

KRUGER, ESWATINI & LESOTHO

(South Africa, eSwatini, Lesotho)



14 day group tour
(overland camping)

This camping tour explores the Kruger, a wetlands sanctuary, Addo National Park and the Drakensberg region, as well as the kingdoms of eSwatini and Lesotho. Experiences abound as we journey from Johannesburg to Port Elizabeth through wildlife parks, dramatic mountainous regions and historical sites. Accommodation is in self-erected, dome tents at campsites with shared ablutions.





Cost includes:

- transport in an custom-built over-land truck with a maximum of 20 passengers
- services of a registered English-speaking driver and guide
- 13 nights in self-erected domed tents
- 13 x breakfasts, lunches and dinners
- entrance fees to national parks
- 4WD and tour vehicle game drives in Kruger N'Park, nature walk eSwatini Mlilwane N'Park, 4WD game drive Hluhluwe N'Park, game drive Addo Elephant N' Park, Panorama Route tour, boat cruise St Lucia wetlands, Drakensberg hiking and lookouts, Lesotho village visit and hiking
- still mineral water on board vehicle

Cost excludes:

- visas and international flights
- international airport taxes if applicable
- meals and drinks not listed
- dining rooms tips
- personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature
- optional 4WD safaris & excursions

B - breakfast

L - lunch

D - dinner

Johannesburg to Port Elizabeth

Accommodation: self-erected dome tents with shared ablutions

Departs: Wednesdays

Group size: maximum of 20

Product code: NJP

Itinerary overview:

Day 1: South Africa, Greater Kruger Park - Nkambeni Reserve or similar

Day 2: South Africa, Greater Kruger Park - Nkambeni Reserve or similar

Day 3: South Africa, Greater Kruger Park - Nkambeni Reserve or similar

Day 4: eSwatini, Mlilwane N'Park - Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary or similar

Day 5: eSwatini, Mlilwane N'Park - Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary or similar

Day 6: South Africa, St Lucia - Shonalanga or similar

Day 7: South Africa, St Lucia - Shonalanga or similar

Day 8: South Africa, Drakensberg - Monks Cowl or The Nest

Day 9: South Africa, Drakensberg - Monks Cowl or The Nest

Day 10: Lesotho, Malealea - Malealea Lodge or similar

Day 11: Lesotho, Malealea - Malealea Lodge or similar

Day 12: South Africa, Graaff-Reinet - Profcon Resort or similar

Day 13: South Africa, Addo N'Park - Kudu Ridge Lodge or similar

Day 14: South Africa, Port Elizabeth - ends

Pre-tour accommodation in Johannesburg and post-tour accommodation in Port Elizabeth can be arranged prior to departure on request.

Kruger, eSwatini & Lesotho - camping

Day 1: Greater Kruger National Park

Leaving the city of Johannesburg behind us we make our way north east towards Mpumalanga. Our journey today follows in the footsteps of the old trade-routes to the lowveld and the Kruger National Park. This afternoon there will be an opportunity to join a sundowner drive within the park (optional own expense). **Nkambeni Reserve – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (LD).**

Day 2: Kruger National Park

Rising early this morning we enter the Kruger National Park to enjoy a full day of game viewing. The abundance of wildlife presents us with opportunities for excellent sightings and the Kruger is also home to the famed members of Africa's Big Five. The flagship of the South African national parks, Kruger is home to an impressive number of species: 336 trees, 49 fish, 34 amphibians, 114 reptiles, 507 birds and 147 mammals. Our game drive through the park is in an open-sided 4WD vehicle affording us close encounters with its wild inhabitants. **Nkambeni Reserve – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 3: Kruger National Park

Today we board our touring vehicle and drive one of the Kruger's 'must see' attractions - the panorama route. Best known for its cultural heritage and its dramatic landscapes, our day includes stops at several lookout points, the town of Graskop for some craft-based retail therapy and Blyde River Canyon. One of the major highlights of the region, Blyde River Canyon is the third largest canyon of its kind in the world. Its reserve is home to spectacular birdlife and some of the best views in South Africa. During your drive you will also stop at 'God's Window' for a truly breathtaking view of canyons and rock formations and the unique riverine rock formation of Bourke's Luck Potholes, a series of deep cylindrical depressions created entirely by water erosion, amongst others. **Nkambeni Reserve – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 4: Mlilwane National Park, eSwatini

We start the day early with coffee and traditional rusks before setting off through Kruger on our way to eSwatini. Our truck offers an excellent platform for game viewing as we make our way south. We exit the southern end of the park and travel the short distance to eSwatini border. Our route this afternoon winds through the mountains and forests of this landlocked kingdom. Our destination for today is the Ezulwini Valley just south of the capital Mbabane. **Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary or Hlane Royal National Park – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 5: Mlilwane National Park, eSwatini

eSwatini is a kingdom led by King Mswati III. You will explore the traditions and discover the culture of which the local people are so proud. Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary is eSwatini's pioneer conservation area and is situated in the 'Valley of Heaven'. Apart from abundant bird life, there are a number of animal species to be seen, including hippo, giraffe, zebra, and a variety of antelope, which we hope to spot today on a guided walk. **Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary or Hlane Royal National Park – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 6: St Lucia

We bid farewell to eSwatini before heading into Zululand, Kwa-Zulu Natal. Our drive takes us to the South African coastline for a two-night stay at St Lucia. **Shonalanga – room with en-suite (BLD).**





