

Safari and Beach



Overview

A Safari and Beach itinerary provides the perfect variety for a combination of activity and relaxation. Whilst Kruger National Park is one of Africa's best known safari destinations, there are other options for a safari - we will advise according to budget, journey time and length of time on safari. Safari lodges on Private Game Reserves offer the best experience: the guides are able to drive off-road to get closer to the wildlife. Lodges range from super-luxury to budget - though the latter category still provides a high level of comfort and if you choose the right lodge, a fabulous experience. The super-luxury lodges offer the very best in guiding, cuisine and accommodation.

From South Africa, Mozambique or Mauritius are ideal beach destinations. Mozambique is the less developed, but more expensive, requiring return flights from Johannesburg if returning to Europe afterwards. The offshore Bazaruto islands are paradise: turquoise sea filled with colourful sealife and long golden sandy beaches. Diving and snorkelling here are rated amongst the best and of course there are other watersports available. Mauritius has a greater selection of accommodation to suit all budget ranges, and has direct flight routes to / from London. Beaches here are beautiful, and a range of land and water based activities are available at most hotels..

Trip Highlights

Track the Big Five in their natural surroundings on Game Drives and Bush Walks

Take sundowners overlooking a waterhole at sunset

Relax on golden beaches watersports and other activities available

Opportunity to extend your visit: visit a tribal community, go white water rafting, spend some time in Cape Town or visit the Victoria Falls.

Tailor Made trips

We detail below a sample itinerary: note that we can change the location, duration, order and add in other destinations such as Cape Town, the Winelands & Garden Route or the Victoria Falls.

Prices

The prices given below are a guide: costs will depend on the lowest airfares available at the time of quotation, the type of accommodation and seasonal price variations. Air fares are generally cheaper the earlier the booking: airlines sell their least expensive seats first when releasing fares. Accommodation costs will depend on the grading: the location of the property, room size and type (eg if there is a view), quality of furnishings and linen, ratio of staff to customers and quality of food will all impact on the amount charged. Seasonal variations also impact on the price: low season from May to September is a less expensive time to travel in South Africa than high season which runs from October to April. Let us know a budget and we can research the best accommodation available for you.

Why Book With Us?

At Native Escapes, we select accommodation according to particular interests, season of travel, budget and availability. We have travelled extensively in South Africa, and have a good level knowledge of the destinations and things to do. When you book, we 'flesh out' your itinerary with suggestions for things to do in each area, and will provide maps and directions to each destination with your final paperwork.

We have on-the-ground services by way of ground handlers, who provide an excellent service in the event of emergency. Because we purchase

accommodation through ground handlers who sell to agents such as ourselves around the world, we have access to excellent rates which are not available for direct bookings; you should pay no more for direct bookings than if you book through us.

We comply fully with the UK Package & Travel Regulations 1992. Holidays with flights included are covered by the company's ATOL Bond (Air Travel Organisers' Licence) held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). This means that in the unfortunate event that our company should fail, the CAA will, arrange any necessary repatriation and any refund of monies paid to *Native Escapes* in advance. Our ATOL number is 9709. We are also happy to book ground arrangements only where clients wish to purchase their own flights: we have separate financial cover for these holidays with IGI Insurance.

Note that booking directly does not provide any financial cover in the event of any suppliers going into administration and is often more expensive.

Day 1

Overnight flight to Johannesburg

Days 2 - 5

On arrival at Johannesburg you transfer to your flight to Kruger International Airport. On arrival, you take a road transfer to your Safari Lodge for 3 nights in a standard suite on a full board basis including teas/coffees, two safari activities a day and a guided walk. On morning or evening game drives, you can expect to see Wild Dog, both Black and White Rhino, Extensive plains game, including Sable, Gemsbok, Springbok and Giraffe, as well as over 340 species of birds.

Safari & Beach

You find yourself face-to-face with the abundant wildlife of the bush and some of the most spectacular sunsets Mother Nature bestows. The lodge's suites have ensuite bathrooms and wonderful river views. When not out on activities, try sipping cocktails in the sparkling pool which overlooks the waterhole.

Day 5

You take a return flight to Johannesburg. On arrival, you transfer to Mondior Concorde Hotel. An overnight stop is necessary in Johannesburg for flight connections.

