Itinerary

17 Day South Africa Rainbow Route Safari

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.**

Day 1: Johannesburg, South Africa ~ Greater Kruger Region

Depart Johannesburg early this morning and travel towards the Mpumalanga region, known for its spectacular mountains, valleys and scenic landscapes.

TOUR MEETING POINT: Road Lodge Rivonia, Corner Rivonia Road & 10th Avenue, Rivonia, Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa.

MEETING TIME: 6:30am for your tour briefing. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early.

IMPORTANT: Transfers to the tour meeting point are not included. Guests must make their own way to the hotel for the 6:30am briefing. Airport transfers can be arranged at an additional cost. Due to the early departure, we recommend arriving in Johannesburg the day before your tour. Please contact MyHoliday2 in advance if you would like to add transfers or an extra night's accommodation. Additional charges apply and arrangements are subject to availability.

Following your morning briefing, enjoy a scenic journey through mountains, valleys and forested landscapes, with stops at viewpoints including God's Window and the Three Rondavels.

Continue to your lodge on the edge of the Greater Kruger region, arriving in the late afternoon with time to relax and enjoy the surroundings.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to God's Window and Three Rondavels viewpoints

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 580km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 8 hours 30 minutes driving, approximately 10 hours with stops

MEALS: Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Makuwa Safari Lodge, Greater Kruger Region

Day 2: Greater Kruger Region ~ Kruger National Park ~ Greater Kruger Region

Rise early this morning for a full day of game viewing in Kruger National Park, one of Africa's premier wildlife destinations.

Travel in an open game drive vehicle as you explore diverse landscapes and search for the Big Five, as well as a wide variety of other wildlife and birdlife.

After an exciting day in the park, return to your lodge in the late afternoon with time to relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

INCLUSIONS: Full day game drive in Kruger National Park in an open safari vehicle

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 150km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Full day game viewing, approximately 9 hours

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Makuwa Safari Lodge, Greater Kruger Region

Day 3: Greater Kruger Region ~ Kruger National Park

This morning, enjoy a short guided walk in the surrounding bush before re-entering Kruger National Park for another day of wildlife viewing.

Travel south through the park, exploring diverse ecosystems and visiting waterholes in search of the Big Five and a wide variety of wildlife.

Continue to your accommodation inside the park, where you can relax and enjoy the natural surroundings.

INCLUSIONS: Kruger National Park entry and game drives

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 100km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Afternoon game drive of variable duration

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch and Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Kruger National Park Chalets

Day 4: Kruger National Park ~ eSwatini (Swaziland)

Depart Kruger National Park this morning and travel south towards the Kingdom of eSwatini, crossing the border into this mountainous and culturally rich country.

Continue to the Malolotja Nature Reserve, where you will explore the scenic landscapes on foot, taking in sweeping mountain views and diverse habitats.

Arrive at your lodge in the afternoon and enjoy time to relax before dinner in this peaceful setting.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to Malolotja Nature Reserve and guided walk

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 220km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 5 hours driving, up to 7 hours with stops and border crossing

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast and Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Hawane Lodge, eSwatini

Day 5: eSwatini ~ Zululand

Depart eSwatini this morning and re-enter South Africa, travelling towards the Zululand region.

En route, visit a local craft market near Mbabane before continuing to your lodge located within a private reserve in the Msinene Conservancy.

In the afternoon, enjoy a guided walk through the bushveld and riverine vegetation, learning about the local environment while searching for wildlife.

INCLUSIONS: Visit to local craft market and guided bush walk

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 320km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 6 hours driving, approximately 8 hours with stops and border crossing

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Zululand Lodge, Zululand

Day 6: Zululand

Spend today exploring the Zululand region with a focus on wildlife and conservation.

This morning, enjoy a game drive in Hluhluwe Game Reserve, one of Africa's oldest reserves and a stronghold for rhino conservation.

Return to your lodge in the afternoon, with time to relax and take in the views over the reserve.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to Hluhluwe Game Reserve and morning game drive

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: Variable within reserve

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Half day game viewing

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Zululand Lodge, Zululand

Day 7: Zululand ~ Drakensberg Mountains

Depart Zululand this morning and travel south towards the spectacular Drakensberg Mountains.

En route, visit the Nelson Mandela Capture Site Museum to learn about an important moment in South Africa's history.

Continue to your accommodation in the Drakensberg, where you can relax and enjoy the mountain scenery.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance to Nelson Mandela Capture Site Museum

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 500km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 7 hours driving, approximately 8 hours with stops

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch and Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Lotheni Chalets, Drakensberg

Day 8: Drakensberg Mountains

Spend today exploring the spectacular Drakensberg Mountains, a UNESCO World Heritage listed region known for its dramatic scenery.

Enjoy guided walks along mountain streams and scenic trails, taking in panoramic views, fresh alpine air and the unique flora and fauna of the area.

The afternoon is at leisure to relax, continue exploring or simply enjoy the peaceful surroundings of this remarkable landscape.

INCLUSIONS: Guided walks in the Drakensberg Mountains

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: Minimal

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Activities throughout the day

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Lotheni Chalets, Drakensberg

Day 9: Drakensberg Mountains ~ Wild Coast

Depart the Drakensberg Mountains this morning and travel south towards the Wild Coast, one of South Africa's most untouched regions.

