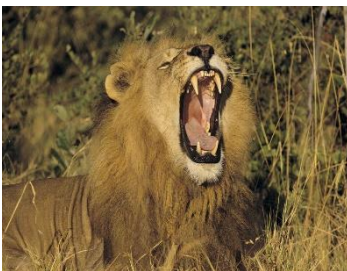




# 3 Day Garden Route Express Tour



## INTRODUCTION

For those looking to explore the Garden Route on an action-packed itinerary, stopping at all the best highlights the area has to offer; you've found your match! Wander along the Garden Route - a piece of paradise on the south-eastern coast of South Africa. Search for members of Africa's Big 5, bungee jump, walk along forest footpaths, canoe and interact with African wildlife, all in one exciting itinerary.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Canoeing in Wilderness National Park  
Oudtshoorn & Klein Karoo
- Explore the subterranean wonderland of the Cango Caves
- Road trip along Route 62
- Enjoy a close encounter with African elephants
- Spot some of Africa's Big 5 on a 4x4 safari
- Test your courage at the world's highest bridge bungee
- Take part in a short, guided bush walk



# ITINERARY

## 3 Days South Africa

### DAY 1 CAPE TOWN – OUDTSHOORN

After an early morning pick up from your accommodation in Cape Town CBD or Stellenbosch we set off from Cape Town along the rugged landscapes of Route 62, the longest wine route in the world! Along this famous country road, you'll capture the beauty of high mountains, twisting passes, vast Karoo plains, vineyards and orchards.

Stop at one of the many farm stalls along the way to sample local delights before arriving in Oudtshoorn, ostrich capital of the world and home to the fascinating Cango Caves where your next adventure awaits.

Delve deep underground to the magical Cango Caves' limestone chambers, alive with drip formation stalactites and stalagmites and remnants of Khoikhoi paintings. Opt for the easy-going Heritage Tour to test the cave's acoustics and gain insights your guide provides into the formation and dripstone evolution. By contrast, if available the Adventure Tour allows would-be contortionists to squeeze, twist and wiggle their way through limestone chimneys on a rather more adventurous underground route.

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Overnight:</b>          | Oudtshoorn  |
| <b>Accommodation:</b>      | Uthando Backpackers (Backpacker option) - <a href="https://uthandobackpackers.com/">https://uthandobackpackers.com/</a><br>Hlangana Lodge (4* option) - <a href="https://www.hlangana.co.za/">https://www.hlangana.co.za/</a> |
| <b>Included Highlight:</b> | Route 62 Scenic Drive<br>Cango Caves Tour   |

### DAY 2 OUDTSHOORN - SEDGEFIELD

Those seeking a meaningful experience can rise early and join rangers on an optional Elephant Bush Walk. You'll have the opportunity to walk alongside three rescued elephants, in their own natural environment. These gentle giants were orphaned when their parents were poached in the north of South Africa, they were then transferred to Buffelsdrift, bringing their boisterous personalities with them. During your walk, you are free to take pictures galore and ask your rangers as many questions as you can muster.

Then, you'll take to the water for a leisurely afternoon canoe along reed-lined riverbanks in Wilderness. It's not until you stop paddling and let the gentle current guide you, that the abundance of birdlife becomes apparent.

The adventure continues as you reach Bloukrans Bridge, the world's highest commercial bridge bungee jump. The bungee bridge itself is fairly unassuming as you drive over it, but it's pretty apparent from the squeals and screams that this isn't your average photo stop. Here, seemingly normal people hurtle face-first down the 216m drop only to spring back up on their elastic cord like a yo-yo. This region is a playground for the outdoors and for those with tamer appetites who have opted not to bungee, a visit to the lush forests of the Tsitsikamma area provides the requisite photo opportunity. Spend the evening in the slow town of Sedgfield.

If you do not wish to bungee jump, this region is a playground for the outdoors and those who'd prefer to keep their feet on solid ground can go on an informal walk nearby the bridge, stay at the bridge to watch the the bungee jumpers or get an earlier transfer to your accommodation.

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Meals:</b>               | Breakfast  |
| <b>Accommodation:</b>       | Pili Pili Beach Cabanas (Backpackers) - <a href="https://pilipiliaccommodation.co.za/">https://pilipiliaccommodation.co.za/</a><br>Dolphin Dunes Guest House (4* option) - <a href="https://www.dolphindunes.co.za/">https://www.dolphindunes.co.za/</a> |
| <b>Included Highlight:</b>  | Wilderness National Park Canoeing  |
| <b>Optional Activities:</b> | Elephant Bush Walk<br>Bloukrans bungee jump (216m), Bloukrans Bridge walking tour  |



## DAY 3 SEDGEFIELD – CAPE TOWN

Your journey today will begin as you spot some of Africa's wild animals from the back of an open 4x4 vehicle in a malaria-free private game reserve. Search for giraffe, white rhino, kudu, lion, elephant, zebra and wildebeest, to name a few. An experienced game ranger leads the game drive.

