



emma whiting travel

Safari in South Africa

From \$6630 per person



On arrival at Cape Town Airport transfer to the hotel. The Table Bay Hotel is located in the heart of the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, the hub of one of the world's most picturesque working harbors and close to the arrival point for cruise liners. Adjoining one of Cape Town's largest shopping centers and with direct access to the V&A Waterfront, the Table Bay Hotel is only a minute's walk from the hive of activity, offering some of the city's finest restaurants, shops, galleries, boutiques and other major attractions. This breathtaking hotel combines the elegance of the stunning neo-Victorian architecture with traditional hospitality. The rooms and suites command magnificent views over the bay to famous Robben Island, and inwards to the city and the iconic outline of Table Mountain. The hotel is within walking distance of Cape Town's city centre and numerous cultural and historical landmarks. Accommodation: Table Bay Hotel, Cape Town – 4 nights

DAY 03 - CAPE TOWN

Collected from the hotel this morning and commence a half day city sightseeing tour of Cape Town. Drive to the city centre takes us past famous landmarks such as the Castle of Good Hope built in 1666 by the Dutch East India Company and City Hall, a baroque building and the Grand Parade. As we follow the city's main thoroughfare, Adderley Street, we will see St. George's Cathedral, the Anglican Diocese of Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu. We will pass the Company Gardens and the Malay Quarter [also known as the Bo-Kaap] which means "Above Cape" because of its location up against the slopes of Table Mountain. In the early 18th century, thousands of slaves from Java, Ceylon and other Far Eastern regions were brought to

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Cape Town. After slavery was abolished, their descendants, known as the Cape Malay's, settled here. Our route then leads us to Kloof Nek and the magnificent Table Mountain. We'll ascend to the top [weather permitting] by the revolving cable car (own expense). Here, we'll see wild flowers and the famous silver tree, and marvel at a birds-eye view of the city and its beaches. On a clear day it is even possible to see Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned on one side and Cape Point on the other. Descend from the Upper Cableway station to your awaiting vehicle and then proceed around Table Bay to the Milnerton area (time permitting). From here we can see Table Mountain from the same perspective as the early settlers did when they sailed into Table Bay.

DAY 04 - CAPE TOWN AT LEISURE

Enjoy today to explore Cape Town at your own pace. There are many optional activities available.

DAY 05 - WINELANDS TOUR OR CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Today enjoy a full day of sightseeing. There are two options available as follows:

OPTION 1 FULL DAY CAPE PENINSULA TOUR

Bring your camera and plenty of film; we're headed for Cape Point at the south western tip of the Cape Peninsula, and the most spectacular views in the world. The drive there is just as inspiring, passing steep mountains', secluded coves and sweeping beaches, as well as villages and fishing communities. Tour begins with a scenic drive along the Atlantic coast, passing through the cosmopolitan suburb of Sea Point and Camps Bay with its glorious views of the Twelve Apostles, part of the Table Mountain range. We'll continue to the fishing village of Hout Bay, one of Cape Town's best-kept secrets. Here there is an option to take a short boat trip to Duiker Island (for own account & time permitting) to view the Cape Fur Seals, which inhabit the island. From here we travel to the Cape Point Nature Reserve, comprising over 17,300 acres of indigenous fauna and flora. Here we can see a variety of wildlife that includes baboons, rhebok, Cape Mountain zebra, bontebok and the elusive eland. The reserve is also one of the world's largest breeding grounds for tortoises. Bird-watchers, too, will find many fine species to observe.



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The majestic coastline offers drama worthy of being called “Nature’s Greatest Show.” We’ll be able to see the union of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans (as per legend), and may even feel the brisk wind that is dubbed the “Cape Doctor” for its presumed curative powers. Following the coastline along False Bay, we’ll return to Cape Town by way of Simon’s Town, where we visit the Penguin colony at Boulders Beach (for own account), Fish Hoek fishing village and Muizenberg. Before our return, we’ll stop at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens for a short walking tour of the beautiful gardens. We return to Cape Town, passing the University of Cape Town, Rhodes Memorial and the Groote Schuur Hospital.

