

Full Itinerary

SOUTH AFRICA SELF DRIVE & SAFARI

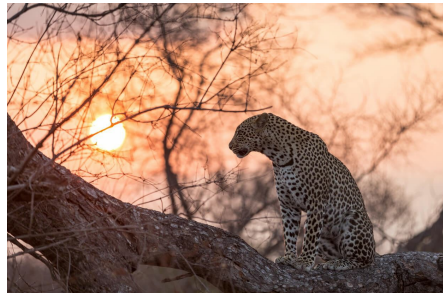


TALK TO OUR WELL
TRAVELLED TEAM OF
EXPERTS

UK 0800 689
0941

USA 1 800 949
3295

Monday to Thursday 09:00am -
8:00pm. Friday 09:00am - 05:30pm.
(London time)



JOURNEY SNAPSHOT

ACTIVITY LEVEL:

Level 2

DESTINATION:

South Africa Self Drive & Safari

DURATION:

13 days

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

PICKUP LOCATION:

Cape Town International Airport

OVERVIEW

Go at your own pace on a self-drive vacation in beautiful South Africa.

There is no better way to experience South Africa than on a self drive holiday. Roads are easy to drive along, directions are well sign posted and you can enjoy dramatic scenery, stunning wildlife, and gourmet food and wine along the way.

This itinerary showcases the very best of South Africa. Start in vibrant, exciting Cape Town, where iconic Table Mountain dominates the skyline. Take a cable car to the top to enjoy stunning views across the city. Then explore the beautiful beaches, buzzing Waterfront area, visit the charming penguin colony at Boulders Beach or sample exquisite wines from Cape Vineyards. Driving along the famous 'Garden Route', there are whales to spot at Hermanus, ostriches and meerkats in the Klein Karoo and the pretty coastal beaches of Plettenberg bay to enjoy. End your trip on a fantastic safari, spotting the Big 5 at a luxury private game reserve, getting a close up view of the incredible wildlife there.

ITINERARY SUMMARY

Day 1 - Cape Town

Day 2 - Cape Town

Day 3 - Cape Town

Day 4 - Hermanus

Day 5 - Hermanus

Day 6 - Klein Karoo

Day 7 - Klein Karoo

Day 8 - Plettenberg Bay

Day 9 - Plettenberg Bay

Day 10 - Kariega Private Game Reserve

Day 11 - Kariega Private Game Reserve

Day 12 - Kariega Private Game Reserve

Day 13 - Port Elizabeth and home

FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - CAPE TOWN

Welcome to Cape Town! You will be met at the door of your aircraft by a Big Safari Company Representative and assisted through immigration, baggage collection and customs. You'll be transferred to your hotel that is located on the slopes of Table Mountain in the residential suburb of Tamboerskloof. Trevoan Guest House is a beautifully restored Victorian gem, you can relax in the lounge, library or outside in the shaded garden, patio or take a dip in the heated pool.

You might want to get some fresh air after your long haul flights, and a great way to start your trip can be a visit to the beautiful Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, which stretches through Cape Town's southern suburbs. Covering five of South Africa's six different biomes, it's a great green space to stretch your legs and soak up some sunshine. A highlight of the garden is the Tree Canopy Walkway, which provides an elevated spot with stunning views. You could also take a cab down to the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and enjoy the flair of Cape Town Harbour with its selection of restaurants and shops.

Included meals: None

Accommodation: Trevoan Guest House

Optional activities: Visit of Long Street, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden

DAY 2 - CAPE TOWN

Today you could explore the Cape Peninsula, where rugged cliffs, breathtaking views, roaring sea and stunning nature await you. For the trip down to the famous Cape of Good Hope you should make some stops along the way. A great first stop is the beautiful Muizenberg beach, which is famous for its colourful wooden houses that are used as changing rooms and have become the landmark of Muizenberg. The long beautiful beach consists of a velvety-soft powdered sand and is a hotspot for surfers.

Only a few kilometers away from Muizenberg, the next highlight of the Cape Peninsula is already waiting: Boulders Beach with its African penguins. The white beach is located in a wind-protected bay just behind the historic town of Simon's Town and offers a magnificent home to around 2.000 penguins.

