
EXPERIENCE

THE BEST OF AFRICAN SAFARIS
AND LUXURY ACCOMMODATION



EASTCAPE
TOURS

AFRICAN TOURS & SAFARIS

INDEX



Africa is an all-year round destination. There are better times than others to visit certain places, depending on the prevalence of wildlife, appropriate weather conditions, and natural phenomena that take place. Check out our suggestions of top destinations to visit each month of the year. Bon voyage!

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For more than two decades, East Cape Tours has strived to assist customers in realising their travel dreams.

JANUARY 6 - 7

Chimpanzee trekking and gorilla tour

Rain is less frequent and temperatures are moderate. It allows you a good view of chimpanzees and gorillas that won't be obscured by rainfall.

FEBRUARY 8 - 9

All along the Garden Route

Summer days are sunny and long and the temperatures are comfortable and not boiling. Many animals have just had their young and birdlife is prolific.

MARCH 10 - 11

Exploring the Karoo

March is a great time of the year to visit the Karoo as the temperatures are mild and not too hot.

APRIL 12 - 13

The Best of KwaZulu-Natal and the Lowveld

Autumn in KwaZulu Natal and surrounding regions are the most pleasant and brings bright sunshine, pleasantly warm temperatures, and decent wildlife viewing.

MAY 14 - 15

Witness the Great Wildebeest Migration

May is the perfect month to visit Tanzania, as this is when the Great Migration commences.

JUNE 16 - 17

African luxury escape in Madikwe

The best time for wildlife viewing. Look forward to little rain and clear skies.

Travel the Kruger Panorama Route

Temperatures are dry and cool and vegetation is sparse, which makes it easier to spot wildlife.

JULY	.....	18 - 19
Explore the endless sand dunes		Experience Africa at its best
The ideal time for wildlife viewing with moderate temperatures.		Rivers become a gathering place for wildlife and animals are more visible due to less foliage.
AUGUST	.....	20 - 21
Experience the wonders of the wilderness All-in-one and the Okavango Delta		
Wildlife is easier to spot because the bush is thin. The days are long with clear skies.		During the dry season, watering holes attract all the animals, making it easier for you to spot them.
SEPTEMBER	.....	22 - 23
Lowveld safari and pristine beaches		
The winds are calm, temperatures are warm, and animals are easier to spot after the dry months of winter as foliage is less abundant.		
OCTOBER	.....	24 - 25
The safari experience and Victoria Falls		
Game viewing is at its peak. The natural waterholes in the wildlife parks dry up and huge herds of wildlife congregate at water sources.		
NOVEMBER	.....	26 - 27
The ultimate Wine Route experience		
The weather is warm, sunny, and there are fewer crowds. It is also "whale season", where they travel along the coast to find colder waters.		
DECEMBER	.....	28 - 29
The best of the Eastern Cape		
December is the best time to visit as pleasant summer weather fills the days with endless sunshine, and vegetation across the province is luscious.		
WEDDINGS	.....	30 - 31
Say "I do" in the winelands		
Make your special day unforgettable by celebrating it in the heart of the Cape Winelands.		
HONEYMOON	.....	32 - 33
The romantic getaway		
Get the best of both worlds as you can experience safaris and walk along pristine beaches.		
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Practice your favourite sport in style		
Visit the most prestigious and challenging golf courses that South Africa has got to offer.		



OUR STORY



East Cape Tours is a South African company based in Charlo, Port Elizabeth. It is dedicated to making special, memorable and unique holidays. The company was established in 1998 by our Managing Director, Colin Dilland.

Colin hails from Wolverhampton in the United Kingdom, where he worked as an accountant. He was sent to South Africa on an assignment for two weeks – 25 years later and he is still here! He fell in love with the country and started to organise holidays for his friends, eventually deciding to make a business out of it.

His love for the African bush was born in the Shamwari Private Game Reserve where he was a regular visitor in the early days and grew to encompass the Addo Elephant National Park, where Woodall Lodge remains a firm favourite.

He remembers getting stuck in the mud at the Pumba Private Game Reserve as Pumba Water Lodge was being built, exploring the Greater Kruger area and enjoying a lavish getaway at Motswari Safari Lodge and navigating the bush with Rob the Ranger at Idube Safari Lodge, where he saw his first wild dog.

His best game drive took place at Lion Sands where he saw lions, leopards and cheetahs with cubs, all in one afternoon! The Madikwe Private Game Reserve is another favourite, especially Etali Lodge, where the Big 5 casually strolled by his room as he was trying to catch up on emails!

It's not just South Africa he loves – some of his favourite African getaways include Lake Kariba, the Okavango Delta, the Hwange National Park, St Helena, Zanzibar and the Seychelles. Basically, everywhere! His love for travel shows in the company, where we are all dedicated to creating dream African holidays. After all, Colin does keep telling people he has the best job in the world.

East Cape Tours has established itself as a privately-owned online leisure tour operator and destination management company, focused on providing clients with an interactive and customisable itinerary, with our client base being predominantly made up of couples, families and groups.

We offer safari getaways to top destinations in Southern Africa and its surrounds, and our packages feature key attractions and sights. The team's expert knowledge of destinations and game reserves means that we can offer advice on the best destinations and accommodation in Southern Africa. Our holiday accommodation options range from budget to luxury game reserves, hotels and lodges.

Examples of holiday packages we specialise in include the Garden Route road trip along the South African coast, gorilla trekking in Uganda, safari getaways to South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Namibia, and beach holidays to Mauritius and Zanzibar.

We pride ourselves on being able to provide personal, hands-on, expert advice and service, and tailor our trips to fit guests' specific needs, interests, budgets, and time frames, thus ensuring they get the holiday that they desire.

We believe that a holiday to an African country should be stress-free and personalised, as we want to be able to showcase and represent the continent in the best light possible.



Bwindi Impenetrable Forest

JANUARY

UGANDA

Chimpanzee trekking and
gorilla tour

Reasons to visit:

**Uganda, with its scenic mountains, rivers, grasslands, and forests, is home to the endangered mountain gorillas.*

**The Queen Elizabeth National Park offers scenic drives through the Rift Valley, with exceptional wildlife viewing opportunities.*

**Take a boat trip or trek to the most impressive waterfall in East Africa, the Murchison Falls, where the river's water runs through a narrow gap between rocks.*

** To start your gorilla trekking adventure, visit the Kabilé National Park, which is home to 13 different primate species and more than 300 bird species.*

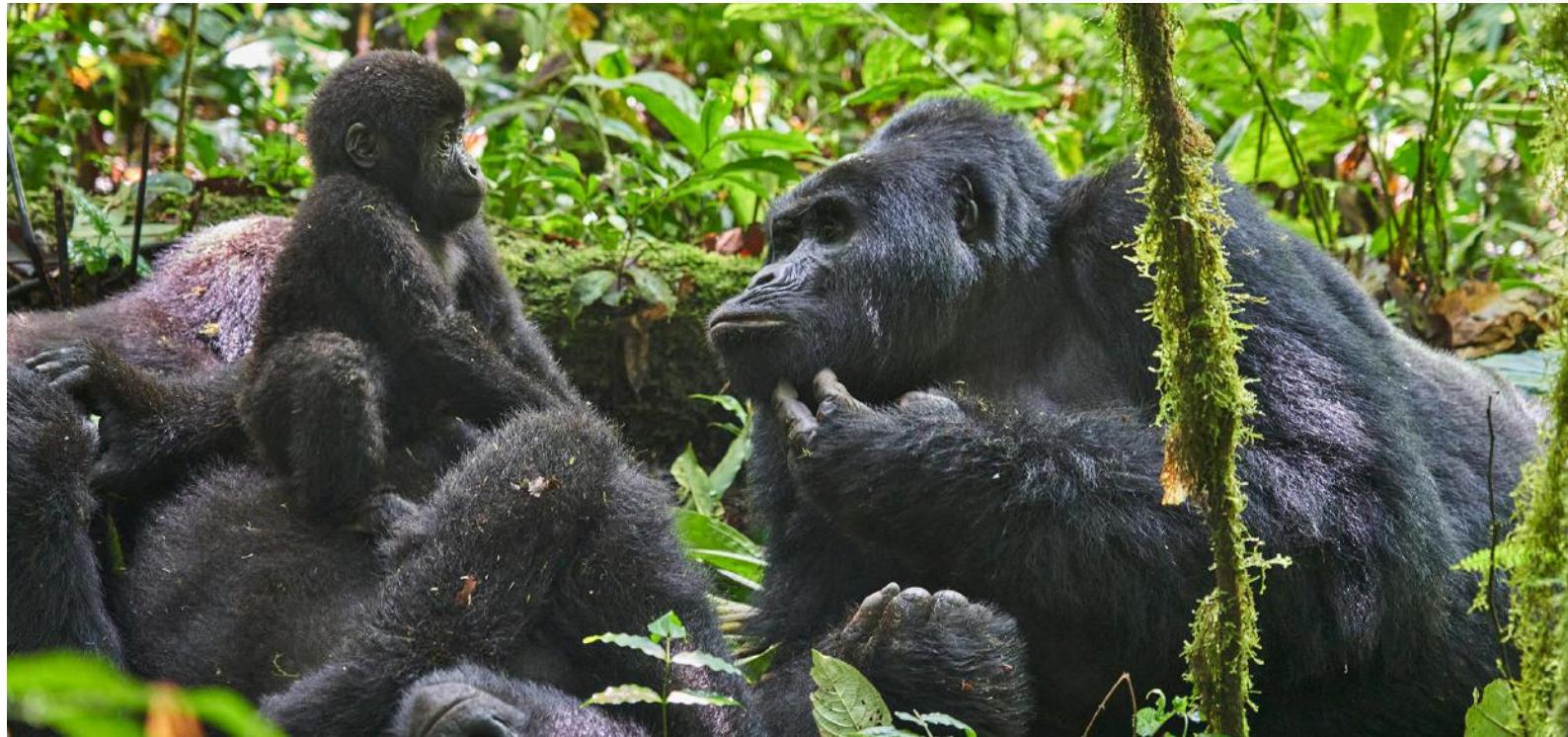
Have you always wanted to see the great apes from Uganda in their natural habitat while enjoying the perfect African safari? You should consider visiting this country in January when the rainfall is less, and the crowds are smaller. Uganda is known for having the largest freshwater lake on the continent, is the source of the longest river and is the top spot for finding the most gorillas worldwide.

