

# The Crazy Loop

## Option 1

(JHB/PTA-KNP/NELSPRUIT-SWAZILAND-ZULULAND-DURBAN-  
DRAKENSBURG-JHB/PTA)

## Option 2

(JHB/PTA-DRAKENSBURG-DURBAN-ZULULAND-SWAZILAND-  
KNP/NELSPRUIT-JHB/PTA)

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# The Crazy Loop

Hi to All.

Good to see you all again and I hope this will bring more business for all. I was thinking of linking all this a while ago, but as time goes, it was always going to be a bit of a challenge finding the time to do it. Thanks to Nthabiseng who will be moving on shortly to a career in advertising. Anyway, let me explain what the reasoning is behind this project.

We have been linked all these years by means of the Baz bus on the “Crazy Loop.” We have seen in recent years how our guests have flown in and hopped straight to more popular places. In essence this loop is the heart of the country and offers all kinds of possibilities to not only them, but to us as well.

## **Purpose:**

To introduce all guests to our places, establishments and operations.  
Formulate an inventory for them, combining all our products, giving the guests ample choice. Let them decide what they want and give them the info at hand.  
Give them information as to be able to guide them in an appropriate manner.  
Increase our turnover and keep our beds full.  
Create a viable alternative to other Hot Spots in SA.  
To support each other and to ensure that we net work more effectively.

## **Implementation:**

We have compiled a “Control sheet” or “Key” namely the Crazy Loop  
This Key explains to the guest how to get to their preferred destinations.  
It gives them the choice to decide what tour, accommodation and means of transport to choose.  
We have received most of the information from your operations and accommodation and have attached them.  
This information can be sent to the guest on enquiry. The Key sent first then after further enquiry, the back up info on file in your PC.

- I must stress that we did not see all who we intended to see and that this project is open for all who would wish to partake in it.
- It costs nothing.
- If you wish to change working partners, or add or revise contents in the key sheet, then please do so, but then forward your amended info on to your working partners.
- This will ensure the info is up to date at all times.
- Remember each establishment has something different to offer different people.
- It is up to you to choose what you think is best and refer them accordingly.
- Commissions can be discussed and payments implemented.

If you have any questions on the workings of this, then please give me a call. As a Gateway to South Africa, we (Purple Palms and North South Backpackers) will be doing our utmost to sell your place and refer.

If you want to appear on our Key sheet, then contact us, and we will make the additions.

Ok then, let's get on with it, and good luck to all.

John

## The Crazy Loop Key



### Option 1

(JHB/PTA-KNP/NELSPRUIT-SWAZILAND-ZULULAND-DURBAN-DRAKENSBURG-JHB/PTA)

### Option 2

(JHB/PTA-DRAKENSBURG-DURBAN-ZULULAND-SWAZILAND-KNP/NELSPRUIT-JHB/PTA)

## Johannesburg & Pretoria

### recommended accommodation

[Purple Palms Travellers Lodge](#), Johannesburg

[North South Backpackers](#), Pretoria

*Free airport shuttle service between Purple Palms Travellers Lodge and North South Backpackers if you spend at least one night in both places*

### recommended (day) tours

Apartheid Museum and Soweto tour

Johannesburg city tour

Lesedi cultural village tour

Cradle of Humankind (Maropeng)

Lion park alone

Pilanesberg and Sun City

Rhino and Lion Park  
Cycling in Soweto tour

Kruger National Park tour (optional, daily) or Baz Bus to Nelspruit (Mon, Wed, Sat)

Car hire is optional to Baz Bus throughout.

## **Nelspruit and surroundings (Hazyview and Sabie)**

### **Recommended accommodation**

[Funky Monkey Backpackers](#), Nelspruit

[Old Vic Travellers Inn](#), Nelspruit

[Gecko Bushpackers](#), Hazyview

[Sabie Backpackers](#), Sabie

### **Recommended tours**

Nelspruit - Funky Safaris (Funky Monkey's)

Nelspruit - Kruger flexi tours (Old Vic Travellers Lodge)

Baz Bus from Nelspruit to Swaziland (Mon, Wed, Sat)

## **Swaziland**

### **Recommended accommodation:**

Swaziland Backpacker's

Sondzela

### **Recommended day tour:**

Swaziland - Swaziland Highlights Day tour.

Baz Bus From Swaziland to Zululand. (Tues, Thurs, Sun)

## **Zululand**

### **Recommended accommodation**

[Isinkwe Bush Camp](#), Hluhluwe

[Zululand Backpackers](#), Eshowe

### **Recommended tours**

Quma cultural, fishing and safari tour (Eshowe)

Baz Bus from Zululand to Durban. (Tues, Thurs, Sun)

## **Durban**

### **Recommended accommodation**

[Happy Hippo](#) (Hippo Hide) Backpackers, Durban  
[Tekweni Backpackers](#) , Durban

#### **Recommended tours**

3 Day 'Big 5' Game Drive: Hluhluwe/Umfolozi/St.Lucia Safari  
3 Day Drakensberg Safari (World Heritage Site)  
Durban City Explorer Tour  
Face to Face - Rural Zulu Village Tour

Baz Bus from Durban to Northern Drakensburg (Tues,Fri,Sun)

## **Central & Northern Drakensberg**

#### **Recommended accommodation**

[Inkosana Lodge & Trekking](#), Winterton - Central Drakensberg  
[Amphitheater Backpackers](#), Jagersrust - Northern Drakensberg

#### **Recommended tours**

Lesotho tour  
Amphitheatre summit (Tugela Falls)  
Rock climbing  
If you do all three offered by Amphitheatre, you get a packaged price which is discounted.

## **Pietermaritzburg**

#### **Recommended accommodation**

[Umphiti Backpackers](#), Pietermaritzburg

#### **Recommended tours**

San Rock Art daytrip  
Sani Pass & Lesotho trips

Baz Bus back to Purple Palms (Johannesburg) or North South Backpackers (Pretoria). (Tues, Fri, Sun)

- All recommended Backpacker Lodges are Baz Bus stops except for Inkosana, Gecko Bushpackers and Sabie Backpackers. They can be reached by car or call for alternative arrangements.
- Price for the Baz Bus Loop - **R.1 170 pp.**
- Car Hire will start from R.212 for one day.
- Prices are subject to change depending on policy, terms and conditions of operator.

## Daytours in Johannesburg/ Pretoria

[Purple Palms Travellers Lodge, Johannesburg](#)

[North South Backpackers, Pretoria](#)

### 1 - The powerfull Apartheid Museum & Soweto Tour

#### Stop,1 AFTER a few hours at the Apartheid Museum

You will feel that you were in the townships in the 70s and 80s, dodging police bullets or teargas canisters, or marching and toy-toying with thousands of school children, or carrying the body of a comrade into a nearby house. This extraordinarily powerful museum has already become the city's leading tourist attraction, an obligatory stop for visitors and residents alike. The Museum, with its large blown-up photographs, metal cages and numerous monitors recording continuous replays of apartheid scenes set in a double volume ceiling, concrete and red brick walls and grey concrete floor, is next to the Gold Reef City Casino, five kilometers south of the city centre.

#### Stop 2, the Hector Peterson Memorial

The now-famous image of a young man, holding a dying schoolboy in his arms, as his hysterical sister runs besides screaming, dominated the 25th anniversary commemoration Saturday of the Soweto Uprising, when South Africa's black youth challenged the white apartheid government. The events of June 16, 1976 marked a turning point in South Africa's political history and are now marked with a public holiday, Youth Day. (45 Minute Stop) Stop 3, The Nelson Mandela Family Museum We takes a 15 min guided tour through the Mandela Family House. We also visit Vilikazi Street, which is the only street in the world which houses 3 celebrities and 2 Nobel Prize winners. Stop 4, Regina Mundi Cathedral Regina Mundi's renowned Black Madonna What started out as "church services" often ended up as political rallies. Funerals, points out Father Vusi Mazibuko, who has been pastor at the church for the past four years, were often political affairs. They started off at Regina Mundi and ended up at Avalon Cemetery. We stop here for a guided tour through the church. (25 Minute Stop) Stop 5, Soweto Suburb Visit We take a 25 min guided tour through one of the suburbs in Soweto. We visit a Shabeen, a family house, a small shop and interact with the locals.

### 2 - Johannesburg City Tour

#### Stop 1, Constitution Hill

We visit Constitution Hill and experience the unique way that the South African transition has built hope for the future out of the pain of the past. We stop here for a guided tour through the old and cold deserted prison. (1 Hour Stop)

#### Stop 2, The Carlton Centre

The Carlton Centre is a sky scraper located in downtown Johannesburg. At 233 meters (731 feet), itâ€™s the tallest building in Africa and about half the height of the Sears Tower in Chicago. This will be our last stop to ascend to the 50th floor of the highest building in Africa. The Top of Africa? This will offer you the best city aerial view in Africa (20 min Stop). From here we depart for a tour through Johannesburg city centre, a drive past New Town, we cross over the Nelson Mandela Bridge and via Hillbrow.

#### Stop 3, The Witwatersrand University

The fundamental role of any university is to promote freedom of enquiry and the search for knowledge and truth. Wits has built a reputation for itself in this role,

establishing itself at the industrial and commercial heart of South Africa as a centre for education and research of the highest quality. Wits' mission is to build on this foundation in a way that takes account of its responsibilities within South Africa today; and to maintain and enhance its position as a leading university in South Africa, in Africa, and in the world by sustaining globally competitive standards of excellence in learning, teaching and research.

### **3 - Lesedi Cultural Village Tour**

Lesedi African Lodge is a multi cultural village set amongst the pristine bushveld and rocky hills less than a hours drive north of Johannesburg. Live the experience, the vibrant and colorful traditions of the Basotho, Ndebele, Pedi, Xhosa and Zulu peoples on a short tour. Be part of traditional Africa for just a short while. You will never forget it! What's on the menu? Traditional African maize served with stew, oxtail, pork and for the brave there is well prepared crocodile! Traditional African dessert follows which includes South African Koek Sisters with cream and traditional brandy sponge cake and fruits.

### **4 - The Cradle Of Humankind Tour**

#### **Stop One, (A guided tour through the Sterkfontein Caves)**

Sterkfontein Caves are most famous for the two world renowned hominid finds, namely Mrs. Ples in 1947 and Little Foot in 1997. Since excavations at the site first began, hundreds of hominid fossils as well as stone tools have been found at Sterkfontein. The excavation of Little Foot and other fossils is an ongoing process at this still active fossil dig.

The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site consists of around 40 different fossil sites, 13 of which have been excavated. These include Bolt's Farm, where the remains of three sabre-tooth cats have been found in a pit that trapped animals. Swartkrans, site of the earliest-known deliberate use of fire, around 1.3-million years ago; Haasgat, where the fossils of early forest-dwelling monkeys, around 1.3-million years old, were found; and Gondolin, where 90 000 fossil specimens have been found since 1979.

#### **Stop Two, (We visit the Cradle of Humankind Museum)**

The Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site is 47,000 hectares large and apart from the Sterkfontein Caves and Maropeng the surrounding area has a wide offering of activities from horse-riding, game drives, gliding, game reserves, other caves, arts and crafts venues and much more.

Within the visitor attraction lies an exciting 4-billion-year journey on an underground lake, through the elemental forces, water, air, fire and earth dipping through waterfalls and real icebergs, into the eye of an storm, past erupting volcanoes and through the depths of the earth and emerging at the beginning of the world. From here, the journey continues through an experience highlighting the history of our world and humankind as a species, brought to life via audiovisual techniques, evocative sounds effects, theme-park technology and theatrical displays. At the visitors centre there will be real fossils on display.

### **5 - The Lion Park Tour - Touch a Lion Cub**

The Lion Park near Lanseria Airport north of Johannesburg in Gauteng Province serves as a gateway and introduction, a true window, to the splendors of Africans

Wildlife. It is home to more than 70 lions including white lions and many other carnivores such as cheetahs, wild dogs, brown and spotted hyenas, black leopards and many more.

The Lion Park is constantly involved in new ventures and scientific research projects. One of these projects involves our long-term relationship with the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT). This project has enabled us to test all our lions for the possibility Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV), bovine tuberculosis and various other diseases. All of our lions have been micro-chipped by the EWT to ensure reliable identification.

#### **BASIC ITINERARY**

It is approximately 40 minutes from your hotel pick up in Johannesburg to the Lion Park west of the Gauteng province. We first do a drive through the main lion camps where we will also see the white lions. There after we depart to the lion cub den to have the chance to touch and play with the young lion cubs!

### **6 - Pilanesberg and Sun City**

Pilanesberg National Park: Kwa-Maritane or Bakubung lodges

The park is an ancient volcanic crater, which lies in the Northwest province, adjoining the internationally acclaimed Sun City. Visitors to the park will have the opportunity to view African wildlife in a malaria-free zone.

#### **Day one:**

We shall start driving to the Pilanesberg Nature Reserve at 11:00. You can book into your chalet at Bakubung or Kwa-Maritana camps on arrival. (Camps to be confirmed at the time of booking.) We shall embark on a late afternoon, open vehicle game drive. Dinner may then be enjoyed at your camp.

#### **Day two:**

An early morning game-drive in an open vehicle is first on the schedule for the second day of the tour. We shall then return to the camp for breakfast. At 10:00, the return journey to Johannesburg will commence. We should arrive at our destination before or by 12:00.

Daily departures: minimum of two people required for the Pilanesberg Option 1 tour.

### **7 - Rhino and Lion Park**

The Rhino & Lion Nature reserve is situated on the West Rand in the world heritage site Cradle of Humankind area. You will be met by your tour guide at your hotel and transferred in an air-conditioned microbus to the Rhino and Lion Nature Reserve in the Cradle of mankind. The park has two separate areas, a vast predator camp and the even larger herbivore area where we will conduct the game drives. Animals which may be seen roaming in the Rhino & Lion park are lion, cheetah, rhino, hippo, wild dogs and rare antelope such as Sable. The visitors centre offers an interesting snake display area holding venomous snakes, scorpions etc. The nursery area often has young rhino, lion cubs, wild dog pups and sometimes it is possible to briefly play with one of the young ones. The Rhino & Lion park boasts lion, rhino, cheetah, hippo, wild dogs and more than 20 other species totaling over 600 head of game. Guests may purchase refreshments at the Croc Pub, overlooking a crocodile pool.

## 8 - Cycling in Soweto

These popular tours take you out cruising the vibrant streets of the township. Visit places like migrant worker's hostels, Meadowlands, Hector Pieterse Museum, Nelson Mandela's and Bishop Tutu's house and finish it off with a relaxing cold drink at the local shebeen.

Guided tours around Soweto can also be arranged by car or walking around in the community.

### **Other activities:**

Visit the informal settlement Kliptown, where the Freedom charter was signed in 1955. Play volleyball and football on the local sports field just outside the backpackers. If you are in a party mood, join us to nightclubs, local pubs and festivals. We can also offer tailor made tours according to your specific interest.

Our aim is to work hand in the hand with the community and we are networking with a number of organizations and projects around the area. Orphanages, youth clubs and schools etc. If you have some extra space in your bag, donations such as second hand clothes, shoes, toys and footballs are much appreciated. Let us know at your arrival to Soweto if you wish to visit some of our community projects and get involved.

Experience Soweto by bike!

## Kruger Park Tours

[Purple Palms Travellers Lodge, Johannesburg](#)  
[North South Backpackers, Pretoria](#)

### 1 - 3 day Kruger National Park

Price per person (2007):

R 2 800 : Tribal village (Day 1) & Camping

R 3 200 : Bedded accommodation (Both nights)

Departure: Every day

Depart from: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, hotel, guest house

End in: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, guest house, hotel or airport

Included:

All transport

All accommodation

Qualified and registered guide

Meals as specified below

Entrance fees to Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park

All game drives in 4x4 open sided vehicles

Night drive inside Kruger National Park

Tribal village

Blyde River Canyon (Three Rondawels view point)

Bourke Luck Potholes

God's Window

Excluded:

All drinks (except coffee & tea with meals)

Meals not specified below

Optional game walk inside Kruger National Park

### Day 1: Panoramic route - Blyde river canyon

The tour departs early morning from Johannesburg and Pretoria, heading east towards Nelspruit where we also pick clients up. We will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost). From Nelspruit we drive further north where we stop for lunch (own cost) & banks in Graskop.