OPTION 2 - FULL DAY WINELANDS TOUR

While South Africa’s fertile valleys are world famous for their crisp white and classic French-style red wines, the area is also a treasury of rustic beauty and sprawling estates shaded by giant oak trees. Our drive today will include the country’s principal wine routes of Paarl, Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, with a stop en route for lunch (for own account). Day starts with a visit to Paarl where you will be struck by the beauty of the Valley, the pristine blue sky, the rolling vineyards and the Pearl of Paarl set high above the valley. Paarl made headlines when President Mandela was released from the Groot Drakenstein prison (ex Victor Verster), on the outskirts of the town, to freedom and the start of the new South Africa. We enjoy a wine tasting and cellar tour at one of the local estates. From Paarl, we’ll continue north-west to the beautiful village of Franschhoek, near the Drakenstein Mountains founded in 1688 by French immigrants fleeing the Huguenot religious persecution in Europe. A memorial in the town commemorates the arrival of these early settlers who helped develop the wines sought after by Napoleon, Bismark and royalty such as Edward VII, the Prince of Wales. Here we will stop for lunch (for own account) and another wine tasting at a vineyard. Then head to Stellenbosch, the second oldest town in South Africa and the historic heart of the country’s wine region. In 1679, Dutch East India Company governor Simon van der Stel, recognized the fertility of this long valley on the banks of the Eerste River, as perfect for vineyards. The rest is history, which has been carefully cultivated in this town. A gracious blend of 18th-century Cape Dutch, Georgian and Victorian buildings is evident on Dorp Street, where massive oaks still shade original water furrows. Enjoy a final wine tasting before returning to Cape Town.

DAY 06 - CAPE TOWN – JOHANNESBURG –MPUMALANGA

Transfer from The Commodore Hotel to Cape Town International Airport to board flight to Mpumalanga Airport, gateway to Kruger National Park. On arrival at Mpumalanga Airport board the transfer vehicle to Savanna Lodge. Settle into the accommodation and enjoy a late afternoon game drive and dinner. Savanna Lodge is an exclusive 5 star lodge, situated in the internationally famous Sabi Sand Reserve within the greater Kruger National Park conservancy. Savanna lies in an area where ‘Big 5’ sightings are so frequent, it is not unusual to see lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino in a single game drive. Specially designed game viewing vehicles and highly trained guides with vast knowledge of the African bushveld, take guests on close and intimate

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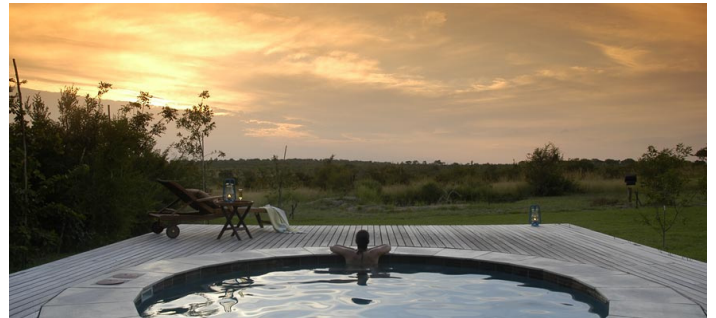
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encounters with a large variety of wildlife. Numerous nearby dams and a series of waterholes in front of the lodge attract many species, especially in the dry winter months when elephants are daily visitors. A close-knit team of friendly staff provides personalised service with each guest regarded as a valued friend. From the moment they arrive guests feel part of the Savanna 'family'.

Nine magnificent suites offer luxurious accommodation. Seven of the suites have tented roofs, blending the elegance of a by-gone colonial era with all the convenience of modern facilities.

DAY 07 – 09 SAVANNA LODGE

During these days enjoy morning and afternoon game drives and the facilities. Relaxing in the comfort of the public lounge with its spacious patio, or at the main pool looking out over lush gardens and floodlit waterhole, guests are frequently treated to fantastic views of birds and game drinking and bathing. A barman is constantly in attendance to ensure the humans' thirst is just as adequately taken care of. A viewing loft above the lounge makes a pleasant nook for a quiet game of chess as well as a bird's eye view of the waterhole, while an adjoining library provides wireless broadband internet access and offers guests the means to transfer digital photographs, freshly captured on their safari, onto CD or DVD.



DAY 10 - MPUMALANGA – JOHANNESBURG

Enjoy last day game activities and time to relax prior to transferring to Mpumalanga Airport for flight to Johannesburg. Met on arrival at Johannesburg Airport for transfer the centrally located hotel. Accommodation: Protea Fire'n'Ice, Johannesburg – 2 nights

DAY 11 - SOWETO

Following breakfast at the hotel commence the day's sightseeing tour. Experience a fascinating glimpse of bustling neighbourhood life. Soweto is the most metropolitan township in the country - setting trends in politics, fashion, music, dance and language. Drive past two former Nobel Prize winners' previous residences; the Hector Peterson memorial; Regina Mundi Church, Freedom Square and the Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, the largest hospital in the world. Visit the Apartheid Museum and embark on a journey of discovery of the racial segregation experienced by millions of South Africans just over a decade ago. Information on the Soweto uprising of 1976, the history of the African National Congress, solitary confinement of political prisoners and the birth of a new democratic country are detailed.

DAY 12 - JOHANNESBURG – MELBOURNE

A day at leisure. Optional activities available. Transfer to the Johannesburg Airport this evening for flight to Sydney.

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