

Wonders of the Garden Route

8 days | Port Elizabeth to Cape Town



Discover the highlights of the southern coast of South Africa, known as the Garden Route, on this 8 day tour from Port Elizabeth to Cape Town. Visit Knysna Heads and Cango Caves, go wild on safari in Addo, hike in Tsitsikamma, enjoy wine tasting in Stellenbosch, explore rugged Cape Point and more.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Addo Elephant National Park
- Tsitsikamma - Storms River and forests
- Heads in Knysna
- Oudtshoorn - Cango Caves
- Stellenbosch - The Wine Region
- Cape Town - Cape Point tour including Camps Bay, Hout Bay, Simon's Town, Cape Point and the Good Hope Nature Reserve. Optional Seal Island Cruise and visit to penguin colony at Boulders Beach

What's Included

- 7 breakfasts
- 7 nights mid range lodges & chalets
- Transportation in a fully equipped Toyota Quantums or other appropriate vehicles

- Airport arrival and departure transfer on days 1 and 8
- Addo Elephant Park - Explore the park on an exciting game drive (option to book additional game drives in open 4x4 vehicles)
- Oudtshoorn - Explore the Precambrian limestone Cango Caves
- Stellenbosch - Try some delicious local wine on a wine tasting and cellar tour
- Cape Town - Enjoy a Cape Point Tour
- Port Elizabeth - Explore Route 67 on a walking tour, a series of art works celebrating Nelson Mandela's 67 years of public service

What's Not Included

- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Optional activities
- International flights and visas

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Port Elizabeth

On arrival at Port Elizabeth Airport, you will be met and transferred to your accommodation. The rest of the day may be spent at leisure in the "friendly" city by the sea to participate in optional activities or enjoy a relaxed afternoon at the beach.

Overnight - Port Elizabeth

Day 2 : Port Elizabeth to Addo



Port Elizabeth - Addo National Park. Today we will explore Route 67 on a walking tour, which consist of a series of public art works celebrating the 67 years of public service of the freedom icon, Nelson Mandela, fondly known as Tata Madiba. In the early afternoon, you will be transferred to Addo National Park. A benchmark conservation success, the park offers a unique wildlife habitat, famous for the Addo elephants and the remaining population of the flightless dung beetle. We spend the afternoon on a game drive in our tour vehicle, in search of elephant, black rhino, lion, buffalo and leopard. Additional game drives conducted in open game-viewer vehicles are available at an extra expense. An evening spent at the floodlit waterhole allows us to watch the nocturnal animals and listen to their calls.

Optional Sundowner Game Drive Incl. snacks and drinks Price: ZAR 595 per person

Distance: 70 km

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Overnight - Addo Elephant Park (B)

Days 3-4 : Tsitsikamma National Park



Addo National Park - Tsitsikamma. After breakfast on day 3 our journey takes us to a region of startling beauty along South Africa's southern coastline, known as the Garden Route. We spend two nights in the Storms River Village, at the heart of the Tsitsikamma Forest. We will take a leisurely hike along one of the short trails, which allow you to explore the coastal bush and rocky shoreline. There is also an option to plunge off the world's highest bungee jump at the Bloukrans River (book and pay locally)

Distance: 240 km

Departure: 08h00

Overnight - Tsitsikamma National Park (B:2)

Day 5 : Knysna & Oudtshoorn



Tsitsikamma - Knysna - Oudtshoorn. After visiting 'The Heads' in Knysna, a town nestled on a tranquil lagoon, we will enjoy an interactive and educational oyster tasting experience. We continue our journey, travelling over the Outeniqua Mountains into the Little Karoo arriving in the town of Oudtshoorn. We take a trip to the famous Cango Caves, with their impressive ancient stalagmites and stalactites before overnighting in the ostrich capital of the world.

Distance: 280 km

Departure: 08h00

Overnight - Oudtshoorn (B)

Days 6-7 : Cape Point Tour



Oudtshoorn - Cape Town. En-route to Cape Town, we visit the pretty university town of Stellenbosch, for wine tasting and a cellar tour. Once in Cape Town the afternoon is at leisure, enjoy sundowners at one of the fabulous beaches or indulge in some last minute shopping at the V&A Waterfront.

