Locally Escorted

South Africa Eco Explorer

22 days from $9149* per person twin share

Departs Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane every Sunday

- Scheduled Departure
- 19 Breakfasts, 11 Lunches & 13 Dinners
- "Big Five" game exploring
- Game viewing in 7 national parks
- Visit 2 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- Two incredible hikes (Drakensberg & Wild Coast)
- An authentic farm stay
- Cape Town

This immersive itinerary takes the time to truly explore South Africa and showcase the extraordinary natural beauty and cultural richness of what is proudly known as "A World in One Country."

This tour captures the iconic highlights while also venturing beyond the beaten track, inviting you to immerse yourself in the great outdoors and discover hidden gems and lesser known treasures along the way.

Accommodation is in carefully selected lodges and hotels, each offering comfort in truly unique settings – whether nestled in pristine reserves, perched high in the mountains, or set on a remote stretch of coastline. Every stay reveals a different facet of this captivating country.

Designed for travellers with a flexible spirit and an adventurous mindset, this journey promises depth, discovery, and unforgettable moments at every turn.

Day 1: Fly Australia - Perth - Johannesburg.

Day 2: Arrive Johannesburg. Transfer from Johannesburg Airport to the hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure.
Accommodation: Protea Hotel Johannesburg Balalaika, Sandton – 1 night

Day 3: Johannesburg to Greater Kruger National Park. Depart Johannesburg early, travelling north through scenic mountain passes toward the African bushveld. Stop for lunch in the artistic village of Haenertsburg, perched on the escarpment and surrounded by indigenous forests (lunch at own expense). Continue to a private reserve within Greater Kruger National Park, where wildlife roams freely. Settle into a comfortable tented bush lodge overlooking a waterhole before enjoying dinner under the stars. (B,D)
Accommodation: Private Tented Bush Lodge or similar, Balule Nature Reserve – 2 nights

Day 4: Greater Kruger National Park. A full day is spent exploring this iconic Big 5 area. Guided morning and afternoon wildlife activities offer the chance to encounter elephant, lion, rhino, buffalo and leopard, while learning about conservation and the delicate balance of the ecosystem. (B,L,D)

Day 5: Kruger Region - Hazyview via Pilgrim's Rest. After an early bush breakfast, travel the stunning Panorama Route, stopping to admire waterfalls, dramatic escarpments, and the immense Blyde River Canyon. Visit Bourke's Luck Potholes and the Three Rondavels before exploring Pilgrim's Rest, a preserved gold-rush town steeped in history. Continue to Hazyview and relax at a forest lodge overlooking the Sabie River. (B,D)
Accommodation: Greenfire Lodge or similar, Hazyview – 2 nights

Day 6: Kruger National Park. Spend a full day exploring the southern Kruger National Park in a custom-built safari vehicle. Enjoy excellent wildlife viewing with expert commentary and time for a relaxed lunch in the park (own expense). Learn about animal behaviour and medicinal plants while searching for the Big Five. Return to Hazyview in the late afternoon for dinner. (B,D)

Day 7: Hazyview - eSwatini. Leaving South Africa temporarily, the journey enters the Kingdom of eSwatini. Rolling hills, rural homesteads, and vibrant culture define the landscape, with opportunities to experience traditional crafts and local life. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: Foresters Arms Hotel or similar, eSwatini - 1 night

Day 8: eSwatini - St Lucia. Crossing into KwaZulu Natal, the route continues toward the coast and the subtropical village of St Lucia. Known for its wetlands and diverse wildlife, the area offers a relaxed coastal atmosphere. (B,L)
Accommodation: Foresters Lodge or similar, eSwatini - 2 nights

Create your own experience

Our itineraries are flexible, use this itinerary as a starting point or contact one of our specialised consultants to assist you in creating your own travel experience.

Upgrades & Add-ons

Half Day Joburg City and Soweto Highlights Guided Tour	from **$145** per person
Full Day Gauteng Highlights Guided Tour	from **$250** per person
Full Day Cape Highlights Guided Tour	from **$280** per person
Full Day Cape Point Guided Tour	from **$220** per person

Extend in Cape Town from an additional **$140** per person twin share per night including breakfast.

Extensions to South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana & Namibia available.
Contact us for details.

Prices per person twin share ex Mel/Syd/Bne

Departs	Twin	Single Supp
03 May – 07 Jun; 12 Jul – 06 Sep; 27 Sep – 29 Nov 2026	**$9149***	**$1470**
14 Jun – 05 Jul; 13 & 20 Sep; 08 Dec 2026	**$9325***	**$1470**
13 – 27 Dec 2026	**$9825***	**$1470**

Price includes all pre-paid taxes

✈ Call about our airfares ex other Australian cities ✈

Price Includes:
- Economy class airfares from Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane to Johannesburg via Perth and Cape Town to Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane via Johannesburg and Perth with South African Airways and Virgin Australia.
- Accommodation, tours, meals and transfers as indicated in the itinerary.
- Transport in custom 16-seater adventure truck from day 3 to day 19 with 2 professional local English speaking guides.
- *Prepaid airport taxes. Subject to alteration until final payment has been received by our office.