After lunch we drive through the panoramic route where we stop at God's Window, Bourke Luck Potholes and the 3rd largest canyon in the world - the Blyde River Canyon.

Clients doing the camping option, will stay this night at a tribal village.

Clients doing the bedded option, will stay this night at a private lodge.

See the above links for more information & photos of each night's accommodation.

Dinner included

### Day 2: Kruger National Park

A very short drive takes us to Kruger National Park (arrive as the gates open) that is home to 147 mammal (incl. the Big 5), 114 reptile, & 502 bird species. You will be transferred to open sided 4 x 4 game viewing vehicles (on arrival at the park) in which we will do game drives for the rest of the day. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at one of the picnic sites inside Kruger National Park. At sunset you will start with a 3 hour night drive, done in a Kruger Park open sided game viewing vehicle with a Kruger National Park guide. This is a great opportunity to see nocturnal animals not normally seen during the day game drives.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 3: Return to Nelspruit, Johannesburg & Pretoria**

We start the day with a light breakfast, before heading out on a short game drive.

We then return to Nelspruit, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Breakfast included

## **2 - 4 day Kruger National Park**

Price per person (2007):

R 3 250 : Tribal village (Day 1) & Camping

R 3 950 : Bedded (All 3 nights)

Departure: Every day

Depart from: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, hotel, guest house

End in: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, guest house, hotel or airport

Included:

All transport

All accommodation

Qualified and registered guide

Meals as specified below

Entrance fees to Kruger National Park

All game drives in 4x4 open sided vehicles

Night drive inside Kruger National Park

Tribal village

Blyde River Canyon (Three Rondawels view point)

Bourke Luck Potholes

God's Window

Excluded:

All drinks (except coffee & tea with meals)

Meals not specified below

Optional game walk inside Kruger National Park

### **Day 1: Panoramic route - Blyde river canyon**

The tour departs early morning from Johannesburg and Pretoria, heading east towards Nelspruit where we also pick clients up. We will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost). From Nelspruit we drive further north where we stop for lunch (own cost) & banks in Graskop.

After lunch we drive through the panoramic route where we stop at God's Window, Bourke Luck Potholes and the 3rd largest canyon in the world - the Blyde River Canyon.

Clients doing the camping option will stay this night at a tribal village.

Clients doing the bedded option will stay this night at a private lodge.

See the above links for more information & photos of each night's accommodation.

Dinner included

### **Day 2: Kruger National Park**

A very short drive takes us to Kruger National Park (arrive as the gates open) that is home to 147 mammal (incl. the Big 5), 114 reptile, & 502 bird species. You will be

transferred to open sided 4 x 4 game viewing vehicles (on arrival at the park) in which we will do game drives for the rest of the day. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at one of the picnic sites inside Kruger National Park. At sunset you will start with a 3 hour night drive, done in a Kruger Park open sided game viewing vehicle with a Kruger National Park guide. This is a great opportunity to see nocturnal animals not normally seen during the day game drives.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 3: Kruger National Park**

We start the day with a cup of coffee / tea, before heading out on a game drive as the gates open (in open 4x4 game viewing vehicles). You will be on a game drive for the majority of the day, searching for as many animals as possible. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at picnic sites inside Kruger national park.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 4: Return to Nelspruit, Johannesburg & Pretoria**

We start the day with a light breakfast, before heading out on a short game drive.

We then return to Nelspruit, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Breakfast included

## **3 - 6 Day Kruger National Park**

Price per person (2007):

R 4 100 : Tribal village (Day 1) & Camping

R 5 150 : Bedded (All 5 nights)

Departure: Every day

Depart from: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, hotel, guest house

End in: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, guest house, hotel or airport

Included:

All transport

All accommodation

Qualified and registered guide

Meals as specified below

Entrance fees to Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park

All game drives in 4x4 open sided vehicles

Night drive inside Kruger National Park

Tribal village

Blyde River Canyon (Three Rondawels view point)

Bourke Luck Potholes

God's Window

Excluded:

All drinks (except coffee & tea with meals)

Meals not specified below

Optional game walk inside Kruger Park

### **Day 1: Panoramic route - Blyde river canyon**

The tour departs early morning from Johannesburg and Pretoria, heading east towards Nelspruit where we also pick clients up. We will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost). From Nelspruit we drive further north where we stop for lunch (own cost) & banks in Graskop.

After lunch we drive through the panoramic route where we stop at God's Window, Bourke Luck Potholes and the 3rd largest canyon in the world - the Blyde River Canyon.

Clients doing the camping option, will stay this night at a tribal village.

Clients doing the bedded option, will stay this night at a private lodge.

See above links for information of each night's accommodation.

Dinner included

### **Day 2: Kruger National Park**

A very short drive takes us to Kruger National Park (arrive as the gates open) that is home to 147 mammal (incl. the Big 5), 114 reptile, & 502 bird species. You will be transferred to open sided 4 x 4 game viewing vehicles (on arrival at the park) in which we will do game drives for the rest of the day. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at one of the picnic sites inside Kruger National Park. At sunset you will start with a 3 hour night drive, done in a Kruger Park open sided game viewing vehicle with a Kruger National Park guide. This is a great opportunity to see nocturnal animals not normally seen during the day game drives.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Days 3, 4, 5: Kruger National Park**

We start the day with a cup of coffee / tea, before heading out on a game drive as the gates open (in open 4x4 game viewing vehicles). You will be on a game drive for the majority of the day, searching for as many animals as possible. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at picnic sites inside Kruger national park.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 6: Return to Nelspruit, Johannesburg & Pretoria**

We start the day with a light breakfast, before heading out on a short game drive.

We then return to Nelspruit, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Breakfast included

## **4 - 8 day Kruger and Two Kingdoms Safari**

Price: R6250.00pp

Countries Visited: Mozambique - South Africa - Swaziland

Included Highlights: Game drives in Kruger Park, Night Drive in Kruger Park, Drakensberg Escarpment and Panoramic Route, Swazi cultural village, Tracking white Rhino on foot, Mozambique beach resort, Game drive in Hluhluwe Game Reserve, Lake St Lucia

*Optional Activities - These rates are in USD and can change at any time without notice. Please use as a guideline only.*

Activities Kruger: Additional Kruger National Park Night Drive - \$20 Activities St. Lucia: Boat Cruise on Lake St. Lucia - \$25 Activities Mozambique: Scenic Boat Cruise (Mozambique) - \$15; Diving at Ponta Malongane: Day dive - \$30; Night dive - \$35

Wagon Trails Provides: All ground transportation, services of experienced qualified driver/guide, camping equipment (two person dome tents, mattresses, cooking equipment), all highlights, meals, entrance fees and accommodation per itinerary

Not Included: All visa costs are the client's responsibility, travel insurance, flights, departure taxes, sleeping bags, items of a personal nature, drinks, optional activities

Participation: Participation safari, clients to erect their tents and help with cooking, washing dishes and vehicle cleanliness

Accommodation: Camping in two person dome tents, Accommodation in budget chalets

Meals: Johannesburg to Drakensberg Escarpment (Blyde River Canyon) (D)  
Drakensberg Escarpment (Blyde River Canyon) to Kruger National Park (BD)  
Kruger National Park to Kruger National Park (BD)  
Kruger National Park to Hlane Game park (BD)  
Hlane Game park to Ponta Malongane (BD)  
Ponta Malongane to Ponta Malongane (BD)  
Ponta Malongane to Hluhluwe and St Lucia Estuary (BD)  
Hluhluwe and St Lucia Estuary to Durban (B)

## **Itinerary**

### **Johannesburg to Drakensberg Escarpment (Blyde River Canyon)**

We depart Johannesburg/Pretoria and make our way through the Mpumalanga Province. Our journey takes us along the panoramic route, some of the most stunning scenery South Africa has to offer. The sights en-route include God's Window, the Bourke's Luck Potholes, the Three Rondawels and the magnificent Blyde River Canyon. Evening to be spent camping at a resort overlooking the canyon. (D)

### **Drakensberg Escarpment (Blyde River Canyon) to Kruger National Park**

After breakfast we descend the escarpment and make our way to the world-renowned Kruger Park. Our wildlife experience begins as we enter the park, exploring prime game viewing areas en-route to our campsite. We arrive at our campsite in time to freshen up before heading out on an exciting open vehicle night drive. The evening is to be spent camping in the Kruger. (BD)

### **Kruger National Park to Kruger National Park**

An early rise, we begin the day with coffee and rusks, before venturing out on a morning game drive. Most of the day will be spent game viewing, bird watching and stopping at the various waterholes and viewpoints. We arrive back at the camp at sunset in time to enjoy a traditional braai (barbeque) and relax around the campfire. (BD)

### **Kruger National Park to Hlane Game park**

Departing from Kruger Park, we travel southeast towards the Swaziland border. We enter the Kingdom of Swaziland, where we visit a traditional Swazi cultural village and gain insight into their cultural beliefs, traditional dancing and singing. We then depart for the Hlane Royal National Park. This vast expanse of bushveld with its ancient hardwood trees, spectacular birdlife and four of the Big Five makes Hlane, home to the largest wild herds in the kingdom. We set up camp, before exploring Hlane on a guided game walk, giving us the opportunity to track white rhino on foot. The evening is to be spent camping at Hlane. (BD)

### **Hlane Game park to Ponta Malongane**

We depart from Hlane and make our way to the Golela border post and into Maputaland. Our journey continues via Kosi Bay, as we once again head across a border to a seaside village in Mozambique. We have the rest of the afternoon to enjoy the unspoiled beaches of Mozambique. The evening is to be spent at one of the coastal resorts. (BD)

#### **Ponta Malongane to Ponta Malongane**

Today we have the opportunity to relax on the beach or take part in one of the many optional activities. These include snorkelling, scuba diving or swimming with the bottlenose dolphins. Evening to be spent at a beach resort. (BD)

#### **Ponta Malongane to Hluhluwe and St Lucia Estuary**

We depart Mozambique, making our way to the Hluhluwe/Umfolozi Game Reserve, the oldest game reserve in Africa. The day is spent on game drives, searching for the endangered black rhino, for which this park is famous. We depart Hluhluwe in the late afternoon and head for Lake St Lucia, a World Heritage site. The evening is to be spent in St Lucia. (BD)

#### **Hluhluwe and St Lucia Estuary to Durban**

We depart St Lucia and make our way to the coastal city of Durban, where our tour ends. (B)

### **5 - 10 Day Kruger Park & Chobe & Victoria Falls**

Price per person (2007):

R 7 680 : Tribal village (Day 1) & Camping

R 8 150 : Bedded (Days 1, 2, 3) & Camping

Departure: Every Friday

Depart from: Johannesburg, Pretoria

Any Backpackers hostel, hotel, guest house

End in: Johannesburg, Pretoria

Any Backpackers hostel, guest house, hotel or airport

Included:

All transport

All accommodation

Qualified and registered guide

Meals as specified below

Entrance fees to Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park

4x4 open vehicle game drives in Kruger Nat Park

Night drive inside Kruger National Park

Tribal village

Blyde River Canyon (Three Rondawels view point)

Bourke Luck Potholes

God's Window

Entrance to Chobe National Park

4x4 open vehicle game drives in Chobe Nat Park

Entrance to Victoria Falls waterfall

Sunset cruise on Zambezi River

Excluded:

All drinks (except coffee & tea with meals)

Meals not specified below

Optional activities in Victoria (Book on tour)

Visas if needed

### **Day 1: Panoramic route - Blyde river canyon (South Africa)**

The tour departs early morning from Johannesburg and Pretoria, heading east towards Nelspruit where we also pick clients up. We will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost). From Nelspruit we drive further north where we stop for lunch (own cost) & banks in Graskop.

### **Day 2: Kruger National Park (South Africa)**

A very short drive takes us to Kruger National Park (arrive as the gates open) that is home to 147 mammal (incl. the Big 5), 114 reptile, & 502 bird species. You will be transferred to open sided 4 x 4 game viewing vehicles (on arrival at the park) in which we will do game drives for the rest of the day. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at one of the picnic sites inside Kruger National Park. At sunset you will start with a 3 hour night drive, done in a Kruger Park open sided game viewing vehicle with a Kruger National Park guide. This is a great opportunity to see nocturnal animals not normally seen during the day game drives.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 3: Hartbeespoort (South Africa)**

We start the day with a light breakfast, before heading out on a short game drive. We then drive to Hartbeespoort, where we will be staying at a backpackers hostel in the valley below the Magaliesberg mountains.

Breakfast included

### **Day 4: Nata (Botswana)**

We depart early morning from Hartbeespoort. Your guide will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost) and last minute shopping, before reaching the Botswana border. You will get an opportunity to change money, after crossing the border, from where we head further north to Nata, where we camp the night.

Dinner included

### **Day 5: Chobe National Park (Botswana)**

We head further north through the Kasane forest where we always see herds of elephants, rare antelopes and sometimes lion, hyena and wild dog. We arrive mid morning in Kasane where we will be staying on the shores of the Chobe River at Chobe Safari Lodge that is at the gate of Chobe National Park. Here you can relax at the swimming pool overlooking the river where you stand a good chance to see animals like elephant, buffalo and hippo, as well as a large variety of bird species. This afternoon we do an open vehicle game drive inside Chobe National Park, which is well known for its large variety and numbers of wildlife.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Days 6, 7, 8: Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)**

A short drive takes us across the border and on to the adventure capital of the world, Victoria Falls, which is considered to be one of the safest tourist destinations in southern Africa. On arrival the guide will assist you with the changing of money and booking of your optional activities, before going to one of the seven natural wonders of the world - the magnificent Victoria Falls. The waterfall is 1700 meters (1.1 mile) wide, of which 1300 meters is on the Zimbabwean side, including the main falls. Late afternoon we do a sunset cruise on the 4th largest river in Africa (Zambezi River), which has national parks on both the Zambian and Zimbabwean side of the river. We normally see a wide variety of

wildlife such as hippo, elephant, antelopes, giraffe and much more while on the cruise, during which all soft drinks, wine, beer and finger snacks are included.

You will have plenty of free time to explore the town, meet the local, visit the African arts and craft markets, or to relax by the pool in the heat of the day.

Victoria Falls is well known for offering great activities (optional excursions) such as the best 1 day white water rafting, the 2nd highest bungi jump in the world, elephant back safaris, flights over the waterfall, canoe safaris, day trips to Hwange National Park, fishing, game walks, horse back safaris and much more. The last night is dinner out at a local restaurants (own cost).

Days 7 & 8: Breakfast, Dinner included

Day 9: Breakfast included

#### **Day 9: Palapye (Botswana)**

This morning we head south to Palapye, where you can relax by the pool.

Breakfast, Dinner included

#### **Day 10: Return to Johannesburg & Pretoria (South Africa)**

We depart early morning for Johannesburg & Pretoria. Your guide will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost).

