

TAUCK 

LAND JOURNEY

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South Africa: An Elegant Adventure - 2024

Start in Cape Town South Africa - End in Johannesburg South Africa

South Africa: An Elegant Adventure



Full Itinerary

In the heart of the reserves, spot leopards, lions, elephants, impalas, and zebras... attend wine tastings, special presentations and lectures with local experts... and experience the vast legacy of cultural and natural history that makes up South Africa!

Learn more about the struggle against apartheid, travel up Table Mountain for extraordinary views of "the end of the continent," and meet some elephants during your two-night stay at Victoria Falls – a highlight of our South Africa tours. And when you cruise the Zambezi River at sunset... you know that South Africa has a place in your heart forever more.

Itinerary

ONLY WITH TAUCK

- Private game drives with skilled rangers and trackers during four nights at private game reserves in or near Kruger National Park - two nights at Lion Sands – Kruger National Park and two nights at Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge

TAUCK VALUE INCLUDES

- On-Tour Air (4 flights)
- A wine-tasting dinner in the Cape Winelands
- A private lecture in Johannesburg
- Two nights in Victoria Falls, with a private lunch with the elephants in Zambezi and a sundowner river cruise
- Three nights at one of the "World's Best" hotels, Cape Grace in Cape Town, on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront
- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 28 meals; gratuities to local guides, service charges, taxes and portorage

DAY 1

Tauck's South Africa tour begins in Cape Town

Tour begins: 6:00 PM, Cape Grace. A transfer from Cape Town International Airport to the Cape Grace is included; the hotel, found on the prestigious Condé Nast Traveler's Gold List is perfectly situated right on the waterfront in the heart of the city. Meet your Tauck Director and your fellow travelers at our welcome reception followed by dinner in the Conservatory.

- **MEALS:** Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Cape Grace

DAY 2

Explore Cape Town and the Winelands

Your morning begins with a lecture on apartheid from Christo Brand, the former guard of Nelson Mandela during his imprisonment in the late 1970s and 1980s. It's then off to Cape Town for an orientation sightseeing tour in and around the city highlighted by views of City Hall, Parliament and St. George's Cathedral (where Desmond Tutu was inaugurated as Archbishop). Following a journey by rotating cable car, you'll find yourself atop famous Table Mountain. Enjoy magnificent 360-degree views of the city and bay during the ride up and on a walk at the top. After lunch, enjoy a walking tour of Kirstenbosch Gardens, the national botanical gardens on the eastern slope of Table Mountain highlighting the unique plant life of southern Africa. Back on the mainland, enjoy a stop at the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA) before a drive whisks you away to Constantia in the Cape Winelands for a memorable wine-pairing dinner.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Cape Grace

DAY 3

On and around the Cape Peninsula

First up today, travel to Cape Point and take a funicular up to the historic lighthouse. The views are outstanding and you'll overlook the Cape of Good Hope – the point that is thought to be where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Indian Ocean. Meet African penguins in a boulder-strewn coastal park and

have lunch at a popular seaside restaurant before returning to your hotel. This evening, enjoy the dining and entertainment options of the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront at leisure.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Cape Grace

DAY 4

Kruger National Park, Africa untamed

Fly from Cape Town to Skukuza airstrip and the incomparable Kruger National Park for a two-night safari stay; Lion Sands-Kruger National Park is set in the South African lowveldt in Kruger, thought to host more mammal species than any other game reserve on the continent. Home to Lion Sands Tinga Lodge and Lion Sands Narina Lodge, Lion Sands is located in a private riverside setting inside the park. The river is home to many endangered and rare animals, birds and reptiles – be on the lookout for them on an afternoon game drive before dinner.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Lion Sands-Kruger National Park

DAY 5

A riverside retreat in Kruger National Park

Wildlife viewing is at its best on our South Africa tour here at the Lion Sands-Kruger National Park Concession, which covers 12,000 acres and boasts one of the highest recorded densities of predators – and especially of leopards – in Africa; guests have spotted elephant, cheetah, rhinos, wild dogs and, of course, leopards in Kruger during their stay. You'll have ample opportunity to spot the animals who live here on two game drives today. Tonight, feast on regional culinary specialties at dinner.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Lion Sands-Kruger National Park

