zimbabwean food and drinks
- Visit the Rose of Charity, an organization helping transform the lives of impoverished children, their families, and their communities through education
- Hear how your visit helps sustain this local NGO

Enjoy a free evening in the Victoria Falls region or add an excursion.

Please note: Shoes with good grip are highly recommended for the walk around Victoria Falls due to slippery surfaces.

+ Zambezi River Sunset Cruise

Overnight Flight → 1 night

Day 19: Departure

Included meals: breakfast

Fly back to Johannesburg, where you'll board your overnight flight home.

Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: goaheadtours.ca/SAF | 1-800-754-5066

Day 3: Robben Island

\$119CAD (4 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Today, board a ferry to Robben Island—an enduring reminder of apartheid and South Africa's struggle for freedom. First fortified in the 17th century and used as a jail until 1996, this UNESCO-recognized site imprisoned Nelson Mandela and other political activists and dissidents. There, you'll set off on a tour, guided by a former political prisoner. You'll see the cell where Mandela was held for 18 years, and learn more about the Nobel laureate's life and work. Afterward, take the ferry back to the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and enjoy free time in the area before ending your outing. Please note: This excursion is weather-dependent. In case of inclement weather, it will take place on the afternoon of day 4. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

Day 5: Cape Winelands Tasting & Lunch

\$129CAD/\$139CAD* (6 hours, departs in the morning with lunch)

Leave the city behind for a sensational day in the Cape Winelands—a trio of valleys and the largest winemaking region in South Africa. Depart Cape Town, driving through mountainous, tree-lined terrain, en route to a vineyard in the Stellenbosch Region. Here, you'll get a taste of some of the area's finest vintages—like pinotage, a distinctly South African varietal first created and cultivated in the country. Then, continue to another estate for a second tasting, accompanied by a light lunch. Relax and soak in the scenery, then make your way back to Cape Town.

Extension excursion options

Day 18: Zambezi River Sunset Cruise

\$109CAD/\$119CAD* (3 hours, departs in the afternoon)

This afternoon, travel from your hotel to the Zambezi River to embark on a leisurely, two-hour cruise. From comfortable chairs on your ship's cool wooden decks, keep watch for the local wildlife, including hippos, crocodiles, and elephants. Your cruise includes light appetizers and drinks, so sit back and relax while meandering down the Zambezi at sunset.

*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at goaheadtours.ca/terms