No meals included

### **6 - 10 Day Kruger Park & Okavango Delta**

Price per person (2007):

R 7 950 : Tribal village (Day 1) & Camping

R 8 420 : Bedded (Days 1,2,3) & Camping

Departure: Every Sunday

Depart from: Johannesburg, Pretoria

Any Backpackers hostel, hotel, guest house

End in: Johannesburg, Pretoria

Any Backpackers hostel, guest house, hotel or airport

Included:

All transport (open vehicle inside Kruger)

All accommodation

Qualified and registered guide

Meals as specified below

Entrance fees to Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park

4x4 open vehicle game drives in Kruger Nat Park

Night drive inside Kruger National Park

Tribal village

Blyde River Canyon (Three Rondawels view point)

Bourke Luck Potholes

God's Window

Entrance fees for Okavango Delta

4x4 open vehicle transfers in Okavango Delta

Polers & mokoros

Game walks while inside the Okavango Delta

Excluded:

All drinks (except coffee & tea with meals)

Meals not specified below

Optional game walk inside Kruger National Park

Optional 1 hour flight over the Okavango Delta

Visas if needed

### **Day 1: Panoramic route - Blyde river canyon (South Africa)**

The tour departs early morning from Johannesburg and Pretoria, heading east towards Nelspruit where we also pick clients up. We will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost). From Nelspruit we drive further north where we stop for lunch (own cost) & banks in Graskop.

### **Day 2: Kruger National Park (South Africa)**

A very short drive takes us to Kruger National Park (arrive as the gates open) that is home to 147 mammal (incl. the Big 5), 114 reptile, & 502 bird species. You will be transferred to open sided 4 x 4 game viewing vehicles (on arrival at the park) in which we will do game drives for the rest of the day. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at one of the picnic sites inside Kruger National Park. At sunset you will start with a 3 hour night drive, done in a Kruger Park open sided game viewing vehicle with a Kruger National Park guide. This is a great opportunity to see nocturnal animals not normally seen during the day game drives.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 3: Hartbeespoort (South Africa)**

We start the day with a light breakfast, before heading out on a short game drive. We then drive to Hartbeespoort, where we will be staying at a backpackers hostel in the valley below the Magaliesberg mountains.

Breakfast included

### **Day 4: Nata (Botswana)**

We depart early morning from Hartbeespoort. Your guide will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost) and last minute shopping, before reaching the Botswana border. You will get an opportunity to change money, after crossing the border, from where we head further north to Nata, where we camp the night.

Dinner included

### **Day 5: Maun (Botswana)**

The day starts with an early morning breakfast, before heading west along the northern border of the Kalahari Desert to Maun. We stay the night at a great campsite just outside Maun, where you can visit the crocodile farm, and relax by the pool.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Days 6, 7, 8: Okavango Delta (Botswana)**

The Okavango Delta must be one of the best experiences offered in southern Africa, and offers a large variety of mammal, reptile and bird species.

We start the day with a large breakfast, before heading into the Okavango Delta with 4x4 open-sided game viewing vehicles. The local guides (polers) will be waiting for us in the park at the waterline, where we transfer all the equipment and our personal belongings into mokoros (traditional dug out canoes). From here we glide down the water channels deeper into the Okavango Delta, searching for the ideal place to set up camp. There will be no fences, no running water, no showers, no buildings and no electricity. We camp in the wild with only what we take with us. After lunch you cool off in a natural swim hole in the rivers.

Every day we will do early morning and late afternoon game walks, searching for as many different animal species as possible. The guides will explain more about all the animals, tracks and the Delta during these walks. You will have the opportunity to get as close as possible (safety first) to the wildlife of the Okavango Delta.

After dinners you can relax with the guides around a campfire, while listening to their stories about the bush, animals, their cultures and of course listening to the sounds of animals at night in Africa.

You start your last morning in the Okavango delta with a cup of coffee before doing your final game walk. After the walk you will enjoy breakfast, break down camp, and then return by mokoros to the place where the 4x4 vehicles will meet you.

Your guide will prepare a light lunch on return to camp in Maun. This afternoon you have the opportunity to do an optional one hour flight over the Okavango Delta, during which you are guaranteed to see many large herds of animals, as well as many single or smaller groups of animals.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

#### **Day 9: Palapye (Botswana)**

This morning we head south to Palapye, where you can relax by the pool.

Please note that we might stay the night at Nata or at Elephant Sands.

Breakfast, Dinner included

#### **Day 10: Return to Johannesburg & Pretoria (South Africa)**

We depart early morning for Johannesburg & Pretoria. Your guide will stop en-route for breakfast (own cost).

No meals included

### **7- 10 Day Kruger National Park & Mozambique**

Price per person (2007):

R 7 100 : Tribal village (Day 1) & Camping

R 11 600 : Bedded (all 9 nights)

Departure: Tuesday

Depart from: Johannesburg, Pretoria

Any Backpackers hostel, hotel, guest house

End in: Johannesburg, Pretoria, Nelspruit

Any Backpackers hostel, guest house, hotel or airport

Included:

All transport

All accommodation

Qualified and registered guide

Meals as specified below

Entrance fees to Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park

All game drives in 4x4 open sided vehicles

Night drive inside Kruger National Park

Tribal village

Blyde River Canyon (Three Rondawels view point)

Bourke Luck Potholes

God's Window

Ocean safari (2 to 3 hours whale shark snorkling)

Sunset cruise on inland lake at Bilene

Excluded:

All drinks (except coffee & tea with meals)

Meals not specified below

Optional game walk inside Kruger National Park

#### **Day 1: Panoramic route - Blyde river canyon (South Africa)**

The tour departs early morning from Johannesburg and Pretoria, heading east towards Nelspruit where we also pick clients up. We will stop en-route for

breakfast (own cost). From Nelspruit we drive further north where we stop for lunch (own cost) & banks in Graskop.

After lunch we drive through the panoramic route where we stop at God's Window, Bourke Luck Potholes and the 3rd largest canyon in the world - the Blyde River Canyon.

### **Day 2: Kruger National Park (South Africa)**

A very short drive takes us to Kruger National Park (arrive as the gates open) that is home to 147 mammal (incl. the Big 5), 114 reptile, & 502 bird species. You will be transferred to open sided 4 x 4 game viewing vehicles (on arrival at the park) in which we will do game drives for the rest of the day. Breakfast and lunch will be enjoyed at one of the picnic sites inside Kruger National Park. At sunset you will start with a 3 hour night drive, done in a Kruger Park open sided game viewing vehicle with a Kruger National Park guide. This is a great opportunity to see nocturnal animals not normally seen during the day game drives.

Clients who booked the bedded accommodation will be dropped off at the private lodge, after the night drive.

Clients who booked the camping accommodation option will stay in our camp inside Kruger National Park.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 3: Bilene (Mozambique)**

We start our final game drive as soon as the gates open, in search of the animals that we have not seen on days 1 & 2.

We will then drive close to the border of Mozambique passing the southern point of Kruger National Park. After the border procedures, we will make our way up to beautiful Bilene, a small town surrounded by inland lakes.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

### **Day 4: Bilene (Mozambique)**

After an early morning swim in the clear waters of the inland lake that stretches for 27 kilometers, breakfast is served where after you can relax on the beach at our campsite. The rest of the day you can familiarise yourself with the local fisherman and maybe even go searching for prawns with them. This is an excellent time to immerse yourself in their culture and get to know how the locals live. There is a local market where you can find an assortment of curious and a walk through of the town is a must. In the late afternoon there is a sunset cruise that will last approximately 2 hours. There will be sun-downers and snacks served on the cruise.

Lunch, Dinner included

### **Days 5,6,7,8: Tofo Beach (Mozambique)**

After waking up to the sounds of the Indian Ocean, we will enjoy a hearty tropical breakfast. We will travel north to the town of Inhambane, with one of the best curio markets in Mozambique. After a visit to the market, we head towards the beach of Tofo. The warm tropical waters of Tofo attracts many species of fish and other sea dwelling creatures such as green and leather-back turtles, manta rays and the whale shark, the majestic giant of the sea.

The days are spent organising swimming trips, lazing in the sun, swimming in the tropical sea, playing beach volleyball and walking down to the beach bar for sun-downers. The small town of Tofo also has its own small curio and food market and one or two restaurants where they serve great seafood and other local dishes typical of Mozambique. Your guide will organise your whale shark snorkel dive which is included in the tour cost. If you would like to learn how to surf, you will have the opportunity to take some classes.

Breakfast, Dinner included

**Day 9: Maputo (Mozambique)**

After time spent on the pristine beaches, our journey takes us to Maputo, the capital city of Mozambique. An unforgettable last evening is spent with local people at the lively true Mozambican fish market, where we relax and reflect on our Mozambique experience.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner included

**Day 10: Return to Johannesburg & Pretoria (South Africa)**

We depart early morning for Johannesburg & Pretoria.

Breakfast included

**8 - 7 day Kruger to Vic Falls**

Price: R4530.00

Countries Visited: Botswana - South Africa - Zambia

Included Highlights: Kruger Park Entrance Fee, Kruger Park Game Drives, Kruger Park Night Drive, Panoramic Route, Shangaan Cultural Village, Entrance to Victoria Falls (Zambian Side), Zambezi Sunset Cruise

Optional Activities: *These rates are in USD and can change at any time without notice. Please use as a guideline only.*

Activities in Victoria Falls: White water rafting \$135; Canoeing \$85; Bungy \$95; Kayaking \$150; Jet boat \$60; Rhino Walk \$55; Elephant Walk \$100; Helicopter Flip \$85 Activities in South Africa: Private Game Walk (min 4 people) \$45

Wagon Trails Provides: All ground transportation, services of experienced qualified driver/guide, camping equipment (2 person dome tents, mattresses, cooking equipment), all highlights, meals, entrance fees & accommodation per itinerary

Not Included: All visa costs are the clients responsibility, travel insurance, flights, departure taxes, sleeping bags, items of a personal nature, drinks, and optional activities

Participation: Participation safari, clients to erect their tents and help with cooking, washing dishes and vehicle cleanliness

Extras: Local Payment needs to be paid over and above tour cost, this pays for all included highlights and is NOT a food kitty. This amount is payable to the driver on the day of departure. Wagon Trails has a strict policy of no hidden costs on all our tours, what you see is what you get!

Accommodation: Camping in two person dome tents, Multishare huts in tribal village

Meals: Johannesburg to Kruger National Park (D)  
Kruger National Park to Kruger National Park (BLD)  
Kruger National Park to Panoramic Route/Nyani (BLD)  
Panoramic Route/Nyani to Makopane (BD)  
Makopane to Nata (BD)  
Nata to Livingstone (BD)

**Itinerary**

**Johannesburg to Kruger National Park**

An early start as we leave the city of gold and make our way through the Mpumalanga province en route to the Kruger National Park. As we enter through one of the Southern gates we begin our search for the many species of birds, mammals and reptiles that inhabit the Park. This Park is home to a wide diversity of animals including Africa's "Big Five" Our game drive takes us to our campsite,

where we board an open safari vehicle and head out on an exciting night drive. Evening to be spent camping within Kruger. (D)

#### **Kruger National Park to Kruger National Park**

An early morning game drive takes us along some of the best game drive routes that Kruger has to offer. Sunrise at a waterhole offers scenes straight out of National Geographic. The entire day is spent game viewing, bird watching and stopping off at the various waterholes en route to our next camp. Evening to be spent relaxing around the campfire reminiscing about the day's events. (BLD)

#### **Kruger National Park to Panoramic Route/Nyani**

We take our final game drive in Kruger before heading up the Drakensberg Escarpment and spend the day visiting the scenic sights along the panoramic route. These sights include God's Window, Bourke's Luck Potholes and the magnificent Three Rondawels at the Blyde River Canyon. From here we journey on to a Shangaan Tribal Village where a guided tour gives you an insight into the culture and traditions of the local Shangaan people. We enjoy an exciting evening of tribal dancing, singing and a traditional African dinner. Overnight in traditional huts. (BLD)

#### **Panoramic Route/Nyani to Makopane**

We depart the village after breakfast and head towards the town of Makopane where we overnight en route to Botswana. (BD)

#### **Makopane to Nata**

We cross into Botswana and continue to Nata where we camp at the edge of Makgadikgadi Pans. (BD)

#### **Nata to Livingstone**

We arrive in Livingstone and venture out on a sunset cruise on the mighty Zambezi River. The following day is spent on optional activities, including white water rafting, bungee jumping, microlighting, jet boating or a "flight of angels". We explore the town, its markets and visit the Victoria Falls. (BD)

### **9 - Kruger Walking Safaris**

Transfrontiers is known for its wildlife walking safaris. The safari is designed for the keen adventurer and there is little that compares with the thrill of meeting the Big 5 on foot. Our luxury tented safari camps are situated in the Timbavati and Klaserie part of the Greater Kruger Park. Our scheduled wildlife walking safaris give you the rare opportunity to get out into the bush on foot and to really feel the pulse of the Africa. The tented camps are the real thing, complete with open air showers and dining tent and a camp fire to gather around at night and share the adventures of the day. The specialised guides open up a new world to guests by sharing their tracking skills, knowledge of the African bush and extraordinary bush expertise.

The attentive camp staff prepare customary bush fare including a traditional "Braai" and a venison dish. Afternoon walks are combined with an open vehicle drive that develops into a night drive by spotlight after a pause for sundowners. The tents are equipped with full sized beds and linen and solar lighting and the camps accommodate a maximum of 12 guests.

#### **4 or 5 day walking safaris**

Affordable and unique walking safaris in the exclusive Big Five Greater Kruger National Park Scheduled guaranteed departures every Mon (5 day) and Fri (4 day)

Maximum 8 people per trail, no minimum  
Maximum 12 people per camp  
Minimum age 16 (in groups of 4 min age 12)  
Includes transfers to and from Jo'burg or Pretoria  
Includes two walk/drive combinations and night drive each day  
Includes all meals and accommodation  
Pick-up and drop-off information  
Pick up time from your hotel in JHB between 5 and 6 in the morning (click here for list of hotels).  
Everybody will be contacted at their hotel the day before departure to confirm the exact time.  
If your pick-up hotel has not been confirmed, please contact us two days before traveling!  
Drop off time at your hotel or JHB International approximately 18.00 hours.  
Pick up and drop off Eastgate Airport Hoedspruit free of charge. Directions to the meeting point for self-drivers available on request.

1 November 2007 - 31 October 2008

Mon - Fri (5 day / 4 night) : R5 300 pp (excluding drinks and entrance fees)

Fri - Mon (4 day / 3 night) : R4 500 pp (excluding drinks and entrance fees) .

Includes

Transfers to and from Jo'burg and Pretoria  
Two walk/drive combinations and night drive each day  
All meals and accommodation as per itinerary

Excludes

Drinks

Conservation Fee of max R185 pp

*The max R185 is a once-off local payment for entrance fees that need to be paid directly to the Reserves that we operate in. The amount will depend on where you're going and this money goes back into conservation, used for purposes such as anti-poaching, animal monitoring and research. The Conservation Fee and the drinks consumed in our camps will be paid for on the day you leave the safari. Drinks like beers, wine, ciders, Smirnoff spins, gin & tonic, cokes, juices and bottled water are provided in the camps. Coffee, tea and water from the tap are free of charge.*

### **Daily itinerary 4 & 5 day walking safari**

Mon - Fri 5 day walking safari

Fri - Mon 4 day walking safari

On the day of departure you will be collected from your hotel at first light and transferred to the reserve gate. The journey takes approximately 5 hours with stops along the way. You will meet your ranger at a lovely bush pub at the edge of the reserves, where you will sign the indemnity forms and have lunch together. After lunch, we transfer you into open safari vehicles to one of our bush camps in the Greater Kruger National Park making sure that you spend the maximum time out in the bush!

In the mornings we set off at first light after a snack breakfast of rusks and coffee or tea. Enjoying the cool morning air we may walk directly from camp or else use a vehicle to get further out. Your ranger will decipher the tracks and signs left by the passing animals during the night. The thrill of walking, tracking and getting up close to one of the creatures of the bush is an unforgettable experience. On the walks there is a lot of emphasis on all the interesting things seen such as trees, plants, insects and birds. A big breakfast is prepared back in camp and then there is time to unwind and siesta during the heat of the day. After lunch is served it is time to head out again.