DAY 6

Game drives in Sabi Sands Game Reserve

Enjoy a final game drive at Lion Sands this morning before moving on to Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge, situated within the Sabi Sands Game Reserve bordering expansive Kruger National Park. Comprising five smaller private game reserves set along the Sabie River, the Sabi Sands reserve is home to a great biodiversity of habitat and wildlife, including Africa's iconic "Big Five" – elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion and leopard; wild dogs, cheetahs and over 300 species of birds can also be spotted here. An afternoon game drive is your introduction to life in the African bushveld.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge

DAY 7

At home on safari

Morning and afternoon game drives aboard four-wheel-drive, open-top Land Rovers make your South Africa tour come alive with up-close sightings of African game. Expert Shangaan trackers and experienced rangers help you spot the animals who migrate through the reserve, including antelopes, kudu, impalas and giraffes. They are well-versed in the geography of the area, the wildlife and the efforts being made to conserve these living treasures and eagerly share their knowledge with you. Enjoy afternoon coffee, tea and biscuits, or perhaps a swim between game drives, followed by dinner tonight.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge

DAY 8

A day in Johannesburg

Return to Skukuza airstrip and fly to Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city and commercial hub, for a two-night stay. Johannesburg is the world's biggest city not situated on a river, lake or coastline. Among the most modern and prosperous cities in South Africa, "Jo'burg" has derived much of its wealth from the major gold- and diamond-mining industries based here; you'll learn about diamonds and Africa's gemstones at a special presentation early this evening. Your hotel, Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa, an award-winning urban sanctuary set amidst lush acres of landscaped gardens; dine at your hotel restaurant.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

- **ACCOMMODATION:** Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa

DAY 9

Exploring Johannesburg

During today's guided tour, you'll experience the diversity of the region, from its thriving business environment of today to its historical importance as a residential township in the time of the apartheid. You'll see the homes of Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, as well as South Africa's Constitutional Court. Visit the Apartheid Museum, acknowledged as the pre-eminent museum in the world dealing with 20th-century South Africa, at the heart of which is the apartheid story; the museum illustrates the rise and fall of apartheid. Following lunch return to the hotel, where the remainder of the day is free to spend as you please in Johannesburg.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **ACCOMMODATION:** Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa

DAY 10

Experience the grandeur of Victoria Falls

Fly to Victoria Falls today, regarded as one of the seven natural wonders of the world. The Zambezi River plunges more than 300 feet into the Zambezi Gorge, often creating rainbows in the spray; the cataracts are nearly twice as wide and twice as high as Niagara Falls. Enjoy elegant accommodations at The Victoria Falls Hotel, established in 1904; in your free time, stroll the hotel's private pathway atop the gorge for inspiring views of the Victoria Falls Bridge crossing into Zambia. Nowhere is the hotel's gracious service more welcomed than at traditional afternoon high tea, which you experience during your stay. A local historian offers insights into the life of the famous Dr. David Livingstone aboard a private sundowner cruise on historic Zambezi River this evening – watching the setting African sun is an added bonus on this South Africa tour. Tonight, dine at your choice of restaurants in the hotel.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** The Victoria Falls Hotel

DAY 11

Victoria Falls, elephants and a stop at Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust

First up this morning is a privately guided walk around Victoria Falls, stopping to view its thundering waters from various vantage points including the Devil's Cataract, Rain Forest, Main Falls and Danger Point. You'll gain some amazing insights about African elephants from a naturalist during a hands-on visit to an elephant sanctuary where you'll interact with the elephants and watch them as they feed, play, and socialize. Majestic, wise and very intelligent, they have earned their nickname "gentle giants" as they are thought to be the largest living mammal on Earth today. This afternoon, learn about the amazing efforts of doctors and scientists alike and their dedicated efforts to preserving the various wildlife populations on a visit to the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust Clinic. Tonight, join us for our farewell cocktail reception and dinner, where you'll have a chance to share memories and stories from this enriching South Africa tour with your fellow guests, now friends.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **ACCOMMODATION:** The Victoria Falls Hotel

DAY 12

Journey Home

Tour ends: O.R. Tambo International Airport. Enjoy a final morning at leisure in Victoria Falls before your flight to Johannesburg at the conclusion of your South Africa tour. You should allow a minimum of three hours from the time of arrival in Johannesburg for check-in for your flight home.

