

## 12 Day Classic South Africa with Robben Island Available April 2023 - March 2024

## **Escorted Package Included**

- Flights New York-Cape Town, Johannesburg-New York; other departure cities available.
- Intra-flight Cape Town-Durban
- 10 nights accommodations
  - 4 nights Cape Town
  - 1 night Hluhluwe
  - 1 night Mbabane (eSwatini)
  - 2 nights Hazyview
  - 2 nights Johannesburg
- All transfers included only with airfare purchase on arrival & departure dates
- Meals: 10 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 5 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern airconditioned motor coach
- Game drives in modern safari vehicles
- English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary

## **Special Features**

- Experience Cape Town, during the city tour pass by Castle of Good Hope, the Grande Parade and visit Table Mountain
- Tour historic Robben Island, a World Heritage Site and view the former prison cell of Nelson Mandela
- During the Cape Peninsula Tour, visit the Cape of Good Hope reserve and view the penguin colonies at Boulders Beach
- Game viewing cruise on the St Lucia Estuary, a uniquely diverse ecosystem
- Game drive through Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game
  Reserve
- A thrilling game drive in an open-vehicle through Kruger National Park
- In Soweto, the most metropolitan township, visit Nelson Mandela's former home

DAY 1 - Depart for South Africa.

**DAY 2** - Arrive in Cape Town, as you transfer to your hotel, you'll see the towering symbol of the city - Table Mountain. The rest of the day is at leisure in this seaside city.

DAY 3 - Cape Town City Tour. After an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager, depart on a half day Cape Town city and Table Mountain tour. Drive past famous landmarks such as the Castle of Good Hope, City Hall, Grand Parade and St. George's Cathedral. The route then leads to Kloof Nek and Table Mountain. Ascend to the top (weather permitting) by means of a cable car.\* Descend and proceed to Cape Town's V & A Waterfront for time at leisure. In the afternoon, take a ferry\*\* across the Bay to visit Robben Island, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tour historic Robben Island's prison before returning to Capetown. Conclude the day with dinner.

**DAY 4** - Cape Peninsula Tour. Depart on a full day Cape Peninsula Tour with lunch along the way. After a stop at the fishing village of Hout Bay, continue to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. Then, following the coastline along False Bay, return to Cape Town after lunch. On the way, visit the penguin colonies at Boulders Beach, and the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens. Tonight, experience local culture at the optional Home Hosted Dinner.

**DAY 5** - Full Day in Cape Town. Enjoy the day at leisure in Cape Town. Perhaps join the optional South African Wine Tour, which takes you along the country's principal wine route to the towns of Paarl, Franschhoek and Stellenbosch with tastings along the way. Alternatively, thrill seekers will not want to miss the optional excursions -- Traditional African Dinner, The South African Wine Tour, and/or Full Day Great White Shark Cage Diving.

**DAY 6** - Flight to Durban, Game Viewing Cruise on the St. Lucia Estuary. This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Durban. Upon arrival in the early afternoon, drive to St. Lucia. Later, embark on a game viewing cruise that takes you on the St. Lucia Estuary, home to Nile crocodiles, hippopotami, sea turtles, and even sharks. This evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel.

DAY 7 - Game Drive in Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve, Travel to eSwatini. After an early breakfast, travel to the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve, situated in northern KwaZulu Natal, which contains an immense diversity of fauna and flora and is particularly famous for its conservation of black and white rhinos. Home to Africa's "Big Five," you may have a chance to see elephant, Cape buffalo, lion and leopard, in addition to rhino during your morning game drive through the reserve. The park also boasts warthog, crocodile, and antelope. Following the safari, continue to the border of the Kingdom of eSwatini,\* This independent kingdom within the borders of South Africa is known for its lovely scenery and vibrant indigenous culture. Stop at a handicraft market this afternoon before arriving to your hotel in the early evening.

**DAY 8** - eSwatini Sightseeing and Matsamo Village Visit. After breakfast visit the Ngwenya glass factory, where visitors can watch glass blowers create a range of African animals and tablewaremade from recycled glass. Transfer to the South African border and visit Matsamo Cultural Village where you can learn more about the Swati traditions and customs. Enjoy traditional Swati cuisine along with dance and song performances. Later, continue to the hotel in time for dinner.

**DAY 9** - Kruger National Park Game Drive. Upon departure from the hotel, a pre-packed breakfast will be provided for you. Then, on to Kruger National Park for a full day, open-vehicle game drive. You may have a chance to see lion, elephant, giraffe, or zebra in their natural habitat. After stopping at a rest camp for lunch, continue your game drive. End the day with dinner at the hotel.

**DAY 10** - Panorama Route to Johannesburg. Depart after breakfast and travel to Mpumalanga Province. Stop to admire the scenery along the 16-mile-long Blyde River Canyon, cut deep into red sandstone, and God's Window (weather permitting) overlooking Kruger National Park. Visit Bourke's Luck Potholes before proceeding this afternoon to Johannesburg. Stop at a family-run curio shop before arriving at the hotel.

**DAY 11** - Soweto Tour. Depart on a half day tour of Soweto. Drive by the former residence of Bishop Desmond Tutu and visit Nelson Mandela's former home. Continue to the Apartheid Museum, where you will journey through the racial segregation experienced by millions of South Africans. Cap off the day with dinner tonight.

DAY 12 - Depart South Africa. Transfer to the airport for your departure flight