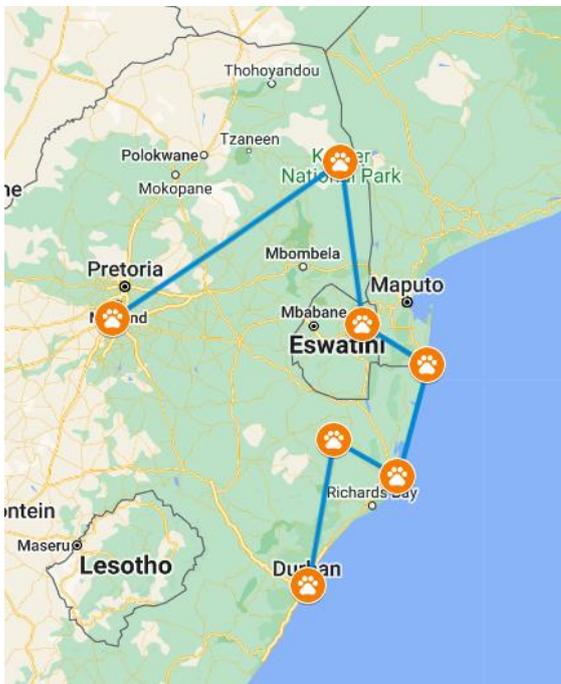




# 9 Day Kruger, Eswatini (Swaziland) & East Coast Camping Tour



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Go on an epic safari in search of lions, hyenas and more through Kruger National Park – one of the largest game reserves in southern Africa.
- Go overland in a purpose-built truck and stop to take in geological wonders like Bourke's Luck Potholes along the Panorama Route.
- Experience St Lucia from a whole new perspective on a guided Boat Safari down this UNESCO-listed landmark.
- Take a day trip to Cape Vidal - within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site, on the exquisite Zululand coast – and enjoy free time to soak up the sun
  - Visit the heartlands of the Zulu people and spend the night in a homestay, where you'll be treated to traditional food and song, plus a meeting with the local healer.
- Swap four wheels for two legs on a guided walking safari through the Hlane Royal National Park with an expert Swazi guide, keeping an eye out for antelopes and zebras passing by.



# TOUR ITINERARY

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## 9 Days | South Africa, Eswatini/Swaziland

Information is subject to change. Travel times and accommodation can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only.

### DAY 1 JOHANNESBURG

Sawubona! Welcome Johannesburg, the sprawling South African capital. In Joburg (unlike a lot of city nicknames, this is one people actually use) mansions stand alongside humble tin abodes and there are as many green parks on the outskirts of the city as there is concrete jungle in the centre. Your adventure begins with a welcome meeting at 6 pm. If you can't wait to begin exploring and arrive with time to spare, why not make your way to the Apartheid Museum and start your journey with some crucial history before you meet up with your group.

It's very important that you attend the welcome meeting as we will be collecting insurance details and next of kin information at this time. If you are going to be late please let your travel agent or hotel reception know. Ask reception or look for a note in the lobby for more information on where the meeting will take place.

**Accommodation:**

*Hotel (1 night)*

**Optional Activities:**

*Johannesburg – Day Tours (enquire with your reservations consultant what options are available)*

**Meals:**

*None*

### DAY 2 KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Rise and shine for a long day's drive to Kruger National Park. Leave Johannesburg and travel through the Mpumalanga Province and along the famous Panorama Route through some of the most stunning scenery South Africa has to offer, such as God's Window and Bourke's Luck Potholes. Kruger National Park is one of the largest game reserves in Southern Africa. It boasts over 500 bird species, 100 species of reptile and 150 mammal species, including the Big Five and the endangered African wild dog. Drive through some of Kruger's prime game viewing areas on your way to camp and try to spot some of these amazing creatures straight away! Set up camp and get settled for the evening.

**Accommodation:**

*Camping (with facilities) 1 night*

**Included Activities:**

*Panorama Route – Three Rondavels Viewpoint*

*Panorama Route – Blyde River Canyon Viewpoint*

**Optional Activities:**

*Kruger National Park – Night 4x4 Game Drive (from price) – ZAR 440*

**Meals:**

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Special Information**

*Today's driving time is approximately 11 hours.*



Your campground has shared facilities with hot and cold water. Upgrades are possible but subject to availability.

Please speak to your booking agent for more information on upgrades.

On occasion, especially during the peak months of May, June, July and December, we are unable to secure campsites within the Kruger National Park. In the event of this happening, we will camp at a backpacker lodge outside the park and will miss the short game drive on the way to the usual campsites.

### DAY 3 KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Rise early and enjoy a light breakfast of coffee and rusk (twice-baked bread) before heading out on a morning game drive. Most of your day will be spent spotting game from your overland vehicle, birdwatching and stopping at various waterholes and viewpoints to rest along the way. In the evening, choose to relax at camp or perhaps head out on an optional night drive with the park guide. The optional night drives are a chance to spot nocturnal animals and perhaps even a night-time predator or two – maybe catch a lion or hyena out hunting, or perhaps impala out in search of a late-night feed.

