

# ACACIA AFRICA

Updated  
12/10/2011  
FOR ALL 2012  
DEPARTURES

## CAPE TOWN SHARK DIVE – TOUR DOSSIER

TOUR CODE – SHK3

CAPE TOWN – CAPE TOWN

3 DAYS

Tour Starts – **Arrival on Day One at joining hostel.**  
**(Meet at airport if transfer is arranged)**

### HIGHLIGHTS

Cape Town  
Shark Cage Diving Excursion

**The Great White Shark is the most famous of all sharks, and one of the most misunderstood. Come face to face with these majestic creatures and learn of their incredible capabilities as you cage dive in one of the most famous Great White habitats in the world.**

***Please Note: Our operator is in possession of a valid White Shark Cage Diving Operators Permit (issued by government), enabling us to work within the Dyer Island nature reserve area (copy of permit available upon request). Only long-standing operators who are in compliance with certain safety regulations and code of conduct, are entitled to this permit. All our facilities are closely inspected by authorities on an annual basis, ensuring maximum safety for all our guests.***

### 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. Please therefore, treat the following as a guide only.

**This tour is operated in association with a local operator. Acacia is proud to be working with local companies supporting local communities.**

**Duration:** 3 Days  
**Countries visited:** South Africa

#### DAY 1 Cape Town

Single or shared room - Boutique Hostel

This first day is an arrival day in Cape Town. Your accommodation is in a lively part of the city, near to some of its attractions. After checking in, the remainder of the day is at your own leisure and you can explore this vibrant, cosmopolitan city. The reception can suggest things you might like to do, depending on time. 'Must sees' in Cape Town include stunning beaches, the Cape of Good Hope and the Cape Peninsular Nature Reserve, the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront and of course Table Mountain, which dominates the skyline with its regular tablecloth of cloud. In the evening, why not try one of the many city restaurants offering a wide range of seafood, African and European Cuisine. Cape Town has a buzzing nightlife with a host of trendy bars and clubs and many relaxing waterfront cafes.

#### DAY 2 Shark Dive, Gansbaai

Bx1 Lx1  
Single or shared room - Boutique Hostel

Leaving Cape Town early we travel down to the southern coast at Gansbaai, a mere stone's throw from the most southern tip of the African Continent. Along the way you we have time to eat our packed breakfast. On

arrival in Gansbaai we board our boat and are given our briefing on what to expect when we are out on the open water.

Approximately 12km offshore is Dyer Island, which, due to a number of geographical reasons, offers a great shark habitat and regular sightings. In addition to this, a colony of approximately 40,000 Cape Fur Seals inhabit a neighbouring island and other species such as Cape Gannets, Cape Cormorants, Jackass Penguins, whales and dolphins are also frequently sighted. Together, this creates a rich feeding ground for Great Whites and on a scale that supports these mammals in large numbers.

Our journey towards these islands takes approximately 30 minutes. Once anchored in the channel we have a safety briefing before making use of a securely designed 6-man steel cage, which floats on the surface, with divers no more than 1m below the surface. You will have the choice of using a mask and dipping below the surface of the water to see the sharks or use a regulator and air if familiar with scuba diving equipment.

If you do not wish to get in the water once you are out there, this is not a problem. White sharks are surface feeders, providing brilliant surface viewing from the safety of the boat's deck. Our shark handlers are trained to bring the sharks close to the side of the boat, where you'll get great views of their heads, jaws and immense size.

**Please Note. Each crew member is highly qualified in his/her specific field and together have more than 15 years experience working with Great White Sharks. Crew qualifications consist of; A1(1) commercially licensed skippers, level 3 Medics; Satour Registered specialised tour guides; Dive Masters and qualified shark handlers. All our crew have done SAMSA compliant Fire-Fighters and Life-Raft Courses and our skippers are licensed with ICASA (the Independent Commission Authority of SA), as well as SAMSA (SA Maritime and Safety Authority). A step-by-step emergency flow chart is available inside the cabin of our vessel, at all times.**

Each boat goes out with a professional underwater videographer who films the encounter on a high quality DVD (above and underwater). This is available for purchase at minimal cost at the end of the tour, to show friends and family back home.