- **MEALS:** Breakfast

Book This Trip



Have Information Ready

- Tour Name and Departure Date Desired
- Traveler Name(s): Please have first and last names as they appear on the passport or driver's license.
- Traveler's Address(es)
- Traveler's Phone Number(s)
- Emergency Contact Information: This would be a relative or friend whom we could contact during the tour in the event of an emergency. Please provide their name and phone number(s).
- Interest in purchasing a travel protection product (US and Canada)
- Interest in extending your trip by staying in a Tauck recommended hotel before your trip begins or after it ends
- Interest in our specially negotiated airfares.

Book Your Trip

For reservations, contact Chris Torgerson at chris@stonearchtravel.com

Deposit Date

Upon your request, we will hold space tentatively for you and give a "Deposit Due Date," by which a deposit must be received or space is automatically released.

Special Requests

We will be happy to advise hotels of any special requests, provided we receive them at time of booking. We regret that requests cannot be guaranteed.

Final Payment

Final Payment is due to Tauck **60** days before departure for lands trips. If your deposit was made by credit card, final payment will be automatic unless you opted out at time of booking. Bookings without

full payment at this time may be subject to cancellation without notice. Failure to make payment will be a considered a cancellation by the guest and all applicable cancellation fees will apply.

American Express, Diners Club, Visa, and MasterCard are all widely recognized credit cards and are accepted at most hotels, shops, and restaurants in South Africa. Guests should use credit cards for purchases as much as possible.

Thomas Cook, Visa and Master Card Traveler's Checks are widely accepted as well (US Dollars or South African Rand checks are recommended). As in most countries, we suggest you do not carry large amounts of cash.

Additionally, ATM machines are becoming increasingly popular; contact your bank in advance of departure to determine whether you will be able to use your card while visiting South Africa.

The small amount of cash you bring with you for incidental purchases should be in small denominations. Exchanging large denominations has been made difficult – even at banks – due to counterfeiting.

To obtain the up-to-date currency exchange rate, you may want to check your local newspaper or log on to the Internet website, www.oanda.com.

Please be advised that when exchanging currencies, shopping and using ATMs, the transaction time is much slower than most people may be accustomed to. South Africa's foreign exchange rules cause the entire process to take more time.

All customary gratuities for bellmen, luggage handling, dining room servers, safari guides, and drivers are included. **Note:** Tauck Director are not included.

Tour prices are per person. All hotel accommodations, portorage, safari expenses and adventures, entertainment, land transportation, admission fees, and the services of the Tauck Director, local guides and drivers are included. **Note:** Tauck Director are not included. Transportation from Cape Town International Airport to the Cape Grace are included, regardless of the time you check in to the hotel, provided you have furnished us with accurate flight information at least three weeks prior to the start of your tour. Air transportation from Victoria Falls Hotel to Johannesburg Airport is included. Transportation to and from airports and train stations may be shared with other Tauck guests.

To avoid jet lag and possible flight delays, you may wish to make hotel arrangements for the nights preceding or following your tour or cruise. As a service, we will book additional nights for you on a space-available basis using special rates only available through us. Hotel room charges will be added to the tour or cruise cost. Transfers for these extended stays are included (as noted). If you wish to spend additional nights, please consult Extend Your Stay in the Accommodations section and discuss it with your reservations sales consultant or your travel advisor when you book your tour or cruise.

We pledge to make every effort to operate all tours as advertised. We reserve the right to alter or curtail the itinerary, or substitute sightseeing, hotels, and/or conveyances as deemed necessary. Any savings realized by these changes will be refunded to you. Any resultant added expense will be covered by us. Although not expected, prices on this website may be modified due to unexpected significant external factors not forecast at the time of publication.