The next day we get to explore the area on a Cape Point tour. We travel along the Atlantic Seaboard to Hout Bay, a quaint village and fishing harbour with magnificent mountain views and beach. Here you have the option to take a boat trip to Seal Island (seasonal and not included in the cost). We carry on over Chapman's Peak, one of the world's most breathtaking coastal drives, to Cape Point and the Good Hope Nature Reserve. In the afternoon we travel on to Simon's Town, a village with charming Victorian architecture, a naval base and a large penguin colony at the beautiful Boulders Beach (entrance to Boulders Beach is optional, pay locally).

Distance: 450 km

Departure: 08h00

Overnight - Cape Town (B:2)

Day 8 : Cape Town

Spend the final day at leisure. Weather dependent there is the chance to take the cable car up Table Mountain (own expense) and enjoy one last view of the Cape of Good Hope before your transfer to the airport. With so much to see and do in Cape Town we recommend that you extend your stay. Post tour accommodation can be booked upon request.(B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

The Kelway Hotel

Elegant in style the overall tone of The Kelway Hotel is warm & inviting. The rooms are comfortable and well appointed.



Addo Elephant Rest Camp

Offering a wide selection of accommodation, Addo Elephant Rest Camp is a popular spot next to Addo Elephant Park. Guest rooms vary from chalets to rondavels and cottages. All are comfortable with en suite facilities. The unique feature of the camp is the waterhole look out point that is floodlit at night. Sitting here listening and watching is the perfect way to end a busy day on safari. The main Rest Camp in The Addo Elephant Park is situated near Addo and close to the entrance gate.



Tsitsikamma Village Inn

Established in 1946, the Tsitsikamma Village Inn is a village style accommodation close to Tsitsikamma National Park. The 49 guest rooms are all individually decorated in a number of free standing buildings. All are decorated in the colonial style famous on the Garden Route. The Inn is home to the relaxed Hunter's Pub which serves a good range of refreshing beverages. There is also

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a beautiful outdoor pool - perfect for an early morning dip. This accommodation is well located at the end of the Garden Route, in beautiful Tsitsikamma.



Turnberry Boutique Hotel

This charming hotel is situated in the centre of the picturesque Klein Karoo town of Oudtshoorn. Relax in the comfort of one of the 22 well-appointed bedrooms that are elegantly decorated with soft, neutral colours and are blissfully air-conditioned. They all come with en-suite bathrooms, cosy double beds and wifi. In addition to this, guests, when not in their rooms, can enjoy the local hospitality at the Scottish themed pub. Alternatively visitors can tuck into a traditional South African Braai (barbecue).



The Townhouse

Modern and intimate, the Townhouse is a luxury hotel in the heart of cosmopolitan Cape Town. Guest rooms are all beautifully appointed, have luxury en suite facilities and are provided with Free WiFi. The in house 'Trees' restaurant offers an exciting menu from a Michelin-trained chef. Being in such a great location, why not grab a complimentary walking map and head out to explore Cape Town - right on your doorstep! Well located in down town Cape Town, adjacent to the South African Parliamentary Precinct.



Please Note

This tour is operated in conjunction with our trusted partner and you will join travellers from different operators, not solely On The Go.

Wonders of the Garden Route is a small group, non-participation lodge safari. Non participation meaning that you will not be required to assist with the preparation or cooking of food and general safari duties. This tour runs with a minimum of 4 and maximum of 14 passengers, accompanied by a guide who is also the driver.

The accommodation named in these Trip Notes is subject to change.

Arrival

On the evening of Day 2, there will be a meeting presented by your guide at 18h00 at Addo Rest Camp. It is imperative that all clients attend this meeting so as not to miss out on any critical information.

Whilst it is our every intention to adhere to the above mentioned itinerary, there may on occasion be a necessity to make alterations in order to make the tour more enjoyable or practical. Therefore please treat the itinerary as a guide only.

