

Often described as "The World in One Country," South Africa is blessed with a diversity of climate, geography, wildlife, and cultural heritage unmatched anywhere else. Each day, new and exciting vistas unfold before us: the rolling pasturelands of Mpumalanga, the lush greenery of the Garden Route, the bush with its endless varieties of game and birdlife, miles of golden sand beaches, quaint country towns, thriving modern cities, and much more.

Over the past two decades, South Africa has undergone tremendous political and social changes, transitioning from minority white rule and apartheid to a representative government. Today, the country lives in harmony with both nature and its people. We will have special opportunities to meet and learn from different ethnic groups throughout our journey. Ready to check South Africa off your bucket list? Reserve your spot today.

SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE LIMITED TO ONLY 20 MEMBERS

Inclusive Features

- Return economy group airfare from Canada to South Africa on KLM Royal Dutch Airlines plus domestic flights within each country
- First class hotels and lodges as indicated or similar
- Extensive sightseeing throughout, with all admissions included, plus game drives in Mkuze, Chobe, and Kruger
- Special opportunities to meet and share experiences with local South Africans during receptions and hosted meals
- 42 meals included as noted in the itinerary (B 20 breakfasts, L 11 lunches, D 11 dinners)
- All gratuities, surcharges, taxes and fees for included services
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value with purchase of group airfare

Journey Leader

Janet Williams, a retired educator with 35 years of teaching experience. including time as a Vice Principal, will lead this exciting journey to South Africa. In retirement, she has found leading tours to be a fulfilling way to combine her passion for travel with sharing unique experiences with others. Janet's extensive



travels have taken her to destinations such as Myanmar, China, Russia, Australia and New Zealand, Egypt, Tunisia, Madagascar, and across South America, and Europe. She looks forward to sharing this wonderful travel experience with you!



Highlights

- Four nights in Cape Town, with tours of Good Hope,
 Table Mountain, and the surrounding wine districts
- Arid Little Karoo and Oudtshoorn, home of the ostrich
- Garden Route via Tsitsikamma Forest, Wilderness, Knysna, and Plettenberg Bay
- Homelands of the Zulu and the Kingdom of Swaziland with opportunities to see tribal activities
- Two nights in Kruger and Chobe National Park for the best game viewing and scenic drives in southern Africa
- Pretoria, the national capital, historic Soweto and bustling Johannesburg
- Victoria Falls, Africa's most magnificent waterfall on the Zambesi River

OCT 15, Wednesday DEPART CANADA / AMSTERDAM

Tour members from across Canada gather to fly to Amsterdam before connecting to South Africa.

OCT 16, Thursday AMSTERDAM / CAPE TOWN

After our late arrival in Cape Town, we will be transferred directly to our hotel in vibrant Bantry Bay, located on the slopes of Lion's Head. **The President Hotel** (4 nights)

OCT 17, Friday CAPE TOWN

Our day begins with a cable car ride to the heights of Table Mountain (weather permitting). This unique landmark rises over 1,000 metres above the city and spreads horizontally across the skyline. Following lunch at the waterfront, enjoy some leisure time exploring.

OCT 18, Saturday CAPE TOWN

Today, enjoy a guided city tour of Cape Town, including the Government Gardens, St. George's Cathedral, and the Bo-Kaap Malay Quarter. After a leisurely afternoon, an optional visit to Robben Island is available (additional cost). In the evening, gather for our welcome dinner.

OCT 19, Sunday

CAPE PENINSULA

Enjoy a guided walk through the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, a 528-hectare natural area on the slopes of Table Mountain, with over 10,000 native flowers and plants. Following a lunch break, we will visit the penguin colony at Boulders Beach. Delight in the magnificent scenery as we drive to Cape Point, on the tip of the Cape of Good Hope.

OCT 20, Monday

STELLENBOSCH / FRANSCHHOEK / MONTAGU

We depart in the morning for Stellenbosch, a charming university town with oak-lined streets and stately mansions. The area was first settled in 1680, and many buildings here date from the late 18th century. Continue to Grand Provence Estate for a cellar tour, wine tasting, and lunch. Explore Franschhoek, situated in a beautiful valley, where we shall see the Huguenot Monument before continuing to Montagu.

Montagu Country Hotel (1 night)

BL

OCT 21, Tuesday LITTLE KAROO / OUDTSHOORN

Our journey east follows the route of early settlers over rolling farmlands and through spectacular scenery. We will pass through Barrydale into the Little Karoo, stopping at De Krans Estate for a glass of port after lunch. We then head to our hotel in the historic town of Oudtshoorn, made wealthy by ostrich feather trading.

Surval Olive Estate (1 night)

BL

OCT 22, Wednesday OUDTSHOORN / GARDEN ROUTE

Begin with a visit to the impressive Cango Caves. Then, stop at an ostrich farm to learn about these unique birds and enjoy a lunch featuring ostrich eggs and lean meat. In the afternoon, travel down Outeniqua Pass and through the scenic Garden Route Lakes District to the resort town of Knysna.

Protea Knysna Quays (2 nights)

BL

BD

OCT 23, Thursday GARDEN ROUTE

Enjoy a leisurely morning relaxing or exploring on your own (members can take a cruise on the Knysna Lagoon). Our afternoon is highlighted by a reception at Theodora Creche, hosted by the local community, followed by a visit to Birds of Eden. Enjoy a short nature walk on Robberg Nature Reserve, followed by a glass of bubbly. Later, we return to Knysna for dinner.

OCT 24, Friday PORT ELIZABETH / UMHLANGA

Departing early, we follow the scenic route from Tsitsikamma to Port Elizabeth, known for its sunshine and beautiful sandy beaches. From there, we fly to Durban, where we will overnight by the northern beaches.