First, we recommend you start your stay at Cassia Lodge in Uganda's capital city, Kampala. Enjoy their complimentary breakfast and relish the African flavours of the country's cuisine. With its spacious and elegantly decorated rooms, this can be used this as your base to explore the city.

Within Fort Portal City lies the Mountains of the Moon Hotel. Dubbed the "tourism city of Uganda", Fort Portal is situated at the base of the majestic Rwenzori Mountains in the greater Tooro kingdom. Mountains of the Moon Hotel is one of this town's

signature hotels. From there, you can visit numerous tourist attractions like the Amabere Caves and Crazy Crater Tours, where you are taken on a motorcycle tour of the countryside. The real gorilla trekking begins in the Southern Queen Elizabeth National Park at Enganzi Lodge. When moving to the North in the Queen Elizabeth National Park, you will get the chance to see the Kyambura Gorge, which is also known as "the Valley of the Apes". The chimpanzees are accustomed to human presence, and you will be able to see them while active.

After visiting the chimpanzees, be sure to stay awhile at the Silverback Lodge in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. The lodge in the dense forest is a short drive down from the park's headquarters, where yet another exciting gorilla trekking adventure will commence. It is important to book gorilla permits and it is recommended that you do at least two treks, which can easily take up two days of your time.





FEBRUARY

SOUTH AFRICA

All along the Garden Route

Reasons to visit:

- * Along the Garden Route, there are many towns and villages to visit-Knysna, Wilderness, and Plettenberg Bay, to name a few.**
- * Nature's wonders can be experienced while visiting the Wilderness National Park, Knysna Lagoon, Tsitsikamma forest, and Storms River.**
- * There are so many ways to explore the natural beauty-through hiking, biking, horse riding, or Segway trails.**
- * July to November, whales are sighted along the coast as they migrate.**

The Garden Route on South Africa's south coast has it all-mountains, forests, beaches, and wildlife! The official route is about 200 km long and stretches from Mossel Bay in the Western Cape to the Storms River Mouth in the Eastern Cape.

First, your journey will begin at the Lion Roars Franschhoek Boutique Hotel in Franschhoek. Situated in the heart of the Cape Winelands, this luxury accommodation is situated close to all the must-see tourist attractions like the Franschhoek Wine Tram and the hiking trails at Mont Rochelle Nature Reserve. Brush up on your history when visiting the Huguenot Memorial Museum to learn more about the French settlers' history in South Africa or see the vintage cars at the Franschhoek Motor Museum.

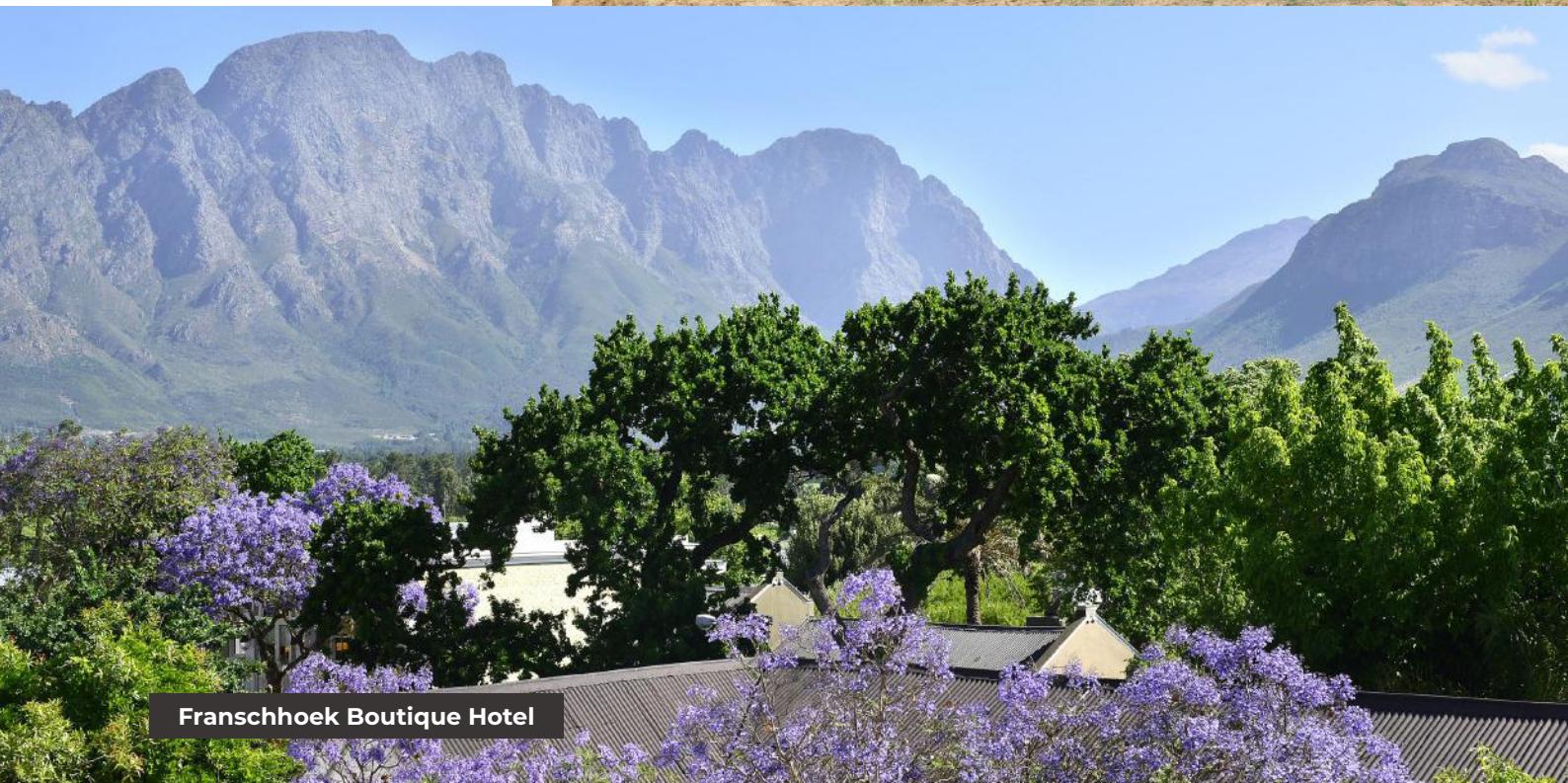
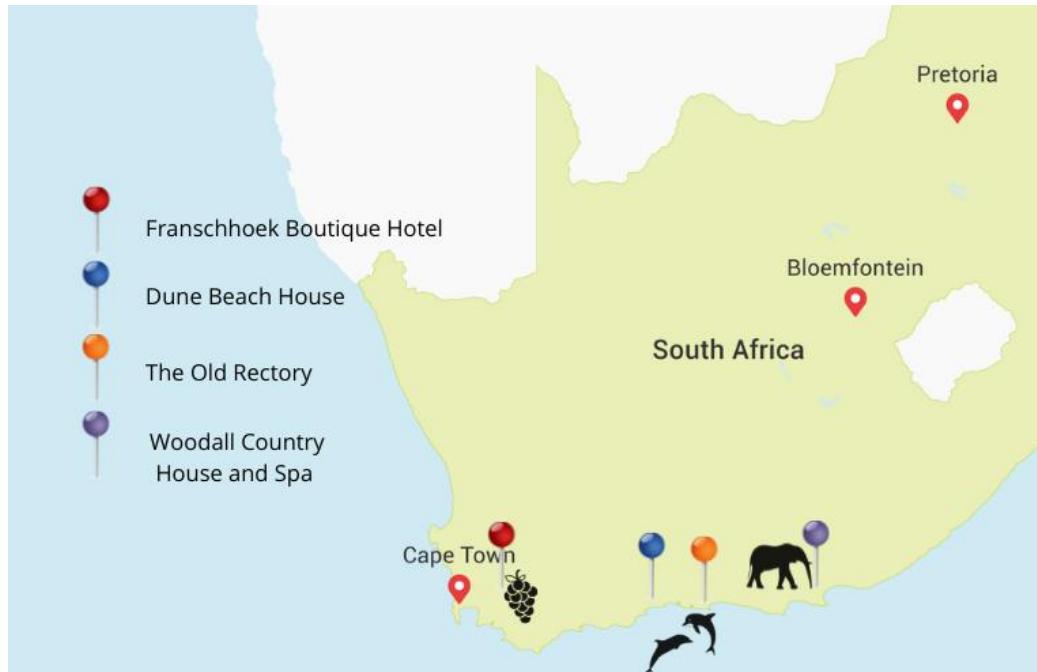
As you continue your journey along the coast past Still Bay, Mossel Bay, and Victoria Bay, you will find Wilderness. Dune Beach House lies so close to the beach, that you can smell the ocean air and see the endless waves.

