

GARDEN ROUTE ESSENTIALS

South Africa



3 day group tour
(standard accommodation)

Follow the Garden Route from Port Elizabeth to Cape Town on this three day group tour. Enjoy the rugged natural landscapes of the Tsitsikamma region. Visit Storms River Mouth, before heading to the waterways of Knysna. From the coast, travel to the arid lands of Oudtshoorn and visit an ostrich farm and the subterranean Cango Caves. Stop at a winery in the Cape Winelands before arriving in Cape Town.





Cost includes:

- 3 days on a guided Garden Route group tour (maximum of 30 passengers)
- English-speaking guide
- breakfast daily
- Stops at Storms River Mouth in Tsitsikamma National Park, Knysna, Oudtshoorn ostrich farm, Cango Caves and Cape Winelands
- Garden Route National Park conservation fee (Storms River Bridge).

Cost excludes:

- visas and flights
- international airport taxes if applicable
- excursions and activities not listed as included
- meals not listed
- drinks, dining rooms tips, portorage
- guide and ranger gratuities,
- personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature.

B - breakfast

L - lunch

D - dinner

Port Elizabeth to Cape Town

Accommodation: standard

Product code: TISG20

Departs: Tuesdays

Itinerary overview:

Day 1: South Africa, Plettenberg Bay - Dunes Leisure Resort or similar

Day 2: South Africa, Oudtshoorn - Protea Hotel by Marriott Riempe Estate or similar

Day 3: South Africa, Cape Town - ends

Consider extending your time along the Garden Route by joining our four day The Garden Route tour, or our five day Cape to Cape - Garden Route tour. The Garden Route tour starts in Port Elizabeth and includes two nights in Knysna, followed by one night in Oudtshoorn. Highlights include a lagoon cruise to the Featherbed Nature Reserve and the option to join a meerkat safari. On our Cape to Cape - The Garden Route tour we start and finish in Cape Town and overnight in Oudtshoorn, Knysna, Albertina and Arniston. Highlights include a Knysna lagoon sunset cruise, visits to the Dias, Shell and Maritime Museums and a safari game drive.

Garden Route Essentials - group tour

Day 1: Plettenberg Bay

Departing from Port Elizabeth around midday, we travel along the Garden Route towards the Tsitsikamma mountains. The Garden Route derives its name from the ecologically diverse vegetation present in the area, which lies between the Indian Ocean and the Tsitsikamma Mountains. Tsitsikamma is the ancient San name meaning 'place of abundant water', but is today known as one of South Africa's most famous national parks. We stop to cross the suspension bridge at Storms River mouth, where the Storms River meets the Indian Ocean. In the afternoon we continue to our overnight stop at Dunes Leisure Resort, located near the undulating sand dunes of Keurboomstrand. **Dunes Leisure Resort or similar – standard room.**

The Dunes Leisure Resort

Located in the heart of the Garden Route, The Dunes is a deluxe hotel complex within walking distance from the unspoiled Keurbooms Beach and just minutes from the popular resort town of Plettenberg Bay. Spacious and elegantly appointed, the hotel rooms are decorated with sophisticated stylishness. Facilities in all the 46 rooms include air conditioning, bar fridge, satellite TV and tea and coffee making facilities with king or twin-size beds and en suite bathrooms. Self-catering duplex units and self-catering forest and beach villas, nestled within the beautifully landscaped gardens of the greater resort, are also available. Facilities at this resort-style property include a restaurant, bar, swimming pools and shop. Nearby activities include mountain bike trails, bush and nature walks, fishing, and golf facilities.

Day 2: Oudtshoorn

After a hearty breakfast, we depart for Oudtshoorn in the Klein Karoo, via the resort town of Knysna. This lovely town is located on the Knysna lagoon making it a great place to enjoy the harbour. This morning's excursion gives us the opportunity to photograph the Knysna Lagoon and the Knysna Heads. Travelling inland to the ostrich capital of the world, Oudtshoorn, we drive over the Outeniqua Pass. We arrive in time for lunch (own expense) at an ostrich farm on the outskirts of Oudtshoorn.

A tour of the farm introduces you to these strange and exotic birds as well as the ostrich industry, which accounted for much of South Africa's wealth in the Victorian era (tour at own expense). We then travel to the Cango Valley where we discover the spectacular subterranean world of the Cango Caves. These 20 million year old caves feature an impressive display of stalagmites and stalactites. Take a guided tour (own expense) before continuing to the rural capital of the Karoo, Oudtshoorn, for the night. **Protea Hotel by Marriott Riempe Estate or similar – standard room (B).**

Protea Hotel by Marriott Riempe Estate

Protea Hotel by Marriott Riempe Estate is situated on a private landscaped estate in the popular rural town of Oudtshoorn. This sprawling hotel offers comfortable accommodation in 40 tastefully decorated, thatched roof chalets and rondavels, with all the modern additions expected in a Protea Hotel. The thatch roof communal areas surround a swimming pool and the main buildings feature a bar and an excellent restaurant that serves the best in country fare. A plethora of activities such as golf, tennis, squash, gym, and lawn bowling amenities are all nearby. Attention to detail and personal service will make your stay at Riempe Estate an unforgettable experience.

Day 3: Cape Town via the Cape Winelands

After breakfast our journey takes us westwards, along Route 62, via the Cape Winelands to Cape Town. Route 62 is an iconic route with ever-changing landscapes and is possibly the world's longest wine route.



Knysna waterfront



We enjoy lunch en route (own expense), before visiting a wine estate for a cheese and wine pairing followed by a guided cellar tour in the Robertson wine valley (own expense). In the late afternoon we arrive in South Africa's 'mother city', Cape Town, where our Garden Route tour ends. **(B).**

Important information:

- It is the responsibility of the client to be at the departure point at the time assigned by the operator. On completion of the tour, flights must be booked taking into consideration the time recommended by the operator.
- Transport may be in a sedan, minibus or coach, dependent upon the final group size.
- It is the responsibility of the client to have all necessary documentation, including visas and inoculation certificates relating to this tour.
- At times, the sequence or inclusion of activities may vary due to local conditions, arrival and departure times, opening hours or non-availability.
- The tour operator reserves the right to replace accommodation with alternate accommodation of a similar standard in rare cases of non-availability.
- Children under 7 years of age are not permitted on this tour. However, we are able to operate this tour as a private departure for those with younger children.
- Prices may vary when booking seasons overlap. Bookings over Christmas, New Year and Easter incur holiday supplements. Please ask for a date-specific quote for travel during these dates.
- Prices for airport taxes, park fees and applicable government taxes and levies may be changed without prior notice. Any change is beyond our control and any increase will be passed on to the client.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.
- Please refer to our terms and conditions for amendments and cancellation policies if necessary.