On the Southern tip of the Cape Peninsula lies the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, which offers different routes down to the Cape Point. You'll see a Cape lighthouse at the highest point where you can enjoy magnificent views over False Bay, Diaz Beach and the Cape.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Trevoan Guest House

Optional activities: Cape Peninsula, Muizenberg Beach, Boulders Beach Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve

DAY 3 - CAPE TOWN

For your last full day in Cape Town you still have many options: Visit Robben Island, the former prison and now UNESCO world heritage site, where Nelson Mandela served most of his sentence. Some of the tours are guided by former prisoners and offer a deep insight into what it was really like during the struggle against apartheid. You could also visit the colorful Bo-Kaap district, or hike to Lions Head and enjoy the view of Table Mountain or alternatively explore the Cape Winelands on one of the region's wine routes to enjoy the local wine, beautiful landscapes, manor houses, gardens and fine-dining restaurants.

The perfect ending to your last day in Cape Town would be watching the sunset from Table Mountain. A cable car will take you up to the platform and you can enjoy a spectacular panorama.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Trevoan Guest House

Optional activities: Robben Island, Lions Head, Bo-Kaap, wine tasting and pairing

DAY 4 - HERMANUS

After breakfast your hire car (automatic, small SUV) will be delivered to the guest house. The car comes with unlimited mileage, third party liability insurance and public liability insurance.

Today's 2.5 hr long drive takes you to the small town of Gansbaai, on Western Cape's "Whale Coast". The jagged coastline winds along the Atlantic Ocean and is flanked by mesmerising mountains. The area boasts charming coastal villages, farms, rivers, valleys and, from June to November, whales. During your stay there is so much you can do and see; the whales, sharks, wine routes, fynbos, birding, golf courses, mountain biking and hiking trails..the choice is yours!

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Cliff Lodge

Optional activities: Whale watching, golf, mountain biking, hiking trails

DAY 5 - HERMANUS

This morning you can look forward to a boat trip around Hermanus, known as the whale watching capital of the world. Keep an eye out for these majestic creatures and observe the gentle giants in their natural habitat. In the afternoon you can hike along the beautiful "Cliff Path" that offers some of the world's best land-based whale watching opportunities.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Cliff Lodge

Optional activities: Whale watching, golf courses, mountain biking, hiking trails

DAY 6 - KLEIN KAROO

Today you leave the coast behind you and take a 4 hour drive inland into Little Karoo, a semi-desert region. In the heart of the Klein Karoo, on an expansive, working ostrich farm, lies the stylish Mooiplaas Guest House. This family-run authentic farm-stay is just south of the quaint town of Oudtshoorn, and has great views of the magnificent Swartberg Mountains – this is big sky country. You can enjoy a visit to an ostrich farm, an afternoon walk, or simply relax with sundowners in the atmospheric pub & savour delicious traditional Karoo cuisine.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Mooiplaas Guesthouse

Optional activities: Visit an Ostrich Farm

DAY 7 - KLEIN KAROO

Today you can visit the nearby Cango Caves, one of the largest and most extensive dripstone cave systems in the world. You could also join a tour to explore the geological, historical and natural treasures of the Swartberg Mountains and the Little Karoo.

Another special experience is a meerkat tour, where you'll visit a habituated meerkat group in the Karoo. The tours commence daily at sunrise and are weather dependent since these little creatures will not venture outside their burrows on cold and rainy days. It is a fun experience & pretty rare for us to be able to get this close to these little creatures in the wild.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Mooiplaas Guesthouse

Optional activities: Cango Caves, Swatberg Mountains, Meerkat experience

DAY 8 - PLETTENBERG BAY

Your journey continues on towards the beautiful coast to Plettenberg Bay, one of the most popular seaside towns along the Garden Route. Spend the next few days on the endless sandy beaches, take a trip to Robberg Nature Reserve or stroll through the streets of the coastal town. Hog Hollow Country Lodge, outside Plettenberg Bay, is nestled in indigenous forests and perched above the dramatic Matjies River Gorge. Enjoy sumptuous dinners in the conviviality of the main house, or outside on the deck, on balmy African evenings. Perhaps settle at the pool area, and let the fresh air and sun soothe away any stress.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hog Hollow Country Lodge