The afternoon activity is a walk/ drive combination, looking for tracks and activity in other areas. After the walk we drive to a beautiful spot in the Reserve, where we'll have sundowners while waiting for a stunning African Sunset. As the diurnal

animals and birds anxiously get ready for bed, the stage and sounds change and a whole new world awakens. This is when we connect the spotlight and night drive back to camp, looking for the nocturnal creatures that are so rarely seen during the day. Back in camp a hearty supper and a warm campfire will be waiting for you. After a long day in the bush there is nothing more rewarding then to sneak off to bed and listen to the sounds of the night under a blanket of the overwhelming African stars!

On the last day you will still go out for one last walk. Sniffing the typical scents of the bush you'll realize how much you've learned already! After breakfast it's time to pack up and go back to the bush pub, where you will pay the Conservation Fee and the drinks you've consumed in our camps. Then we say our goodbyes and transfer you back to the city.

### **10 - Kruger Safaris Staying at Tremisana Lodge**

Tremisana is the largest and leading lodge in the Balule section of Kruger Park.

We have a total of 12 chalets plus a two-bedroomed Guest House. Every unit has a thatch roof, is air-conditioned and en suite ( shower, toilet, basin ) and has a tea/coffee station. Insect-proof screens are fitted on all windows.

Sparkling pool at Tremisana

There is a splash pool, open air boma for dinners around a crackling fire and a covered lapa overlooking a waterhole. A very beautiful luxuriant garden boasts numerous bougainvilleas, palms and cycads which give the camp a subtropical tone. Water features add a soothing effect and the overall feel of Tremisana Lodge is very relaxing. At night, the subdued light from the illuminated paved walkways lend a romantic and magical flavour to this outstanding camp.

Tremisana chalet overlooking lush garden

The lodge is serviced by two excellent boreholes. Its proximity to the tar road means Tremisana is easily accessible all year round, including the rainy season. The presence of lions, elephants and buffalo necessitates the maintaining of an electric fence around the camp.

A troop of Vervet Monkeys have learned how to avoid being shocked and have made Tremisana their permanent home. Their antics never fail to amuse and enthrall our guests.

Mindful of the increasing demand of tourists to have extended walks in the bush, away from the crowds, 2008 sees the introduction of a new product for clients booking the Tremisana safaris : The Balule Plains experience.

### **11 - Kruger Safaris Staying at Marc's Treehouse Lodge**

Imagine..... inhale the fresh balmy air of African Bushveld. Fall asleep to the gurgling of the river, interrupted by the eerie whoops of hyena, spine-chilling wails of jackals and the plaintive cry of the thick-tailed bushbaby. Awaken to the melodious chorus of birdsong and watch the activity of wildlife drinking at the river or at our spotlit waterhole. Walk along the pristine banks of the perennial Klaserie River amongst huge Sycamore Figs and giant Matumi trees.....this is Marc's Treehouse Lodge.

Accommodation at Marc's is secure, comfortable and relaxed. We offer 12 treehouses : five original units built in the trees with designated private ablutions on the ground below and seven en suite units built on stilts within the tree canopy. Three treehouses overlook an illuminated waterhole, often frequented by our

resident buffalo herd while nine treehouses are discreetly nestled in gallery forest along the river. Each treehouse is equipped with beds and linen, soap and towels, overhead fan, mosquito nets and wooden viewing deck. In addition we have added two brick and mortar guest houses as well as two equipped canvas tents for those of our clients that prefer these types of accommodation

Marc's Treehouse Lodge has a swimming pool, an elevated library, bush bar and rustic boma where 3 course meals are served. After your evening meal, which always has a typical African flavour, you can relax around the crackling campfire and share your impressions of the day's wildlife highlights and adventures.

Compared to similarly priced camping safaris for backpackers, Marc's offers so much more and it is easy to understand why it has become a favourite venue for the backpacking fraternity.

### 12 - Three Day Safari

TARIFF : R 3595 sharing ; R 3795 single ; R 2495 child under 12

**Day one:** Pick up from your hostel or Johannesburg Airport and travel in an airconditioned vehicle via Dullstroom or Nelspruit to Tremisana Game Lodge in the Balule section of Kruger Park. After a short break ( swim/ early Sundowner at the bar ) you board the open Landcruiser for a Big Five sunset drive. After dark, your guide will use a powerful spotlight to locate nocturnal animals. After the game drive, you will be transferred to Marc's Treehouse Lodge, where you are accommodated in fascinating treehouses. Dinner in the Boma around a crackling fire will be a typical South African meal.

**Day two:** You will be transferred to the Orpen Gate of Kruger where you enjoy the open Gameviewer that provides unbeatable opportunities for a total sensual wildlife experience. These 4 x 4 vehicles easily access all roads in Kruger. Your experienced guide will show you many animals and birds that frequent this wildlife paradise. Dinner and overnight at Marc's Treehouse Lodge.

**Day three:** Early morning game walk accompanied by your armed ranger. You will attempt to get close to the numerous animals that have made their home at Marc's, especially nyala and buffalo. After breakfast, you drive via the Blyde River Canyon on your return to Johannesburg where you arrive in the late afternoon. Airport dropoff by arrangement.

### 13 - Four Day Safari

TARIFF : R 3995 sharing ; R 4195 single ; R 2895 child under 12

The itinerary is the same as that of the Three Day Safari above, with an additional day spent in Kruger on the open vehicle

### 14 - Six Day Safari

As in Four Day Safari above, with two additional days as follows:

**First additional day:** Visit Moholoholo Rehabilitation Centre for injured and orphaned animals. Your understanding of conservation issues will be greatly improved. After lunch and siesta drive to Tremisana for another Sunset Drive.

**Second additional day:** Visit the Endangered Species Project the Endangered Species Project where a guided tour gets you close to cheetah, wild dog and other endangered species. After lunch, visit a tribal village where you will get to learn first hand some of the cultural traditions of the Shangaan people.

## **15 - Kruger Safaris Staying at the Cheetah Inn**

TARIFF: R 4295 sharing; R 4495 single ; R 2995 child under 12

Surrounded by Big Five reserves such as Kapama and Timbavati, the Cheetah Inn is game-fenced and has small game and antelope. The view of open bushveld with the majestic Drakensberg mountains in the background is really impressive !

The Cheetah Inn has 8 bright and airy rooms in the hotel proper and 13 thatched rondawels surrounded by lush gardens and huge Lowveld trees. The units are fully en suite ( bath, shower, basin, toilet ), have overhead fans and offer a tea/coffee hospitality tray.

A colonial charm of a bygone era pervades the place and salient features include an extremely large swimming pool, a 9 hole minigolf course, a conference facility, a private airstrip and a large boma built from local rock.

The interior courtyard has a pond which contains a number of endemic fish and an outside aviary has a collection of beautifully-coloured local Lowveld finches.

At night the calls of lions, hyenas and jackals add a magical touch to the atmosphere around our crackling fire in the boma.

### **Itinerary**

**Day One:** Home/ Hotel or Airport pickup and travel eastwards from Gauteng towards the Lowveld. At Tremisana Lodge, we board an open Landcruiser for a Big Five Sunset Drive. Your guide will show you the many animals and birds that frequent the Balule section of Kruger Park. After enjoying a stunning African sunset, powerful spotlights will be used to locate nocturnal species such as genet, porcupine, scrub hare and civet. You will then be transferred to the Cheetah Inn where dinner will be served around a large fire under the African stars.

**Day Two:** You will be transferred to the Orpen Gate of Kruger Park for a full day of game viewing and bird watching. From your elevated position in the open Gameviewer, outstanding opportunities are had to view game and take exceptional photos. We have a lunch break at Satara camp, which is in the centre of a wildlife zone renowned for many lion prides. The open grassy plains around Satara attract big herds of giraffe, zebra and antelope as well as numerous buffalo and elephant. Return to Cheetah Inn for dinner around the campfire, where you can discuss the day's gameviewing highlights.

**Day Three:** You will be transferred to the Motlala Game reserve, where an armed ranger will conduct a bush walk. You will be shown the spoor and droppings of wild creatures, big and small. The walk concentrates on smaller wildlife things like plants, birds and insects and general items that you won't get to see from your vehicle, but from time to time, dangerous animals such as buffalo, rhino and leopard may be encountered. After breakfast, we drive via the Three Rondawels of the Blyde River Canyon en route to Johannesburg where we arrive around 16h00. Airport dropoff by arrangement.

## **16 - Kruger Marc's Adventure Camp**

TARIFFS: Entire Camp ( max of 56 people ) self catering : R 1200 per night  
Per person on a DBB basis ( min of 6 persons ) : R 200 per night

MARC'S ADVENTURE CAMP is situated on the same property as Marc's Treehouse Lodge and comprises eight en suite chalets. Four chalets contain 4 double bunks (eight beds each) while the other four chalets each have a double bed and two

double bunks, thus accommodating a max of six persons each. The camp is ideal for school and student groups as well as self catering groups. There is a swimming pool, a volleyball court and a basketball court and a great obstacle course, built around a small dam, venue for many spectacular thrills and spills. The camp may be hired in its entirety. Catering can be arranged if required.

## Nelspruit Tours

[Funky Monkey Backpackers, Nelspruit](#)  
[Old Vic Travellers Inn, Nelspruit](#)

### Funky Safaris @ Funky Monkey Backpackers

#### One and a Half Day/Night Package

##### Daily Departures

On arrival at Funky Monkeys Backpackers in Nelspruit you receive a free dorm night's accommodation in our hostel as this package starts BEFORE sunrise the following morning to ensure FULL days of sightseeing in Africa's Jewel; The Kruger National Park.

##### Day 1(Kruger):

We transfer you through to the Kruger to meet our registered guides with our OPEN Game Viewing vehicle and your adventure begins! We set off on the first game drive for the day to seek out the vast variety of animals that have made the Kruger their home: From the smallest of insect's right through to the famous BIG FIVE.

You will experience at LEAST 8 hours of game viewing today. We do however take breaks for breakfast and a lunch during the midday heat.

Our fully equipped tented camp in the Kruger sports all the necessary facilities including comfy beds (linen included), electrical points to charge your batteries & fridges/freezers. Our camp staff is from the local Shangaan community who are known for their friendliness and will ensure you a relaxed time in camp.

This evening you will enjoy a truly South African meal around our camp fire under African Skies listening to the night sounds of the Kruger.

##### Day 2 (Kruger):

It's an EARLY rise as we leave before sunrise on the last game drive of the tour trying to spot those animals that have eluded you so far!

We return to camp for a breakfast before transferring you back to Nelspruit or KMIP airport in time for the Baz Bus and all major bus services.( Unless you are doing the Blyde River Canyon extension where you will return to Nelspruit late afternoon))

##### Included in this package:

- \* Free dorm night @ Funky Monkeys night prior to departure.
- \* Entrance & Conservation fees, Registered Guides & Open Game Viewing Vehicles.
- \* All meals & accommodation in our tented camp.

##### Optional Extras:

- \* Night Drives & Morning walks
- \* Upgrades from tented acc to Chalet acc (subject to availability)
- \* **Blyde River Canyon Day Trip Extension (full day).** We pick you up from the Park and take you for a day of sightseeing in one of the world's largest green canyons.

**Highlights:** God's Window, Three Rondavals, The Pinnacle, Bourke's Luck Potholes & waterfalls. Lunch included. If doing the extension you return to Nelspruit late afternoon.

Additional cost: R750.00/person (Minimum 2 pax)

**What to bring along:**

\* Torch, Windbreaker or Fleece, Camera, Binoculars and Walking shoes, Sunscreen & Hat.

**Price:**

**R 1950.00/person for Kruger only**

**R2700/person for Kruger & Blyde River Canyon Extension.**

Please note there is a 5% surcharge for all credit card payments

**Two and a Half Day/Night Package**

**Daily Departures**

On arrival at Funky Monkeys Backpackers in Nelspruit you receive a free dorm night's accommodation in our hostel as this package starts BEFORE sunrise the following morning to ensure FULL days of sightseeing in Africa's Jewel; The Kruger National Park.

**Day 1(Kruger):**

We transfer you through to the Kruger to meet our registered guides with our OPEN Game Viewing vehicle and your adventure begins! We set off on the first game drive for the day to seek out the vast variety of animals that have made the Kruger their home: From the smallest of insect's right through to the famous BIG FIVE.

You will experience at LEAST 8 hours of game viewing today. We do however take breaks for breakfast and a lunch during the midday heat.

Our fully equipped tented camp in the Kruger sports all the necessary facilities including comfy beds (linen included), electrical points to charge your batteries & fridges/freezers. Our camp staff is from the local Shangaan community who are known for their friendliness and will ensure you a relaxed time in camp.

This evening you will enjoy a truly South African meal around our camp fire under African Skies listening to the night sounds of the Kruger.

**Day 2 (Kruger):**

We rise and set off before sunrise to try and spot those animals that have eluded us the day before. It's another day of game viewing, at least 8 hours worth! We take you on different routes through the park today and once again all the meals are included.

Another full day in the Kruger and one more entertaining evening around our camp fire sharing stories and that day's encounters with fellow travellers.

**Day 3:**

It's an EARLY rise as we leave before sunrise on the last game drive of the tour trying to spot those animals that have eluded you so far!

We return to camp for a breakfast before transferring you back to Nelspruit or KMIP airport in time for the Baz Bus and all major bus services. ( Unless you are doing the Blyde River Canyon extension where you will return to Nelspruit late afternoon)

**Included in this package:**

- \* Free dorm night @ Funky Monkeys night prior to departure.
- \* Entrance & Conservation fees, Registered Guides & Open Game Viewing Vehicles.
- \* All meals & accommodation in our tented camp.

**Optional Extras:**

- \* Night Drives & Morning walks
- \* Upgrades from tented acc to Chalet acc (subject to availability)
- \* **Blyde River Canyon Day Trip Extension (full day).** We pick you up from the Park and take you for a day of sightseeing in one of the world's largest green canyons.

**Highlights:** God's Window, Three Rondavals, The Pinnacle, Bourke's Luck Potholes & waterfalls. Lunch included. If doing the extension you return to Nelspruit late afternoon.

Additional cost: R750.00/person (Minimum 2 pax)

**What to bring along:**

- \* Torch, Windbreaker or Fleece, Camera, Binoculars and Walking shoes, Sunscreen & Hat

**Price:**

**R 2850.00/person for Kruger only**

**R3600/person for Kruger & Blyde River Canyon Extention.**

Please note there is a 5% surcharge for all credit card payments

**Three and a Half Day Kruger Package**

**Daily Departure**

On arrival at Funky Monkeys Backpackers in Nelspruit you receive a free dorm night's accommodation in our hostel as this package starts BEFORE sunrise the following morning to ensure FULL days of sightseeing in Africa's Jewel; The Kruger National Park.

**Day 1(Kruger):**

We transfer you through to the Kruger to meet our registered guides with our OPEN Game Viewing vehicle and your adventure begins! We set off on the first game drive for the day to seek out the vast variety of animals that have made the Kruger their home: From the smallest of insect's right through to the famous BIG FIVE.

You will experience at LEAST 8 hours of game viewing today. We do however take breaks for breakfast and a lunch during the midday heat.

Our fully equipped tented camp in the Kruger sports all the necessary facilities including comfy beds (linen included), electrical points to charge your batteries &

fridges/freezers. Our camp staff is from the local Shangaan community who are known for their friendliness and will ensure you a relaxed time in camp.

This evening you will enjoy a truly South African meal around our camp fire under African Skies listening to the night sounds of the Kruger.

### **Day 2 (Kruger):**

We rise and set off before sunrise to try and spot those animals that have eluded us the day before. It's another day of game viewing, at least 8 hours worth! We take you on different routes through the park today and once again all the meals are included.

Another full day in the Kruger and one more entertaining evening around our camp fire sharing stories and that day's encounters with fellow travellers.

### **Day 3:**

Today runs in the same way as the previous one except we take you on different routes through the park. Another 8 hours of game drive, more wonderful meals, a nature lovers dream!

