



Comfortable & Affordable, Safe & Secure Train Tours

JB Train Tours (Since 1975)

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1 July 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

2013 NAMAQUALAND FLOWERS & BOLAND TRAIN TOUR

Departing from Johannesburg
Train & Bus – 7 Days
10 Tours in season

N.B. Please note that this is a **revised itinerary*** of the **2013 Namaqualand Flowers train tours** with substantial less space available than when originally advertised. It is still 7 days per tour and the tour price & itinerary remain unchanged. It is only the departure days and times that have changed.

***The revised itinerary** is due to the recent rationalization of trains run by Shosholoza Meyl. There are substantial less space and less number of trains available as from the 14th January 2013.

JB Train Tours invite you to join us on our annual train tours to the **beautiful Namaqualand & Boland**. It is at the end of the rainy season and the flowers will be in its splendid beauty. There is nothing else like this natural phenomenon.

The previous five flower seasons, but one, were of the very best in recent years. The flowers were in abundance, the variety and colours almost unlimited, the 'veld' lush and the weather good. The 2013 flower season promises to be as good as well.

We are going to take you to places where tour groups normally don't go. Just think about places like the Worcester Karoo Park, Tulbagh ('Paddagang'), Quiver Tree Forest, Matjiesfontein Padstal, Paternoster and Bird Island.

Do some wine tasting and take pictures of a magnificent waterfall. Walk in the 'veld' with flowers from horizon to horizon. Bend your knees and discover small and tiny flowers. Enjoy the grace of God.

This year we'll travel again on the **Trans Karoo Tourist Class** train*, sleep in top notch

hotels and travel by luxury charter bus before joining the train again.

Are you tired of driving, looking for accommodation and worrying about the logistics? We'll take you there. When travelling by train, you don't have to worry about increasing petrol prices, tollgate fees, heavy traffic, driving back or sitting with stiff legs in your car. It is so much easier, very safe and **VERY** price competitive.

In 2003 we've hosted **two** train tours to the daisies. In 2013 we'll be hosting **15** train tours to the 'daisies', departing from both Jo'burg and Durban respectively. Every year the numbers are growing and all the tours are fully booked. We'll again keep the groups small hence it is limited to 48 passengers per tour. Book **NOW!**

This year we'll be hosting again a train tour from Jo'burg on the upmarket **Premier Classe** train to the flowers. The inaugural tour was hosted in 2010 and it was a huge success. The **Motorbike-on-Train** tour to the Flowers will be hosted as well again in 2013. You may travel to Jo'burg to join any of these tours. Enquire with us for details about these tours.

For the past four years the best flowers were seen during late July & early August. Many people think that the 'Namaqualand Flower' is a Spring flower! However, the earlier the better!

*Transnet has ceased **ALL** charter holiday trains as from 1 January 2007.

Baie mense sê al baie jare dat hulle graag na die blomme in Namakwaland wil gaan kyk. **DOEN** dit **nou!** Dit bly 'n heerlike voorreg om deur hierdie geweste van die land te ry. Die mense is spesiaal (die sout van die aarde), die natuur is pragtig, terwyl die kontreikos besonders is. Gaan kyk reeds vroeg in Augustus na die blomme.

Vanjaar wyk ons so 'n bietjie van die beproefde resep af en besoek 'n klompie minder bekende, en dalk mooier, bestemmings. Moet dit nie mis nie. Bring vriende en familie saam. Vertel die kuierklub om saam te reis. Bespreek **NOU!**

Name of tour: Namaqualand Flowers & Boland Train Tour – from JHB: 7-Days

Tour dates & Number: 11 Tour dates to choose from in 2013

Sunday - Saturday	11 – 17 Aug	NF # 1
Friday - Thursday	16 – 22 Aug	NF # 2 Fully booked
Sunday - Saturday	18 – 24 Aug	NF # 3 Converted to flight tour
Friday - Thursday	23 – 29 Aug	NF # 4 Fully booked
Sunday - Saturday	25 – 31 Aug	NF # 5 Fully booked
Friday - Thursday	30 Aug – 5 Sept	NF # 6 Fully booked
Sunday - Saturday	1 – 7 Sept	NF # 7 Fully booked
Friday - Thursday	6 – 12 Sept	NF # 8 Fully booked – church group
Sunday - Saturday	8 – 14 Sept	NF # 9 (Dual purpose & road bikes motorbike group)
Friday - Thursday	13 – 19 Sept	NF # 10 Fully booked
Sunday – Saturday	15 – 21 Sept	NF # 11 Road bikes Fully booked motorbike group

All these tours are seven days long

Train Departure Times:	Johannesburg 12:30	Platform 16	Day 1
	Worcester 13:30	Platform 1	Day 6

Train Arrival Times:	Worcester 11:50	Platform 1	Day 2
	Johannesburg 12:15	Platform 16	Day 7

Please report to the station 45 minutes before departure. Other stations' departure times: See Page 4 below.

We suggest you make use of the Gautrain from Pretoria to join the tour at Johannesburg station OR contact us for assistance to arrange a shuttle.