Just when you thought your bush experience couldn't get any better, you'll hop off your safari vehicle (if it's safe to do so) for an up-close and personal encounter with nature on a short and tranquil bush walk. Follow your game ranger as you look for smaller wildlife, insects or birds through the coastal renosterveldt and Cape fynbos, keep an eye out for animal tracks and learn about the medicinal value of the plants around you as you walk.

End off your day with a journey through the landscape of rugged plains and green vegetation as you pass through the Garden Route on your way back to Cape Town.

We are usually back in Cape Town between 7pm and 9pm depending on the traffic and drop off locations.

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Meals:</b>              | Breakfast   |
| <b>Included Highlight:</b> | 4x4 Garden Route Safari<br>Short Guided mini-Bush Walk on Safari (+-15 minutes) |

### Tour Ends

We will drop you off back at your original pick-up point in the Cape Town city centre unless otherwise requested. We generally arrive back in Cape Town between 18:00 and 19:00 (late afternoon /early evening) on the last day, although this cannot be guaranteed. We recommend that you book your flights out of Cape Town the following day.

## INCLUDED

Cape Town Pick-up and Drop-off service (+-10km radius from Cape Town)  
All accommodation + Bedding  
Qualified & Registered Tour Guide  
All transport in comfortable bus with AC & CD player  
2 x Breakfast  
Cango Caves Tour  
Wilderness National Park Canoeing  
4x4 Garden Route Safari  
Short Guided mini-Bush Walk on Safari (+-15 minutes)

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

*Please note that these rates are subject to change without prior notice as per the service providers.*

| <u>Activity</u>               | <u>Price From</u> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Elephant Bush Walk            | R635              |
| Bloukrans Bungee Jump         | R1,690            |
| Bloukrans bridge walking tour | R400              |



## TOUR INFORMATION

### **Food and Drinks**

*Breakfast:* Breakfast is served each morning and consists of a varying combination of continental and cooked. Tea, coffee and fruit juice are always available.

*Lunch:* Take-away lunches are the norm. These are of your own account.

**Please note:** *You will be expected to purchase all of your own soda drinks, bottled water, and alcoholic beverages on tour; these are readily available at reasonable prices. Please be aware of dehydration during the summer months and drink plenty of water - the tap water is all drinkable on the Cape to Addo Route. You will probably not be accustomed to African conditions and this can affect you severely if ignored.*

### **Accommodation and Facilities**

We have a long-standing relationship with some of SA's top backpacker lodges and guest houses, known for their flare. All our stops provide unique, clean and professional hospitality with excellent shower / bath ablution facilities with a bar and Internet facilities. All bedding is provided.

We include spacious and comfortable dorm accommodation. Bedding is provided but clients have to bring their own towels. Dorms are not always just for the group and can be shared with other travellers. Dorm sizes can range from 6 to 12 people sharing and varies from each backpacker visited. Accommodation upgrades are available, subject to availability.

### **What accommodation upgrades are available?**

**Backpacker room upgrades:** You can upgrade to a private room within the backpackers where the group will be staying. You can choose between a room with shared bathroom or en suite bathroom. The shared option is generally two rooms sharing one bathroom while an en suite is your own bathroom connected to the room. Rooms can either be twin or double and family rooms are available on request. Bedding is provided. The upgrades are subject to availability at the time of making the booking. The rates given for the room upgrades are a once off cost and not per day.

### **Activities on Tour**

There are a range of activities that can be done on tour to fully experience the areas visited and to get a feel for their unique offerings. The included activities are of such a nature that anybody on tour can partake in them and are not physically demanding in any way. The optional activities, as outlined in the itinerary are optional because not everybody on tour may want to do them (like the world's highest bungee!). Please note that the rates for these activities can change without prior notice and are thus not included in the itinerary.

### **Vehicle**

We use new, air-conditioned vehicles equipped with headrests and safety belts for a safe, comfortable ride with music. The Toyota Quantum's we use can carry a maximum of 13 people, with the driver being the 14th person. Please note that depending on the season, tours are full on a regular basis, but please refer to 'people on tour' for average numbers of people on tour and their ages. There is ample space inside the vehicle to store your personal belongings and a luggage section for your backpack. When the tour group exceeds a certain number, we use a trailer for the luggage.