### **Day 4:**

It's an EARLY rise as we leave before sunrise on the last game drive of the tour trying to spot those animals that have eluded you so far!

We return to camp for a breakfast before transferring you back to Nelspruit or KMIP airport in time for the Baz Bus and all major bus services. ( Unless you are doing the Blyde River Canyon extension where you will return to Nelspruit late afternoon)

### **Included in this package:**

- \* Free dorm night @ Funky Monkeys night prior to departure.
- \* Entrance & Conservation fees, Registered Guides & Open Game Viewing Vehicles.
- \* All meals & accommodation in our tented camp.

### **Optional Extras:**

- \* Night Drives & Morning walks
- \* Upgrades from tented acc to Chalet acc (subject to availability)
- \* **Blyde River Canyon Day Trip Extension (full day).** We pick you up from the Park and take you for a day of sightseeing in one of the world's largest green canyons.

**Highlights:** God's Window, Three Rondavals, The Pinnacle, Bourke's Luck Potholes & waterfalls. Lunch included. If doing the extension you return to Nelspruit late afternoon.

Additional cost: R750.00/person (Minimum 2 pax)

### **What to bring along:**

- \* Torch, Windbreaker or Fleece, Camera, Binoculars and Walking Shoes, Sunscreen & Hat

### **Price:**

**R 3750.00/person for Kruger only**

**R4500/person for Kruger & Blyde River Canyon Extention.**

Please note there is a 5% surcharge for all credit card payments

## **Kruger Flexi Tours**

### **1 - OV - Tour One is a two day one night Kruger/Blyde canyon tour:**

We leave Nelspruit early 5.00am and make our way to Kruger where we spend the morning looking for some of 140 mammals and of course the Big Five. We have brunch at one of Kruger's great picnic spots before we make our way to the famous Lower Sabie camp (if possible; the top camp in Kruger) for a little rest in your bungalow. That evening we go on a night drive that only Kruger can take you on, for three hours, you return to a good old South African Braai under the African Skies.

Up early on day two as we make our way out of the park with a three hour game drive to Kruger Gate as we try and find animals not yet ticked off your check list. We leave Kruger behind and make our way up into the Small Drakensberg Mountain range so visit place like God's Window; Lisbon Falls; Bourke's Potholes and the world's third largest canyon and the only growing canyon, the Blyde Canyon. Lunch is at the famous Harrie's Pancakes.

We return to Nelspruit in the late afternoon.

Price is 2450.00 rand per person sharing minimum two people. Budget accommodation.

Price 2650.00 rand per person sharing minimum two people with en-suite rooms.

### **2 - OV - Tour Two is three days and two nights Kruger/Blyde, two days in Kruger.**

We leave Nelspruit early 5.00am and make our way to Kruger where we spend the morning looking for some of 140 mammals and of course the Big Five. We have brunch at one of Kruger's great picnic spots before we make our way to the famous Lower Sabie camp (if possible; the top camp in Kruger) for a little rest in your bungalow. That evening we go on a night drive that only Kruger can take you on, for three hours, you return to a good old South African Braai under the African Skies.

Up early on day two as we make our way to part of the park not yet visited, that afternoon we return to Lower Sabie where you may take an afternoon nap or sit on the deck and view all the animals coming down to the river for a drink. Another night drive is included that evening. Bed early after a hard day at the office!!!

Day three we are up early as we make our way out of the park with a three hour game drive to Kruger Gate as we try and find animals not yet ticked off your check list. We leave Kruger behind and make our way up into the Small Drakensberg Mountain range so visit place like God's Window; Lisbon Falls; Bourke's Potholes and the world's third largest canyon and the only growing canyon, the Blyde Canyon. Lunch is at the famous Harrie's Pancakes.

We return to Nelspruit in the late afternoon.

Price is 3650.00 rand per person sharing minimum two people. Budget rooms

Price 3950.00 rand per person sharing minimum two people with en-suite rooms.

### **3 - OV - Tour Three is more up market Three Days Two nights and includes a private reserve lodge.**

We leave Nelspruit early 5.00am and make our way to Kruger where we spend the morning looking for some of 140 mammals and of course the Big Five. We have brunch at one of Kruger's great picnic spots before we make our way to the famous Lower Sabie camp if possible (the top camp in Kruger) for a little rest in your

bungalow. That evening we go on a night drive that only Kruger can take you on, for three hours, you return to a good old South African Braai under the African Skies.

Day Two we are up early as we make our way out of the park with a three hour game drive to Kruger Gate as we try and find animals not yet ticked off your check list. We leave Kruger behind and head off to a private lodge in Sabie Sand or the Timbavati or Thornybush.

Here we are treated like royalty as we go on private open 4\*4 game drives that get a lot closer to the game than in Kruger, no private vehicles allowed in the reserve. Luxury accommodation, great meals and a different view of conservation and how the private park differs from Kruger

Day Three after a early morning game drive and game walk (if possible) we make our way up into the Small Drakensberg Mountain range so visit place like God's Window; Lisbon Falls; Bourke's Potholes and the world's third largest canyon and the only growing canyon, the Blyde Canyon. Late Lunch is at the famous Harrie's Pancakes. Please Blyde Canyon is only possible if time is on our side. i.e no planes to catch, a stay over in Nelspruit is a must. We return to Nelspruit in the late afternoon Price is 5950.00 rand per person sharing minimum two people. All en-suite rooms.

All Tours include meals, accommodation, entrance fees and transport.

Kruger Park Day Tours from 1250.00 rand a person

Blyde Canyon Day Trip from 750.00 rand a person

Nelspruit Half Day Tour from 550.00 rand

Sudwala Caves and Kaapsehoop Half Day Tour from 550.00 rand.

Note all tours are a minimum two people.

## Hazyview Tours

### Gecko Bushpackers, Hazyview

#### **Wild Ranger Experience**

3 days - 2 nights

Price includes:

Teaching from professional ranger

All accommodation (based on a dorm bed and a tent)

All meals, coffee, tea and juice.

Workbook

Entrance Big 5 Game Reserve

Entrance Game Farm.

Entrance Moholoholo.

Price excludes:

Transport to Hazyview

Optional activities

Alcoholic drinks

Price per person: R 2850,00 Min. 2 persons, max. 6 persons.

Bigger groups possible, prices on request.

Accommodation upgrade is possible, prices on request.

Prices are subject to change.

Contact details:

Tel: 013 - 737 8140

Cell: 082 - 342 6598

Email: [geckobushpackers@worldonline.co.za](mailto:geckobushpackers@worldonline.co.za)

Booking in advance necessary !

A unique experience in the African Bush as a trainee “Wildlife Ranger”.

Spend a few days in the bush with an experienced and passionate ranger who will tell you all about “his” wildlife. Let him take you into his world of living, surviving and working in the bush. Tracking of animals, anti-poaching and all the hard work that is put in to preserve our vulnerable environment.

In the 3 days you will do bush walks, game walks and an ultimate Big 5 Walk in a private Game Reserve. Learn about the stars, edible and medicinal plants, tracking, survival skills, spiders, insects, snakes and many other topics which make the bush so alive and interesting.

Join Edwin on his adventure in the bush, let him show you his world and enjoy the stories around the campfire. Discover why conservation is so important to preserve our natural heritage for future generations! For people with interest in just a survival course in which you will learn how to really come alive out of the bush or the desert, there are special courses. Prices and programs on request.

The program will start and end at “Bushpackers and Campsite” in Hazyview.

Participants need to get to Bushpackers with their own transport.

Transfers from Nelspruit can be arranged.

#### **Day 1:**

After breakfast you will spend the morning getting introduced to the ranger work. Some time will be spend in the classroom but most of the time will be in the bush, that’s where the action is.

What are biomes, how many are there, what animals live in there and why...many questions, very clear answers.

What is poaching, what is anti-poaching..is there a solution ? Snakes...which ones are venomous which one are constricting ?

After lunch participants can choose for a visit to the Reptile Park or the Elephant Sanctuary (both in Hazyview).

Both activities are optional and at own cost.

It is also an option to spend more time with Edwin in the bush.

Dinner in the evening.

When the sky is clear Edwin will explain the constellation of stars, navigation with the stars and star signs.

The night is spend at Bushpackers.

### **Day 2:**

After breakfast there will be an introduction to survival and tracking, navigation in the bush, medicinal en edible plants etc. on a neighbouring game farm. Learn how to built a shelter, make a fire (without matches !) and where and how to find water in the bush. What can you use from nature for medical aid, you will be surprised how functional nature is !

After lunch, in the afternoon you will leave to Hoedspruit to a private Big 5 game reserve, beautiful situated in the Lowveld bush and open to the Kruger National Park.

On arrival we will set up camp and have some time to relax, enjoy the pool or sit on the terrace which overlooks the watering hole.

Dinner in the evening is a real African braai (bbq) and with some luck you can hear the lions roar in the distance.

The watering hole is lit so there is a good possibility to see animals while they are drinking.

The night is spend in a tent. (upgrading possible)

An optional activity is the night drive in another Big 5 private Game Reserve.

(Price is R 450,00 p.p.)

### **Day 3:**

After an early wake up call and some coffee and rusks you will go on your Big 5 walk, an exciting experience that you will not forget. Edwin will answer all the questions that come up during or after the walk and will guard you safely through the bush and during encounters with animals.

After a tasty brunch we will visit Moholoholo, a well known animal rehabilitation centre where you can see the animals up close. There is a proper tour which explains what happened to the animals and how they are getting prepared to be returned to the bush.

Dinner at Bushpackers.

End of program.

## Sabie Tours

### Sabie Backpackers, Sabie

Sabie Backpackers and Xtreme Adventures offers you white water tubing, waterfall abseil, bridge swing, caving by candlelight, Mac Mac kloofing, paintball, mountain biking and we can organise quad biking, horse rides, hikes and many more adventures in the Mpumalanga area.

Sabie Backpackers offers affordable, rustic, neat accommodation.

**Our GREAT package deals are:**

#### **The 3 Day Thrill (weekend package)**

R590.00 per person

Includes

- 2 nights dormitory accommodation
- white water tubing
- kloofing
- bridge swing or abseil

#### **The 5 Day Delirium package**

R1300.00 per person

Includes

- 4 nights dormitory accommodation
- white water tubing
- kloofing
- bridge swing
- abseil
- caving by candlelight
- full day panorama tour

#### **Separate Activities rates with Xtreme Adventures (for guests staying with Sabie Backpackers)**

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| • White water tubing         | R220.00 per person           |
| • Mac Mac kloofing           | R180.00 per person           |
| • Abseil                     | R120.00 per person           |
| • Bridge Swing               | R120.00 per person           |
| • Caving by candlelight      | R120.00 per person           |
| • Paintball (75 balls)       | R120.00 per person           |
| • Mountain bike hire         | R50.00 for a half day        |
| •                            | R100.00 for a full day       |
| •                            | R120.00 for a guided trail   |
| • Rock climbing              | R120.00 per person           |
| • Panorama day tour          | R420.00 per person sharing   |
| •                            | R600.00 for a single         |
| • Panorama and hike          | R450.00 per person sharing   |
| •                            | R600.00 for a single         |
| • Pilgrims Rest Visit        | R200.00 per person           |
| • Nelspruit pick up/drop off | R60.00 per person            |
| •                            | R10.00 per person thereafter |

#### **Separate Accommodation rates at Sabie Backpackers**

- Dorm R80.00 per person
- Ensuite Dorm R90.00 per person
- Double and Twin R190.00
- Ensuite R210.00
- Camping R40.00 per person

For more information, please contact us on:

Email: [visitsabie@iafrica.com](mailto:visitsabie@iafrica.com)

Office: +27 (0) 13 764 2118

Office: +27 (0) 82 507 9108

Web: [www.sabiextreme.co.za](http://www.sabiextreme.co.za)

## Swaziland Tours

*Swaziland Backpackers, between Malkerns and Matsapha*

### 1 - Swazi highlights day tour

Departing; Tue, Thu, sat, -Cost; E300

9am, depart from Swaziland backpackers we head to manzini, the x capital of Swaziland to visit the peoples market, from fruit and veg to repairing your shoes; this is the centre of manzini's bustling market trade, curio's stalls, shoe repair's, haircut, breakfast, fabric, tin smiths, tailors  
Chilly sauce, flags, wooden carvings, Baskets

By 10.30 we should be at the bakery to collect fresh rolls for the picnic lunch at the mantenga cultural village. Here we will have the chance to interact in a traditional Swazi village, see how the past of Swaziland is still kept alive today.

After a fantastic show of traditional dancing we will head to the waterfalls for lunch, (monkeys permitting) mantenga falls are 60m high and have one of the longest drops in the country, and a chance swim under the falls (weather permitting) don't forget your swimming shorts and a towel.

House on fire, Swaziland's very unique gallery nightclub, is our next stop, art, wood, stone, trees, lights, texture, the female toilet's, are an explanation to why girls spend so long away. Dancing, dj box, Royal box, bar, stage, dragon, paint pot lights, smoke machine, labyrinth tunnel,

Next door to house on fire is GONE RURAL, a fare trade store and workshop, making home décor products from traditional materials, empowering over 770 rural women to a fare wage for a dieing tradition,

A chance to stop in and say hi to gogo,(granny)(( not sat)as she finalises the products finishes before they are posted all over the world.

Our last two stops are Swazi candles and baobab batiks. Again working with local crafts men and women creating life like African animals from the by-products of petrol.

Batik is the art of painting backwards, light colour first, cover in wax, paint next colour, the ladies here are experts in their field, and you will have the chance to see for your self how they are made.

## Central Drakensberg Tours

### [Inkosana Lodge & Trekking](#), Winterton

#### Day hikes and walks in the Drakensberg Mountains

There are many great day hikes & walks in the Drakensberg approachable from Inkosana Lodge near Champagne Castle. They include Bushman painting sites.

The Monk's Cowl area is set around the Mpofane river valley, at the base of some of the Drakensberg's most spectacular peaks. Day hiking in the park is done on well-defined and maintained trails, and appeals to a wide variety of fitness and experience levels. A fee of R20 per person per day is levied to hike in the park.

If you're looking for a good, easy walk, try the Hlathikulu forest trail as it winds through indigenous forests and the spectrum of Drakensberg wild flowers. Rest in the mist at the base of the magnificent Nandi's Falls and explore the pools along the Mpofane river.

Another great day hike takes you up past the sandstone rock faces of the valley to the grasslands at the base of Cathkin peak where Rhebuck and Eland graze. Bring your binoculars to focus in on the wide selection of bird life.

For fit hikers, two mountain peaks can be reached on day hikes.

Rock scrambling at the end of a four hour ascent will put you on the top of Sterkhorn (2970 m) -- a stone's throw from mighty Cathkin peak and perched over the Mwhlazini river valley. The views are fantastic and you'll be able to see the Devil's Tooth at the Amphitheater in the north and Giant's Castle in the south.

Even harder is the 10 hour round trip that will take you up to the plateau of Champagne Castle (3337 m), one of the highest mountains in the Drakensberg. Here you can rest at the top of a 1000 m drop and watch rare bearded vultures circle before heading back down Gray's Pass.

Additionally, Inkosana is within short driving distance of other great day hiking regions of the Drakensberg:

- The Cathedral Peak area is defined by a freestanding set of peaks extending from the escarpment, and is a 45 minute drive from Inkosana Lodge. Try the day walk to Rainbow Gorge where the spray from waterfalls form beautiful rainbows. Hard-core hikers can try the day hike to the top of Cathedral Peak (3007 m), one of the best day walks in the Drakensberg.
- The Injasuthi area holds the highest peak in the Drakensberg and is especially notable as having one of the best sites of Bush men rock art in the area. This art can be explored with a guided walk to Battle Cave, which displays a battle scene between two Bushmen tribes. Injasuthi is only 45 minutes by car.
- Royal Natal National Park is 90 minutes north and lies at the northern end of the Drakensberg range, at the base of the Amphitheater. Day hike up the beautiful Tugela river gorge, or drive an additional hour and walk up to and along the top of the escarpment to the Tugela falls, second highest waterfall in Africa!
- Giant's Castle is another great site for Bushman rock art, with the caves only a 1.5 km walk from the entrance gate. Here you'll also find a museum which recreates Bush men life. Serious hikers can reach the top of the Drakensberg escarpment via Langalibalele Pass.