Notes:
- *Prices are correct at time of printing but are subject to availability, currency fluctuations and surcharges and are only guaranteed when paid in full.
- Ask about our companion register for single travellers.
- Group size 4-16 passengers.
- Minimum 4 passengers required to guarantee departure.
- Children under the age of 7 is welcome on this trip.
- *Terms and conditions apply. Please contact us for details.
- The day by day descriptions published are intended as a rough guideline only. Adventure travel by nature is unpredictable, weather patterns, game migrations, road conditions and a multitude of other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that ultimately are for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible and open minded in this regard.
- Luggage allowance 1 x soft duffel bag of a maximum 20kg and 1 x hand luggage bag.

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Day 9: St Lucia. Today is dedicated to exploring the iSimangaliso Wetland Park a UNESCO World Heritage Site of lakes, wetlands, forests, and beaches. Enjoy game drives, coastal walks, and time on the beach. (B,L)

Day 10: St Lucia – Drakensberg. The tour heads inland to the spectacular Drakensberg Mountains. Towering basalt peaks, grassy slopes, and dramatic cliffs create a striking change in scenery, offering cooler mountain air and wide open spaces. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: aha Alphine Health Resort or similar, Northern Drakensberg - 2 nights

Day 11: Drakensberg. Enjoy a full-day guided hike in Royal Natal National Park. Walk through Tugela Gorge with river crossings, picnic stops, and dramatic cliff views en route to the world's highest waterfall. (B,L,D)

Day 12: Drakensberg - Natal Midlands. Descending from the mountains, the route travels through the scenic Natal Midlands. Farm landscapes and charming country scenery accompany a traditional farm style dinner, highlighting local hospitality. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: Flitwick Ranch (working ranch farm stay) or similar – 1 night

Day 13: Natal Midlands - Wild Coast. Heading south, the journey reaches the remote Wild Coast. Untamed beaches, rolling green hills, and rural villages define this less visited region, offering an authentic and peaceful coastal escape. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: Ocean View Hotel or Green Fields Hotel, Coffee Bay - 2 nights

Day 14: Wild Coast. Enjoy a full day of the raw beauty of the Wild Coast. Walk along deserted beaches, explore coastal cliffs, or simply relax while experiencing one of South Africa's most unspoiled regions. (B,D)

Day 15: Wild Coast – Cradock. Travelling inland, the tour passes through historic Eastern Cape towns en route to Cradock. The changing landscapes reflect South Africa's diverse interior, blending Karoo plains with mountain backdrops. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: Tuishuise & Victoria Manor or similar, Cradock – 1 night

Day 16: Cradock - Addo Region (Nelson Mandela Bay). An early visit to Mountain Zebra National Park offers game viewing among rugged terrain. Later, the route continues toward the coast and Nelson Mandela Bay, combining wildlife and cultural history. (B,L)
Accommodation: The Beach Hotel or similar, Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) – 1 night

Day 17: Nelson Mandela Bay – Knysna. The Garden Route unfolds with coastal forests, lagoons, and beaches. Arriving in Knysna, the evening is spent in this lively town known for its scenic lagoon and surrounding indigenous forests. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: aha The Rex Hotel or similar, Knysna – 1 night

Day 18: Knysna – Arniston. The journey continues west through Tsitsikamma and along scenic coastal roads. Reaching the quiet fishing village of Arniston, guests enjoy a relaxed seaside atmosphere in a truly remote setting. (B,L,D)
Accommodation: Arniston Spa Hotel or similar, Arniston – 1 night

Day 19: Arniston - Cape Town. Travelling via rolling farmlands and coastal scenery, the route leads toward Cape Town. En route, there are opportunities to appreciate the Western Cape's dramatic contrasts of ocean, valleys, and mountains. (B)
Accommodation: aha Harbour Bridge Hotel or similar, Cape Town – 2 nights

Day 20: Cape Town. Enjoy a day of leisure in the "Mother City" where a visit to the V&A Waterfront is recommended. (B)

Day 21: Cape Town – Johannesburg – Perth. Day at leisure until the departure transfer to Cape Town International Airport. (B)

Day 22: Arrive Australia.

Alphine Health Resort

Ocean View Hotel, Coffee Bay

Eco Explorer Adventure Truck

Cape Town Waterfront

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