Tour price: **Compartment (4-Bed)** **Price per Person**

4 Persons per Compartment R6100
But only 2 Persons per Hotel Room

3 Persons per Compartment R7000
& 2/1 Persons per Hotel Room

2 Persons per Compartment R7140
& same 2 Persons per Hotel Room

Coupe (2-Bed) **Price per Person**

~~**2 Persons per Coupe R6400**~~
~~**& same 2 Persons per Hotel Room**~~

~~**1 Person per Coupe R7980**~~
~~**1 Person per Hotel Room**~~

All 2-Bed coupe's are fully booked

Children (2 – 9 years) will pay R400 per child less than the above tour price. Children younger than 2 years will travel free of charge if sharing a bed **and** seat on bus with parent.

Deposit: A R500 per person **non-refundable** deposit will secure your place. The balance **must** be paid by **latest six weeks before** departure date. If **NOT** paid, your place will be cancelled automatically.

Included in the price: Return train trip, accommodation in reputable hotels or lodges, meals, luxury bus transport, tour guide and entry to excursions as mentioned in the itinerary.

Meals: Two good meals per day (breakfast and dinner) are served and are **included** in the tour price.

Accommodation: We stay for 2 nights at **Club Mykonos** or a similar Hotel and another two nights at the **Klawer Hotel** or similar facility. Two nights are spent on the train.

Excluded from the tour price: **Entry fees** at tourist destinations not mentioned in the itinerary, personal expenses, meals not mentioned, Comprehensive Travel Insurance and gratuities.

Route: The **train** route goes from Johannesburg via Potchefstroom and Klerksdorp to Kimberley, Beaufort West and Worcester.

The **bus** route goes from Worcester via the Slanghoek valley, Tulbagh to Langebaan, Clanwilliam, Klawer, Nieuwoudville to Worcester. (The sequence may change without notice).

Travel greetings

Johan Badenhorst

& the JB Train Tours Team

PS Ons doen ook graag sake in Afrikaans

Running times of the train

Johannesburg - Cape Town - Johannesburg

Johannesburg – Cape Town
(Wednesday, Friday and Sunday Service)

Station	Class available	Day	Arr.	Dep.
Johannesburg	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1		12:30
Klerksdorp	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1	16:10	16:25
Kimberley	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1	20:55	21:20
Beaufort West	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	05:30	06:00
Worcester	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	11:50	12:05
Bellville	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	14:50	15:00
Cape Town	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	15:30	

Cape Town – Johannesburg
(Wednesday, Friday and Sunday Service)

Station	Class available	Day	Arr.	Dep.
Cape Town	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1		10:00
Bellville	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1	10:25	10:35
Worcester	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1	13:10	13:30
Beaufort West	Sleeper / Sitter	Day1	19:25	19:50
Kimberley	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	03:35	03:46
Klerksdorp	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	08:15	08:26
Johannesburg	Sleeper / Sitter	Day2	12:15	

Please note that running times are not guaranteed. Trains **often** run late.

Provisional

PROGRAMME -

2013 Namaqualand Flowers & Boland Train Tour from JHB



Day 1 On arrival at the station your tour guide will meet you on the platform. Board the train, unpack, make yourself comfortable and start enjoying the trip. The tour guide will visit you in your compartment and you can start preparing for your welcome dinner. The train travels overnight.

Day 2 We travel across the Great Karoo (never underestimate or ignore the beauty of this vast space) and late morning we reach Worcester. We disembark, board the **bus** and visit the Worcester Karoo Park, then onto Piekenierskloof, Citrusdal & Clanwilliam and into the Cederberg Mountains until we reach Klawer. Dinner will be served. Overnight in the hotel.

Day 3 After breakfast we depart for Van Rhynsdorp where the Kokerboom Nursery is visited briefly. From here we cross the spectacular Van Rhyndorp Pass (ascending 800 metres within 6 kilometres), to reach Nieuwoudtville (the “Ball Plant capital of the world”). This area is known as one of the world’s most exciting flower areas. A lunch is served (local food) at a very reasonable price. The spectacular Nieuwoudtville waterfall and Quiver Tree Forest are visited. Late afternoon we taste some good (and affordable) wines, before enjoying dinner. We sleep again in the **same hotel** as Day 2.

Day 4 After an early breakfast we depart by bus for Club Mykonos in Langebaan. We’ll travel via Lamberts Bay (Bird island), Graaffwater, Leipoldville, Elands Bay, Dwarskersbos, Veldrift & Laaiplek to Langebaan. Tonight we enjoy a small dinner at “Boesmanland Plaaskombuis” and overnight at Club Mykonos.

Day 5 After breakfast we depart by bus for Tietesbaai, Cape Columbine & Saldanha where the panoramic view from “Hoedjieskop” will be enjoyed. This harbour town is well known for its Military Academy, Steel Plant and terminal for the iron ore railway line from Sishen in the Northern Cape. Enjoy tea at the famous(?) Paternoster Hotel. Some of the best flowers are seen in this area. We’ll find it. Tonight we dine again at the “**Boesmanland Plaaskombuis**”, close to Club Mykonos. We overnight in the **same hotel** as Day 4.

Day 6 After breakfast we’ll depart for Darling (“Evita se Perron”) & Tulbach (“Paddagang”) and the historic Church street before we join the train again in Worcester. The train departs just after noon after which we’ll travel over the spectacular Hex River Pass on our way to the Karoo. A hearty dinner will be served tonight before our last night’s sleep on the train.

Day 7 A last breakfast will be enjoyed on the train before arriving in Gauteng in the afternoon.

Note: Please note that the sequence and contents of the days **can and will** change due to various reasons. Please do NOT arrange personal appointments en route.