Further to the east lies the seaside town of Plettenberg Bay. The Old Rectory is nestled there-only meters away from the beach. This boutique hotel is situated on a heritage site and the site's history can be traced back to 1777 when it was used as a rectory by the Anglican

Church. There are many attractions to see while staying in Plettenberg Bay, like the Stone Age Nelson Bay Caves or the trails in the Robberg Nature Reserve. On your way to the Woodall Country House and Spa in Sundays River Valley, just outside Gqeberha, you will pass Tsitsikamma, St Francis Bay, and Jeffreys Bay. Sunday's River Valley is the perfect place to unwind as you look over the river and dunes. You can experience boat cruises, visit the nearby Addo area with its elephants, or simply enjoy a pampering treatment at the country house's Citrus Spa.

End off your excellent venture at the Woodbury Lodge on the Amakhala Game Reserve, further to the northwest. The Woodbury Lodge is perfect for a safari getaway, with regular day and night game drives available. Ride the horse trails and get up close to animals like antelope and giraffe.

Travelling along the Garden Route will leave you with lifelong memories!





MARCH

SOUTH AFRICA

Exploring the Karoo



A family explores the Glen Harry Game Reserve

Reasons to visit:

- * **The Karoo is famous for its simplistic beauty, low rainfall, cloudless skies, and interesting heritage sites.**
- * **Cradock is the principal town of the Karoo Heartland Route, making it a must-see as you travel throughout the Kalahari.**
- * **Graaff-Reinet is home to the Valley of Desolation, where you can view the backdrop of the vast plains of the Camdeboo.**
- * **Be sure to visit The Owl House and the Bushman Heritage Museum in New Bethesda- a truly unique experience.**

Imagine the peace and quiet you will experience while looking at an African sunset in the Karoo-no sound or sign of civilization, and an open canvas of endless semidesert scenes-this could be you. If you have yet to visit South Africa, the Karoo is a must-see for those wanting to experience inner calm close to nature.

Known for its simplistic beauty, low rainfall, and cloudless skies, the Karoo covers areas of four provinces. The principal towns that fall under the Karoo include Graaff-Reinet, Beaufort West, and Aberdeen, although it stretches much wider than that. March is a great time of the year to visit the Karoo as the temperatures are mild and not too hot.

We suggest that you start your Karoo adventure in Gqeberha, the old Port Elizabeth.

At The Fifth Avenue Beach House, you can relax without delay in your luxury room or relax in the outside pool.

The next stop is Camp Figtree in Sunday's River Valley. This eco-lodge is set on top of the Zuurberg Mountain range. The camp has views of untouched fauna and the mountain range. Keep yourself active with their game drives and walks, or simply taste some South African cuisine in the lodge's restaurant.

Following your stay on the mountain, we recommend settling into the homeliness of Die Tuishuise and Victoria Manor on Market Street in Cradock. In March, the weather is usually mildly cool with a gentle breeze, and little rain, making it an ideal time to go explore. Die Tuishuise offers Karoo-style



cottages and is a restored recreation of the 1840s era. Once in Graaff-Reinet, you can settle in this Karoo town. You will feel like you stepped back into the past when arriving at the Cape Dutch-style Drostdy Hotel. If you are looking to take a day trip, the Valley of Desolation is only a short drive from the hotel.

Off to Nieu-Bethesda, enjoy your stay at Ganora Guest Farm and feel yourself get connected to nature. You can join a tour of the area's bushman paintings and the fossil walk in the veld, or visit museums like The Owl House and the Bushman Heritage Museum.





APRIL

SOUTH AFRICA

The best of
KwaZulu-Natal and the
Lowveld

Reasons to visit:

- * **The Midlands Meander is any art enthusiast's dream, with its 80 km scenic arts and crafts trail leading through the villages of the Midlands.**
- * **Take a bit more than an hour's drive just outside Durban, to view the historical battle site of the Anglo-Zulu War, Isandlwana.**
- * **The Drakensberg-the highest mountain range in South Africa and a world heritage site-provides plenty of opportunities for hiking and scenic walks.**
- * **For an abundance of wildlife viewing, visit reserves and parks like iSimangaliso Wetland Park, Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Park, and uMkhuze Game Reserve.**

The beginning of your holiday will start off with a stay at the Oysterbox Luxury Hotel in Umhlanga, KwaZulu Natal. There is plenty to explore in the town, including cultural tours of Zulu Villages and hiking the Umhlanga Lagoon trail. Retreat to Santa Lucia Guest House, which is a gateway to the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. iSimangaliso is a pristine wildlife reserve that has a vast array of biomes, including swamps, wetlands, and woodland. This serves as habitats for many animals and has the largest population of hippos and crocodiles as well as leatherback turtles, black rhinos, and leopards. Explore the kingdom that is Eswatini (formally known as Swaziland). It is home to the world's oldest mine and one of the largest granite mountains-Sibebe- which you can challenge yourself to climb. In Eswatini you'll be staying at Foresters Arms Hotel. Situated in the mountain countryside it is only a short drive to the capital, Mbabane. Why not relax at Summerfields Rose Retreat and Spa? Located right on Sabie River, it is surrounded by nature and the sounds of rushing water. It's a short drive to Kruger Park and the



Panorama Route (one of the country's most scenic drives through cultural and natural points of interest) and is home to an award-winning restaurant, spa, and macadamia and litchi orchards.

You can choose to visit the renowned Lion Sands River Lodge in the Sabi Sands Reserve. The Sabie River is home to both crocodiles and hippos and serves as a watering hole for the wildlife in the park. This lodge has the highest and most diverse concentration of animals in the Southern Hemisphere, including the Big 5, and is well-known for its frequent leopard sightings.





Reasons to visit:

*** Visit the largest game reserve in the world, the Selous Game Reserve, where you can view diverse wildlife such as the Masai giraffe, African bush elephant, African wild dog, south-central black rhinoceros, hippopotamus, Nile crocodile, African buffalo, Plains zebra, and lion.**

*** Be sure to visit the “eighth wonder of the world”, Ngorongoro Crater, a 260-square-kilometre inactive volcanic crater, where Wildebeests migrate.**

*** The Serengeti National Park, a World Heritage Site, has close to 4000 lions, 1000 leopards, 550 cheetahs, and about 500 bird species.**

*** If you’re looking for a tropical paradise, be sure to visit the island of Zanzibar with its white sands and turquoise beaches, where activities like snorkelling or diving are popular.**

MAY

TANZANIA

Witness the Great Wildebeest Migration

May is the perfect month to visit Tanzania and Zanzibar as this is when the Great Migration begins. Every May, without fail, two and a half million wildebeest, antelope, and zebra commence their estimated 1500 km journey from the grasslands in the South Serengeti to the Masai Mara.

Why not stay at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel in Dar es Salaam, one of Tanzania's largest and busiest cities? The city is home to a wide range of cultures as well as pristine beaches, lush botanical gardens, and many islands—this is truly a wonderful city to explore!

You will then travel from the bustling city to the magical Lake Manyara National Park. To begin your great migration experience, the Maramboi Tented Lodge is the place to be. The magnificent views of the great rift valley are unparalleled



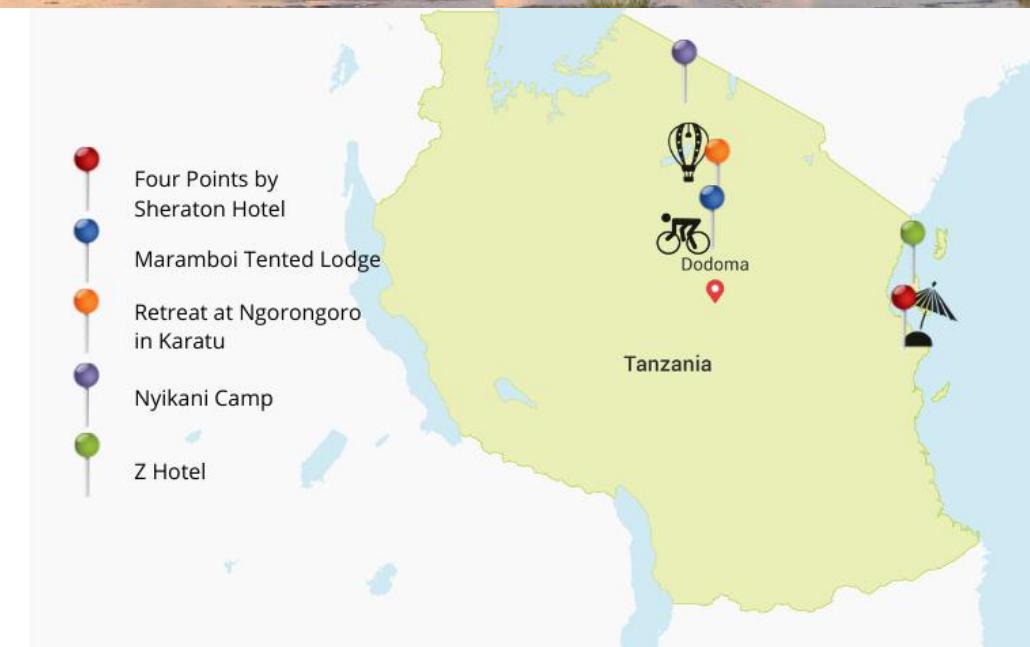
and the massive Lake Manyara is truly one to behold.