Days 6 - 13

Today, you take a complimentary road transfer back to Johannesburg airport for your flight to Mauritius. On arrival in Mauritius, you take a private transfer to your Hotel for 8 nights in a superior double room on an all inclusive basis. The hotel has a relaxed, tranquil, serene feel to it which gives a feeling of peace and harmony and is a real 'get away from it all' experience. There are a vast range of entertainment and dining options at the hotel, including the hotel's gastronomic restaurant, perfect for a special evening in an elegant setting. This hotel is a favourite hotel for wedding and honeymoon couples alike.

Facilities include 6 restaurants, cocktail lounge, beach bar, cinema, 4 pools (1 indoor), tennis, watersports, dive centre, fishing, spa, Jacuzzi, sauna, Steam room, gym and salon.

Day 13

Return flight to London

Guide Cost: £3,080.00 per person (Mauritius) £4,805.00 (Mozambique) per person

Indicative price includes return economy flights from London, Accommodation, transfers, internal flights and meals as described.

Trip Extensions - some ideas:

Consider extending your stay in the area the scenery is breathtaking ... visit the Blyde River Canyon, Bourke's Luck Potholes, God's Window and historic gold mining towns. White water rafting, quad biking, hot air ballooning and a helicopter scenic flight are also available. There is also an opportunity to visit a local Shangaan Tribal community, where guests will visit a school, spend time with the traditional healer, and learn about tribal practices such as initiation ceremonies and craftwork.

If you have more time, consider spending a few days in **Cape Town**: a vibrant cosmopolitan city offering outdoor activities, a lively music scene and a host of trendy bars and restaurants. Closeby are the Winelands an area renowned not only for producing some of the world's best wines, but fast becoming a top gastronomic destination too.

The **Garden Route**, approximately 4 hours drive from Cape Town, is one of the most scenic areas of the country, with miles of white-sand beaches, pretty lagoons crossed by low bridges, forested mountains with a network of footpaths, and pretty towns with excellent seafood restaurants. There are opportunities for dolphin and whale watching, hiking, canoeing, rafting, and Visiting some excellent wildlife rehab reserves.

Spend a few days at the Victoria Falls - one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Walk through rain forests or view the falls from the air by helicopter. Other activities include a Zambezi River cruise, elephant-back safaris, canoeing or white water rafting and a visit to nearby Chobe Game Reserve in Botswana or neighbouring Zimbabwe.

More Information

For a tailor made itinerary, call us on 01342 834700 or email info@nativeescapes.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please ensure that passports are valid for travel and that you are in possession of valid visas (if required).

Please consult your doctor prior to your safari for information and advice on the use of anti-malaria medication.

You must take out comprehensive travel insurance to safeguard against cancellation and curtailment, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and personal belongings.

Visas / Departure Taxes

Not required for South Africa. Visas are not required for UK or Irish nationals for stays of up to 90 days. An onward or return ticket is required, as well as sufficient funds and documents needed for further travel. Please note that visitors to South Africa must have a MINIMUM of three blank/empty VISA pages in their passport each time entry is sought. Visitors to South Africa with foreign passports who do not comply with these requirements will either be stopped from boarding their aircraft at their point of departure or risk Deportation on arrival in South Africa.

You don't need a visa to enter Mauritius if you are a citizen of the EU, the USA, Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand or a number of other countries. You can find more information on the website pmo.gov.mu/dha/ministry/novisa.htm. Initial entry is granted for a maximum of one month. If you change your departure plans, make sure you don't exceed your permitted stay. Note: Passport and visa requirements are liable to change at short notice. Travellers are advised to check their entry requirements with their embassy or consulate.

Health

The [World Health Organisation](http://www.who.int/en/) (<http://www.who.int/en/>) recommends that all travellers are inoculated against diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and polio as well as for hepatitis B. All travellers should seek advice from their local GP or travel clinic for up-to-date advice on vaccinations.

Insurance

As part of the Terms and Conditions of your trip with Native Escapes it is **essential** that you purchase comprehensive travel insurance for your trip. Your insurance should be inclusive of full medical cover including costs of emergency repatriation, cancellation and travel delay.

Electricity supply

220v, 3pin South African plug. Adaptors are required to charge cameras, etc.

Money

Currency is the South African Rand. There will be ATM's en route for guests to withdraw money.

What to bring

Binoculars, torch, walking shoes, swimming gear, plenty of high factor suncream, sunhat, insect repellent, camera, a day pack. Warm clothing is recommended for evenings, and a waterproof jacket. Lightweight clothing is recommended for the day. Avoid brightly coloured clothing for game viewing.

Tipping

It is normal to tip for good service in bars and restaurants in South Africa. Guests may also consider tipping their guide at their discretion.

