

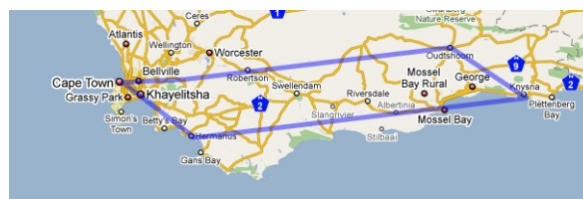
## Cape Town and Garden Route Extension



### Overview

Cape Town is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city offering outdoor activities, a lively music scene and a host of trendy bars and restaurants. Contrasts abound in this city, with beaches, vineyards, and of course Table Mountain within easy reach, and of course the stark differences between the townships and beach-side mansions providing a constant reminder of this nation's tumultuous history.

- This tour is an optional extension to most of our Southern African trips.
- It may also be booked as a stand alone module for visitor's to Cape Town with Additional nights bookable
- Highlights include Winelands, Oudtshoorn, Knysna and Tsitsikamma
- Small personal groups and expert guiding
- Intimate accommodation of a very high standard
- Many meal experiences included
- Leisurely pace



### Day 1

After arriving in Cape Town, you will be overnight tonight at a small privately owned hotel chosen for its charm and ideal location. You will have time to acclimatise and enjoy an evening in this fabulous city.

### Day 2

This morning you will be met by your guide and coach for a morning exploration of the Cape Town, known affectionately as the Mother City. Your tour will take in the Houses of Parliament, the Castle (built between 1666 and 1679, this is South Africa's oldest building), lively Greenmarket Square with its daily market, the Company Gardens and of course Table Mountain which will give you spectacular views over the city and Peninsula (cable car fee is not included as it is weather dependent). On our descent, we stop at the Bo Kaap, home to the Cape Malay community, with its cobbled streets and brightly coloured houses. You will have the choice of being dropped off at the Waterfront to experience this vibrant location at your own pace, with its many shops, restaurants and pubs or at your hotel at the end of the tour. Includes Breakfast.

### Day 3

Today we embark on a full day tour of the Cape Peninsula. We take in the beaches of Clifton and Camps Bay, before crossing over to Hout Bay, where you may choose to join an optional boat cruise to Seal Island. From here we drive to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve via Chapman's Peak, one of the world's most breathtaking coastal drives, where you will board a funicular to the top of the Peninsula to witness the symbolic meeting of the Indian and Atlantic Oceans as well as have spectacular views over False Bay. We enjoy lunch near here (own account) before continuing to Simonstown, the naval base, and visiting the African Penguin



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### Day 4

Your guide will collect you this morning at 09h00 and you will set off for Stellenbosch, the second oldest settlement in South Africa after Cape Town. Its oak lined streets and famed Cape Dutch architecture make it one of the most charming towns in the country.

We continue from Franschhoek, founded by the French Huguenots and now a gastronomic centre of South Africa, where we have time for lunch and a wine tasting at one of the renowned wine estates, before ascending the spectacular Franschhoek Pass en route to Montagu. Here we overnight in this provincial town on the outskirts of the semi desert region known as the Little Karoo.

Lunch Included.

### Day 5

This morning after breakfast we join Route 62, a unique motorway which passes through both expansive scenery and traditional farming towns dominated by the white spires of the Dutch Reformed Church.

We stop at the little village of Calitzdorp, famous for its Haanenpoort grapes for a port tasting, before arriving at Oudtshoorn, the ostrich farming capital of the world. We have lunch and a tour of an ostrich farm before visiting the Cango Caves, the largest accessible caverns in Africa. Overnight in Oudtshoorn.

Breakfast and Lunch Included

### Day 6

After breakfast, we journey over the Outeniqua mountains, leaving behind the dry Little Karoo and entering the lush greenery of the Garden Route. Our journey takes us through a most scenic coastal route, passing the magnificent beaches and lakes of Sedgefield and Wilderness to Knysna where we join the ferry on Knysna Lagoon and set off for Featherbed Nature Reserve, where we are met by all terrain vehicles that will take us up to the top of the cliffs for breathtaking views of the area.

Lunch is served on the edge of the lagoon, before we check into your overnight accommodation.

Breakfast and Lunch Included

### Day 7

We drive east after breakfast to the thick indigenous Forest of Tsitsikamma, where we head towards the coast at Storm's River Mouth. Here the Storm's River meets the Indian Ocean amidst dramatic cliffs and gorges, bordered by the forest an inspiring sight.

Our tour continues with a stop at a monkey sanctuary, where rescued apes and monkeys run wild in a protected area of the forest, before we drive to the holiday village of Plettenberg Bay, and famed Lookout Beach. We return to Knysna to have the rest of the afternoon at leisure. Dinner and overnight in Knysna.

Breakfast and Dinner Included

### Day 8

After breakfast, we head west via the historic town of Swellendam, with its 18<sup>th</sup> century architecture, to the coastal town of Hermanus, world famous for its excellent land based whale watching. Whales are in the bay between May and November, but even out of whale season, the location and views makes this a special place to visit.

We enjoy lunch here at the Relais and Chateaux hotel, the Marine, a beacon of elegance on the coast. This afternoon, we continue to Cape Town via Sir Lowry's Pass where you will be dropped off at the airport (arrival approximately 17h30)

Breakfast and Lunch Included