Optional Activities In Cape Town

Below is a list of some of the most popular optional activities on offer in Cape Town. Pre-booking is recommended to avoid disappointment. The rates are per person and are quoted in South African Rand. All activities are subject to availability and may require a minimum amount of passengers to operate. Certain activities only operate at specific times of the year or certain days of the week. Please contact our reservation office for further information. Please contact our reservation office for further information. Should you wish to partake in an activity that is not listed below, we will gladly assist you with rates and reservations.

- Cape Point with Hiking & Bicycles - R 1,200.00
- Full Day Cape Winelands Tour - R 1,180.00

- Stellenbosch Town and Winelands Tour with Bicycles - R 1,280.00
- Half Day City Tour - R 610.00
- Evening Township Tour Experience – R 840.00
- Shark Cage Diving - R 2,430.00
- Whale Tour - R 1,180
- Give Back Cultural Field Trip - R 1,150.00

*Please note prices are subject to change

Travelling Times & Distances

All travelling times are affected by road conditions, border crossings, detours and weather conditions, therefore on certain days travelling times may be longer than anticipated especially where there is a lot of distance to be covered. Please keep in mind that the time it takes to travel 100 km in your home country is not equivalent to the time it takes to travel 100 km on African roads, therefore we encourage you to sit back and enjoy the spectacular scenery Africa has to offer. Where possible additional stops will be made to ensure your travelling comfort at all times.

Accommodation

We make use of mid-range typical African standard lodge accommodation. Accommodation is situated either in National Parks, on the banks of a river, or in other places of interest. The accommodation will be a mix of lodges, chalets and tented camps. Most of them have a private bathroom with a shower and toilet. Some properties are equipped with swimming pools and/or bar areas.

Transport

Janman Safaris uses fully equipped Toyota Quantums or other appropriate vehicles with comfortable seating, a music system, PA system and air-conditioning. Please note all game drives are conducted in the touring vehicle. Clients have the option to book additional game drives in open game-viewer vehicles. It is recommended that you pre-book additional game drives in advance to avoid disappointment.

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Spending Money

Clients are advised to bring enough money to cover the purchase of curios, and additional entertainment. South African Rand is the most practical and convenient currency. There are automatic teller machines (ATM's) available. International credit cards and travelers cheques are widely accepted.

Luggage

Maximum baggage allowance: 15 kg. Jenman Safaris stipulates this luggage allowance, as an overloaded vehicle is a danger to both the clients and the guide. This does not include photographic equipment and a small daypack. Please bring a backpack or soft barrel bag, not a suitcase. Don't bring too much clothing, as there are washing opportunities along the way. Please adhere to the allowance specified as space for luggage is limited.

Things To Bring

- Walking shoes and sandals
- Light trousers/jeans
- Swimming costume
- T-shirts
- Shorts
- Sun hat
- Windbreaker
- Warm clothes (May – August)
- Long-sleeved shirts
- Torch & spare batteries
- Water bottle
- Camera
- UV protection
- Mosquito protection
- Towel

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Passports & Visas

Please ensure that you have at least two blank pages in your passport, plus an additional blank page for each visa/African country you are visiting. If travelling on one of our longer overland safaris we recommend that you have at least 12 blank pages in your passport.

Please also note that your passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the end date of your trip.

Any visa information provided in this document is for general guidance purposes only, visa requirements and fees are subject to change. It is essential that you check current entry requirements with each relevant embassy/consulate prior to departure. Visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go.

Booking Your Flights

When booking your departure flight you should allow time at the end of your African safari for any unexpected delays. We recommend that you book your onward flight no earlier than 24 hours after the end of your safari. In the case of our longer overland camping safaris (22 days or more) we advise against making any firm arrangements for at least 48 hours after the scheduled departure date. Your tour leader can help to arrange post tour accommodation locally upon request.

Allergies/Likes/Dislikes

Whilst all will be done to accommodate everyone, sometimes the choice available is limited as your cook may be making the best of very limited availability, so some flexibility may be required when encountering something you're not particularly fond of or have chosen not to eat as a lifestyle choice. Should you possess allergies which will result in a medical emergency or a life threatening situation then please ensure you speak to your cook on arrival so you can discuss the options available whilst en-route. This will ensure also that they are fully aware of what you can or cannot eat and make adjustments.

