

# The Garden Route | North 7 days

### Information guidelines

All information provided in this document is subject to change without prior notice. Please ensure that you have received the latest version of this dossier as we are continually striving to improve the standards and quality of our tours and itineraries are subject to change. Travel times and campsites can change depending on road or weather conditions, or any unforeseen circumstances. These are used as a guideline only. On this tour, camping and accommodated clients will be travelling together with a maximum number of participants of 20. On our longer tours it is possible that your crew, truck and fellow travellers will change due to our unique tour linking system.

Partaking in an adventure tour in Africa involves covering hundreds if not thousands of kilometers in a truck, and our tours are as much about this journey as they are about the destinations we visit. Use your time in the truck to talk to your fellow travellers, play card games, have a drink, walk around, take note of the world passing by your window and make the most of this unique opportunity to step out of your comfort zone.

Some roads you travel on will be smooth and easy while others could take up to an hour to cover one kilometer. There is just no telling what could happen with road, weather, traffic and other conditions that may exist that will either increase or decrease the amount of time you spend on the road so take your watch off, put your iPad away, turn off your phone and just relax. An average day could take anything from 5 to 14 hours in the truck, it all depends on the day... and that's only an "average".

In this tour dossier you see an indication of a distance to be covered on a particular day. Please don't assume that your travel time will be equal to that which you can travel in your car on the autobahn... no, it will be much, much slower. We will stop for shopping, bathroom breaks, photo stops, activities and a whole lot more. If you are looking to only experience specific destinations and are not interested in the journey, perhaps adventure touring is not for you.

As circumstances change in the destinations that we visit, our tour dossiers do change from time to time as we constantly improve our offering based on feedback about these changes that we receive from our guests and guides on tour. Please ensure that you download this dossier again within a week of your tour departing to ensure that you have all of the correct information regarding the tour.

#### Did you receive your Pre Departure Information Booklet?

If not, we will e-mail you the document - alternatively you can also download the Pre-Departure Information from our website at www.CheapAfricaTours.com or www.GoedkopeAfrikaReizen.nl

### About this tour

#### **Departure Point**

This tour departs at **7.00 am** from 40onBurg, 40 Burg Street, Cape Town, South Africa. Tel: +27 (0)21 426 4338, www.40onburg.co.za

Please ensure you arrive at the departure point at least 30 minutes before the scheduled departure time.

#### **End Point**

Kings Beach Hotel, La Roche Drive, Humewood, Port Elizabeth. Tel: +27 41 582 3720 www.tsogosunhotels.com/garden-court/kings-each/pages/overview.aspx

#### **Countries Visited**

South Africa

#### What's included

Meals as indicated on the itinerary (unless otherwise specified, all meals are prepared and served at the Overland truck), accommodation, registered guides and transport. We also include some of the highlights. These highlights are listed below in the day-by-day descriptions as "included highlights".

#### What's excluded

All items of a personal nature, alcohol, soft drinks, snacks, souvenirs, tips, activity package and optional activities (see list for an indication of prices).

#### **Vehicle**

Overland Truck

#### Climate

The African sun is very strong. Please use a factor 30 sunscreen and wear a hat. You should drink at least 3 litres of water per day to avoid dehydration. It can also get very cold during winter months on this route. Please see Pre Departure Booklet for detailed information.

#### **Pre and Post Tour Accommodation**

If you require accommodation before or after your tour we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers. For more information, have a look on our website under "Hotels and Transfers"

#### **Arrival/ Departure**

Please be sure to arrive at least 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will help avoid any unforeseen problems. We also highly recommend that you book your flights to depart at least one day after the tour officially ends.

#### I Want More

This tour will give you a good taste of what Southern Africa has in store for you. However, you can extend your adventure by adding more tour options... you could continue onward to Durban (7 more days or even up to Johannesburg (14 more days) and from there you could join the 14 day Discover Mozambique tour...

#### Insurance (Compulsory)

All clients require adequate Medical Insurance. Activity providers can refuse participation of activities, if the correct valid Medical Insurance is not provided.