The park has extensive biodiversity including over 400 species of birds and the largest concentration of baboons in the world. The park also celebrates a range of phenomenal landscapes: from rolling grasslands to acacia woodlands, forests, baobab cliffs, and numerous hot springs.

The Retreat at Ngorongoro in Karatu, Tanzania focuses heavily on integrating the retreat with the surrounding wilderness to ensure that you stay close to nature. They hire bicycles to allow you to enjoy the scenery and wildlife.

Nyikani Camp is located in central Serengeti, Tanzania's most renowned national park. You will be able to get up close and personal with the migrating herds via open vehicle game drives and be able to witness the movement of the antelope from the skies in a hot air balloon safari.

After the exhilarating experience of the migration, why not relax at The Z Hotel in Zanzibar? It is well-known for its variety of watersport opportunities. The nearby Mnemba Atoll has one of the highest concentrations of turtles anywhere in the world and is just a half an hour boat ride away from the hotel.





JUNE

SOUTH AFRICA

African luxury escape in Madikwe

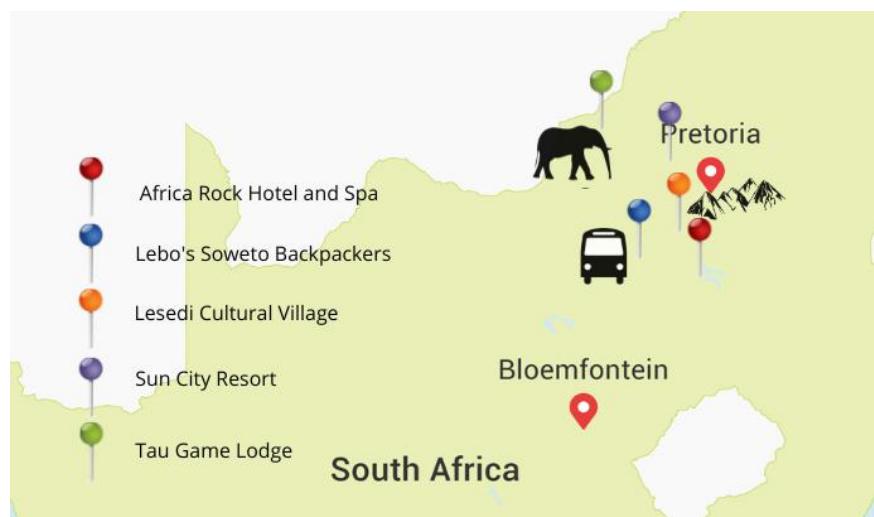
Reasons to visit:

* **The Cradle of Humankind is one of the most breathtaking and historical pieces of land, where ancient hominid fossils were found, and is home to a dozen dolomitic limestone caves.**

* **Be sure to book a stay at the renowned Madikwe Game Reserve, where you will have the chance to view all of the Big 5, as well as giraffes, hippos, cheetahs, wild dogs, and hyenas.**

* **If hiking is for you, be sure to book an excursion at Schoongezicht and traverse through the indigenous bush, mountain ravines, and hills with a chance to view numerous types of antelope like the impala, kudu, blesbok, zebra, and red hartebeest.**

* **Adventurous travellers can venture into the Doornrivier 4x4 Trail and explore the area with its challenging 12-kilometre path of stunning mountainous landscapes.**



The Madikwe journey is an exquisite and breathtaking expedition across an array of beautiful vistas, comfortable accommodations, and unforgettable activities in the North-West province of South Africa.

Relax at African Rock Hotel and Spa. Dine at the luxurious restaurant after a walk in the lush on-site gardens. You could also go on an unforgettable tour of the Johannesburg township, Soweto, and visit the lovely Lebo's Soweto Backpackers. The Lesedi Cultural Village, which is huddled amidst rocky cliffs in the Cradle of Humankind, will expand your cultural horizons. You could visit five traditional homesteads inhabited by Xhosa, Ndebele, Zulu, Basotho, Pedi, and Ndebele tribes and learn more about African cultures and traditions.

Sun City Resort is one of the most iconic 5-star resorts in the province, and it is recommended to go at least once in your life. You can visit the Sun Central entertainment centre or swim in the Valley of Waves, and recreate the experience of an ancient archaeological journey in The Maze of The Lost City.

The 5-star, award-winning Tau Game Lodge is also an accommodation to add to your travel plans. There, you can see all the glory of the Big 5 and catch sight of African wild dogs and cheetahs too. What a perfect way to end an unforgettable trip in Africa!

SOUTH AFRICA

Travel the Kruger Panorama Route

Reasons to visit:

- * **On your way to Kruger Park, take in the natural beauty of the famous and breathtaking Kruger Panorama Route, where there are more than a handful of places to see and things to do.**
- * **There are many stunning waterfalls to see, including the Lisbon Falls, Berlin Falls, and Mac Mac Falls-other waterfalls include Lone Creek Falls, Forest Falls, Maria Shires Waterfall, and Panorama Falls.**
- * **On the Panorama Route, be sure to stop at Graskop, which is only a few kilometres away from God's Window, as well as the historical town of Pilgrims Rest, where gold diggers rushed to during the late 1800s.**
- * **Wonder View is the highest viewpoint along the Panorama Route and it is located on the edge of the Drakensberg Escarpment, providing you with stretching views of the Mpumalanga Lowveld.**



June is the perfect time to visit Kruger National Park due to the dry and cool temperatures. Once you land at the O.R Tambo International Airport, you can rest up at the Parkwood Boutique Hotel before your Kruger Park adventure kicks off.

After your stay in the city, make your way to Sabie Town House, settled in a forestry town in Mpumalanga that overlooks the Sabie River Gorge. This accommodation is surrounded by cascading waterfalls and tranquil mountains.

At Motswari Private Game Reserve in the Timbavati Nature Reserve, which shares a fenceless border with Kruger National Park, you have the chance to view the Big 5 and even white lions! Motswari offers game drives, overnight walking safaris, and safari talks.

The Sabi Sands Game Reserve, which is adjacent to the Kruger National Park, is a 65 000 hectares reserve filled with animals, including the Big 5, and has famous leopard sightings. Nkorho Bush Lodge is found in the heart of the reserve. End off your Greater Kruger holiday at Lukimbi Safari Lodge, located in the South of the Kruger National Park. The area is known for its very frequent rhino sightings. A river runs in front of the lodge, which allows for up-close and personal wildlife viewing. Crocodiles are known to visit the river and when the rain-fed pans dry up, animals like buffaloes flock to the river.





JULY

NAMIBIA

Explore the endless
sand dunes



Reasons to visit:

- * Visit the famous Dead Vlei in Sossusvlei, a white clay pan with 600-year-old dead camel thorn trees, which is surrounded by some of the highest sand dunes in the world.
- * Walk the streets of the Kolmanskop Ghost Town, which was once a thriving diamond mining town and became deserted in 1954, leaving behind eerie buildings covered partly in dunes.
- * Skeleton Coast in the Northern part of Namibia is a must-see for those interested in history and viewing the shipwrecks scattered along the coastline-wrecks that were caused over the years due to treacherous ocean conditions.
- * Travel to the Fish River Canyon to the south to view the largest and most magnificent canyon in Africa with the longest interior river in Namibia.

July is the ideal time to explore Namibia due to the mild weather and the opportunity for wildlife viewing. Begin your Namibian getaway at the self-catering Capbon Guesthouse in Windhoek. Windhoek has many attractions like the Heroes' Acre war memorial and the Independence Memorial Museum.

Head to the Elegant Desert Lodge and enjoy activities like hot air ballooning, scenic drives, and walking trails. Consider going on a half-day excursion to see the iconic red sand dunes, scenic natural wonders, and beautiful animals of the Sossusvlei.

Visit the German seaside town of Swakopmund and go horse riding, paragliding, and quad biking. The Hotel Pension a La Mer is within walking distance of the beach, where you can appreciate the town's historic jetty through a boat and harbour tour. Next, you can stand a chance to see animals like rhinos, elands, sables, leopards, and cheetahs at the watering hole at Omaruru Game Lodge. Take in the historically rich Erongo mountains and ancient rock paintings, and experience rock climbing and mountain biking in the area.

Dig into the quaint Namibian farm life at Eldorado Guesthouse in the Etosha National Park. Here, you follow rhinos along their travels in a tour of the park. Feed lions and cheetahs at the Okapuka Ranch near Windhoek. The area has a magnificent view of the vast valleys, thick scrublands, and olive, potato, and date plantations.