### **Pick Up and Drop Off**

Pickups in Cape Town city centre and surrounding areas are included in the tour price. Where transfers / pick up & drop off is included in you activity / tour, collections are from any Cape Town accommodation or street address within a  $\pm$  5-10km radius of the city centre. Pickup times for our scheduled activities / tours are early morning for some and can be as early as 5am/6am.

We will contact you a day before your tour starts to confirm your pickup time. Pickup times can only be confirmed a day before your tour starts as we work off of the most updated list of travellers and the different pickup points once our bookings have been closed off.

Drop offs are done back in Cape Town on return tours from where you were picked or as otherwise requested. If you need to be picked up / dropped off outside of the city centre or surrounding areas, please let us know beforehand so



that the necessary arrangements can be made. There are no set / guaranteed drop off times. Drop off times can range from late afternoon to early evening and can vary between ±5pm - ±10pm.

Clients are advised to not make any scheduled arrangements (such as flights) for the first or last day of the booked activity / tour, as unforeseen traffic delays, accidents, road works and weather can delay the approximate pick up and drop off times. We will do our best to keep to the activity / tour schedule and timings, but no liability whatsoever will be accepted for unplanned changes or late arrivals due to factors out of our control.

Please note that unforeseen traffic delays, accidents and road works can delay pick up times and drop off times, especially with pickups during the week when it is peak traffic time.

### **People on Tour**

This particular tour is aimed at the student and gap year market, it is a quick 3-day tour that student studying or volunteering in Cape Town can do to see the best of the Garden Route in a limited time. Most clients will be between 20 and 25. That said we do not impose age restrictions but do like clients to know beforehand that it is generally a younger person tour.

### **Your Tour Leader**

Your tour leader is there to make sure that you have an unforgettable trip. Our belief is that in Africa; experience is everything. All our tours are led and driven by experienced guides. All in all, good African guides are distinguished by their ability to make you feel safe no matter what environment you're in; they're also characterized by their passion and love for their subject... Africa!

If there is anything that is upsetting you whilst on tour, you need to approach your tour leader to give him a fair opportunity to rectify the problem. Dealing with any problems that may arise whilst on tour will prevent them from developing into something more problematic. Your tour leader cannot help you if you remain quiet.

### **Be Flexible**

Your tour leader is trained not only to run an informative, fun and adventurous tour, but also to take control when things don't run smoothly. Please remember that this is Africa after all and that the itinerary stated has to be flexible and will depend on local conditions. Travelling in Africa is sometimes unpredictable and by the very nature of travelling here, there are unforeseen challenges to overcome, and passengers should have a taste for adventure.

Problems with road conditions, bad weather and tire changes can delay and change the schedule of the tour. Please be prepared and pack a sense of humour. In the event of any incidence regarding local conditions that may affect safety, security, and the well-being of the tour participants, the decision of the tour leader will be final.

### **What's included**

Meals as indicated on the itinerary, accommodation, registered guide and transport. We also include some of the highlights as listed under "included highlights" in the tour itinerary.

### **What's excluded**

All items of a personal nature, lunch, refreshments and alcohol, snacks, souvenirs, tips and optional activities

### **Health**

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies or physical disability that you may have.

### **Insurance**

In a great many medical disciplines, South Africa is a global leader. There is a large network of public and private hospitals countrywide, offering excellent service. However, clients must have adequate health insurance to cover the fees private hospitals charge. Please note that similar to your passport and any personal travel document, travel and health insurance is the client's own responsibility. We cannot be held liable for the loss or damage to passengers' luggage, hand luggage or personal effects. Therefore, you should ensure that you are adequately insured.

### **Climate**



The African sun is very strong. Please use a factor 30 - 50 sunscreen and wear a hat. You should drink at least 3 litres of water per day to avoid dehydration. It can also get very cold during winter months on this route.

### **Conservation and Ecotourism**

Please do NOT purchase products made from ivory and skins. The ultimate objective of eco-tourism is for clients to have a pleasant and enriching experience of nature, and at the same time, cause the least possible disturbance to ecosystems. Your tour leader has strict environmental policies to adhere to, which we endeavour to instil in all of our passengers. Respect for local people, fellow travellers and the places we visit are expected. Always consider the environment and be considerate in your approach to your holiday.

**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 60 018 6293

**Safari Njema – Enjoy your trip!**

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.

