

SOUTH AFRICA – NORTH TO SOUTH

- DURATION – 18 days
- COMMENCES – Johannesburg 18th October 2009
- CONCLUDES – Cape Town 4th November 2009
- TRIP LIMIT – Minimum 6, Max 12 Places
- INCLUDES – **Johannesburg, Blyde Canyon Nature Reserve, Kruger NP, Port Elizabeth, Tsitsikamma National Park, Dolphin trail trek, Knysna, Garden Route, Cape Town.**
- PRICE pp share twin– 6pax/NZD6170; 12pax/NZD5300
(prices current at the time of publication (09/02/2009))

Commence in Johannesburg then explore the spectacular Berg and Bushveld of the Drakensburg Mountains. Visit the stunning Blyde Canyon and Bourkes Luck cascade. We continue to Kruger National Park for two full days wildlife watching and stay at the outstanding Berg en Dal Rest camp before returning to Jo'burg and flying to Port Elizabeth our jump off point for our 3 day easy fully supported trek on the world renowned 'Dolphin Trail'. After the trek continue to Knysna at the heart of the 'Garden Route' before heading for the Outeniqua Mountains en route to Oudtshoorn and the Cango Caves. At Cape town conclude with a programme that includes Robbins Island and township visits.

Day 1: Sun 18 Oct 09 - Arrive J'burg

Met and transferred to hotel

Day 2: Mon 19 Oct 09 – Escarpment – Ya Mati

Drive east toward the 3rd largest canyon in South Africa and the escarpment. From our various viewpoints you can see where the original Gondwanaland tore itself apart to give birth to the African continent. Also stop at Bourkes Luck Potholes.

Day 3: Tue 20 Oct 09 - Escarpment – Ya Mati

Relaxed morning at the lodge, after lunch depart for Moholoholo Rehabilitation centre for a 2½–3 hour guided walk through the facility which cares for injured or orphaned wildlife. Overnight at the foot of the escarpment on the banks of the Olifants River.

Day 4: Wed 21 Oct 09 - Kruger National Park

Our destination today is the most famous park in South Africa. White Rhino, Kudu, Impala, Giraffe, Elephant, Reedbuck, Klipspringer, Grey Rhebok and Warthog are all commonly seen in the Kruger Park. Lion are usually found in the lower plains on the roads to Skukuza and Crocodile Bridge. Our camp is an excellent venue for wildlife viewing.

Day 5: Thu 22 Oct 09 - Berg en Dal

Optional early wildlife expedition before breakfast. Depart to head south to Berg en Dal. We will take our time in order to watch out for wildlife alongside the road. Arrive at Berg en Dal mid afternoon, afternoon free time or head out for a late afternoon game drive.

Day 6: Fri 23 Oct 09 – Port Elizabeth

After breakfast head back toward Johannesburg for our flight to Nelson Mandela bay and the industrial heartland town of Port Elizabeth. Transfer to hotel located close to the Aquarium, casino and The Boardwalk Centre.

Day 7: Sat 24t October 09 - Port Elizabeth

Day to relax and explore around the city. Good opportunity to enjoy a swim!

Day 8: Sun 25 Oct 09 – Tsitsikamma N/ Park

Drive to Tsitsikamma National Park. Check into our accommodation – rest of day free to enjoy the local trails, including the start of the Otter Trail, or relax and enjoy one of the most beautiful spots on earth!

Silk Road Adventures (NZ) Ltd

415 Main South Road
Greymouth 7805
(NZ)
New Zealand

E: info@silkroad.co.nz
ph: ++64 3 762 6673
Freephone 0800 349 739

www.silkroad.co.nz

Day 9 – 26 Oct 09 - Hiking Day 1

Early risers can enjoy the stunning views or go bird watching before breakfast. Depart for our trek along the boardwalk to Storms River Mouth and the Khoisan Cave. Weather permitting, there will be a 25 minute boat trip into the river gorge. After crossing Storms River Mouth on the suspension bridge, hikers follow the trail to the Lookout Point where there is a magnificent view of the Tsitsikamma National Park. Relax here and enjoy the view of the Indian Ocean while keeping watch for whales and dolphins. The trail begins a long descent through indigenous forest to reach the lunch spot at sea level. This is a good rest stop before the stained climb up Steilkop. At the top it is a comfortable forest walk to Misty Mountain Reserve where our chalets have a 180 degree view of the Indian Ocean. Time to relax and enjoy a swim in the pool. A variety of exotic and local water birds, as well as ostriches, can be seen at close range around the chalets.

