

South Africa

6-Night Cape Town and the Garden Route

A scenic overland journey starting from Cape Town into the Wine Lands and the majestic Garden Route. Truly a wonderful way to start or finish your South African adventure.

Day 1- Cape Town, South Africa (3 nights):

Upon arrival at Cape Town International Airport, a representative from Nature Encounters Tours & Travel will meet you and transfer to your waterfront hotel. Depending on your arrival time, you can R&R or start to explore.

Cape Town is among the world's most beautiful cities. Nestled between wind-whipped majestic mountains and pristine white beaches, the city collides with its geography. Often called the 'cosmopolitan hub of Africa,' Cape Town bustles with rich culture, art galleries, boutiques and vibrant restaurants. The adventurer in you can hike up Table Mountain or you can just take it easy with a leisurely boat ride past this gorgeous city and mountainscape.



Day 2 – Cape Point Tour: After breakfast your guide will pick you up for a full day Cape Point Tour. Highlights include a visit to Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and Cape of Good Hope



Nature Reserve, along the southwestern shore of the Atlantic Ocean. This region is overflowing with diverse flora and fauna. The bird watching and wildlife variety is outstanding. Bird sightings include Antarctic terns, cormorants, Albatross and petrels, and there are even mountain zebras in the area. The coastal cliffs rise 200 metres above the Atlantic, providing you with an endless view to watch all the action. Later today you'll travel to Boulder Beach, to experience the fascinating African penguins up close.

Day 3 – Day at Leisure, Cape Town: Today there are so many activities to choose to do at your leisure. Right along the waterfront and at your doorstep is excellent shopping and dining. If you wish to go on a tour, we can arrange a vast selection, including a visit to Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned, a boat-ride along the coastline or even a trip to see breaching great white sharks. Weather permitting a trip up Table Mountain will give you spectacular views.

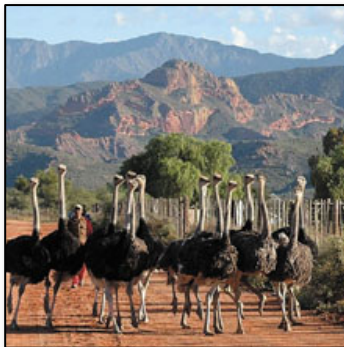
Day 3 – Stellenbosch & Franschhoek (1 night): Today you'll take a scenic and historic drive through the local wine regions in the Western Cape. Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, famous for its Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Shiraz along with delicious whites and sparkling wines. The day will include visits and wine tastings to both wine regions and a few boutique estates. Overnight in the winelands.

Stellenbosch: The Stellenbosch Wine Route is the first in South Africa, and was founded in 1971. Here, you can sample award-winning wines while exploring this famous and beautiful wine producing area, featuring tree lined streets and historic architecture.

Franschhoek: Nestled between towering mountains in the stunning Cape wine lands lays the magnificent Franschhoek Valley. This is the food and wine heartland of the country, where splendid wines are grown and the region's top chefs create incredible cuisine. Here breathtaking scenery, warm hospitality, world class cuisine and the finest wines all combine to create lasting memories.



Day 4 - Knysna (2 nights): Continue your journey along the famous "Garden Route" – the densely vegetated stretch of stunning Western Cape coastline, rich in diverse natural beauty, which contrasts sharply to the country's arid interior, heading towards the town of Oudtshoorn.



Oudtshoorn: This small town with a gorgeous mountain backdrop has two massive ostrich farms that play a significant role in the area's economy. Ostrich farms run much like any other farms but guests can help out by feeding the giant birds, clipping their feathers or for the strong at heart, riding an ostrich. Here you'll have lunch, go on a guided tour and you may be able to give the friendliest ostrich of the bunch, Betty, a big hug.

The Cango Caves: Near Oudtshoorn (approx. 30 km from town)

are among the biggest stalagmite formations in the world. Here you can take an extensive subterranean walk in the widely branching caves. Some of the sandstone formations are colourfully illuminated in purples, blues, oranges and reds. The bizarre shapes are mainly composed of calcium carbonate and develop as lime water drips from the stones and evaporates. Your leisurely guided walk will explore these spectacular caves.



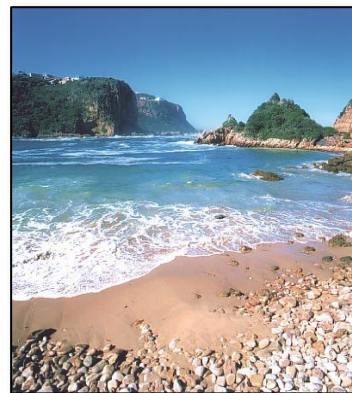
Next it's off to Knysna on the coast which is about a 40 minute drive. B,L

Day 5 – Knysna: After a relaxed breakfast it's off to the Knysna waterfront to explore the Featherbed Nature Reserve – a pristine piece of paradise on the western head of Knysna accessible only by ferry.