#### **Currency and Banking**

As your tour may pass through multiple countries, we have prepared information on the use of local and foreign currencies, ATMs and Credit Cards for each country. This information is available on our website under FAQ (frequently asked questions).

#### Health

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies or physical disabilities that you may have.

#### **Vaccinations**

A Yellow Fever Certificate might be required for this tour depending on your nationality. Please see the Pre-Departure Information booklet for detailed information on vaccinations in Africa.

#### Visas

As visa requirements vary considerably from country to country and nationality to nationality, please contact the various embassies or a visa service agent in your home country to re-check your visa requirements at least 4 weeks prior to travelling. Please note that visas are the responsibility of the traveller and that ShapShap Travel and its partners will not be held responsible for guests being denied entry should they not be in the possession of the relevant visas.

All travellers must be in possession of a valid onward/return air ticket or proof of other means of transport enabling the traveller to leave the country in which your adventure tour passes or terminates. You should also have proof of sufficient funds (e.g. credit card) to see you through your time in the country. Should the adventure tour you are joining be re-entering a country, be sure to have a multiple entry visa that enables you to re-enter the country. In some cases visas are available on entry into a country and may be cheaper to do so, however for peace of mind and to speed up the border crossing process, ShapShap Travel will always advise you to get your visas prior to your trip if possible.

#### Malaria

Malaria prophylactics are required throughout this route.

#### **Accommodation providers**

Accommodation providers are subject to change without notice, the accommodation listed in this dossier is our preferred supplier, but sometimes due to availability, we are unable to make use of the property listed in this dossier. If we cannot use the accommodation provider as listed we will substitute another property of similar standards, however, en-suite facilities are not always guaranteed.

### **Activity Package**

This is an **optional payment** that covers what we consider to be 'essential activities' on our tours. Ideally we would include all of these, but not everyone can afford this. This payment is 100% transparent and is listed below. The best option is to pre-book and pay for the whole Activity Package when you book your tour. You can also book and pay for these activities while one tour, but it will be subject to availability and you will have to carry all that cash around with you.

Activity	Price
Cango Caves basic tour	R 110
Tsitsikamma Woodcutters Journey	R300
	R 410

This itinerary has been written with the Activity Package items included. If you wish to participate in all the activities listed, you will need to purchase the Activity Package.

### **Detailed itinerary**

#### Day 1 – The Cape Whale Coast Route

Made up of a collection of villages, farms, rivers, bays, coves and valleys, the Cape Whale Coast is a pristine stretch of the South African coastline which runs from the town of Rooiels for roughly 150km, to the east. We have a full day ahead of us which takes us from the bustling city centre of Cape Town via the vineyards to the town of Hermanus - not forgetting a stop at the largest breeding colony of the African Penguin, Stony Point Nature Reserve. During the months of July to November you may be lucky enough to see the southern right whales that visit the bay in Hermanus.

Accommodation Windsor Hotel or similar: <a href="https://windsorhotel.co.za/">https://windsorhotel.co.za/</a>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom

Camping: Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom

**Route** Cape Town to Hermanus

Included Highlight Stony Point Penguin Colony visit, Chocolate & Wine tasting

#### Day 2 - Route 62 - Oudtshoorn

Crossing the Hottentots-Holland Mountains this morning we set out for the Klein Karoo and our overnight stop in Oudtshoorn. We follow the scenic Route 62 today, stopping to experience one

of the many farm stalls on the way. One of the more quirky highlights today is Ronnie's Sex Shop, not a sex shop at all, but a rather interesting country pub!

**Accommodation** Kleinplaas Holiday Resort or similar: <a href="http://www.kleinplaas.co.za">http://www.kleinplaas.co.za</a>

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per Room with En-suites Bathroom

Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the

facilities offered.

**Route** Hermanus to Oudtshoorn **Included Highlight** Stop at Ronnie's Sex Shop

#### Day 3 - Heart of Garden Route

Our morning starts with a guided tour of the famous Cango Caves, we can only marvel at the astonishing formations that have formed in these impressive limestone caves. Returning above ground we make our way over the Outeniqua Mountains and descend to the beautiful Garden route coastline below. In the coming days we spend time hiking, relaxing at the beach and sampling the many optional activities available.

