

ACACIA AFRICA

KRUGER TO CAPE TOWN- TOUR DOSSIER

TOUR CODE KTC14

JOHANNESBURG – CAPE TOWN

14 DAYS

Tour Starts – **Pick up at 05h00 from joining hotel**

HIGHLIGHTS

Mpumalanga Province - Blyde River Canyon,
Bourkes Luck Potholes & The Three Rondavels
Kruger National Park – game drives
Swaziland – Mlilwane National Park
Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve – game drive
St Lucia
Durban
Wild Coast
Addo Elephant Reserve – game drive
Tsitsikamma National Park – forest walk
Knysna
Hermanus
Cape Winery
Cape Town



A 14 day tour taking you through many of South Africa's major highlights. From Kruger national park to Cape Town we cross this wonderfully diverse country, absorbing nature and culture at its best.

INTENDED ITINERARY

Whilst it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary.

DAY 1

Blyde River Canyon, Bourke's Luck Potholes, Three Rondavels, Private Game Reserve

D

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

Leaving Johannesburg we head through the scenic province of Mpumalanga, stopping at spectacular Blyde River Canyon to admire the view, and at the 'Three Rondavels'. Blyde River Canyon is the third largest canyon in the world and we descend a little way into it to view the perfectly rounded 'potholes' formed by erosion from the Blyde River. We stop again for the view over the low veld before descending the escarpment and travelling to our lodge located in a private reserve beside Kruger National Park. A recent development in the 'Greater Kruger' was to dismantle the fences between the national park and surrounding private game concessions allowing wildlife to migrate freely throughout the entire area.

DAY 2

Kruger National Park

B D

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

We rise early to enter into the Kruger National Park. This is South Africa's flagship park with over two million hectares of unrivalled wildlife diversity as well as historical and archaeological sites. We explore the wilderness hoping to catch sight of the 'Big 5' (elephant, rhino, leopard, lion and buffalo), but Kruger contains more than just the larger mammals. Indeed it is home to over 500 species of birds, 100 species of mammals and reptiles.

The impressive park allows you to understand why Kruger holds such an important place amongst the world's great game reserves. A typical day is to leave camp early, game drive until mid morning, then stop at a rest camp (inside the park) for lunch. After resting we venture out again in the late afternoon, when wildlife is usually more active, before finally we exit the park at around sunset and return to our Lodge.

DAY 3 – 4

Swaziland

B D

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

We leave South Africa and travel into Swaziland, where we head for the capital, Mbabane, visiting a local glass works factory en route. We continue through this mountainous landlocked kingdom sandwiched snugly between Mozambique and South Africa and spend two nights in the 'Big Game' Parks area. We visit the Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary and Royal Enclosure and have time to browse local craft markets in this rich cultural country.

DAY 5

Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve

B D

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

After a relaxed morning we cross back into South Africa and make our way to the well known Hluhluwe/Umfolozzi game reserve, this is South Africa's oldest game reserve and we spend the afternoon searching for some wildlife in the reserve. We spend the night nearby at a secluded lodge.

DAY 6 - 7

St Lucia, Durban

Bx2 Dx1

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

We rise early and visit a local village to gain some insight into the Zulu culture, before continuing to the wild beaches and natural beauty of St Lucia. There is usually an option to enjoy a boat cruise here and to see the wildlife of this World Heritage site before we drive down the coast to the bright lights and beaches of Durban, South Africa's largest port and premier beach resort.

DAY 8 – 9

Wild Coast - Cinsta

Bx2 Dx2

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

We leave Durban early and travel though one of the less visited areas of South Africa, the Wild Coast. Formerly known as the Transkei, this area is sparsely populated but rich in culture and inhabited mainly by the Xhosa people. We have two nights in beautiful Cinsta, the jewel in the Eastern Cape's crown. Situated on the beach we have a full day to enjoy a range of optional typically available in the area – e.g. surfing, horse riding, canoeing, day safaris to a local reserve. This is a delightful place to relax and enjoy South Africa natural beauty.