ZAMBIA

Experience

Africa at its best

- Old Mondoro Camp
- South Luangwa National Park
- Victoria Falls
- Kafue National Park
- Lower Zambezi National Park



Reasons to visit:

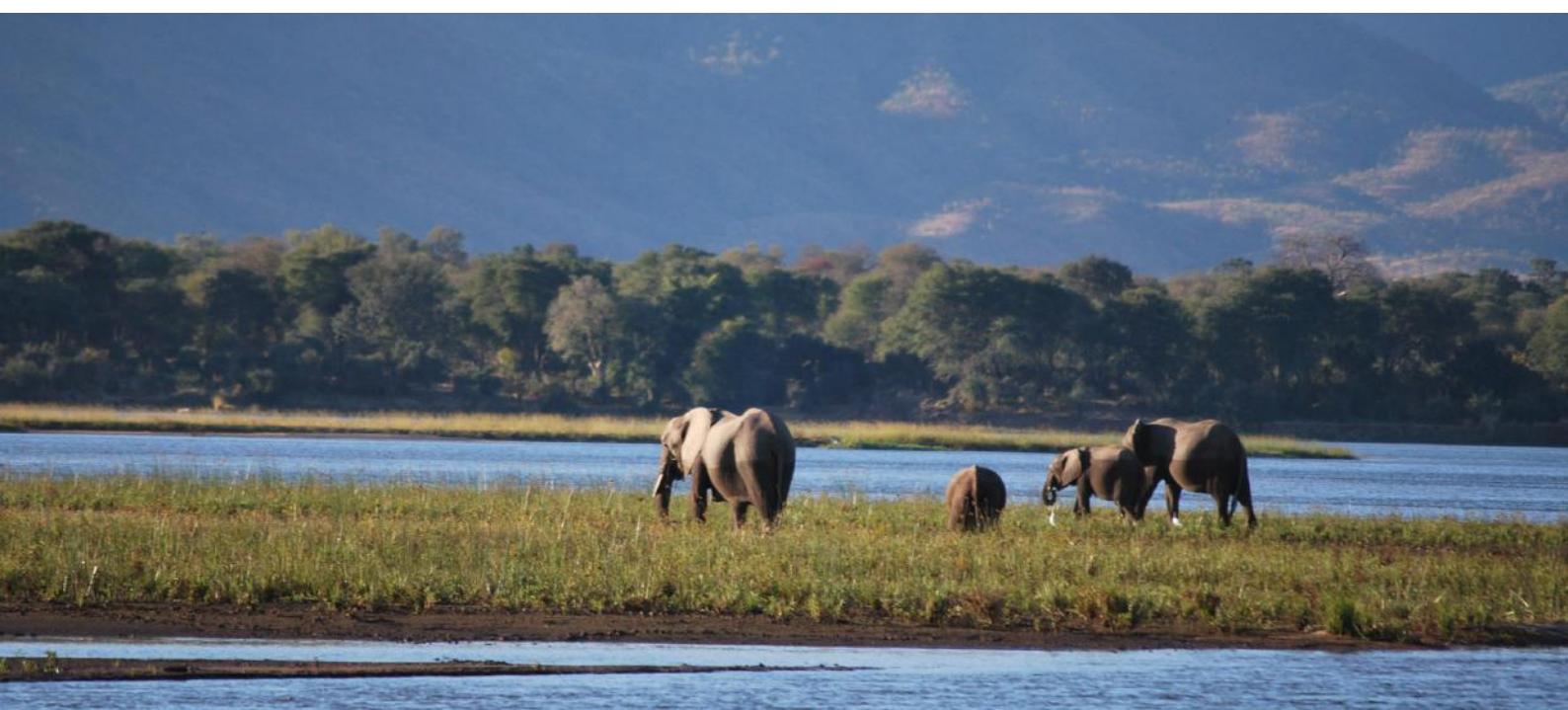
- * Visit the magnificent Victoria Falls, the largest waterfall on earth, and partake in exciting activities such as scenic helicopter and microlight flights, white water rafting, or canoeing along the Zambezi River.
- * Kafue National Park is Zambia's largest park and is famous for its diversity of grasslands, forests, and floodplains, and is home to 152 mammal species and over 500 bird species.
- * Travel to Livingstone Island by boat, which is the perfect vantage point from which to view Victoria Falls, and swim in its renowned pool.
- * Stand a chance to view big herds of elephants and buffalos as well as

predators like lions, leopards, and wild dogs when exploring the Lower Zambezi National Park.

One of the best times to visit Zambia is during the dry season of July. The Luangwa River becomes a gathering place for wildlife and because of less foliage, the animals are more visible. The days have mild temperatures and the evenings are colder.

Indulge in what the Lower Zambezi has to offer by staying at the fenceless Old Mondoro Camp, where wildlife moves freely through the camp. The area is abundant in game with countless sightings of hippos, crocodiles, fish eagles, and the Big 5. You are also able to partake in unique walking, canoe, and river safaris.

The next destination takes you west to the Time + Tide Chongwe in the heart of the South Luangwa National Park, which also lies in the Lower Zambezi area. The park is a world-renowned wildlife haven and focuses intensely on anti-poaching and endangered animal protection.



Lower Zambezi River



Mount Kenya

AUGUST

KENYA

Experience the
wonders of the
wilderness

Reasons to visit:

- * One of the top tourist attractions in Kenya is the Masai Mara National Reserve, where great herds of wildebeest and zebra migrate across the African plains.
- * Visit the unspoiled beaches of Malindi and take part in water sports like surfing, snorkelling, or deep-sea fishing to see the extensive coral reefs.
- * At least once in your life, set eyes upon the second-highest mountain in Africa, Mount Kenya, or dare to climb it at the Mount Kenya National Park.
- * See elephants and their rehabilitation progress from up close at the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust Elephant Nursery, where orphaned elephants are hand-reared and later relocated into the wild.

August is the perfect month to visit Kenya, as wildlife is easier to spot as the bush is less dense and animals will swarm towards sources of water. The days are long with clear skies and rain is unlikely. This is also the best time to view The Great Wildebeest Migration. You will always remember a stay at Giraffe Manor, which is set in the indigenous forests in Nairobi.



It is home to a herd of Rothchild giraffes who visit and poke their necks and heads in through windows in the hopes of a snack-something different to experience! Sarova Shaba Game Reserve lies near the banks of the Ewaso Nyiro River at the Samburu National Reserve with its wide savannas, scrub deserts, and the splendour of the Samburu River. Its fauna includes elephants, reticulated giraffes, ostriches, Grevy's zebras, and other native species.

Next, stay at Aberdare National Park with kilometres of steep forest ravines, open moorlands, and spectacular waterfalls. The Ark Lodge is found right in the heart of Aberdare. It comprises of three decks from which wildlife can be viewed.

Thereafter, you will be able to visit and explore Lake Nakuru National Park while staying at Sarova Lion Hill Game Lodge. It boasts waterfalls of over 70m, large lakes, and overhanging cliffs. It's one of the best places to see rhinos, flamingos, baboons, and leopards.

Why not retreat to Masai Mara National Park with kilometres of raw wilderness? It is home to impressive populations of lions, cheetahs, and leopards. In Masai Mara, you'll stay at the Olengot Eco Safari Camp. It is set along the bank of the Talek River, which is home to countless crocodiles and hippos.

You will end your Kenyan holiday by staying at the DoubleTree by Hilton Nairobi Hurlingham. While staying close to the city centre, consider visiting the Maasai Market, or learning more about Kenya's history at the Nairobi National Museum.

BOTSWANA, ZIMBABWE, AND NAMIBIA

All-in-one and the Okavango Delta

Reasons to visit:

***Visit Zimbabwe and see the magnificent Victoria Falls and Rainforest, which is a dense woodland nourished by the constant spray from the waterfall.**

***In Namibia, you can take a tour of Impalila Island-a place where four African countries meet.**

***The Chobe National Park in Northern Botswana lies right in the heart of the Okavango Delta, with plenty of opportunities to see large herds of elephants and Cape buffalo.**

***Hike the three main hills of the historical Tsodilo Hills in Botswana to witness the San Bushmen rock paintings, shelters, depressions, and caves.**

If you are looking for an exciting trip that is inclusive of some of the best destinations in several southern African countries, this one's for you! Visit Zimbabwe and see the Victoria Falls, the Chobe River in Namibia, and finally, Botswana's famous Okavango Delta. The best time to visit these top destinations is during winter. During the dry season, the watering holes attract wildlife and it's easier to spot them. Settle in at the Protea Hotel in Johannesburg. Jo'burg, as it's called by locals, is one of Africa's biggest and most



vibrant cities.

The next stop is Nehimba Safari Lodge, found in the Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe. It is the largest natural reserve in the country and is home to one of the biggest elephant populations in the world. At Nehimba you can look forward to bush hikes, game drives, and horseback safaris. The third stop is Victoria Falls. You'll be staying at the 528 Victoria Falls Guest House. The guest house is a mere 3km from the waterfall. You can enjoy the waterfall up close or you can choose to take to the skies by helicopter or microlight. Other activities include bungee jumping and whitewater rafting. On Impalila Island in Namibia lies Ichingo Chobe River Lodge. The game viewing and birdwatching are second to none due to its unique location at the confluence of the Chobe and Zambezi Rivers. The diversity of habitats within the park provides a sanctuary to an astonishing array of African wildlife, including the migratory population of more than 50,000 elephants. The final stop is found in the east of the Okavango Delta in Botswana. Moremi Game Reserve covers kilometres of pristine wilderness with a wide spectrum of wildlife like buffalo, wildebeest, and zebra. It is also home to plenty of lions, cheetahs, and wild dogs. The park is a host to most of Botswana's 550 bird species. Setari Camp is located in the very heart of the Okavango Delta—also within the unspoiled wilderness of the Moremi Game Reserve. Nearby, you can glide through the waterways in a traditional mokoro, more commonly known as dugout canoes.





SEPTEMBER

SOUTH AFRICA AND MOZAMBIQUE

Lowveld safari and pristine
beaches

Reasons to visit:

***Visit the Kruger National Park near Mozambique's border-a place which is home to the Big 5, 147 species of mammals, 114 reptile species, 51 snake species, 49 fishes species, and 508 species of birds.**

***The largest conservation reserve in Mozambique, The Niassa Reserve, offers safaris into the wilderness where various animals like lions, leopards, and hyenas are found.**

***On Macuti Beach in Beira stands the biggest lighthouse in Mozambique as well as a shipwreck from 1985, where**

a ship was intentionally run aground to serve as a breakwater at the lighthouse.

