



## Grand Tour of South Africa

Worldwide Tour | 18 Days | Moderate

Johannesburg – Kruger National Park – Durban – Port Elizabeth – Cape Town

- The incredible diversity of Kruger National Park
- Swaziland's unique culture
- The beauty of the Garden Route
- Cape Town and the magnificent Cape Point
- The rhinos of the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve
- The verdant Winelands



## Worldwide Tours

These tours are designed for those who wish to see the iconic sites from far and wide on an all-inclusive excellent value group tour.

## Grand Tour of South Africa inclusions

- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges
- All accommodation
- All Meals
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking National Escort and Local Guides
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Safe and secure with ABTA, ATOL and IATA

*The only thing you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, discretionary tipping and early check in or late checkout.*



## Itinerary – Grand Tour of South Africa

### Days 1–2: Fly to Johannesburg

Fly overnight to Johannesburg. You will be met at the airport and transferred approximately 30 minutes to your hotel where the rest of the day will be at leisure.



### Destination Information

**Johannesburg** – Johannesburg is the lively centre for South Africa. After many years of decline, the city is fast re-emerging as a tourist hotspot and this can be seen in the theatres, cafés and museums of the cultural districts of Newtown and Braamfontein. The wealth divide is still ever-present but this should not be taken away from its incredibly friendly atmosphere.

### Day 3: Soweto Township Tour

Mandela and Desmond Tutu and today a prestigious address. Back in the city continue your walk through South Africa's contemporary history at the excellent Apartheid Museum, which explains the history of apartheid right up to abolition and the country's first multi-racial democratic elections. The city tour consists of between 4-5 hours of walking at a comfortable pace.



### Day 4: The Panorama Route

Depart Johannesburg and transfer approximately 6 ½ hours towards Kruger National Park via the Panorama Route. Drive along the Blyde River Canyon rim, passing evocatively named places such as God's Window and Bourke's Luck Potholes. In the late afternoon, arrive at your hotel close to the entrance of Kruger National Park.



## Day 5: Kruger National Park

Rise at 5:00 and venture out into the savanna to the sounds of the dawn chorus. In an open-air safari vehicle, you'll have the perfect vantage point from which to explore what is considered one of the world's greatest reserves. Spend the full day on the lookout for some of South Africa's most iconic beasts, from elephants and hippos, to lions and leopards. Stop at a picnic spot for lunch before continuing on with your tour in the afternoon. At approximately 16:00, return to your hotel and enjoy dinner at the lodge restaurant.



### Destination Information

**Kruger** – Considered one of the world's greatest national parks, over 137 species of mammal and 500 species of bird can be found in this enormous stretch of land of over 19,485 square kilometres. Kruger is unparalleled in its opportunities and practicalities for tourists and boasts a well-connected network of roads to enhance the experience.

## Day 6: Swaziland

Transfer 2 ½ hours over the border into the Kingdom of Swaziland to spend the day amongst its spectacular landscapes and fantastic scenery. You'll feel the pace slow down and bygone traditions return to the fore as you visit Matsamo Cultural Village, a showcase of Swazi culture, and browse through the local craft markets. You'll spend the night in the beautiful Ezulwini Valley. Sightseeing this afternoon will last approximately 4 hours.



### Destination Information

**Swaziland** – The small kingdom of Swaziland is an intriguing place full of colourful culture. Full of beautiful mountain scenery and diverse wildlife Swaziland upholds its personable and relaxed atmosphere and is a pleasant contrast to the bustling lifestyle of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



### Day 7: Zululand

Transfer approximately 4-5 hours over the border via the town of Big Bend to the province of KwaZulu Natal. Take an afternoon scenic drive up into the Ubombo Mountains where you'll get fantastic views over Lake Jozini. You'll also have the opportunity to catch a glimpse into the life of the Zulu tribespeople with a stop at an authentic Zulu homestead. The next two nights are spent at the hauntingly named Ghost Mountain.



#### Destination Information

**Zululand** – An area steeped in tribal history, Zululand is dominated by vast expanses of terrain. Made up mainly of small clusters of Zulu villages this area is an apt contrast to the more developed areas of the world.

### Day 8: Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve

This morning will be at leisure to relax or explore as you please. Transfer approximately 45 minutes to the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve, one of the oldest wildlife parks in Africa and is home to the largest collection of white rhino in the world. Spend the afternoon game viewing at this iconic reserve.



#### Destination Information

**Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve** – The Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game reserve is one of the oldest wildlife parks in Africa and thanks to conservation efforts, has the largest population of the white rhino in the world.

### Day 9: iSimangaliso Wetland Park

Transfer approximately 1 ½ hours up the Elephant Coast arriving at St Lucia which sits at the southern end of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. From here you'll embark on a 2-hour cruise of Africa's largest estuarine system, encountering hippos, crocodiles and a large variety of birds, including African fish eagles and goliath heron. Continue to the city of Durban, a cosmopolitan city that's driven by an African rhythm.



### Destination Information

**Durban** – Due to the 2010 World Cup in South Africa Durban received a significant makeover, creating a new waterfront area and a stylish new stadium. As a result, the city has a cleaner and more confident feel than before. Durban is also known for its Asian influences and is home to the largest number of people of Indian origin outside of India itself. This can be seen, heard and smelt around the marketplaces where there is a distinctly subcontinental atmosphere.