**Accommodation** Fairy Knowe or similar: <a href="http://www.rgfp.co.za/fairyknowe.co.za/">http://www.rgfp.co.za/fairyknowe.co.za/</a>

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom

**Camping:** Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the

facilities offered.

**Route** Oudtshoorn to Garden Route **Activity Package** Cango Caves Basic Tour

#### Day 4 – Tsitsikamma

The Garden Route is a treasure trove of beautiful beaches, forest walks and an exciting menu of optional adventures. While our morning is set aside for some relaxation on the beaches of Plettenberg Bay, today offers a number of optional activities and your guide will assist you to get the most out the day. This afternoon we have the opportunity to visit the hidden gem of Nature's Valley, this beautiful village offers us a chance to enjoy a hike or simply relax on the pristine beach in this little paradise. In order to make the most of this day, the truck will run a set schedule and you are free to join or leave at the places that interest you.

**Accommodation Accommodated:** Tsitsikamma Cottages or similar:

http://www.tsitsikamma.net/

Camping: Tube n Axe or similar: <a href="http://tubenaxe.co.za/">http://tubenaxe.co.za/</a>

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per Room with En-suites Bathroom

**Camping:** Campsite with Shared Ablutions

**Route** Wilderness to Tsitsikamma **Included Highlight** Natures Valley Nature Walk

**Optional Activity** Township Tour, Ocean Safaris, Sea Kayaking, Monkeyland, Birds of Eden

and Bloukrans Bungee Jump

#### Day 5 - Tsitsikamma

Tsitsikamma National Park is one of South Africa's premier marine reserves and this morning we set out to explore the rugged coastline on foot. Our hike along the Waterfall Trail sees us cover the first section of the world renowned Otter Trail, this is not an easy hike and those who prefer a more

leisurely option can make use of the boardwalks to the Storms River Mouth. We return after our hike and will have the chance to enjoy the Woodcutters Journey in the afternoon – experiencing the uniqueness of the Tsitsikamma biome and learning about the history of the area and it's indigenous fauna & flora.

**Accommodation Accommodated:** Tsitsikamma Cottages or similar.

http://www.tsitsikamma.net/

**Camping:** Tube n Axe or similar. <a href="http://tubenaxe.co.za/">http://tubenaxe.co.za/</a> **Accommodated:** Two per Room with En-suites Bathroom

**Camping:** Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Included Highlight Tsitsikamma National Park entrance and hike with your overland guide

Activity Package Woodcutters Journey tour Optional Activity Treetop canopy tours

**Facilities** 

#### Day 6 - Greater Addo Elephant National Park area

This morning we set out for the Eastern Cape and the Addo National Park. We make a stop this morning in the surfing mecca of Jeffrey's Bay, famous for its waves. You have the opportunity to visit the small surfing museum, catch a quick wave or simply enjoy a cup of coffee overlooking these famous waves. This afternoon we will make our first visit to seek the elephants after which Addo is named.

**Accommodation** Kudu Ridge Lodge or similar: <a href="http://www.kuduridge.co.za">http://www.kuduridge.co.za</a>

**Facilities** Accommodated: Two per permanent tent with En-suite Bathroom

**Camping:** Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the

facilities offered.

**Route** Tsitsikamma National Park to Addo Elephant National Park

Included Highlight Jeffrey's Bay and an afternoon game drive (safari) in Addo National Park

#### Day 7 – Greater Addo Elephant National Park area

This morning after breakfast, your guide will transfer you to Port Elizabeth where your tour will come to an end upon arrival in the city.

**Accommodation** Own arrangements/ post tour accommodation can be booked though us

**Route** Addo Elephant National Park to Port Elizabeth

There are more optional activities being created every day – we have listed only the most popular. If there is something specific you would like to do then speak to your guide as they will be able to assist you if possible.