This South African heritage site's natural beauty remains intact by limiting access. During the 25 minute boat ride to the reserve, your guide will share fascinating tales about the lagoon, the early shipping industry and oyster cultivation. After all, the region has some of the world's best oysters! Once you reach the shore, enjoy a guided-drive to the top of the western head in a 4x4 unimog vehicle, stopping at a magnificent view point en route. Here are unsurpassed views of the lagoon, mountains and Knysna.

After the drive, you may decide to take the 2.2 kilometre downhill walk with your knowledgeable guide, finishing off with lunch under the milkwood trees. The afternoon has been left free for you to enjoy leisure time at The Knysna Waterfront. We suggest trying some of those delicious oysters!

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Day 6 – In Transit: After breakfast at the hotel, it's time to transfer to George airport for your outbound flight or to continue your South African tour.

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Cape Town and the Garden Route Land Only Based on 2 Guests Sharing

Group 1 - Protea Breakwater Lodge / Protea Franschhoek / Protea Knysna Quay

Starting from \$1935CDN per person sharing

www.breakwaterlodge.co.za

www.proteahotels.com/protea-hotel-franschhoek.html

www.proteahotels.com/protea-hotel-knysna-quays.html

Group 2 - Victoria & Albert Hotel / L'Ermitage Chateau / Knysna Log Inn

Starting from \$2150CDN per person sharing

www.newmarkhotels.com/hotels/victoria-alfred-hotel

www.lermitage.ahagroup.co.za/home

www.log-inn.co.za

Group 3 - Cape Grace Hotel / Le Franschhoek Hotel / Pezula Resort Hotel

Starting from \$3092CDN per person sharing

www.capegrace.com

www.lefranschhoek.co.za

pezula.com

Pricing is based on season and availability

ALL INCLUSIVE OF:

Accommodations and meals as stipulated in itinerary

Comprehensive pre departure package

Professional guided tour with an English speaking guide at all locations

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:

International airfare; Travel Insurance including cancellation, medical, baggage etc.; Meals and tours not stipulated in itinerary; Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks; Items of personal nature such as telephone and laundry services; Entry Visa's; Airport &/or Departure Taxes; Increased park fees; Tips and gratuities for guides, hotel & lodge staff.

To Book Your Safari Seat Contact:
Nature Encounters Tours & Travel Ltd.
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inquiry@natureencounterstours.com
www.natureencounterstours.com

About Nature Encounters Tours & Travel Ltd.

Welcome to Nature Encounters Tours & Travel! We have travelled the globe in search of destinations that will put you in touch with our passion – nature! Our experience, and that of our guides, is matched by a personalized service that keeps our guests returning to travel with us year after year. From the moment you inquire about a location to the start of your small group departure – we are dedicated to ensuring your trip is memorable.

On safari, you can experience everything from watching a lioness care for her young in the hollow of an old tree to having a magnificent five-ton elephant display his enormous ears and mock charge your vehicle . . . or lay on a sandy beach that goes on for miles and miles while listening to the sound of the Indian Ocean. Your accommodation and meals, in either lodges or tented camps, range from truly comfortable to absolutely luxurious. Backpacking was never like this! Swimming pools, gardens and the fragrance of wild basil will surround you as your binoculars scout the magnificent scenery for cheetah, elephant, zebra, lilac breasted rollers, hyena, and tawny eagles to name a few. Your game activities can include driving in national parks watching for wildlife along the way, walking with an experienced guide looking for all the little things you may have missed by driving, and boating or canoeing – enjoying some of the most incredible rivers and lakes.

Ecotourism is an important part of the Nature Encounters Tours & Travel experience. Our guests are happy to contribute to a sustainable industry where the local people, as well as the wildlife, benefit from their visit. Be it the CAMPFIRE project in Zimbabwe, where the local fishing villages gain from having tourists visit and bring school supplies, or Daphne Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage in Kenya where our guests help provide financial assistance for anti-poaching efforts. Nature Encounters Tours & Travel Ltd. support many schools, such as the Jacob Basson School in Khorixas, Namibia, the A.I.C. Girls' School in Kajiado, Kenya, and conservation groups that are near and dear to us: the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia, Jane Goodall Chimp Research in Gombe Stream, Wildlife SOS in India, Friends of the Galapagos and The Serengeti Lion Research Project to name a few. We do indeed walk the talk . . .

Our goal is to give our guests an experience they won't ever forget – from dancing with the Maasai in East Africa to enjoying watching the antics of a pair of polar bears enjoy a tussle in the snow to photographing and observing the many species that live in our great world.

Join us for the vacation of a lifetime!