**At the Maputo Special Reserve in the southernmost province of Mozambique, you can traverse the grasslands and forests with a 4x4 vehicle to see the home of between 100 and 300 elephants, as well as more than 300 bird species.*

September is the best time to visit the Lowveld and Mozambique. The wind is calm, the temperatures are warming up, and animals are easy to spot after the dry months of winter as foliage became less abundant. Animals tend to gather around waterholes and this makes for an unforgettable game drive. This trip suggestion holds the best of both worlds as it includes both a wild safari experience and a stay in a beach paradise.

The safari destination will take you to Arathusa Safari Lodge found at Sabi Sands Game Reserve. It boasts the Big 5 and frequent leopard sightings. Arathusa's prime location allows for exciting natural experiences including guided walks. There are game drives twice daily, which means that you could spend up to eight hours of the day exploring the natural sanctuary. The second part of the holiday will be spent along the coast of Mozambique. Sava Dunes is the hidden treasure of Mozambican accommodation as it's situated in a remote part of the Inhambane coastline.

Perched atop a large sand dune, the lodge overlooks the scenic Barra Beach and the vast ocean. September is the perfect time to spot whale sharks and humpback whales in migration. Bottle-nose dolphins are frequent visitors and one can easily expect to meet seahorses, puffer fish, and lionfish in the Barra estuary. The water is warm enough for year-round swimming and hosts a myriad of water activities including scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing, body boarding, and kite surfing.

The coast is full of opportunities for adventure: from deep sea fishing—where you can catch barracuda and yellow-finned tuna—to the two-hour ocean safaris in search of manta rays, turtles, and whales. You can even go kayaking down the tranquil waters of the biodiverse mangrove swamp. This destination is sure to make you feel like Mozambique is your second home.





OCTOBER

ZIMBABWE

The safari experience and
Victoria Falls

Reasons to visit:

- * See one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World as you travel to Victoria Falls, the largest waterfall in the world, for picturesque views or exciting water sports.
- * Chinhoyi Caves National Park offers travellers a chance to experience the ancient subterranean system of limestone and dolomite caverns and tunnels that is said to have been inhabited since the 1st century.
- * Explore the stone ruins of the

historic Kingdom of Zimbabwe at the Great Zimbabwe National Monument in Masvingo and travel back to the 11th to 15th centuries.

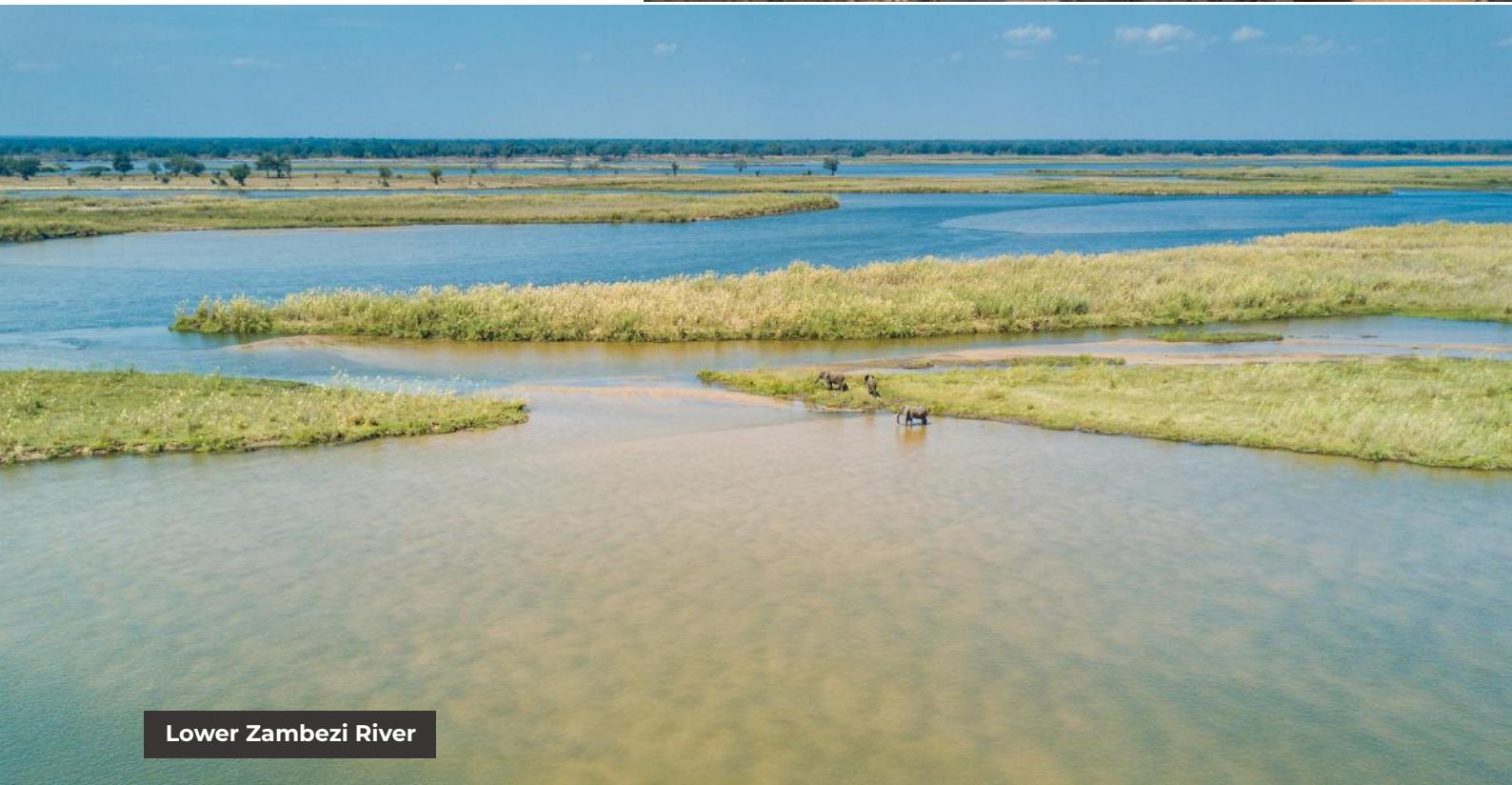
** At Mana Pools National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, you can explore the pristine nature which is especially favoured by elephants, buffaloes, leopards, and cheetahs.*

The best time to visit is October when game viewing is at its peak. The natural waterholes in the wildlife parks dry up and huge herds of wildlife congregate at the lakes, man-made waterholes, and rivers. Your holiday will kick off in Johannesburg at the Peermont Metcourt Hotel. Jo'burg, as it's colloquially known, is a hub of activity with lots of museums, galleries, and restaurants. The hotel is home to numerous restaurants, a casino, and a private pool terrace surrounded by a beautifully manicured garden. Thereafter, your safari experience will commence at the Rhino Safari Camp in Matusadona National Park in northern Zimbabwe. It's near Lake Kariba and is comfortably intimate and is nestled in dense bushveld surrounded by dramatic rugged mountains. The camp is unfenced,

which allows for wildlife to walk freely between the wooden chalets.

From there, you will have the opportunity to spend a few days on the Karabesi Houseboat, moored at Andorra harbour in Kariba on Kariba Lake. Travel along the Zambezi River with panoramic views of the African wilderness and a chance to view elephants, buffalo, eland, sable, roan, kudu, and waterbuck, to name a few.

Next, travel to Hwange National Park, the largest natural reserve in Zimbabwe with a substantial elephant population. Sable Sands lies to the East of the Hwange National Park and every day, the best place in the park is chosen for game viewing. During these game drives, you will explore ancient riverbeds overlooking acacia groves and the Dete Vlei. Last but not least, it's time to see the magnificent world wonder. The Avani Victoria Falls Resort is found within the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park and is only a 5-minute walk from Victoria Falls. The waterfall allows for a range of water-based activities like kayaking and white-water rafting. For those who have an adventurous streak, activities like zip lining, bungee jumping, and bridge swinging are also available.



Lower Zambezi River



NOVEMBER SOUTH AFRICA

The ultimate Wine Route
experience

Reasons to visit:

- * **"The Mother City" offers a myriad of wineries and top-class restaurants to please your taste buds with some of the finest local wines.**
- * **Stellenbosch is seen as the capital of the Winelands, boasting over 140 wine farms to explore and learn more about the history behind wine-making.**
- * **Be sure to visit the Hermanus Wine Village, where you will find many South African wines, gins, brandies, and craft beers.**
- * **The most exciting thing to do in Franschhoek is to hop onto the Wine Tram and stop at several wine farms to taste and savour the local wine flavours.**

The best time to visit the Cape Winelands is in November, as the weather is pleasant and there are smaller crowds. If you are looking to experience the best of South African wines and appreciate its wine-making history, this trip is definitely for you!

Your journey will start in Cape Town, also known as the "Mother City". It is a wondrous city filled with character and charisma. One of Cape Town's most busy and popular streets is Kloof Street, which is filled with lively bars and restaurants. The Lion Roars Kloof Street Hotel is within walking distance of all the action. Of course, there are plenty of wine shops where you can start your wine-tasting journey.