DAY 10

Addo Elephant Reserve

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

B D

Today we continue our journey south, making our way to Addo Elephant Reserve. The park has undergone considerable expansion in recent years and from its humble beginnings of less than a dozen elephants, the park now boasts over 400 individual elephants! We game drive – in addition to elephant, Addo contains lion, leopard, buffalo, rhino and various types of antelope and buck. Given the relative flatness of the park, and the well positioned waterholes, the likelihood of seeing a variety of game is normally good.

DAY 11 - 12

Tsitsikamma National Park, Knysna

Bx2 Dx2

Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

Our last port of call in Eastern Province is Tsitsikamma where you may like to take an optional hike along scenic mountain paths giving spectacular views over the Ocean – and the chance of glimpsing wildlife in the dense forest (and in the ocean). From the duiker (a small antelope) to dolphin and otter - the variety of wildlife attracted to this area is delightful. The following day we enter the Western Province and the pretty seaside town of

Knysna. There is a variety of many optional activities typically available here – or else simply relax, enjoy an oyster or two while trying some of South Africa's famous wines.

DAY 13
Hermanus
B D
Twin Share Rooms/ Shared Facilities

We continue to Hermanus, another attractive and relaxed town on the coastal route, known particularly for dolphin and whale-watching which whilst seasonal is often possible from the shore. At any time of year this is an ideal place to relax and enjoy a beautiful part of the coastline.

DAY 14
Winelands, Cape Town
B

Our last day on tour we visit a winery to learn more about some of South Africa's famous wines and enjoy some wine tasting. Finally we continue to South Africa's 'mother city', Cape Town where our tour finishes on arrival.

TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR STYLE

Acacia Small Group Safari

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Tour highlights, transport, accommodation, meals as indicated, services of an English speaking driver / tour leader.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport transfers, optional activities, laundry, gratuities, passport & visa fees, items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is mainly in twin share chalets/ cabins or rondavels (bungalows) with shared facilities. Many are situated in comfortable and in picturesque locations with a pool, restaurant and bar; other accommodations are more simple yet still clean and secure.

TRANSPORT

Minibus or microbus. Maximum group size: 14 passengers.

PARTICIPATION

This is a participation tour and your help is needed (usually on a roster basis) with the various day to day chores - shopping, cooking and pitching and striking camp etc. But don't worry it's not all hard work, and it's a good way to meet local people and get to know your fellow travellers. This is part of your contribution to the success of the tour and most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment. Please come along with a sense of adventure and flexible attitude and we are sure you will have a wonderful time.

TOUR PREPARATION

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent pre-departure information and related documents. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher giving full details of your joining point. Johannesburg and Cape Town are well served by a variety of airlines. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

Meeting point in **Johannesburg**:

Backpackers Ritz
1A North Road
Dunkeld West
Johannesburg

Contact details:

Tel: +27 (11) 325 7125/ Fax: +27 (11) 325 2521

Tour start time:

05:00 on Day 1

Tour end point in **Cape Town**:
Address:

Ashanti Lodge Green Point
23 Antrim Rd
Three Anchor Bay,
Green Point
Cape Town, 8005,
Tel +27 (0)21 433 1619
Email: info@ashanti.co.za

Normal end time

Late afternoon/ early evening on day 14

PRE TOUR ACCOMMODATION

This tour departs Johannesburg early on day 1; we strongly recommend therefore that you plan to arrive the day before departure to overcome any jet-lag and acclimatise to Africa. We would be happy to book pre-tour accommodation for you – please call or email us (or speak to your agent) with your arrival details and accommodation requirements.

However please book early to avoid disappointment and the risk of having to find more expensive (or less convenient) lodgings.

If time allows, we also suggest planning a night or two extra (after your tour) to make the most of Cape Town and the surrounding area.