#### Overnight trails & hikes in the Drakensberg Mountains

There are several factors which make overnight hikes and trails in the Drakensberg Mountains safe and easy to organize - good topographic maps, trails and water.

The Conservation Service provide a good set of topographic maps that are readily available and affordable to overnight hikers. Hiking trails exist even deep into the wilderness areas.

All of the water in the park is safe to drink so you can leave your filters and iodine tablets at home. You may not even need a tent: the formation of the Drakensberg has produced lots of caves (shown on the topo maps) that are ideal for camping on overnight hikes!

The Conservation Service also operates a search and rescue service for overdue hiking parties. Guides are available for the walks in the Monk's Cowl and some other areas.

Having said this, it is important to note that the terrain can be very rugged and overnight hiking strenuous. Route finding and map reading skills are definitely required. Hikers must also be prepared for the possibility of rain showers and cold nights.

Here are a few examples of overnight hiking trips:

- In the Monk's Cowl area, spend a night behind a waterfall while camping in Zulu Cave and continue on to explore the beautiful Didima Gorge. Some of the best San (Bushman) Rock Art can be found nearby in Eland Cave. Or head to the top and spend the night on top of Champagne Castle. Watch the sunrise above the clouds over Cathkin Peak and Kwa Zulu-Natal. Experienced hiking parties can descend via the hectic Ship's Prow Pass.
- Around Cathedral Peak, try the three-day overnight hike - Bell Traverse. Begin with an ascent of Cathedral Peak and overnight in a cave at the base of the neighboring Bell mountain. The second day is spent winding your way through peaks at 3000 m and overnighiting in spacious Twins Cave. The final day begins with a short trip up Mlambojwa Pass to the top of the escarpment with magnificent views into Lesotho. Descend the pass, walking and rock-hopping down the Mlambojwa river back to the valleys of the Little 'Berg.
- Starting at Giant's Castle entrance, it's a steep ascent to a mountain hut directly below the basalt cliffs of Giant's Castle, and perched on the edge of a mountain lake. On the second day, a fairly easy walk takes you to the base of Langalibalele Pass. Once at the top, view the Carbineers' Graves which date from the English occupation of Natal. Overnight at Bannerman Cave. The third day takes a spectacular high-altitude traverse past Gypaetus Point where the bearded vultures nest. Ascending an enormous valley one reaches the Injasuthi area with the highest points in the Drakensberg. The evening is spent in Injasuthi Cave. On the final day, the traverse concludes with ridge-walking over a 1000 m drop, culminating with the arrival at Leslie's Pass, and a comparatively easy descent to the welcoming river valley. You may overnight in an indigenous forest or at Junction Cave. The final day needs just an easy two hour stroll to the Injasuthi entrance gate.

You may also reach the Highest Peaks of Mafadi and Injusuthi Peak from the Monks Cowl entrance and arrive at the Injusuthi camp on the third day.

These are just a small set of the overnight hiking possibilities. Contact us for specifics on overnight hikes and the unlimited routes and itineraries!

In addition to hiking, 'things to do' in the Drakensberg include horse riding, river rafting, Ardmere Craft Studios, golf, battlefields tours & game reserves.

### **Horse Riding**

Horse riding for different levels of experience can be arranged in the valley. For the more adventurous, a half day ride to view a Bushman Rock Art is arranged by Ushaka Horse Trails. At Spioenkop Game Reserve you may ride among the animals.

### **River Rafting, Carting and Golf**

An excellent opportunity exists for rafting in the Drakensberg region during the summer months. Four Rivers Rafting runs day trips on the Little Tugela in two man boats on rapids up to Grade 4. Transport is provided from the valley and the day ends with a braai. The same company also runs off-road go-carting and 4x4 rides. Additionally, there are two golf courses close to Inkosana Lodge.

### **Craft Studios and Shops**

The Champagne Valley is home to Ardmere Ceramic Studios, famous for brightly painted ethnic works. Kwa Zulu Weavers feature a wide array of wonderful carpets and tapestries. You may tour their factory and view them at work. Apart from these, there are numerous arts and craft shops of a high standard, like MG Traders and the Thokozisa center.

### **Drakensberg Boys Choir**

This unusual school which neighbors Inkosana Lodge is home for students from all over southern Africa. The school is founded totally on music, and is internationally renowned. There are Wednesday afternoon concerts in term.

### **Historical Battlefields**

Many of the Anglo-Boer and Zulu War battlefields are in this area. By car, it's an hour's drive to Spioenkop, Colenso, and Ladysmith. A little further are the sites of Rorke's Drift, Isandlwana, and Blood River.

Guided tours may be arranged.

## Northern Drakensberg Tours

[Amphitheater Backpackers, Jagersrust](#)

### The Lodge

We are found near the foot of the Amphitheatre, close to the bottom section of Royal Natal National Park with a picture postcard view of the Amphitheatre from the lawn. In fact the panorama that stretches around us takes in the entire Northern range from the Amphitheatre all the way to Cathkin Peak.

The lodge is built from stone, thatch and wood. Sip a cocktail from the swimming pool, climb the indoor climbing cave, relax tired bones in the sauna or Jacuzzi. All double rooms are en-suite. The funky bar has a wonderful range of music to listen to and is a great meeting place for all. No need to bring anything along as the restaurant (which opens at 07h00) serves gorgeous food and light snacks.

Prices begin at R5 a meal. The al-a-carte menu runs until 14h45, after which we offer a SET three-course menu every night @ R65 for meat eaters and R55 for vegetarians. You get a starter, main course and a cocktail or dessert for this price.

A river wends its way through the lands and there is a small dam. For those with a head for heights we already offer Abseiling from mountain peaks and bridges. The idea of the hostel is that it is a base from which you can explore different sections of the Drakensberg Park each day.

### Features of the area

Although we offer all the usual abseiling, fly-fishing, mountain biking and horseriding that other berg hostels do our day tours are what set us apart from the rest!

We are lucky to have two of South Africa's most popular hiking destinations within easy access, The Royal Natal National Park and Cathedral Peak. Both areas have recently become World Heritage Sites. We are also on the edge of South Africa's longest and deepest dam, Sterkfontein.

We are closely positioned to Lesotho.

- HIGHEST WATERFALL IN AFRICA, 2ND HIGHEST IN THE WORLD.
- LARGEST INDIGENOUS FOREST IN THE DRAKENSBERG.
- BIGGEST CONSOLIDATION OF CAVE PAINTINGS IN THE WORLD.
- HIGHEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

The three main tours are the highlights of the area and we have a package deal for those doing all three.

However there are many other activities available for those staying longer than three day.

### 3 x day tour / package

#### 1 - Tugela Falls / Mont Aux Sources / Sentinel Hike

As you can see this trip has many different names. It is the most famous hike in South Africa as it takes one to the highest waterfalls in Africa (the second highest in the world!!). The trip starts at Amphitheatre Backpackers at 7:30 am after the indemnity forms are signed. Then we drive around the spectacular Sterkfontein Dam. We stop briefly at the viewpoint that looks out over the section where Sterkfontein and Driekloof dams meet. We are given a brief explanation of how the scheme works. Then it's through Qwaqwa and up the side of the Amphitheatre via Witsieshoek Pass. If one decided to walk from the BOTTOM (Mahai campsite) to the

TOP then it would take about 3-4 days to get there and back again. This is why we cheat and travel the extra distance to the base of the Sentinel where we walk to the TOP and back in one day (the perfect hike for impatient people!). After signing the mountain register we set off around the massive Sentinel Peak. At the first look out point we stop for a break and to hear how the mountains were formed. Then its on up the kloof gully as we stop for breaks we are shown a variety of mountain flora. At the top of the gully we are shown where Devil's Tooth is and we listen to how the vegetation at the top differs from that on the lower slopes. Now we are the TOP of the Amphitheatre (over 3000m up) and the TOP of the Drakensberg. From here you get your first view of the 1km drop down the Amphitheatre Wall into the bottom section of Royal Natal. Off we tramp across the escarpment and along the Tugela River where folk can dip in the rock pools. Here you can stand a chance of catching a glimpse of the elusive and famous Bearded Vulture. We talk about what birds one can expect and also what animals are in the berg. To your right is the highest point, Mont Aux Sources, (and the source of 4 of our major rivers.) Then it's on to the lip of the Amphitheatre to the Thukela Falls that plummets 948m in five clear leaps, making it the world's second highest waterfall. The falls upper reaches occasionally freeze in winter. Here we have lunch. Over lunch we hear about the different weather patterns as well as the various mountain rescues that have been done in this area. We explore the plateau and then off back to the car with knee tingling 100-rung chain ladder on your descent. When we get to Qwaqwa we stop and fill the bus with petrol. Here we chat about the history of the area, how "homelands" began and what new developments there are in the area at present. On the drive home we stop to watch the sun set over the dam at the Vulture-feeding site. Here we hear about how the site works and the different birds.

We get back home in time for dinner.

## **2 - Lesotho**

This day trip is very special as no other tourists ever travel to the area that we visit. The day begins from Amphitheatre Backpacker's at approximately 07h00. We take you over Monantso Pass (a rugged pass on the side of the Amphitheatre) and into Lesotho. This mountain Kingdom is still as it was hundreds of years ago. The secret of the area that we visit is that it is not featured in any of the travel books and so it remains completely "untouristy." The bus travels around Sterkfontein Dam and through Qwaqwa, a town that has an interesting mix of both Sotho and Zulu people. It was also one of South Africa's first "homelands" during apartheid. It takes about 60 minutes to arrive at the South African border post. Visitors must ensure that they have a "multiple re-entry" visa into South Africa in order to be allowed back across this border on their way back. The day is spent hiking to San cave paintings. The emphasis of the day is on the unique geographic features of this beautiful Region. As we hike through the area we come across people going about their daily routines. Visiting cave art, sometimes there might be young musicians with their handmade instruments, hunters with their dogs, kids eating roasted mice that we buy and taste, sangomas, old women in the village are sometimes making Sotho beer or cooking traditional yams, pap and wild spinach which people are allowed to sample. Kids might be playing football, we often visit the local school and basically taking part in anything that is happening in the area at the time. The trip includes all food, guides fees and transport.

## **3 - Rock Climbing**

No other hostel in the Drakensberg offers rock climbing. This is a sport that is increasing in popularity each year worldwide. Amphitheatre Backpackers offers incredibly well-priced Rock Climbing day tours run by knowledgeable and highly qualified guides. Unlike the other two tours this is a day where 2-5 clients make up a group. So it is very personalised. It is a day of self growth as opposed to the more sociable emphasis of the other trips. The hostel has a bouldering cave built in the BAR! Designed by one of the country's best rock climbers. This is a good introduction into the sport and most beginners "warm up" the evening before to get themselves "into" the experience. There is a wealth of rock climbing available in this beautiful area, routes that have been bolted and graded and also trad routes. Climbers are picked up from Amphitheatre Backpackers lodge in the morning and driven to the beginning of the climbs. Indigenous bush surrounds one and the views are not to be forgotten. Trips are tailor made to suit the ability of each client. For beginners this includes an introduction into the sport explaining how the different devices work, learning basic knots and the essential concept of the sport. Guides are fully equipped and qualified. Guides fees, equipment, climbing shoes, lunch, entrance levies and transport are all inclusive!

**For those with more days in their schedule**

#### **4 - Cathedral Peak**

- 64 Kilometres from the lodge. 80 Kilometres from Amphitheatre.
- There are amazing rock paintings to see. It is considered to be the RICHEST rock art area in the WORLD. There are 3900 paintings in 17 sites.
- "Sebaayeni Cave" has 1146 individual paintings in it alone!
- The reserve is found in the Mlambonja and Mdodelelo Wilderness area.
- "Ndedema Gorge" is also very popular and is the LARGEST indigenous forest in the Drakensberg.
- "Mike's Pass" is the ONLY road access to the TOP of the "Little Berg". It is 10.5 km beginning at the "Mike's Pass Gate" near Cathedral Peak campsite. This road gains 500m in altitude from bottom to top.
- Cathedral Peak is 3004 meters high.

#### **5 - Sterkfontein Dam**

- Sterkfontein Dam is the 3rd longest in SA and extremely beautiful with mountains surrounding it, cliffs to dive off and clear blue waters
- The fishing is fantastic with the largest variety of indigenous fish in the country.
- Woodstock, Driekloof and Sterkfontein Dams are part of a hydroelectric scheme in our area also known as a "pump storage scheme."
- Unlike normal hydroelectric schemes water is re-pumped from Woodstock Dam, along canals, into Kilburn and then BACK upwards under into Driekloof again.
- They pump when more electricity is being generated than being used (at night, holidays etc.)
- This scheme was built in the 1970's and generates 1000 MW for our national grid.
- The water is sucked down big water pipes from Driekloof, through a 4.5 km highway and down to Kilburn dam.

- The water travels at 218 cubic meters per second. There are 4 reversible turbines (to pump water up AND down the mountain) situated 52 stories below ground level! You can do a free tour of the station if you wish.
- Sterkfontein Dam covers 18000 Ha.

## 6 - Vulture Restaurant

- As farming has got bigger and bigger in South Africa the amount of big predators like lions has decreased, this means less food for scavengers like the vulture.
- A project has thus been set up where cattle and sheep farmers donate any dead animals to this site for the vultures and other meat eating birds to eat.
- The number of endangered birds now living near the hostel has increased.
- Besides large raptors other smaller birds can also be seen at the site. They visit because all the rotting meat has encouraged more insects. This means more food for the little birds.
- The raptors you find at this site are the Bearded Vulture, Cape Vulture, Black Eagle and Martial Eagles.
- The Bearded Vulture or Lammergeier
- If you see one of these you are very lucky as they are extremely rare and only found at high altitudes. Especially on top of the Amphitheatre.
- It is a dark falcon-like bird with a three-meter wingspan. It has a black beard with red eye rings. It is normally silent but when it whistles it goes “feeeeeee”.
- The Cape Vulture
- You should see many of these at the site and on top of Pocolane. They always stick together in large noisy groups.
- They have blue throats and faces with yellow eyes. There is a black spot on the back of their wings.

## 7 - Golden Gate National Park

- This is a nice route to use when either driving to or from Johannesburg.
- Nestled in the rolling foothills of the Maluti Mountain lies the Golden Gate Highlands National Park.
- This is a beautiful park, set on the edge of the Lesotho border and Qwaqwa National Park.
- There are lovely drives and short walks. Mushroom Rock and Echo Ravine is a great hike to do, lasting about 45 minutes.
- Places of interest include: the Van Reenen family graveyard (including the two black tombstones of the siblings struck by lightning at the top of the Amphitheatre,) the impressive Brandwag buttress rock formation and a bird hide at the Langtoon Dam
- Interesting lookout points and viewpoints are: Zuluhoek lookout point, Generaalskop viewpoint, Oribi basin and Drakensberg view.
- Entrance fees are free.

## 8 - Qwaqwa National Park

- This 22000 ha nature reserve borders the Maloti mountains and merges with Golden Gate Park.
- The two Parks are linked by the R712.
- There are hikes in this area but they require overnight stops.

- The Basotho Cultural Village is the main attraction where informative guided “cultural” hikes are very popular.
- Sterkfontein and Qwaqwa National Park are managed as one Park.
- Most people see this park simply as a means to reach Golden Gate Park when in fact it has pretty picnic spots and view points of its own where game can be spotted.
- Entrance is free.