**Accommodation:**

Camping (with facilities) 1 night

**Included Activities:**

Kruger National Park - Overland Vehicle Game drive

**Optional Activities:**

Kruger National Park - Night 4x4 Game Drive (from price) – ZAR440,

Sunset 4x4 Game Drive (from price) - ZAR325

**Meals:**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### DAY 4 ESWATINI (SWAZILAND)/HLANE ROYAL NATIONAL PARK

Start the day with a slow game drive through Kruger, covering between 20 and 70 kilometres (depending on what animals you see along the way) in the park then exiting by mid-morning. Hit the road towards Hlane Royal National Park (approximately 6–7 hours). Travel south-east and cross the border into the kingdom of Eswatini, a country nestled between Mozambique, Northern Zululand and Mpumalanga. Arrive at Hlane Royal National Park, a vast expanse of bushveld with ancient hardwood trees, and begin exploring immediately on a guided game walk. Spend tonight at a camp within the national park.

**Accommodation:**

Camping (with facilities) 1 night

**Included Activities:**

Hlane Royal National Park - Bush Walk

Overland Vehicle Game drive in Kruger National Park

**Meals:**

Breakfast, Dinner

**Special Information:**

Today's driving time is approximately 6–7 hours.

The border crossing between South Africa and Eswatini is generally very smooth, but occasionally there are delays. Come prepared with good book just in case.

Please note that upgrades to your accommodation tonight are possible but subject to availability. Please speak to your booking agent for more information on upgrades.



## DAY 5 HLANE ROYAL NATIONAL PARK

Today you'll have the opportunity to further explore Hlane Royal National Park at your leisure. You might like to book an optional 4x4 game drive within the park, where you can expect to see all kinds of animals like antelopes, elephants, zebras, rhinos, and lions. Guided by a local Swazi guide, these drives typically take 2-2.5hrs either in the early morning or late afternoon.

Another optional activity for today is to visit the Hlane Umphakatsi (Chief Village) - a tour of the authentic living homestead and opportunity to discover the Swazi way of life. You'll learn more about the traditional culture here, get to know the locals and even get a chance to try your hand at day-to-day activities. You'll discover how Umphakatsi is a special village since it is one of the few with a female Chief: Inkhosikati.

**Accommodation:**

*Camping (with facilities) 1 night*

**Included Activities:**

*Hlane Royal National Park - Guided 4x4 Sunset Game Drive  
Hlane National Park – Umphakatsi Village Visit*

**Optional Activities:**

*Hlane Royal National Park - Guided 4x4 Game Drive – R440*

**Meals:**

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

## DAY 6 ST. LUCIA ESTUARY

Depart Hlane this morning and cross the border to Lake St Lucia, part of the St Lucia Estuary, stopping at a shop for supplies along the way. Declared a World Heritage Site in 1999, St Lucia Estuary is home to thousands of varieties of birds, mammals and reptiles, including hundreds of hippos and crocodiles.

On arrival, jump onboard for a Hippo Boat Safari which offers a different perspective to traditional Game viewing with the chance to spot creatures cruising down the estuary, or basking on the banks.

**Accommodation:**

*Camping (with facilities) (1 night)*

**Included Activities:**

*St. Lucia Estuary – Safari Boat Cruise*

**Meals Included:**

*Breakfast*

## DAY 7 ST LUCIA ESTUARY

We'll take a day trip to Cape Vidal today for some time by the sand, in the sun today. Cape Vidal lies within the iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site and sits on the exquisite Zululand coast – home to a rich array of marine life. This area is visited seasonally by humpback whales during their migrations, as well as loggerhead and leatherback sea-turtles that come to the beaches north of Cape Vidal from November to February to nest. You can spend the day relaxing on the beach or speak to your leader about booking some of the optional activities in the area. You'll head back to your camp at Lake St Lucia this afternoon.

**Accommodation:**

*Camping (with facilities) (1 night)*



**Included Activities:**

*Cape Vidal – Beach Day Trip*

**Meals Included:**

*Breakfast*

## DAY 8 VALLEY OF A THOUSAND HILLS

Rise early and head to the Valley of a Thousand Hills, the heartland of the Zulu nation, for a unique homestay experience. Gain insight into the daily life of the rural Zulu people with a night in a local's house, where you'll be treated to some traditional food, song and dance. Explore the village on foot and make the most of this rare opportunity to see a remote culture from the inside. Interact with your hosts and perhaps share some of your own culture and language in turn.

**Accommodation:**

*Homestay (1 night)*

**Included Activities:**

*Zululand - Community Centre Visit, Zululand*

**Meals Included:**

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

## DAY 9 DURBAN

Continue to Durban (approximately 2–3 hours). Here your trip comes to an end. Durban is South Africa's second most populous city, boasting sandy beaches and a glitzy nightlife – a great place to extend your stay and enjoy some leisure time. Perhaps take the opportunity for a final dinner with your fellow travellers this evening.