From Cape Town, you will travel along the coastline to Hermanus. This seaside town offers an unforgettable stay with breathtaking scenery. The Hermanus Beachfront Lodge overlooks the stunning Voëlkloof. There are many activities to keep you busy while staying in Hermanus. You can choose from kite surfing, shark cage diving, abseiling, or kayaking in either the lagoon, river, or ocean. Closely situated to the lodge is the Hemel-en-Aarde Wine Valley.

Thereafter, enjoy the magic of Franschhoek. Make yourself at home in the Franschhoek Boutique Hotel in the heart of the town. The hotel is within walking distance of the best cafés, galleries, and boutique shops. It also has wonderful hiking and mountain bike trails and boasts illustrious wine estates and centuries-old vineyards.

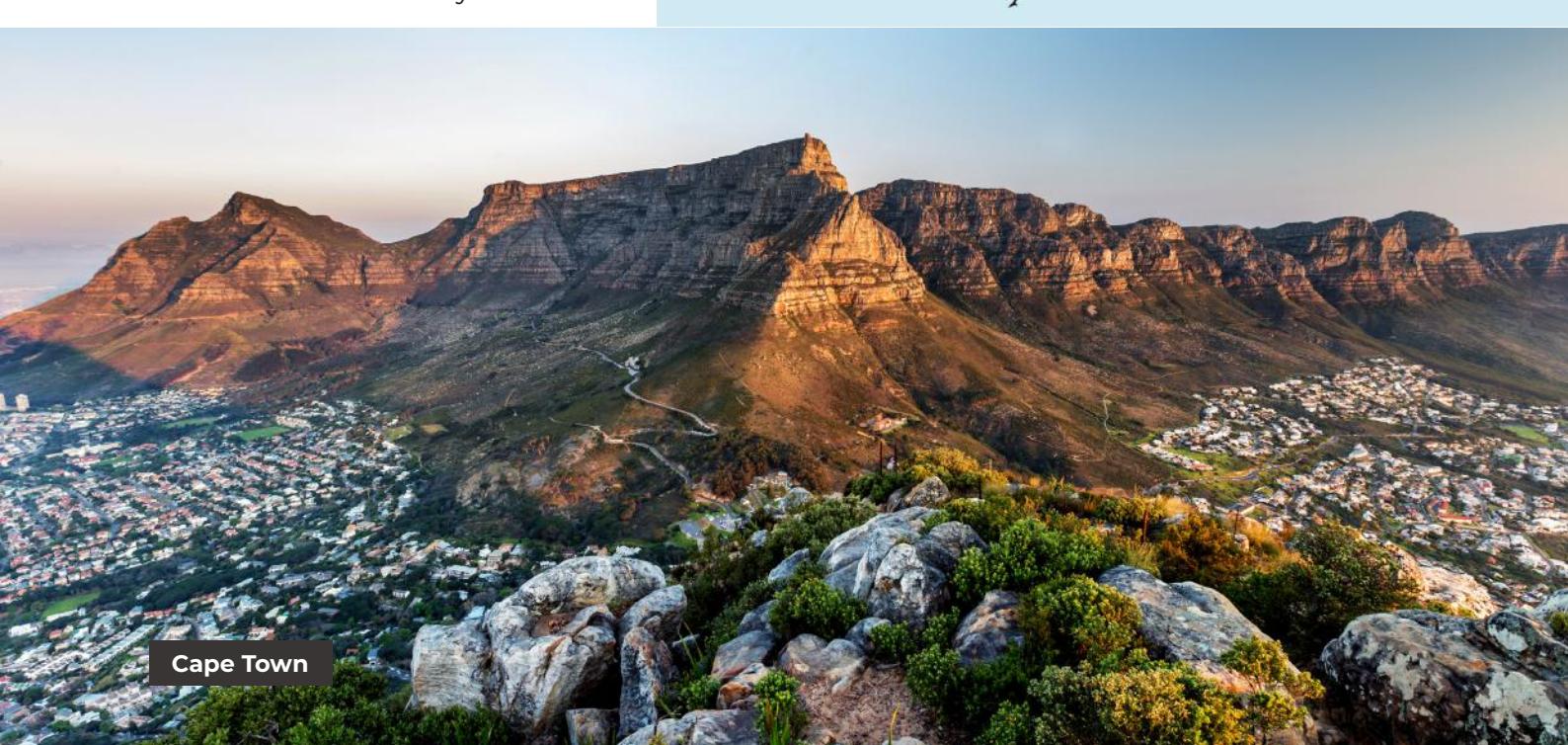
Be sure to visit the Tuk Tuk Microbrewery,

which has five unique and beloved speciality beers. If beer isn't your forte, why not hop onto the famous Franschhoek Wine Tram? It is one of the best ways to explore Franschhoek and local wines. With eight different tram lines, there is plenty to see and do. Explore and partake in the festivities of the vineyards, whether it be wine-tasting, a cellar tour, or a stroll through the beautiful vineyards.

Settle into the Elephant Hide of Knysna Guest Lodge and explore the wonders of the sunny seaside town. It is an unforgettable destination with beautiful lagoons, sandy beaches, and lush forests and is situated in the heart of the unfenced Garden Route National Park. There are several wine shops and vineyards in the area. Knysna is also ideal for cycling, bird-watching, and sailing.

Explore Mantis Founders Lodge and go on splendid and breathtaking game drives and guided game walks. Founders is home to the Big 5 and you will be able to get up close and personal with the gentle giants—you can even watch and feed the rhinos! Of course, you can end your journey with a glass of fine wine as you listen to the animals' sounds at night.

Travelling along the Wine Route is an unforgettable experience that will leave you reminiscing for a lifetime. If you are a wine fanatic, it is recommended to try this route at least once in your life!





Tsitsikamma

DECEMBER

SOUTH AFRICA

The best of the Eastern Cape

Reasons to visit:

** The Addo Elephant National Park just outside Gqeberha is a must-see if you're in the area, as you have the chance to view some of the park's more than 550 elephants, Cape Buffalo, warthogs, and various antelope species such as eland, kudu, and red hartebeest.*

** Visit the friendly city of Gqeberha to view the pier at Hobie Beach and other tourist attractions like the Donkin Reserve, South End Museum, and the South African Air Force Museum.*

** At Mountain Zebra National Park just outside Cradock, there is a healthy population of Cape mountain zebras to see, as well as springbok, kudus, black rhinos, caracals, jackals, Cape buffalo, cheetahs, lions, and many species of*

birds.

** If surfing is your thing, don't miss out on the big waves and visit Jeffreysbay, where surfing championship tours are hosted annually.*

The Eastern Cape in South Africa, where East Cape Tours is proudly based, is bustling with accommodations and things to do and see. December is the best time to visit because the pleasant summer weather fills the days with endless sunshine and luscious vegetation across the province. The province-with its unique expressed African cultures, biodiversity, and scenic landscapes-is a must-see for anyone looking to experience the best of the province.,

Gqeberha is well-known for its Shark Rock Pier at Hobie Beach and is the largest city in the Eastern Cape. In the Summerstrand area, you will find the local scuba diving centre called Pro Dive. The 5-star Boardwalk Hotel is situated near the Boardwalk Mall and a walk away from the beach.

If wildlife conservation piques your interest, be sure to visit the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB). There, you can visit the bird rehabilitation centre and learn more about the birdlife in the area. The Kragga Kamma Game Park in Theescombe is a short drive down from central Gqeberha and is situated in a lush coastal forest and grassland which allows for once-in-a-lifetime views of cheetah, white rhino, buffalo, and giraffe. It is suggested that you take a guided game tour to fully experience the wildlife.

Nearby lies the Theescombe Estate wine farm. Get your taste buds tingling with their wine tasting appointments. They offer a guided walking tour of the farm, informative talks on winemaking, and tutored tastings of wines that are made from grapes proudly grown and processed on the farm. Kariega Private Game Reserve, also close to Gqeberha, is wildly loved by youngsters and adults alike. They offer game drives, river cruises, guided bush walks, canoeing, and fishing, and you have a chance to spot the Big 5 in one of the most accomplished conservation projects in the province.

The Pumba Private Game Reserve just outside Makhanda boasts several white lions and frequent leopard sightings. They also offer activities like archery, birding safaris, and nocturnal nighttime game drives. Choose to stay in the Pumba Water Lodge with its view of Lake Kariega or Pumba Msenge Bush Lodge situated close to a watering hole with mountain views.

Cape St Francis is known for its fantastic surfing spots and bustling canals. It is the southernmost point of the Eastern Cape and about an hour's drive from Gqeberha. There, you can view the historic Cape St Francis Light House and participate in guided cruises along the canals.

Storms River to the west is home to the Tsitsikamma National Park, which is one of South Africa's oldest marine reserves. Activities include blackwater tubing, abseiling, snorkelling, and sailing. There are several hiking trails that lead through thick forests. Be sure to visit the Big Tree in Tsitsikamma to see a natural wonder that is older than 1,000 years and taller than 30 metres.



The pier at Hobie Beach



An elegant wedding function
at Boschendal

WEDDINGS

SOUTH AFRICA

Say “I do” in the winelands

Make your “I do’s” unforgettable by getting married in the heart of the Cape Winelands in South Africa. If you’re looking for a picturesque setting in the mountains on a scenic wine farm, look no further than Boschendal. This farm’s top-class venues are specially laid out for you to enjoy an unforgettable wedding experience.