Enjoy a scenic journey through rural landscapes, passing small villages and rolling hills before reaching the coastline.

Arrive at your lodge near the beach in the late afternoon, with time to relax and take in the coastal surroundings.

INCLUSIONS: Scenic drive through the Wild Coast region

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 550km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 9 hours driving, approximately 10 hours with stops

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast and Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Crawford Beach Lodge, Wild Coast

Day 10: Wild Coast

Today is free to relax and explore the Wild Coast, a region known for its untouched beaches and rich local culture.

You may choose to visit nearby villages to experience Xhosa culture, take a walk along the coastline or simply unwind at your lodge overlooking the ocean.

Enjoy the peaceful surroundings, with time to soak in the scenery and connect with this unique and remote part of South Africa.

INCLUSIONS: Free day on the Wild Coast

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 0km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Nil

MEALS: Breakfast

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Crawford Beach Lodge, Wild Coast

Day 11: Wild Coast ~ Addo Elephant National Park

Depart the Wild Coast this morning and travel west towards Addo Elephant National Park.

Enjoy a scenic journey through the Eastern Cape before arriving at the park, home to one of Africa’s largest elephant populations.

In the afternoon, head out on a game drive in your safari vehicle, with excellent opportunities to spot elephants, buffalo and other wildlife.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to Addo Elephant National Park and afternoon game drive

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 360km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 5 hours 30 minutes driving, approximately 8 hours with stops

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch and Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Addo National Park Chalets, Addo

Day 12: Addo ~ Tsitsikamma ~ Plettenberg Bay

Depart Addo this morning and travel west along the famous Garden Route, one of South Africa's most scenic coastal regions.

Stop at Tsitsikamma National Park to explore the dramatic coastline, where forested cliffs meet the ocean. Enjoy a walk to the Storms River Mouth and take in the spectacular views.

Continue to Plettenberg Bay, where the afternoon is at leisure. You may wish to relax on the beach, explore the town or enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to Tsitsikamma National Park

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 320km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 4 hours 30 minutes driving, approximately 8 hours with stops

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast and Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Bayview Hotel, Plettenberg Bay

Day 13: Plettenberg Bay

Today is at leisure in Plettenberg Bay, allowing time to relax and explore this beautiful coastal region.

You may choose to join an optional ocean safari to spot whales and dolphins, walk the scenic Robberg Peninsula or unwind on the area's pristine beaches.

Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of the Garden Route, with time to explore local shops or dine at one of the many restaurants.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to Robberg Nature Reserve and guided walk

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: Minimal

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Activities throughout the day

MEALS: Breakfast

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Bayview Hotel, Plettenberg Bay

Day 14: Plettenberg Bay ~ Hermanus

Depart Plettenberg Bay this morning and travel west along the Garden Route towards Hermanus.

Enjoy a scenic coastal journey through forests, mountains and farmland, arriving in Hermanus, one of the world's best locations for land-based whale watching during the season.

On arrival, take a walk along the coastal paths or visit the Fernkloof Nature Reserve to explore the region's unique fynbos landscapes.

INCLUSIONS: Coastal walk in Hermanus or visit to Fernkloof Nature Reserve

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 450km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 6 hours 30 minutes driving, approximately 8 hours with stops

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Lunch

OVERNIGHT: Windsor Hotel, Hermanus

Day 15: Hermanus ~ Stellenbosch ~ Cape Town

Depart Hermanus this morning and travel towards Cape Town, stopping en route in the renowned wine region of Stellenbosch.

Enjoy time to explore the historic town and sample local wines on an optional cellar tour before continuing to Cape Town, arriving in the afternoon.

The remainder of the day is at leisure to relax or explore the vibrant city, including the V&A Waterfront.

INCLUSIONS: Cellar tour in Stellenbosch

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 190km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 3 hours 30 minutes driving, approximately 5 to 6 hours with stops

MEALS: Breakfast

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Nil

OVERNIGHT: City Lodge Hotel V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

Day 16: Cape Town

Today, explore the highlights of Cape Town, one of the world's most scenic cities, set beneath the iconic Table Mountain.

Travel along the Atlantic coastline, visiting Hout Bay before continuing to the spectacular Cape Point Nature Reserve. Discover dramatic cliffs, sweeping ocean views and the famous Cape of Good Hope.

Continue to Boulders Beach to visit the charming African penguin colony, then return to Cape Town in the afternoon with time at leisure.

INCLUSIONS: Entrance fees to Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve and Boulders Beach Penguin Colony

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: 150km

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: 3 hours 30 minutes driving, full day with stops

MEALS: Breakfast

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Nil

OVERNIGHT: City Lodge Hotel V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

Day 17: Depart Cape Town

Your South Africa Rainbow Route journey concludes today in Cape Town.

After breakfast, enjoy free time for last minute sightseeing, shopping or optional activities, including a visit to Table Mountain or Robben Island.

Your tour ends at approximately 6:00pm at the hotel.

INCLUSIONS: Guided walk up Table Mountain

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL DISTANCE: Minimal

APPROXIMATE TRAVEL TIME: Activities throughout the day

MEALS: Breakfast

MEAL PREPARATION ASSISTANCE REQUIRED: Breakfast