### More optional activities which can be booked on this tour

Country	Area	Activity	Guideline
South Africa	Plettenberg Bay	Dinner at local restaurant	R100 - R250
South Africa	Tsitsikamma	Blackwater Tubing (Half Day)	R540 - R610
South Africa	Plettenberg Bay	Monkey Town entrance	R210 - R230
South Africa	Plettenberg Bay	Birds of Eden entrance	R210 - R230
South Africa	Tsitsikamma	Treetop / Canopy Tour	R580 - R800

South Africa	Tsitsikamma	World Highest Bungee Jump	R900 - R1100
South Africa	Tsitsikamma	Bridge Walking Tours	R130 - R200

### More about this tour

#### **MEALS ON TOUR**

Breakfast: As breakfast is served very early in the morning (if there is driving or activities to be done) it is a simple but filling breakfast: Tea and coffee, breads and spreads, cereals, yoghurts, fruits and on occasion, when there is time for a later breakfast, guides will serve a hot breakfast of scrambled eggs, porridge, bacon or beans.

Lunch: Lunch is generally served at a picnic spot next to the road en route to a destination. As the guides only have approximately 45 minutes to get everyone off the truck, prepare lunch and then get everyone back on the truck again, lunches consist of sandwiches and salads (rice salad, pasta salad, tuna salad and green salad) which are quick and easy to prepare but which are quite filling. Guides have meal plans which they should stick to, to ensure that there is variety on a day to day basis.

Dinner: This is when the guides get time to prepare a delicious meal and they focus on a substantial protein, vegetable and carbohydrate dinner. We serve traditional cuisine consisting of braais (BBQ), potjie (stew), bobotie (mince), spaghetti and fish and chicken dishes. All meals (on both accommodated and camping tours) that are included as per the dossier are prepared at the full service adventure truck. This is a unique adventure in itself where you get to dine under the stars with your new found friends and experience the real sights and sounds of Africa!

#### **TIPPING ON TOUR**

Southern Africa: In general tipping in restaurants is expected and is around 10% for good service, more if you have received exceptional service, and, feel free not to tip at all if you received poor service. Tipping taxi drivers etc is really at your own discretion and not always expected. If in doubt please ask your guides. It is expected to tip porters and car-guards etc. Ask your guides how much is appropriate in local currency.

Our guides do work hard but they are also paid at (and often above) industry levels for this work. Our Crew can be tipped if you feel that they have done a good job and/or gone above and beyond the call of duty. The best way to arrange tips is to elect one person in the group to collect the money. We recommend USD1-2 (or about R10-R20) per day per person, per guide as a fair tip. So if you have 3-crew on a tour, we would recommend that 3 envelopes are used and each crew member's name written on one. Place what you feel is fair into each envelope and the elected person can give these to the crew at the end of the tour. If you do not feel that the crew deserve a tip, please, do not tip them. You must remember that tipping is only for exceptional service and is not at all compulsory or expected.

### Countries visited

#### South Africa

South Africa is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Africa, as it offers truly magnificent views and has an abundance of activities to enjoy. This Southern African country is rich with culture and traditions; with every citizen having a unique heritage, culture and story to tell. Here,

guests will find themselves enchanted with a unique vibrancy and absorbed in the freedom of every citizen. The combination of the beauty of the landscape and friendly nature of the locals makes South Africa a truly inspiring and exciting country to explore.

Since the 17th century and the arrival of its very first settlers, South Africa has been claimed, to be one of the most beautiful destinations in the world. Not only is the weather warm and mild throughout the year, but locals and visitors enjoying an endlessly beautiful scenery and diversity in landscapes. Undoubtedly, South Africa's main attractions are it's beautiful mountain and coastal views, however it's cities also attract more than enough tourist attention.

In 2010, South Africa hosted the FIFA Soccer World Cup, putting on an incredible show and proving themselves as one of the world's leaders in the hospitality industry. Guests were made to feel welcome and encouraged to participate in local celebrations and enjoy the sights of each region; a factor which surely contributed to the Mother City of South Africa, Cape Town, being voted by TripAdvisor to be the most desired tourist destination in the world.

## Enjoy your adventure of a lifetime!