### **9 - Eskom’s Pump Storage Scheme**

- There is a daily 2-hour tour around the pump-storage scheme.
- The trip runs on weekdays and is free of charge.
- There are trips at 10:00 am and 2:00pm. Prior booking is essential.
- The trip begins at the visitor’s centre where children are given a slide show that gives a detailed account of the environmental impact of the hydro-electric scheme on the area and how electricity is generated using water.
- After the talk visitors are taken 52 stories below to view the turbines.

### **10 - Historic Sites**

The area in and around the hostel is steeped in history; some sites reflect 1000 of years of past where the san travelled throughout the area hunting and decorating caves with their beautiful artwork.

Other sites are far more recent reflecting the many bloody conflicts between Boer, Brit and Zulu, as well as clashes between other groups.

Most museums and battle sites are inexpensive to visit, but the experience is improved with the aid of trained guides.

### **11 - Harrismith**

- A two hour guided tour around Harrismith introduces children to the historic importance of Harrismith.
- The kids visit the local museum, and the Boer cemetery; discuss local architecture and its influences.
- To end the day they pay a brief visit to the local township, Intabazwe.
- The cost of the tour is R15 a child and also needs prior arrangement.
- Lunch is not included.
- Another interesting place to visit is the Harrismith Botanical Gardens that has an entrance fee of R5 per scholar.

### **12 - Lady Smith Siege Museum**

- Ladysmith is a mere 60 minutes from the hostel and is the site of a siege where the British were surrounded by the boers for days.
- It is also the area where Kruger captured a young Winston Churchill.
- Even Mahatma Ghandi appeared in the area as a stretcher-bearer during the war, there is a sculpture of him in the town.
- The siege museum in the centre of town is a must as it contains artefacts taken off battlegrounds, uniforms, old printing presses, weapons and other interesting items reflecting life at the time of the siege. It is set in the original building where rations were handed out to the British.
- Entrance is free to scholars and teachers.
- Guides are available to explain the significance of the area.
- The tour lasts a day and begins at the museum. It includes a visit to: the site of a 23yr old Churchill’s capture (he was a war correspondent at the time,)

Clouston Military cemetery, a talk on the battle of Colenso (where 10 artillery guns were stolen from the British) and it ends in a wonderful hike up to the top of Spioenkop (overlooking Spioenkop Nature Reserve) to discuss the battle of Spioenkop.

- The tour costs R35 per child this includes the historian and entrance fees. Lunch is NOT included.

### **13 - Spioenkop Battlefield Site**

- The area around Spioenkop and the Nature Reserve is rich in history with remains of a number of late Iron Age sites present in the reserve.
- The main historical significance of Spioenkop involves the events that took place as part of the "Relief of Ladysmith" during the Anglo Boer War.
- The tragedy of war is evident in the number of gravesites in the surrounding area but the extent of the carnage can only be understood by visiting the battlefield on the summit of the mountain.
- There are graves containing close on eight hundred bodies.
- A booklet on the battle is available from the reception office and is well worth reading.
- An important bit of history is that three men present at the battle became national leaders.
- Two of them played significant roles in world history.
- The three were General Botha, leader of the Boer forces, Winston Churchill who was a journalist, and Mahatma Ghandi who was a stretcher-bearer.
- There is a road to the top of Spioenkop, but it is much nicer to walk up overlooking the game reserve.
- The entrance fee for scholars is R10.

### **14 - Piet Retief's Rock**

- 9km from the hostel is a very famous National Monument, Piet Retief's Rock.
- The road is not tarred, but is fairly well graded.
- Some guests enjoy the cycle ride from the hostel to Retief's Rock, as the view over the valley from this landmark is very pretty.
- There is also a monument that has been built at the end of the little berg escarpment to commemorate the Voortrekkers descent into Natal.
- It is a bronze statue of a young woman without shoes.
- The story goes that she walked over the pass into Natal without shoes, as she hated the British so much.
- There are no entrance fees to visit Retief's Rock.

## Zululand Tours

*Isinkwe Bush Camp, Hluhluwe*  
*Zululand Backpackers, Eshowe*

### 1 - Zululand Tours

Kosi Bay Fishing  
R1500p/p/night  
max. 5 people

This package includes all meals water, snacks and a guide for your group. Come join me on an adventure to tame the Giants of Kosi mouth, accommodation is in a stylish and comfortable tented camp; each with its own shower and toilet. The main purpose of this trip is FISHING. The camp is fully serviced so all you need to do during your stay is concentrate on those there fish.

Species to target are:

- IGNOBLIS KING FISH
- GREEN SPOT KINGFISH
- YELLOW FIN KINGFISH
- BIG EYE KINGFISH
- ROCK SALMON
- PICK HANDLE COUTA
- GARFISH

And many many more; all these can be targeted on drop shot, fly or conventional tackle

#### Day 1

Welcome drink on arrival and introduction. Light lunch then down to the mouth for an afternoon lesson with the giants of Kosi, returning to camp around 8pm for a dinner of Mozambique style peri peri prawns with rice and salad.

Next day is an early start so we recommend an early night.

#### Day 2. 3-30am

Coffee and breakfast then on to the mouth area for a mornings action heading back to camp at approx 10-30am for a siesta and lunch then back to the water at approx 14h30 for the afternoons session at taming these beasts heading back to camp at approx 20h00 for a well deserved cold one and some dinner of steak or chicken and salads to recharge for our final assault on day three.

#### Day 3. 3-30am

Coffee and breakfast then down to the water for a magical morning of KINGFISH FEVER!! Then back to camp for a final lunch and a fond farewell to KOSI and her Giants

This is just a guide to a week-end at Kosi and packages can be tailored to suite your individual needs.

## Durban Tours

[Happy Hippo \(Hippo Hide\) Backpackers, Durban](#)

[Tekweni Backpackers](#) , Durban

### 1 - 3 Day 'Big 5' Game Drive : Hluhluwe/Umfolozi/St.Lucia Safari

(nb. Tours customised for "1" tp "5" days if required)

Cost R 2,700 per person (and is subject to Price Escalation)

#### Day 1

- Depart around 06:30am if pick up point is from Durban and surrounding areas
- A pit stop about an hour later at a Refreshment Centre to grab a cup of coffee ...
- An early Lunch
- Start a Half Day Game Drive in the Hluhluwe/Imfolozi Game Park around 12:00 to view as many animals as possible
- return to St. Lucia, Check In and freshen up.
- Enjoy dinner on the banks of St. Lucia Estuary and if you fortunate enough you should see some Hippos and Crocodiles frolicking and lazing around

#### Day 2

- Breakfast around 8am
- Around 10am do a Boat Cruise at St. Lucia Estuary to view the Crocodiles, Hippos and Giant Fish Eagles in their natural habitat.
- Enjoy Lunch
- A relaxing walk through the Wetlands natural vegetation
- An early afternoon visit to the Zulu Village Craft Market
- A late afternoon tour of the Cheetah/Rare Cats viewing/feeding program
- Again, enjoy dinner on the banks of St. Lucia Estuary and if you fortunate enough you should see some Hippos and Crocodiles frolicking and lazing around

#### Day 3

- A very EARLY start, grab a cup of coffee/cereal and be in readiness to start
- A Full Day Game Drive starting around 4:30am (in Summer) to track the 'Big 5' and whatever animals you did not manage to see the first day
- Breakfast and Lunch at some scenic spot within the Game Park
- In the late afternoon we will head back to Durban arriving around 19:00

**Nb.** The order of the tour may change if there are logistical constraints

Accommodation is for 'Dorm' type and if you require an upgrade to a Single/Double Room then there is an additional cost of R200 per night

NB. Day 3 Accommodation and Dinner is not included and is for your own account

### 2 - 3 Day Drakensberg Safari (World Heritage Site)

(nb. Tours customised for "1" tp "5" days if required)

Cost R 2,700 per person (and is subject to Price Escalation)

#### Day 1

- Depart Durban at 08:00am and arrive around 10am to view Howick Falls and an opportunity to take some good photographs and spend a few minutes at the Craft Market
- Lunch at Howick falls else travel to Underberg and enjoy Lunch at the Lemon Tree or Duck and Dolittle Restaurant
- Check in at our accommodation and freshen up

- An early afternoon Horse Ride for approximately 3 hours to enjoy and appreciate the tranquillity of the Drakensberg Mountain Range on Horseback.(remember to use jeans)
- Dinner, a few beers and a good nights sleep

#### **Day 2**

- An early start with Breakfast around 07:00am
- A morning drive back to Underberg
- Around 09:00am, Hop onto a 4x4 to start the Sani Pass/Lesotho tour, an opportunity to interact with the local Basotho community and have an appreciation of their basic traditional lifestyle, lunch at Sani Chalet ( the highest pub in Africa ) and then in the late afternoon meander down the mountain pass
- Around 16:00pm head back to our accommodation for Dinner and a bit of socializing

#### **Day 3**

- Another early start with Breakfast around 07:00am
- Pack all luggage in vehicle to streamline departure later on
- Around 08:00am a drive to the Hiking venue start point
- A Full Day Hike with a local community guide to view the ancient Bushman 'Rock' Paintings, Waterfalls, Pristine Streams and just suck in the sheer beauty and tranquillity of the Drakensberg Mountain Range and an opportunity to get back into touch with yourself.
- A 'Packed Lunch' will be arranged for you to enjoy at some scenic spot
- The hike should be completed around 15:00
- Depart for Durban in the late afternoon arriving around 18:30pm

#### **Nb.**

- The order of the tour may change if there are logistical constraints
- Accommodation is for 'Dorm' type and if you require an upgrade to a Single/ Double then there is an additional cost of R200
- Day 3 Accommodation and Dinner is not included and is for your own account

#### **Alternative Options:**

You could do a Tree Top Forest Canopy Tour at Howick, which is quite an exhilarating experience, where you are harnessed to steel cables, elevated to the forest canopy to enjoy a kilometre of unique aerial view of the natural forest and its associated wildlife. (Excellent feedback from 'all' the tourists who did this tour Additional cost of R550 per person

#### **3 - Durban City Explorer Tour**

Tour Cost is R380 per person (and is subject to Price Escalation)

Basically the tour covers the main highlights and hotspots of Durban and immediate surrounding areas and lasts approximately 5 to 6 hours.

The tour starts around 9:00am and the following sites will be visited:

- The Kwa Muhle Museum or Apartheid Museum, an absolute must if you interested in South Africa's unique and unjust apartheid past and the new order transformation
- The Killie Campbell Museum, a must for anyone who wants to acquire more knowledge of the Zulu culture, quite an amazing research library for students, booking essential and not available on Saturdays
- Warwick Street Junction, where over 300,000 African commuter come in daily by bus, taxi and foot to get to their places of employment, else seeking

any form of casual employment or just to buy food in the central city where prices are more competitive.

- Victoria Street Market, an opportunity to visit the various stalls offering an array of Eastern products
- A visit to the Muti Market/Traditional Healers Market
- A glimpse of how the informal sidewalk traders and shopkeepers trade in harmony
- The Marine Parade 'Golden Mile', a drive along of approximately 6km to get an appreciation of Durban's main beachfront and the history behind it
- Various other little places of interest, Ushaka Marine World, Bat Centre, Wilson's Wharf, Dick King Statue, City Hall
- A visit to The Hare Krishna 'Temple Of Understanding'
- A visit Merebank View Point and get to understand why it's the 5th most polluted place in the world.
- A drive through a local township called Cato Manor, literally situated about 5km west of Durban to get a glimpse of the slum type settlement and how the informal actually live. against the recent low cost housing project by South Africa and the European Union, explain the availability of facilities, low cost housing projects, taverns, Zulu meal and a drink, ...
- The tour should finish around 18:00pm

**Nb.** This tour can be tailored to cater for your specific requirements if there is an emphasis to particular areas of interest and subject to an early notification.

An extremely good option is to spend a couple of hours in the late afternoon at the Ushaka Marine World, which has a brilliant Aquarium, Seal & Dolphin shows daily and is just a few metres away from a good Beach. Additional cost of R100 per person.

#### **4 - Face to Face - Rural Zulu Village Tour**

(A full Day Tour starting around 9am and finishing around 16:00pm)

Tour Cost is R425 per person ( and is subject to Price Escalation)

- The 'REAL THING' with this Zulu Village Tour which is situated about 70km West of Durban and there is no 'fronting' and each day is different and unique and involves the active participation of the tourist.
- A Full day tour through the beautiful and breathtaking "Valley Of A Thousand Hills" where the Village is nestled in between the foothills of the Valley and KwaZulu-Natal's largest dam.
- A local community guide will conduct a "Walking Tour" of the village and you will have an opportunity to interact with the 21st century Zulu community.
- The guide will share various traditional information and values as to ' how & why' things are done from a cultural perspective.
- An opportunity to meet the local community Sangoma (traditional healer/witch doctor)
- An early afternoon Zulu Dance by the children of the community
- Lunch is included and will be a traditional meal cooked at the village and shared with you.
- Many opportunities for some stunning photographs.

## **5 - 7 day Kingdom of the Zulu**

Tour Cost is R5500 per person (and is subject to Price Escalation)

### **'Big 5' Hluhluwe/Umfolozzi/St.Lucia Safari**

#### **Day 1**

- Depart around 07:00am if pick up point is from Durban and surrounding areas
- Arrive at St. Lucia around 10:00am and do a Boat Cruise to view the Crocodiles, Hippos and Giant Fish Eagles in their natural habitat.
- Check in and enjoy Lunch
- A walk through the natural vegetation of St. Lucia Estuary
- An early afternoon visit to the Craft Market
- A visit to the Cheetah / Rare Cats viewing/feeding program
- Approximately a hour's drive back to St. Lucia to have dinner, a bit of socialising, some beers and a good nights rest.

#### **Day 2**

- A very early start, grab a cup of coffee/cereal and be in readiness to start
- A Full Day Game Drive starting around 4:30am to track the 'Big 5'
- Breakfast and Lunch at some scenic spot within the game park
- Return to accommodation around 16:00pm
- Freshen up, chill out, some beers, Dinner and a good nights rest

#### **Day 3**

- Another 'early' start, grab a cup of coffee/cereal and be in readiness to start
- A Half Day Game Drive starting around 4:30am to track whatever animals that you were not fortunate enough to see during the previous game drive
- Breakfast at some scenic spot within the game park
- Early afternoon lunch
- Depart to Durban in the late afternoon arriving around 17:30pm, subject to driving conditions and traffic

**Nb.** The order of the tour may change if there are logistical constraints

### **Drakensberg Safari ( World Heritage Site )**

#### **Day 4**

- Depart Durban around 08:00am and arrive around 10am at Howick Falls and the Craft Market
- Depart around 11:30am to Underberg and arrive around 13:00pm to enjoy Lunch at the Lemon Tree Restaurant .
- Check in at our accommodation and freshen up
- An early afternoon Horse Ride for approximately 3 hours to enjoy the Drakensberg mountain range from Horseback
- Dinner, a bit of socialising, some beers and a good nights rest

#### **Day 5**

- An early start with Breakfast around 07:30am
- Around 09:00am, Hop onto a 4x4 to start the Sani Pass/Lesotho tour, an opportunity to interact with the local Basotho community and have an appreciation of their basic traditional lifestyle, lunch at Sani Chalet ( the highest pub in Africa ) and then in the late afternoon meander down the mountain pass
- Around 16:00pm head back for Dinner and a good nights sleep

#### **Day 6**

- Another early start with Breakfast around 07:30am
- Pack all luggage in vehicle to streamline departure later on
- A Full Day Hike with a local community guide to view the ancient Bushman 'Rock' paintings, waterfalls, pristine streams and just suck in the sheer beauty and tranquillity of the Drakensberg mountain range.
- A 'Packed Lunch' will be arranged for you to enjoy at some pristine scenic spot
- The hike should be completed around 15:00
- Depart for Durban in the late afternoon arriving around 19:00pm

NB. The order of the tour may change if there are logistical constraints

### **Face to Face "Overnight" - Rural Zulu Village Tour**

#### **Day 7**

- The 'REAL THING' with this Zulu Village Tour which is situated about 70km West of Durban as there is no 'fronting' and each day is different and unique and involves the active participation of the tourist.
- A Full day tour through the beautiful and breathtaking "Valley Of A Thousand Hills" where the Village is nestled in between the foothills of the Valley and KwaZulu-Natal's largest dam.
- A local community guide will conduct a "Walking Tour" of the village and you will have an opportunity to interact with the 21st century Zulu community.
- The guide will share various traditional information and values as to ' how & why' things are done from a cultural perspective.
- An opportunity to meet the local community Sangoma (traditional healer/witch doctor)
- An early afternoon Zulu Dance by the children of the community
- Lunch is included and will be a traditional meal cooked at the village and shared with you.
- Overnight stay at one of the Village cottage and includes Dinner
- Many opportunities for some stunning photographs.