This luxury accommodation offers the perfect venue for weddings or other functions. The historical farm lies next to the

majestic Simonsberg mountains with views of the farm’s orchards. Whatever the theme and size of your guest list for your special day, Boschendal has five options of venues to choose from. The Olive Press is the biggest of the venues and caters to 200 guests. It has exquisite views of the Drakenstein Mountains and the farm’s pristine gardens which is the ideal backdrop for taking wedding photographs. The spacious open-plan venue can be transformed

into your dream wedding venue.

For smaller weddings with a more intimate feel, the Cape Dutch historical Rhone Homestead can cater to up to 40 guests. It is situated in the farm’s private gardens, next to the Rhone Garden Picnic site. Guests can enjoy a wine tasting experience at the nearby wine tasting room called The Cellar Door.

The Mountain Villa caters to 100 persons and offers a minimum 3-night stay for the wedding couple in its stylishly decorated rooms with the backdrop of the mountains. It has six rooms with beautiful views and can be used by guests wishing to stay over. Spacious rooms and a private pool finish off this luxury accommodation made for comfort.

The Retreat is perfect for outdoor wedding functions with its communal boma and



natural swimming pool where guests can relax in natural surroundings. It caters up to 72 persons and additional facilities include a lounge, dining room, indoor cinema, and conference room. For a more relaxed wedding function, the wedding couple and guests can enjoy their

time in the Winelands with the classic Boschendal picnic located at the Rhone lawns. The Rhone Garden seated picnic site offers guests beautiful views of the exhibition vineyards and mountains. Catering for up to 250 guests, this site is situated close to the winery and homestead.

Whatever your wedding needs, be sure to consider Boschendal with its historical beauty and luxury cottages in a heaven-like setting. Boschendal is situated between Franschhoek and Stellenbosch, offering you the best of South Africa's divine wine tasting experience.



Oceana Beach and Wildlife Reserve

Honeymoon

SOUTH AFRICA

The romantic getaway

Imagine waking up to the smell of fresh ocean air and the sound of waves pounding against the rocks. You and your other half can walk onto the deck at a private ocean villa and enjoy a morning coffee while watching the sunrise. This dream honeymoon is possible at the Oceana Beach and Wildlife Reserve in South Africa.

If you and your partner are looking for a romantic getaway near the vast oceans and still have the chance to see wildlife at its best, look no further than this 5-star luxury accommodation. Situated on the east coast in the small town of Port Alfred which lies between Gqeberha and East London at the mouth of the Kowie River.

Oceana offers a truly luxurious and unique experience for couples looking to break away from the everyday bustle of city life. To celebrate your love, why not make unforgettable memories in one of the luxury Pool Suites? It offers complete privacy and a feeling of tranquillity. Each pool suite has a grand lounge area and an outdoor shower with ocean views. Savour the sunshine next to a private plunge pool on a wooden deck. These suites are perfect for couples who want to get close to nature yet still have modern facilities available. It is equipped with a king-size bed, satellite TV, entertainment system, underfloor heating, and Wi-Fi.

There is a relaxation garden where you can meditate and practice yoga, and pampering treatments are also available at the Wellness Spa. During your stay at Oceana, many adventures await. Firstly, you have a 7 km stretch of pristine and unspoiled beaches to explore or enjoy a picnic on the beach deck. You could start your day with a guided bush walk and appreciate the indigenous fauna and flora of the reserve. If keeping fit is high on your list, there is a compact gym available with views of the sea and the reserve. For the adventurous couple, there are daily game drives that give you the chance to view giraffes, zebra, and more than 220 different bird species. For those who prefer to relax, the African-shaped rock pool will provide you with views of the endless ocean waves. After an exciting day, the reserve's restaurant serves the freshest meals and delectable desserts. There is also the option of private dining or picnics.



Once your stay comes to its end, remember to visit the reserve's curio shop for souvenirs, with gifts inspired by Africa. To further enhance your honeymoon adventure, there are numerous attractions to see and activities to take part in around the area of the reserve. Visit Bathurst

with the largest pineapple in the world. This unique and iconic building has three floors, one of which is a gift shop with local jams and other merchandise. The area is also suitable for deep-sea diving, canoeing, horse riding on the beach, boat cruises, scuba diving, and whale watching.

Whether you are looking for a relaxed or action-packed honeymoon, Oceana Beach and Wildlife Reserve has got your needs covered. All you must do is bring yourself to one of the most luxurious accommodations in Port Alfred.



The Links Golf Course in George

GOLF

SOUTH AFRICA

Practice your favourite sport in style

Have you ever dreamed of the ultimate golfing trip where you can play on some of the most exciting courses? We recommend travelling to South Africa to experience its beauty while practising your favourite sport. What could be better than doing what you love while enjoying luxury accommodation?

South Africa has some of the leading golf courses scattered throughout the country. Many of these courses were designed by retired professional golfer, Gary Player, and fall under the Top 100 Golf Courses in the World. With its diverse cultures and tourist attractions, South Africa offers the perfect blend of top golfing destinations and sightseeing.

The Palace of the Lost City in Sun City with its astonishing architecture offers

guests sophisticated accommodation with an African touch. After an exciting day on the course, you could step out of your 5-star luxury room to visit the bar or restaurant. There is also a gym, swimming pool, and spa. Enjoy 24-hour room service, meals on request, internet access, and an amazing experience. If you are looking for ocean views, consider travelling to the south coast for more top golfing destinations.

Why not be a champion and play on one of the most prestigious golf courses of all time? The Pezula Championship Golf Course at the Pezula Nature Hotel and Spa in Knysna will test your skills, requiring a range of different shots to master the whole course. True to its name, this 5-star hotel is set in a luscious nature that contributes to the

beauty. You can visit the hotel's Pezula Golf Club Clubhouse with a restaurant and a bar when not testing your mettle on this pristine course.

The Aquamarine Guest House in Mossel Bay is a 4-star accommodation with some rooms boasting beautiful views of the vast blue ocean and the bay. It is conveniently situated near the R102 main road, which is also connected to the scenic Pinnacle Point Golf Course. In 2020, this course won the title of "South Africa's Best Golf Course" at the World Golf Awards. This guest house provides guests with breakfast, free Wi-Fi, and free shuttle service to nearby restaurants.

The golfing fun doesn't stop in Mossel Bay and continues to George. The famous Fancourt Hotel offers guests a comfortable and luxurious stay in exquisitely decorated rooms. Some of these rooms overlook the garden and the two golf courses, Montagu and Outeniqua, which were also designed by Gary Player. The Club Lounge, also known as the 19th Hole, offers guests indoor and outdoor lounges



The Gary Player Country Club Golf Course



The Leopard Creek Golf Course next to Kruger National Park

to have a rest. It has a view of the 18th green and offers delicious meals and snacks after an adventurous day on the course.

Another award-winning golf course in George-The Links-is situated in the Fancourt Estate's Manor House. This country hotel was built in the 1850s by British engineer Henry Fancourt White and gives a historic feel with modern luxuries. Rest assured that you will be pampered after a day on the golf course that has previously

hosted championships like the Presidents Cup in 2003, the SA Open in 2005, and the Volvo Golf Champions European Tour in 2012. The next travel recommendation takes you North to the Kruger National Park. The Lukimbi Safari Lodge is perfect for golfers looking to connect with nature. The elegant African-themed suites are elevated amongst the trees and lie next to the Lwakahle River and each suite has its private view of the bush. The lodge offers transport to the

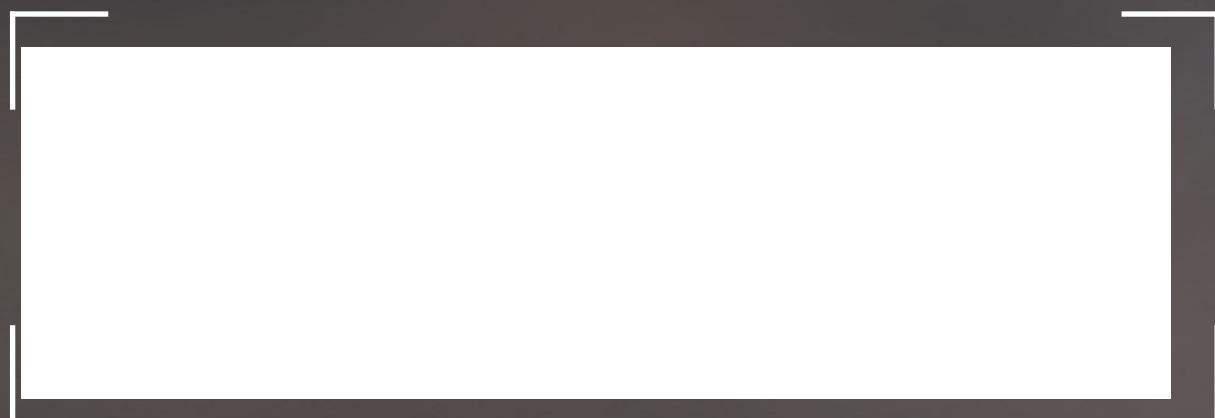
Leopard Creek Golf Course that borders the Kruger National Park. Regular sightings of elephants, buffalos, antelopes, hippos, and crocodiles will make your golfing trip a true "green safari" experience. Remember to always pre-book your golfing excursions to avoid disappointment. It is recommended to stay at least two nights at each destination to be able to fully take in your surroundings and to complete these exciting golf courses.

Thank you to
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EASTCAPE TOURS

AFRICAN TOURS & SAFARIS

All featured packages are sample itineraries. All itineraries are tailor-made and can be
customised to your requirements. Accommodation is subject to availability.



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