Optional activities: Beach, Robberg Nature Reserve, Horse riding trails, Monkeyland, Birds of Eden & the Elephant Sanctuary

DAY 9 - PLETTENBERG BAY

Today you should set off for Tsitsikamma National Park, with its beautiful, scenic landscape, Fresh sea air, rugged cliffs, green slopes and the turquoise-blue ocean. There are many activities for nature lovers in the National Park, such as various hiking trails along the coast or through the forests, a high ropes course through the treetops or kayak tours on the Stoms River.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hog Hollow Country Lodge

Optional activities: Tsitsikamma National Park

DAY 10 - KARIEGA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

A highlight of your journey awaits you at the Kariega Private Game Reserve. With 10,000 hectares of pristine Eastern Cape wilderness to explore, Kariega is home to the famous Big 5 and is also a paradise for birdlife, including resident and migrant birds. The reserve incorporates two dramatic and picturesque river valleys - the Kariega and Bushmans. A variety of safari activities are on offer to ensure you enjoy the spectacular wilderness. Your all-inclusive stay will include twice daily game viewing from open safari vehicles with qualified game rangers, river cruises, guided bush walks, canoeing, river fishing and beach trips by boat.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner and selected beverages

Accommodation: Kariega Ukhozi Lodge

Optional activities: Spa treatments (payable locally)

DAY 11 - KARIEGA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

Enjoy your day on safari.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner and selected beverages

Accommodation: Kariega Ukhozi Lodge

Optional activities: Spa treatments (payable locally)

DAY 12 - KARIEGA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

Enjoy your day on safari.

Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner and selected beverages

Accommodation: Kariega Ukhozi Lodge

Optional activities: Spa treatments (payable locally)

DAY 13 - PORT ELIZABETH AND HOME

After breakfast return the hire car to Port Elizabeth airport for your connection to your international flight home.

Included meals: Breakfast

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Meet & Greet upon arrival & assistance through immigration, baggage collection and customs.
- Transfers from the airport
- Accommodation according to the itinerary
- Meals according to the itinerary
- Rental car: 1 x Group M: Ford Eco Sport Automatic or Similar
- Rental car on a Premium Package basis, includes: CDW, TLW, PAI, unlimited mileage, location surcharge, tyre damage waiver, windscreen damage waiver, claim admin fee - only in the event of accident/theft, 1 additional driver, one way fee within South Africa, third party liability insurance, general public liability insurance, water and undercarriage damage and sandblasting damage.
- Activities at Kariega Ukhozi Lodge: Two game drives (per day), river cruises, guided bush walks and canoeing.
- Conservation fees & accommodation taxes
- Detailed travel documents & emergency contact on site

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- All flights (international and domestic) and airport taxes
- Visas
- Drinks
- Rental car:
 - A compulsory Contract Fee of approximately R105.00 (valid from 01 November) has to be paid directly, as well as any applicable Collection / Delivery Fees.
 - There will be a refundable rental deposit applicable, based on estimated rental charge.
 - GPS can only be rented on site
 - Fuel costs
 - Possible gate fees
- Additional Transfers
- Personal expenses & tips
- Extra meals, drinks and entrance fees on site
- All optional activities and park entrance fees
- Compulsory travel insurance
- Phone calls
- Laundry
- Any COVID-related testing

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Vaccinations are recommended for South Africa. Please consult your doctor for advice.
- US Passport holders require a e-visa to visit South Africa.
- Please let The Big Safari Company know prior to travelling if you have any medical needs or take any medication that we need to be made aware of to ensure that you have a safe and pleasant tour.
- Cancellation 90 - 0 days prior to departure: cancellation fee is 100%. It is your responsibility to ensure the correct travel insurance in place to protect you against the need to cancel your holiday. Deposits are non-refundable. Balance payments due 14 weeks prior to departure.
- Further terms and conditions apply and will be provided upon request or at the time of booking. The Big Safari Company reserves the right to withdraw any offer prior to accepting a reservation request. This does not affect your statutory rights. This offer is subject to availability.

BOOK YOUR JOURNEY

Choose from the list of dates below

Call to Book

UK 0800 689 0941
USA 1 800 949 3295

Monday to Thursday 09:00am - 8:00pm. Friday 09:00am - 05:30pm. (London time)