Lunch is supplied on the boat and then we return to Gansbaai in the afternoon, full of stories of what we have experienced. Our shuttle bus returns to Cape Town in the late afternoon, early evening and the evening is at your leisure to enjoy Cape Town's nightlife

### DAY 3 Cape Town

The tour finishes after breakfast today. Airport transfers can be arranged. Please speak to Acacia or your local agent.

## TOUR INFORMATION

### TOUR STYLE

Dive Tour

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

Tour highlights, accommodation, meals as indicated, wetsuit and dive mask, services of driver and 6 crew on dive boat.

### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport taxes, tips, drinks, optional activities & items of a personal nature.

### ACCOMMODATION

A comfortable, boutique hostel with en suite single and twin rooms as well as shared dorm rooms. Facilities include a BBQ area, swimming pool, travel desk, satellite TV, high speed internet connections & off street parking.

### TRANSPORT

Minibus for transfers, 57 foot motorised catamaran with inside and outside seating, toilet, viewing deck and life rafts.

### MEALS

This package includes 1x Breakfast (B) 1x Lunch (L).

## OPERATOR

As this tour is run by a respected local tour operator, you will benefit from their extensive local knowledge and enthusiasm as well as helping Acacia support local businesses in Africa.

## 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. Cape Town is 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

You are free to arrive at your Cape Town accommodation anytime on day one. The tour finishes after breakfast on day three. If you would like airport transfers please contact Acacia or your local agent for rates.

### EXTENDING YOUR STAY

If you wish to extend your stay in Cape Town additional accommodation can be booked, usually on a direct pay basis. Please ask Acacia or your agent for more details.

### WHAT TO BRING

When packing, please bear in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg luggage limit. Cape Town's winter is between June and September when weather and sea temperatures can drop and there can be rain. It is warm and generally much drier for the rest of the year. Please pack accordingly. You will be given a wet suit for the dive and you do not need to bring dive or snorkel equipment. Please avoid bringing unnecessary valuables. We suggest you make use of your hotel safe to store extra cash, passports and flight tickets.

### 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.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
S. Africa	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R

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

### 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](http://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
S. Africa	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

### 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. Also keep US\$ cash for relevant airport taxes and visas needed, optional activities and any additional accommodation before or after your tour.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in US dollars, Sterling or Euro which can then be transferred into the local currency where necessary. Rand can be purchased in Cape Town airport on arrival and in many places throughout the city.
- **Currencies** are as follows: South Africa – Rand
- **ATM machines** are found in Cape Town.
- **Credit cards** can be used widely across the city in restaurants, shops and bars.
- **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 give a small gratuity to local staff at the end of a tour for services rendered. This is at your own discretion.

### 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 recommend a respected, specialist travel insurance provider for this tour. Please contact Acacia for more information.

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (subject to change and availability).

Activities	Price (ZAR)	Activities	Price (ZAR)
<b>Cape Town</b>		<b>Cape Town</b>	
Cape peninsula tour (from)	R545	Paragliding (from)	R 950
Wine tours (from)	R545	Township tours (from)	R 315
Sky diving (from)	R1700	Surf Lessons (from)	R275
Table Mountain cable car (return)	R 180	Whale watching(seasonal)	R 550-R790
Robben Island day tour (from)	R 220	Two ocean aquarium	R100

## ACACIA ON THE ROAD – NEWS & EVENTS



### RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.acacia-africa.com)**



## Acacia Adventure Holidays Ltd

### London

23A Craven Terrace  
London  
W2 3QH  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7706 4700  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7706 4686  
Email: [info@acacia-africa.com](mailto:info@acacia-africa.com)

### Cape Town

PO Box 27632  
Rhine Road  
Cape Town 8005  
Tel: +27 (0)21 556 1157  
Fax: +27 (0)21 557 5983  
Email: [info@acacia-africa.com](mailto:info@acacia-africa.com)