**Optional Activities:**

*Durban - Art Gallery – Free*

*Durban - Bay Cruise - ZAR240*

*Durban - Juma Masjid Mosque – Free*

*Durban – Watersports - From R100*

**Meals Included:**

*Breakfast*

**Special Information**

*There is no accommodation arranged for tonight, but this can be booked when you first book this trip. It's best not to book any outgoing flights until after 7pm this even to allow for any delays on the journey back to Durban.*

## Tour Information

**Joining point**

Holiday Inn Rosebank  
The Zone Phase 2, 187 Oxford Rd  
Johannesburg  
Johannesburg  
2196  
SOUTH AFRICA



### **Finish point**

Road Lodge Umhlanga Ridge  
Cnr Medigate and Hospital Road Umhlanga Ridge  
Durban, 4321  
SOUTH AFRICA  
Phone: +27 315807200

### **ACCOMMODATION:**

Camping with facilities (4 nights), Camping with basic facilities (2 nights), Homestay (1 night), Hotel (1 night)  
Accommodation on this trip is mainly in two-person canvas dome tents with camping mattresses supplied.

The type and variety of accommodation is determined by conditions on each of our routes. Each route is different - on some we use a mixture of campsites and wild camps; on others we also use hotels. In Africa it's not usually practical to camp when staying in towns and cities so we use hotel accommodation and eat out in local restaurants.

There may be the occasional night stop, when we stay in the grounds of a hotel or at a campsite which may also have rooms/cabins available. In this case there may be a choice of camping or upgrading to a room. Rooms cost approximately USD60-120 per room per night for a twin room and cannot be pre-booked. Standards of these rooms vary greatly and we recommend viewing the room before purchasing the nights accommodation. The day by day itinerary advises when upgrades may be possible (subject to availability).

Keep in mind that if we are staying in dormitory accommodation, you may have to share with other passengers or be split into same sex rooms.

Campsites do have facilities but they usually aren't to the same standard you would find in western countries. For example the bathroom facilities can be very basic. There is rarely toilet paper provided and shower facilities can be as simple as a hose pipe spurting out cold water. Wild camps have no facilities at all.

### **MEALS:**

8 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 5 Dinners

If you have any dietary requirements please tell us at the time of booking, and also remind your crew at your welcome meeting.

A typical camp breakfast might be toast with spreads, cereal, something hot such as eggs or pancakes, as well as tea and coffee. Lunch is almost always a sandwich with healthy salad and assorted fillings, sometimes with fruit to follow. There may be a chance on occasion to buy your lunch. Dinner might be a BBQ, rice dish or pasta dish and there is always the chance to try some African food such as ugali and stew.

One thing is sure - you definitely won't go hungry or lose weight on your safari! When you aren't camping you will have the freedom to decide where, what and with whom you eat.

### **TRANSPORT:**

Overland vehicle

Our trucks are purpose-built, self-contained safari vehicles. Our fleet of vehicles varies depending on your group size, trip route and style. In Southern Africa some departures may use vans and luggage trailers subject to group size and vehicle availability. It is also important to note that our overland vehicles are not air-conditioned, but all vehicles have windows that can be opened to allow for fresh air.

There are many early starts with long hours spent driving on rough roads on all African itineraries. While most people love the chance to watch the changing landscape and daily village life, feedback shows that long periods of inactivity does not appeal to all clients. We provide the approximate distance covered each day and how many hours this normally takes to drive so that you can choose the safari experience that is right for you.

African conditions are extremely tough on vehicles. While we fastidiously maintain our vehicles at our workshops, you should not expect Africa to be your traditional touring experience. While it's certainly our aim to avoid them, it's important that you set off on your trip knowing that the occasional breakdown can happen and are best treated as part of the African adventure. Due to wet weather there may be times when we have to take an alternative route which will mean longer travel times.



### **LUGGAGE:**

We advise clients to be as light as possible when travelling through Africa. It is not a destination where you want to lug suitcases and heavy bags around. Lodges rarely have suitcase ramps meaning wheels are sometimes more of a hindrance and also impact on the case fitting in the lockers. On booking the pre-departure info will have a packing guide to help you prepare.

The weight limit for luggage on all trucks is a strict maximum of 20kg.

Your main luggage will be stored in a compartment at the back of the truck. Traditional, framed suitcases are not recommended as they are large and can damage other travellers belongings while on the road. Backpacks or duffel bags are an ideal choice.

**Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact us on the below details:**

**General Enquiries & Reservations:** [info@detourafrica.co.za/](mailto:info@detourafrica.co.za/)

**Website:** [www.detourafrica.co.za/](http://www.detourafrica.co.za/)

**Phone:** + 27 21 424 1115

**WhatsApp:** + 27 64 722 3617

## **Safari Njema – Enjoy your trip!**

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Keep posted by following us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We post updates on relevant African travel news, special offers and other interesting travel tips and information.



We are member of SATSA (#1802) so you can be confident when booking with us that your money is safe and protected.

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