Day 10: 27 Oct 09 - Hiking Day 2

After a hearty breakfast head off down to the rock pools. Today's route is mainly at sea level and the morning walk along the coast is magnificent. Keep your eyes open for the spoor of the Cape Clawless Otter in "Otter's Alley". Swimming and snorkelling are possible in a couple of rock pools en route so take your swimmers with you. (The guides will carry snorkelling sets) Just before lunch the path climbs up to reenter the forest. After lunch soak up the peace and tranquillity of the magnificent forest before setting off on the last 3 km through indigenous forest to our over night rest stop at Forest Ferns. Check into chalets nestled along the river. Enjoy the swimming pool, Jacuzzi and sauna or visit the Fernery and nursery.

Day 11: 28 Oct - Knysna

Depart by road towards Knysna. En route we will stop at the highest bungi jump in the world and also at Monkeyland Sanctuary. Time to enjoy Knysna and visit the waterfront.

Day 12: Thu 29 Oct 09 - Knysna

Full day at Knysna. Options include visiting the Elephant Park or relaxing in the town area.

Day 13: Fri 30 Oct 09 - Montagu

We move North today and cross the imposing Outeniqua Mountain Range en route to Oudtshoorn where we visit the Cango Caves one of the most extensive Limestone cave structures in the world. Continue east to the heart of the infamous Route 62 and overnight in the town of Montagu set in the heart of the wine producing region of the Overberg Region. Optional visit to the Ostrich Farm.

Day 14: Sat 31 Oct 09 - Montagu

Wine tasting today – this morning we visit **Graham Beck** for wine tasting. Producing quality **Cap Classique Method** bubbly since 1993 they carry a reputation for one of the most prolific producers in South Africa with quality being carried with the Beck name. Following this we head toward **Springfield** for some fabulous wines... especially the Methode Ancienne and Life from Stone Range.

Day 15: Sun 1 Nov 09 - Cape Town

Today we enter the most beautiful city in the world! En route we will stop off for a light lunch at one of the numerous wine farms in the Stellenbosch area. On arrival and weather permitting we head straight to the emblem of the city Table Mountain. (Time allowing we may stroll down parliament lane.)

Day 16: Mon 2 Nov 09 - Cape Town

A tour of Robben Island – a true testament to the human spirit and determination. The day is designed to give you a better understanding of where South Africa comes from and its role in broader African politics.. After our journey to Robben Island we meet up with one of our local Langa guides who will show us through an African township. An amazing experience which focuses not on the hardships but on the joy of family and tribe.

Day 17: Tue 3 Nov 09 - Cape Town

Today we follow the Atlantic Seaboard passing through the Riviera of Cape Town on the Clifton and Camps bay road. We then head to Hout Bay (option to join a Seal cruise). Then off to Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve via the winding and gravity defying Chapmans peak. We stop for lunch at The Two Oceans Restaurant. Also visit the largest African penguin colony in Africa.

Day 18: Wed 4 Nov 09 - Flight Home

Time for some last minute shopping or see Table Mountain if the weather hasn't been kind to us before we head to the airport for your flight home.

Silk Road Adventures (NZ) Ltd

415 Main South Road

Greymouth 7805

(NZ)

New Zealand

E: info@silkroad.co.nz

ph: ++64 3 762 6673

Freephone 0800 349 739

www.silkroad.co.nz

Silk Road Adventures (NZ) Ltd
415 Main South Road
Greymouth 7805
(NZ)
New Zealand

E: info@silkroad.co.nz
ph: ++64 3 762 6673
Freephone 0800 349 739

www.silkroad.co.nz