Drakensberg Mountains

Day 7: Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Park, St Lucia

Today we explore the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park on a 4WD game drive within the park. Hluhluwe-iMfolozi is the oldest proclaimed game reserve in Africa and is a haven to both the endangered black and white rhino. In the afternoon we return to St Lucia and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, which was listed as South Africa's first World Heritage Site. Here we enjoy a boat cruise on the St Lucia estuary, getting up close to the hippo, crocodile, pelican and flamingo that inhabit the lake. **Shonalanga – room with en-suite (BLD).**

Day 8: Durban, Drakensberg

Moving further inland, we spend the next two nights trekking the trails and viewing the scenic wonders of the Drakensberg Mountains in the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park. Running the length of the Kwazulu-Natal province, the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park is a UNESCO recognised world heritage site. Whether you go by the Zulu name uKhahlamba, meaning 'barrier of spears', or the Afrikaans name Drakensberg, meaning 'dragon mountains', these towering mountains will be our backdrop for the next two nights. On our way we make a short stop in Durban to stretch our legs before continuing to view the scenic Howick Falls and a visit to the nearby site that marked the capture of South Africa's most famous man, Nelson Mandela. **Monks Cowl or The Nest – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 9: Drakensberg

We set out this morning for a day of hiking to explore the mountains of the Drakensberg, along our way we will have the opportunity to view examples of San rock art with a local guide at Battles Cave. While we encourage everyone to make the most of the day in mountains, we may offer separate options depending on the activity level of the group. With a number of trails available we can ensure that we cater to every need, the most important aim is to ensure everyone enjoys this mountain paradise at their own pace. **Monks Cowl or The Nest – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 10: Lesotho, Malealea

Our journey today begins with a mountain pass and an opportunity to visit a Vulture restaurant where we hope to view these fascinating birds. Our route winds its way through the magnificent cliffs off the Golden Gate National Park before we enter Lesotho in the afternoon, we pass the capital city of Maseru as we continue the climb to our base high amongst the mountain peaks. **Malealea Lodge – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 11: Lesotho, Malealea

We explore the mountains on foot where our hike concludes with a village visit and the opportunity to gain an insight into the local mountain community. The Basotho are famous for their traditional hats, blankets and their sturdy ponies. Basotho ponies are renowned for their sturdy nature. Try an optional pony trek this afternoon to experience this first-hand. **Malealea Lodge – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 12: Graaff-Reinet

Returning to South Africa, we descend the mountains and travel across the Great Karoo. The semi-arid Karoo represents the heartland of rural South Africa and presents a stark contrast to the mountains we leave behind. Our overnight stop is set in the historic town of Graaff-Reinet, the fourth oldest town in the country. We cross the Gariep River today as we journey through the vast countryside of the Karoo. This evening you will have the opportunity to join a sundowner excursion to the Valley of Desolation. This unique valley offers a panoramic view over the town and the wide-open plains stretching out below. (During the winter months, this activity will become a sunrise excursion to the Valley of Desolation the following morning.) **Profcon Resort – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Kruger, eSwatini & Lesotho - camping

Day 13: Addo Elephant National Park

Setting course for the coast once again, we pass through the open plains of the Karoo and the wildlife charms of the Addo National Park. Upon arrival in the greater Addo region, we set up camp and head to the national park to enjoy an afternoon game drive in our tour vehicle in search of the famous elephants that call Addo home. Recent expansion has seen Addo grow to become the third largest of South Africa's National Parks. The unique vegetation of Addo supports a wide variety of wildlife. **Kudu Ridge Lodge – twin dome tent with shared ablutions (BLD).**

Day 14: Port Elizabeth

This morning we make the short drive to the bay-side city of Port Elizabeth where our journey ends. **(B).**

Important information:

- It is the responsibility of the client to be at the tour departure point at the time assigned by the tour operator. On completion of the tour, flights must be booked taking into consideration the time recommended by the tour operator.
- The tour operator may re-route the itinerary or change the campsites and accommodation in rare cases of non-availability, or if local conditions restrict accessibility.
- The tour operator has the right to use an alternative or replacement vehicle if necessary.
- There is no air-conditioning or toilet onboard the overland truck. Convenience stops are made along the way at regular intervals.
- A mattress is provided, however passengers must bring their own sleeping bag and towels.
- Meals are prepared by the crew with assistance from passengers on washing-up duties .
- Suitcases are unsuitable for overland safaris due to limited space. We recommend luggage packed in inexpensive barrel style bags or soft sided bags not exceeding 15kgs.
- This tour includes some long days of road travel which are necessary in order to visit all the listed regions.
- Prices for flights, 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 levied will be passed on.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.
- A single supplement is not compulsory if you are happy to share with a fellow passenger, however a single supplement does apply if you want your own tent.
- Some participation is required on tour with camp chores, eg taking turns to assist with washing-up duties, putting up and taking down your tent and loading your bags into the vehicle.
- Children between 16 – 18 years are accepted on this tour but they must be accompanied by an adult. Children between 8 – 16 years are only able to travel on a request basis. Children under 12 years of age are not permitted on several activities included in the itinerary.
- Passengers over 65 years are required to complete a medical form, which is then assessed by the tour operator to ascertain suitability of the client to the tour.