#### **6 - Transfers**

(The most cost effective and cheapest transfers in KwaZulu-Natal)

- Airport Transfers
- Durban City and surrounding areas
- Transfers both Regionally and Nationally at competitive pricing

## Pietermaritzburg Tours

[Umphiti Backpackers, Pietermaritzburg](#)

### **Karkloof conpy tours**

The tour begins with a detailed safety briefing followed by a 'kitting up' session where full body harness, pulleys and climbing equipment is put on and safety-checked. A short scenic drive to the top of the Karkloof valley and it is time to monkey around!

From the start on the launch platform a new world unfolds as one gently glides on a steel cable to the first platform. All groups are escorted through the forest canopy by a lead guide and a follow guide to ensure your safety as you slide from tree to tree. The platforms are built high up in the forest canopy and all offer different views of the surrounding forest, a magnificent 20m waterfall, clear sparkling forest stream and across the expansive Karkloof valley far below.

Spend a couple of minutes relaxing on the platforms while your guides enthusiastically explain the ecology of the forest - pointing out different trees and the magnificent giant ferns way below. The bird life is incredible. This includes the opportunity of spotting Emerald Cuckoos, Knysna Loeries, a wide variety of raptors and if you are lucky, the elusive Narina Trogon or endangered Cape Parrots. The forest is also home to a variety of mammals, but it is the loud calls and fearsome tree swinging of the Samago monkeys that you will remember best. The Karkloof Canopy Tour® consists of seven platforms and eight 'foefi' slides, the longest of which is over 170m! A tour lasts approximately three hours, is suitable for most people between the ages of seven and seventy and includes a delicious Midlands meal served once your group is safely back on ground.

Price: R500pp

includes: lunch and transport

### **San Rock Art & KZN Midlands Day Trip**

After breakfast we depart from Umphiti adventure tours at 07:00am arriving at kamberg where at 9:00AM we will watch a DVD presentation of San Rock Art before going on a 3 hour guided walk to see the rock paintings. After the tour we will be stopping in at the Nottingham Road Brewery for lunch then we make our way through the midlands before returning to Umphiti.

Tour cost: R500

### **San rock art-Kamburg**

The uKhahlamba Drakensberg region of KwaZulu-Natal is rich in rock art left behind by the San people. These exquisite paintings tell stories of yesteryear and teach us more about the mythology, ritual, and beliefs of the San.

Paintings were made using mostly black, white, red and orange pigments gathered from the surrounding natural environment.

Long thought to be merely pictorial journals of hunting trips and everyday life, researchers have now uncovered some of the deeper meaning of the art. The most frequently depicted animal is the eland, the largest antelope of the uKhahlamba Drakensberg and vital to the well being of the San, providing meat, fat and skins.

The eland became an important symbol to the San and was viewed as an animal of power, with supernatural potency and great religious significance. Some paintings show mysterious figures with combined antelope and human features that relate to the San spirit realm.

More recent paintings depict friendly interaction between the San and African and European migrant groups, as well as scenes of conflict. Today the descendants of these artists live among and have integrated with local African communities. Although they have changed their hunter-gatherer lifestyle, they still strongly associate with the rock art of their ancestors.

The densely painted uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park, a World Heritage Site, contains some 550 known sites amounting for over 40 000 recorded individual images.

The paintings in KwaZulu-Natal are estimated to be between 120 and 3000 years old.

Some sites may be visited in the company of a custodian and interpretive displays at some of the reserves provide unique multimedia insights into the history and significance of the paintings and painters. They serve as a monument to the ancient people who roamed freely between the mountains and the coast of KwaZulu-Natal for thousands of years.

Pathways to the art sites take visitors on the same routes once taken by the San up to their rock shelters. Visitors are asked to respect this outstanding legacy by observing the well-known wilderness motto - of taking only photographs and leaving only footprints. Touching the pictures not only hastens their decay, but contaminates them, affecting dating procedures and chemical analysis; even stirring up the dust around them causes harm. Touching these paintings would also be regarded by many, who revere them and the shelters for their spiritual significance, as interfering with the inherent power or spirit they contain. Any damage to these paintings should be reported immediately, as they are protected by law

price: R500

includes: lunch and transport

### **Valley of a 1000 hills**

The Valley of 1000 Hills Route is one of KwaZulu Natal's best kept secrets. The Valley of a 1000 Hills forms around the majestic valley created by the Mgeni River and its tributaries. Many artists and crafters have been attracted to the beauty and tranquility of this area which is dotted with cozy guest lodges, friendly pubs and tea gardens with sweeping views over the hills and dams.

The main attractions on the 1000 Hills Experience are the dramatic landscape and Zulu culture which is well interpreted at three cultural villages

This scenic drive descends to the floor of the valley of a thousand hills the deeply eroded and most majestic valley of the river known as the Mgeni. Isithumba village embraces visitors, who want to experience a living cultural village. Visitors will be guided and introduced to the villagers and will be allowed opportunity to have a rare glimpse into their culture and lifestyle.

Cultural day tour:

price: R500

includes: lunch and transport

### **Howick Falls**

Howick lies in the Natal Midlands on the Midlands Meander and its main attraction is the Howick Falls. The Howick falls are easily accessible for everyone. The falls fall some 90 m and the view from the top is definitely impressive. For those of you a bit more energetic Howick offers some worthwhile short trails. The town offers a good selection of antiques, arts and crafts.

Hikes and Trails in Howick

**Gorge Walk** Start this interesting walk through the thick undergrowth on the stone steps from the Gorge Walk sign at the bottom of Harvard Street and wind your way down to the pool, at the bottom of the Falls. You will meet up with the trickling Karkloof Spruit and see it meet the Umgeni River on your way to the base of the Falls. The walk there and back takes a leisurely hour or two, returning along the same path to the start. Trail guides can be arranged! Umgeni River Trail Try this one out in dry weather only - it starts at the Scout Hall (off Plane Crescent - in the Greendale Park area of Howick) and winds along the Umgeni River past the Mills Falls area, to just beyond the Umgeni Gardens Flats in Oakleigh Drive where the trail ends. This one will take you roughly an hour.

**Beacon Hill Trail** This walk starts from the clearing at the end of Lakeview Road (near the Curry's Post road turn-off) and turns right, past the reservoir, going up Beacon Hill - and over the top. Thereafter it follows the timber-line to the left, around the perimeter of the hill returning to the clearing at the start. The walk will take you about an hour - but pausing to take in the great view might draw things out a bit!

The greater part of the Umgeni Valley Nature Reserve lies in the spectacular gorge below the Howick Falls, while the upper part is the fringe of a rolling plateau which has an average altitude of about 1 000m. The land falls away abruptly at the edge of the plateau for about 60m to form rock faces in places. The Umgeni Valley sides below 860m altitude slope away gently towards the Umgeni River, 7km of which falls within the reserve. The lowest point is 737m above sea level. The reserve is home to giraffe, zebra and a variety of antelope. There is an indigenous tree trail surrounding the Education Centre and self-guided walks mingling with the game animals in the beautiful Umgeni Valley Nature Reserve. A bird watchers paradise, with over 200 bird species to view throughout the year - see if you can spot the elusive Nerina Trogon or the crowned eagle. Butterflies abound in the reserve.

The gorge and its branches were formed by the headward erosion of the Umgeni River through the Middle Ecca shales and sandstones and Karroo dolerite. The Howick Falls, situated 0.6 km above the reserve boundary, have partially eroded through a large dolerite sill. The average annual rainfall varies between about 835mm in the upper parts to about 750mm in the valley. The valley is several degrees warmer than the plateau but the temperature range in the valley is greater. The two main categories of soils in the reserve reflect the degree of weathering. Highly leached soils, represented by Balmoral, Clovelly, Griffin and Mispah series occur in the upper, cooler and moister parts of the reserve. They are acid and have a low nutrient status. The slightly less leached soils below the escarpment are less weathered and include the Arniston, Glengazi and Mispah series. They are usually associated with rockiness. The Arniston series is most common in the lower parts of the Umgeni Valley Nature Reserve

Price: R400

includes: lunch and transport

### **Sani Pass Day Trip to Lesotho**

The Sani Pass was originally developed as a bridal path in 1913. This steep zigzagging pass climbs the face of the Drakensberg escarpment to an altitude of 2874m. The first vehicle negotiated the path in 1948 when it was no more wide boulder littered donkey track. It is now used for the most part by 4x4 vehicles and has become a highlight for tourists visiting the Southern Drakensberg.

The Sani Pass is the only access from KwaZulu Natal to the harsh environment of the Lesotho Highlands, the domain of the endangered Bearded Vulture, Basotho shepherds and their animals. The Route, aptly called the "roof of Africa", boasts to be the highest road in Africa and third highest in the world and peaks at a heady height of 3200m above sea level! Close to the Sani Pass summit, within a couple of kilometres, is the highest peak in Southern Africa, Thabane Ntlenyana, 3482m high. Price:R500

### **Lesotho Overland Tour: 2 nights / 3 days**

#### **Day 1: Lunch & Dinner**

Departure at 07:00am from Umphiti Adventure Tourism. Stop at the Good Hope Trading Store, originated in 1917 by John White-Smith. Ascending the legendary Sani Pass with its hair-pin bends offering unparalleled vistas of the Sani Valley and Drakensberg Escarpment situated within the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg Park, one of our World Heritage Sites. Proceed to viewing of 12 Apostles. These geological structures are one of the oldest mountain ranges in the world. Our Guide is taking care of the border formalities. At the summit at 2.874m we stop for refreshment at the Sani Top Chalet, the Highest Pub in Africa. Thereafter we proceed to the village and the Basotho culture will be explained. Ascending the Black Mountain Pass up to 3.280m, following the Senqu River. Nearby the highest mountain in Southern Africa, Thabana Ntlenyana with 3.482m, meaning "the little mountain which is a little nice". Picnic lunch on route. Our guide will explain about the Letseng Diamond Mine while passing, It is the highest mine in the world (3.250m). Our journey takes us on tar road onto the summit of the highest road in Africa, the Tlaeeng Pass (3.255m) - The Roof of Africa. Slightly lower is the Pass of Guns with 3.240m, pass the Mahlasela Ski Slope to Oxbow within a Ski Resort. All mountains are covered in snow in winter. Dinner at the lodge.

Overnight: Oxbow Lodge within a Ski Resort, Oxbow

#### **Day 2: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

At 07:00 breakfast at the lodge. Departing at 08:00 for the twisting tar road to the summit of the Moteng Pass, with 2.840m one of the highest roads attained by normal two-wheel drive vehicles in Southern Africa. This is the basalt roof of Southern Africa, a world of winter snows, frozen waterfalls, crisp clear air and crystal streams with fat trout. Descending into the Holola Valley (River of the Blue Crane), pass spectacular sandstone overhangs and rugged countryside to Butha-Buthe. This little town was named after King Moshoeshe's old mountain stronghold, Butha-Buthe, the Gatherer. On our way to Hlotse strange, richly colored rock shapes may be seen on all sides, creating the effect of a vast assembly of weird, petrified figures. Pass few missions and several rock shelters, the main road passes the Leribe Farmers Training Center to the town of Hlotse. It is the administration center of the Leribe district and originated in 1876 when a Mission outpost was established here. Picnic lunch on route. Continue on the Nelson Mandela Road, crossing the Malibamatso River (River of dark Pools) where the great Katse Dam has been constructed from 1991-1997. Our Guide is taking care of the security checkpoint. The Katse Dam is the one of the largest dams in the world and supplies water to Witwatersrand (Gauteng, Soweto), Farming, Mining in South Africa and irrigates the lowlands in Lesotho. Guided tour into the dam wall. Dinner at the lodge. Overnight: Katse Dam Lodge, Katse Dam

#### **Day 3: Breakfast & Lunch**

After breakfast at the lodge, departure on dirt road towards Thaba Tseka. Watch the majestic Cape Vultures in flight and beautiful butterflies in summer time.

Thaba Tseka, meaning “the mountain with a blaze”, houses a stud farm for breeding Basotho Ponies and a tree nursery. Cross the Koma-Koma Bridge, which is flooded when the sluice gates of Katse Dam are opened. Refreshment stop at the shabeen (pub) at Taung village. We pass an old Trading Store, today the Molumong Guesthouse and the St. James Mission. Rocky mountains and hills with patches of maize fields where Basotho’s work on their land with loving care. Cairns within the mountains for the shepherds to protect their sheep and cattle from wild animals. Steep gorges and valleys, dotted with little Basotho huts. Picnic lunch on route. Ascend the Black Mountain Pass up to 3.280m, follow the dirt road to our next destination. Awesome view of the Hodgson’s Peaks and the Giants Cup. Our Guide will take care of the border formalities. Descending the Sani Pass beneath towering cliffs, buttresses, past waterfalls and unique flora and bird life. Following the Mkomazi River back to Underberg. Arrival time back to Underberg is approximately 15h30.

Valid passports essential !!

**Rate: R2300-00 per person (minimum 4 people).**

Included:

Accommodation & meals as indicated

Excluded:

Beverages & Alcohol

Mineral water

Personal expenses

Transport in 4x4 vehicles

Personal Insurances

Driver/guide fees

Entry Fees

Optional Activities:

(All activities are guided and are not inclusive to above mentioned rate)

- Hiking
- Pony trekking
- Mountain Biking

## **Skydive KZN**

About the dropzone:

PPC was the first DZ in the Commonwealth and in South Africa. We operated from Pietermaritzburg from 1953 until november 2004.

PPC was the scene of the first sport parachute descent where, as legend has it, two guys decided that they wanted to jump out of a perfectly good aircraft just for the fun of it.

That initial leap into the unknown, not knowing what the outcome would be, built the foundation of skydiving in South Africa as we know it today.

We now operate from Cato Ridge airfield as its a recreational airfield. Cato Ridge is roughly half way between Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

We now boast wonderful sites of the valley of 1000 hills and enjoy a more family orientated dropzone.

PPC recently celebrated its 50th year of operation in 2004, which makes us the oldest permanent sport parachute club in the world.

Learn to skydive at one of the oldest dropzones in the world. Our instructors are trained professionals and will assist you to make your own jump or accompany you on a tandem skydive. Aircraft:

The club operates a Cessna 210T with door and occasionally a Kudu.

Landing Area: Large and open grassy area

Packing Area: The club has a large covered packing area. Packers are available.

Lecture Room: A classroom for the ground school.

Snacks: There are cooldrinks and snacks available at the dropzone.

Price: R1650 incl. DVD

R1250 without DVD

### **Tandem paragliding**

Bulwer is a world-renowned flying site. Hans Fokkens, a Springbok pilot and qualified instructor, has an excellent reputation and record. Endorsed by SAHPA (SA Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association), Safety course & Cross country course - aimed at helping pilots improve their knowledge and flying skills.. Locality : Situated at the foot of the Amahaqwa mountain in Bulwer, Natal - a world renowned Paragliding site and one of the best student sites in the country.

price: R650

includes:lunch transport