See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. These prices are correct at time of print but are subject to change so please check with Acacia or your agent for current prices.

Description	Price (£)	Description	Price (£)
Johannesburg		Cape Town	
Pre tour accommodation – twin pppn	£23	Post tour accommodation – twin pppn	£23
Pre tour accommodation – single pppn	£30	Post tour accommodation – single pppn	£32
Pre tour accommodation – dorm pppn	£16	Post tour accommodation – dorm pppn	£14

WHAT TO BRING

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg luggage limit. A large soft holdall or backpack and a smaller day pack is ideal. On this tour you will need a mixture of lightweight cool clothing for the day and warm clothing (i.e fleece, long trousers and hat) for mornings and evenings as it can be cool on game drives. Pack a light rain jacket. It is advisable to bring mosquito spray throughout the year. Bring a towel and a pillow if required. A money belt/pouch that can be worn comfortably beneath your clothing is recommended. Please avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use hotel safe to store your cash, passport and air tickets. [NB: You do *not* need a sleeping bag for this tour.]

VACCINATIONS/HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure. Please note some areas visited are **malarial**. We recommend you speak to your doctor or travel clinic about appropriate anti-malarial tablets.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
South Africa	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R
Mozambique	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R
Swaziland	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	R	*	R

C = Compulsory, R = Recommended, * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

NB To be used as a guide only. Please see your GP or travel clinic for up-to-date medical advice.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the Acacia website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
South Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes									
Mozambique	No	Yes															
Swaziland	No	Yes															

NB The above is a guide only. Please check all visa requirements at least one month in advance of travel. Most nationalities do not need to obtain any of the above visas in advance. They are available at the border entry points and payable in US\$ cash.

MONEY MATTERS

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$10-15 per day. Most spending will be in South Africa Rand (for incidental expenses along the way, optional activities, most additional accommodation before/after the trip) but it's a good idea to bring along some US\$ cash for any international airport taxes or visas.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in either South Africa Rand cash or US dollars, Sterling or Euro which can be exchanged into Rand on arrival and as you travel. Your guide will give general guidance about spending during the tour.
- **Currencies** are as follows: South Africa Rand. Swaziland – South African Rand is legal tender
- **ATM machines** are found throughout South Africa
- **Credit cards** can be used to pay for larger optional activities although fees for use may be higher than you are accustomed to at home.
- **Travellers cheques** can be difficult to cash but make suitable emergency funds.

TIPPING

As in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy it has become customary to offer a small gratuity to local staff at the end of the tour if service has been of a high standard. Naturally this always remains at your discretion.

Optional Activities – approximate prices; subject to change & availability.

Activity	Price (US\$)	Activity	Price (US\$)
Kruger National Park		Lesotho	
Kruger Night Game Drive	\$40	Waterfall Pony Trek	From US\$25
Swaziland		Village Walk	
Swaziland Dinner and Dance	From US\$35	Guided Mountain Hiking Trail	From US\$25

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition of Acacia that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can help provide specialist travel insurance for this tour through our local operator. Please contact Acacia for more information.

ACACIA ON THE ROAD



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We strongly believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimises negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa.

GET CONNECTED

Join our facebook group www.facebook.com/AcaciaAfrica and get connected with other Acacia travelers, check out the pictures, videos and feedback from their tours and meet up with other people booked on your tour

Follow us on twitter @AcaciaAfrica and get the latest buzz. Got a question? Ask us on twitter!

Follow our blogs from the road <http://acaciaontheroad.blogspot.com/> and <http://africastuckonyou.blogspot.com/> get regular updates from our crew on the road as well as other Acacia Travellers

Don't forget to sign up to our newsletter to get regular updates and special offers www.acacia-africa.com

For information on our Premium Overlanding, Acacia Small Group Safaris, Short Safari's & Treks, Short Breaks & City Stays, Voluntours and Dive Tours please visit www.acacia-africa.com



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