Protea Hotel Umhlanga (1 night)

OCT 25, Saturday DURBAN / ZULULAND

Start the day with a leisurely stroll along the beach or opt for an early panoramic tour of Durban. Drive through Zululand to Lake St. Lucia, an area renowned for its exceptional birdlife, where we will embark on a cruise. Continue into the land of the Zulu and our delightful country inn. **Ghost Mountain Inn** (2 nights)



Aerial views of Cape Town



An adorable penguin at Boulders Beach



Visit Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden

OCT 26, Sunday

MKUZE GAME RESERVE

Today we are taken on our first game drive, exploring the Mkuze Game Reserve in open 4x4 vehicles, with opportunities to see a wide variety of wildlife. This afternoon we can relax at our resort or join an optional excursion to explore the mountainous countryside of the traditional Zulu homelands, highlighted by a visit to a Zulu compound where we will be introduced to their unique lifestyle. This evening, weather permitting, we are treated to a BBQ dinner and a presentation of Zulu war dances.

BD

OCT 27, Monday

SWAZILAND

Our morning drive takes us to neighbouring Eswatini, an independent kingdom. We follow the Ezulwini Valley, known as the 'Place of Heaven,' to the capital, Mbabane. Lunch will be in the Ezulwini Valley. Along the way, we will visit the Swazi Market, Swazi Candle Factory, and a craft centre. **Piggs Peak Hotel** (1 night)

OCT 28, Tuesday KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy spectacular scenery as we drive over Piggs Peak and enter eastern Mpumalanga en route to Kruger National Park. Enjoy game viewing from our coach as we drive across the park. **Kruger Gate Hotel** (2 nights)

OCT 29, Wednesday KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy a full-day game drive through the heart of Kruger National Park in open game-viewing vehicles. Keep an eye out for sightings of the "Big Five," which include elephants, buffalo, rhinos, lions, and leopards. This evening, relax in our delightful lodge.

OCT 30, Thursday

BLYDE RIVER CANYON / NELSPRUIT

We will take a scenic driving tour from the plains of Kruger to the Highveld, following its crest for magnificent views of the Blyde River Canyon and God's Window. Enjoy the stunning scenery along the escarpment before we continue to our hotel. **Protea Nelspruit Hotel** (1 night)

OCT 31, Friday PRETORIA / ROSEBANK

Today, we travel to Pretoria, crossing the rolling farmlands of the Highveld. Pretoria is the picturesque capital of South Africa. Explore this gracious city known for its broad avenues bordered by flowering trees and its impressive public buildings and monuments.

Fire & Ice Melrose Arch (2 nights)

NOV 1, Saturday JOHANNESBURG / SOWETO

Enjoy a morning drive through Johannesburg, a city created from the wealth of gold and diamonds, before visiting the engaging Apartheid Museum. We'll have a special lunch at Chez Alina before heading off to explore the township of Soweto, home of Bishop Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela.

NOV 2, Sunday

SOWETO / VICTORIA FALLS. ZIMBABWE

Our flight today brings us to Victoria Falls. First documented by David Livingstone in 1855, the falls are this region's most spectacular natural sight. Enjoy a guided walk along the falls, with an optional helicopter ride available (weather permitting). At 353 feet high and over a mile wide, they are the largest in Africa. Enjoy the sights of the main falls, Devil's Cataract, and Danger Point.

Victoria Falls Hotel (1 night) BD

NOV 3, Monday CHOBE, BOTSWANA

This morning, we drive across the border into northern Botswana and the gateway to Chobe National Park. Home to superb game viewing, Chobe covers over 11,000 sq. kilometres and has a large variety of wildlife, including herds of buffalo and elephants, plus hippos and lions. Relax by the pool, then enjoy a dinner under the stars with the sounds of Africa surrounding you.

Chobe Game Lodge (2 nights)

BLD

BL

NOV 4. Tuesday CHOBE

Enjoy a full day in the park with morning and afternoon excursions in open land rovers and by boat to view the wildlife that frequent the fertile floodplains of the Zambezi. A highlight of our stay will be a boat visit to the natural hippo pool, a short distance from the lodge.

NOV 5, Wednesday KASANE / CANADA

Relax and enjoy the amenities of our beautiful resort, or join an early morning game drive before checking out after breakfast. Later today, we catch our return flights to Canada.



Book by May 30, 2025 and save \$200 per person



CT Rating 3/5 - Moderately Challenging: While relatively easy, this journey features long flights, a number of walks over uneven ground (some with steps) and some hot, humid days. Members should be physically active to fully enjoy this tour. Hotels are comfortable, roads are good and the food is excellent throughout the region.

Tour Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person

Land only* (Join/Leave at hotel)	\$10,645
Toronto	\$13,795
Montreal / Ottawa	\$13,995
Halifax / St. John's / Moncton / Winnipeg	\$14,145
Regina / Saskatoon	\$14,215
Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver	\$14,145
Victoria	\$14,215
Single Supplement	\$2,995

*Land only price excludes all flights and airport transfers. Land only join at the Cape Town hotel/leave at the Chobe Lodge. International and internal flights are only included if booking air-inclusive. Tour price is based on sharing a twin-bedded room. Prices are based on a group of 15 travellers plus one group escort and on rates, taxes and fees effective October 2024 and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control. Group to be escorted with a minimum of 15 travellers.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Your coverage starts on the effective date of your confirmation of coverage. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for terms and conditions.

Final payment is due on July 10, 2025 Deposit is \$800 per person

To reserve your spot on this tour, you can either book online through our website or submit an enrollment form along with your deposit to:



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