South Africa Country Guide

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Africa.

UK, Australian, USA and Canadian citizens do not require a tourist visa for South Africa for stays of up to 90 days.

Since 16th January 2017 all New Zealand passport holders have been required to obtain a visa prior to travelling to South Africa.

Nationalities who don't require a visa are able to get an entry stamp at the border on entering South Africa. Please contact your local South African embassy to find out if you require a visa prior to entering SA. If you are subject to visa requirements, you must apply and receive your visa before your departure for South Africa, visas are not issued at South African ports of entry.

The border crossings we use in South Africa include:

Noordoever (South Africa/Namibia border)
Groblersberg/Martin's Drift (South Africa/Botswana)
Lebombo (South Africa/Mozambique)
Oshoek (Swaziland/South Africa)

Under 18s Travelling To Or Through South Africa

Parents travelling with children (under 18) into or out of South Africa, or transiting in South Africa will be asked to show the child's unabridged (full) birth certificate which lists the child's details and both parents' details. The abridged (short) birth certificate which only lists the child's details won't be accepted. Uncertified copies of birth certificates or copies of the parents/guardians identification will not be accepted. A parental consent affidavit (PCA) must have a certified copy of the parent's/guardian's identification (ie passport) attached to it.

Where only one parent is accompanying a child, parental or legal consent for the child to travel (eg an affidavit from the other parent or – if applicable – a death certificate) is required and there are other requirements for children travelling unaccompanied or with adults who are not their parents.

If you are travelling with children (under 18) it is essential that you contact the South African High Commission or the South African Department of Home Affairs for further

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information relating to these regulations. If you do not carry the correct documentation you will not be allowed to enter the country. Obtaining the correct paperwork is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours.

Please note: From the 11th November 2019, only a valid passport will be required for foreign minors travelling to South Africa.

Health & Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to South Africa from your local health practitioner and ensure that all you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide tetanus, diphtheria, polio, hepatitis A (for stays over 4 weeks) and hepatitis B (for stays over 3 months) are recommended.

A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers over one, coming from infected areas.

A low malaria risk occurs in northern parts of Mpumalanga (as well as Kruger National park, northern and northeastern parts of KwaZulu-Natal). If travelling to these regions and/or the countries north of South Africa, where there is a high malaria risk, we strongly recommend that you take anti-malaria medication. Precautionary measures to take to prevent contact with mosquitoes include: insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and wear long sleeve clothing and long trousers in the evenings.

Currency

The currency in South Africa is Rand (ZAR; symbol R)

1 Rand = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of R200, 100, 50, 20 and 10. Coins are in denominations of R5, 2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10 and 5 cents.

Obtaining local currency within South Africa is very easy. ATMs are widely accessible and very reliable and offer the best rates of exchange. International credit cards are accepted in almost all shops, restaurants, hotels and game reserves.

Bureau de changes offer a quick and commission free service but are only found in the main centres such as Cape Town and Johannesburg. Travellers cheques can be changed at banks. These should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Please note that proof of identity may be requested in some instances, so it's useful to carry a passport or some form of photo identification. Travellers cheques can be difficult to exchange and tend to attract high commission fees.

Banking hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1530, Sat 0830-1100.

Rand can be used in Botswana, Namibia and South Africa, so if you are travelling on one of our overland safaris ample money for these three countries can be obtained prior to beginning your trip in Cape Town or Johannesburg. The Rand and Namibian dollar are tied to each other on an equal level and can be used interchangeably in Namibia. The Rand can also be easily converted to Pula in Botswana at good rates.

Time & Voltage

Time Zone - South Africa is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed

Standard voltage is 220-230V. Primary sockets require a 'Type M' - South African, electrical plug which has three thick circular pins. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Climate

Climatic conditions generally range from Mediterranean in the south western corner of the country to temperate in the interior plateau, and subtropical in the northeast. A small area in the northwest has a desert climate. Most of the country has warm, sunny days and cool nights. Rainfall generally occurs during summer (November-March), although in the southwest, around Cape Town, rainfall occurs in winter (from June-August). Temperatures are influenced by variations in elevation, terrain, and ocean currents.

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