### Day 10: Durban – Port Elizabeth

Wake up early this morning and transfer to Durban Airport for your flight to Port Elizabeth. Your flight will be one hour 20 minutes. On arrival into Port Elizabeth, transfer to Boardwalk Casino and Entertainment World -a beachfront complex full of shops, bars and restaurants. Afterwards, transfer to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure.



### Destination Information

**Port Elizabeth** – Featuring good beaches for sunbathing and surfing the city of Port Elizabeth is an ideal stop-off for visiting destinations along the coast.

### Day 11: Tsitsikamma National Park

Take the coast road from Port Elizabeth to Tsitsikamma National Park. The drive is approximately two hours 30 mouth of the Storms River. Continue approximately one hour 30 minutes to Plettenberg Bay



### Destination Information

**Tsitsikamma National Park** - Part of the Garden Route, Tsitsikamma is a coastal reserve that encompasses a range of rivers, ravines and forests.

**Plettenberg Bay** – One of South Africa's tourist hotspots Plettenberg Bay is overlooked by mountains and hills and has beautiful beaches boasting clear blue water.

### Day 12: Elephant Sanctuary

Spend approximately two hours at the Elephant Sanctuary where you will be provided with information on efforts to conserve the African elephant. There will be opportunity to touch, feed and photograph the elephants whilst here. There will be around three elephants which you will be allowed to touch, feed and photograph.

Afterwards, travel back to Plettenberg Bay where you will visit the Birds of Eden, a free-flight aviary and sanctuary. Traversing a gorge of indigenous forest, there are 3,500 birds here, spanning 220 species.



### Day 13: Oudtshoorn

Start your day with a cruise up the Keurbooms River, spotting wildlife and admiring the unspoilt nature. The cruise will last approximately three hours. There is also an option to swim in the river so bring appropriate clothing if this is of interest. Back on dry land, travel to the quaint lagoon-side town of Knysna, considered a gem of the Garden Route. You'll have some free time at the Knysna Waterfront Complex, where you can browse galleries, boutiques and luxury yachts. Travel approximately one hour 40 minutes to Oudtshoorn, centre of the world's ostrich industry where you will have a guided tour of a working ostrich farm.



#### Destination Information

**Oudtshoorn** – The ostrich capital of the world, Oudtshoorn is renowned for everything ostrich related, from ostrich farms to ostrich meat and eggs. Aside from this it is a convenient location for visiting the Garden Route along the coast.

## Day 14: Cango Caves

Take a morning tour of the Cango Cave which will last approx. one hour.

You will then transfer between 5-6 hours to Cape Town.



### Destination Information

**Cango Caves** – The Cango Caves are a magnificent cave system located in the limestone foothills of the Swartberg Mountains.

**Cape Town** – Thanks to its naturally spectacular setting, Cape Town is one of Africa's most beautiful cities. Backed by Table Mountain and flanked by the Twelve Apostles, Cape Town has much to offer, from its beautiful beaches to the vibrant Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, unique heritage and cosmopolitan inclinations.

## Day 15: Cape Point

Today enjoy a full-day tour to Cape Point. Cape Point sits on the northern end of the Cape Peninsula, a rocky promontory that is home to pristine beaches, old coastal villages and an incredible biodiversity. You will spend the day exploring this magnificent area, visiting the wild colony of African penguins at the sheltered Boulders Beach and capped off with a stop at Cape Point. From this towering headland you'll have a spectacular view out over the dramatic ocean-battered rocks to where the Indian and Atlantic oceans collide. You will begin your tour today at approx. 08:30 and the tour will end at 17:30. Touring will be at a comfortable pace.





### Day 16: Cape Winelands Tour

Today is dedicated to the Cape Winelands. Here you'll find yourself amongst landscapes of manicured grape vines, their uniform rows stretching towards their spectacular mountainous backdrop, occasionally broken by the quaint whitewash of the distinctive Cape Dutch homesteads. During the day you'll also be able to taste the famous fruits of the region at one of the many wine estates.

This all day tour will last from around 08:30 to 17:30 and involves walking of a comfortable pace.



### Days 17-18: Fly Cape Town to UK

Spend the day being guided through this wonderful city's cultural and geographical landscapes. You will be collected at 08:00 and taken to Table Mountain (weather permitting), taking the ariel cable car to the summit to enjoy incredible views.

Next take a city tour – starting with an informative introduction to the Mother City, head to Zonnebloem, formerly District Six. Visit the living museum, tells the story of the forced movement of 60,000 people into District Six during the Apartheid and continues to support the development of the area today. Continue to Bo-Kaap, the Malay Quarter, that became the home of many Muslims and freed slaves – here you can see the oldest mosque in the southern hemisphere and experience the unique culture of the Cape Muslim community.

Take lunch at the vibrant Victoria & Alfred Waterfront – from here you will be transferred to the airport for your overnight flight back to the UK.



## Grand Tour of South Africa Travel Information

### Visas

No visa is required for this tour.

### Insurance

It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

### Accommodation

Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a resort style hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. Hotels are generally rated as four to five-star standard. All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/local guide. Rest assure that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

### Transport

Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines. Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines.

### Meals

All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from the groups' arrival until the groups' day of departure. Our schedule of meals is designed so that you can experience the local dishes, their individual flavours as well as the different ways they are prepared and cooked throughout South Africa.

### Group Size

In most cases the group will operate with a minimum of 8 travellers with local guides only. If there are 10 travellers or more, your group will be accompanied by a National escort as well as local guides. There will usually be no more than 30 travellers in each group.

### After your booking

Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice followed by deposit documentation, which includes a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approx. 2 weeks prior to departure.