



## **Wildlife & Nature Reserves** · South Africa

#### **Route**

from Johannesburg / to Hoedspruit

#### **Duration**

10 days / 9 nights

#### **Distance**

approx. 230 km

#### Level 2

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## Cycle Safari through African wonderlands

What if you could combine a cycling tour with a safari experience? With our South Africa Cycling Safari, you can! The tour leads to the Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces in the North-Eastern part of South Africa. Visit the world-renowned Kruger National Park and discover the breath-taking Blyde River Canyon with the Three Rondavels and Bourke's Luck Potholes. The tour is designed to offer you the opportunity to experience and get to know this diverse region, its culture, nature, activities, attractions, cuisine, and local people.

[nbsp] TO NOTE: This trip is already updated for the 2025 season. Itinerary, prices and services may vary compared to 2024.



# **Itinerary**

#### 1st Day Arrival at O.R. Tambo International Airport

Welcome to South Africa! Upon arrival, it is impossible not to notice you have arrived in a country filled with smiles. A guide will meet you at O.R. Tambo International Airport and accompany you to your overnight accommodation in Johannesburg. The rest of the day is yours to do with as you please, whether that be relaxing at the hotel or exploring some of Sandton's attractions. We have made a list of recommendations below: <br/>
Some of Sandton's attractions. We have made a list of recommendations below: <br/>
Some of Sandton's attractions.

- Nelson Mandela Square (right across from the hotel)<br>
- Sandton City Mall<br>
- Soweto (depending on your arrival time, we can offer a 2- or 4-hour cycling tour through Soweto. The tours begin at 10 am or 1 pm and includes lunch and a transfer from your hotel to Soweto and back. Price: 85 euro per person).<br/>
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Includes: Transfer to accommodation

#### **2nd Day African Bush**

The transfer departs at 10 am from the hotel. Travel time from Johannesburg to our overnight accommodation is about 5 hours. Along the way, we stop to visit an Open-Air Museum which shows the daily life of the Bakone people who inhabited the Polokwane area 250 years ago. The next 2 evenings are spent at a private lodge near Bandelierkop. After settling in, we end our day with a bushwalk to get acquainted with the African bush before enjoying a cosy dinner in an African boma. <br/>
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Includes: Breakfast, transfer to Lodge from Johannesburg, visit to Museum, bushwalk.

## 3rd Day Safari cycling (approx. 20 - 40 km, 150 – 300 hm)

Our first bike ride is an exploratory cycle through the bushveld. The aim of this safari cycle is to allow for first, personal encounters with African wildlife. The lodge has a wide variety of non-dangerous animals including giraffes, impalas, zebra, kudu, and many different bird species. Learn more about the lifestyle and habits of the different species as well as the tracking of animals. In the afternoon, you can join us for a sunset game drive or alternatively enjoy a relaxed afternoon next to the swimming pool. Dinner will be a unique South African experience served in the boma. <br/>
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Includes: Bike tour, breakfast, lunch, dinner, game drive.

#### 4th Day Tzaneen (approx. 45 km, 850 m)

After breakfast we travel for 60 minutes to the start of our bike ride outside the town of Tzaneen. Tzaneen is a large tropical garden town in a high rainfall fertile region with tropical and subtropical agriculture taking place in a 20,000 square kilometers (7,700 sq mi) region. Our bike ride is an undulating ride with beautiful views of Tzaneen and its surrounding areas. We reach our lunch spot after 40 kilometers where you can put your feet up and relax. After lunch we have 5 more kilometers to our accommodation for the next two evenings.

### 5th Day Wolkberg Mountains(approx. 15 - 45 km, 420 - 650 hm)

The Wolkberg Mountains separate the highveld from the lowveld of Limpopo. It also contains some of the most intensive and well-established Avocado and Macadamia Nut farms in South Africa. Our bike route for the day is a circular one that passes through Pine and Eucalyptus plantations with splendid views of the surrounding mountains and farms. Lunch will take place at a local restaurant with picturesque views of the area. A relaxing afternoon awaits our guests with breath-taking views of the Wolkberg Mountains. <br/>
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Includes: Bike tour, breakfast, lunch, dinner.

#### 6th Day Blyde Dam and the Kruger National Park (approx. 37 km, 410 hm)

Our bike ride follows the Blyde River through the canyon to a spectacular viewpoint of the Blyde Dam. The Blyde River rises on the western slopes of the Drakensberg near Sabie in Mpumalanga and flows northwards past the town of Pilgrim's Rest for more than 62.5 mi./100 km, through a region of extraordinary beauty along the eastern escarpment and into the Blyde Dam which was completed in 1974. Along the way be on the lookout for kudus and baboons. Explore the Blyde Dam with a boat cruise and spot hippo's and crocodiles as well as the amazing Three Rondavels from below. After lunch we will depart for the Kruger National Park. Enjoy your first evening in Kruger with a "braai".

Includes: Bike tour, breakfast, lunch, dinner.

#### 7th Day Kruger National Park (Full day)

Today is our big Kruger Safari day. Although Kruger is renowned for the Big 5 (African elephants, black rhinoceroses, cape buffalos, African lions, African leopards), it has so much more to offer. Get your cameras ready to capture the special moments in one of Africa's largest national parks, which covers an area of 19,485 square kilometres. This wildlife sanctuary is like no other, its atmosphere is truly unique, capturing the authentic heartbeat of Africa. After our day in the Kruger National Park, we are treated with a delicious dinner. Take time to share stories and photos of your special day in the African bush.<br/>
<a href="https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.purple-black-noise-new-months-elephants">https://doi.org/10.1001/journal.purple-black-noise-new-months-elephants-new-months-new-months-elephants-new-months-n

Includes: Full day safari in open vehicle in KNP, breakfast, brunch, dinner.

#### 8th Day Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve (approx. 40 km, 620 hm)

Welcome to the Blyde River Canyon, the third largest and greenest canyon in the world. Our bike ride starts at Pinnacle Rock where we will prepare the bikes, whilst you savour the magnificent view. The route follows the escarpment to Wonder View, which is said, on a clear day it is possible to see all the way to Mozambique. Visit a spectacular waterfall, before travelling to the Bourke's Luck potholes. The potholes were formed over centuries of water flowing from the Treur and Blyde River. From here it is a short drive to the famous Three Rondavels lookout point and onto our overnight stay overlooking this escarpment.<br/>
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Includes: Bike tour, entrance to Lisbon Falls and Bourke's Luck Potholes, breakfast, lunch, dinner.

#### 9th Day Echo Caves and Nature Reserve(approx. 27 km, 330 hm)

Be sure to enjoy a last look at the striking panorama of the Three Rondavels before we hop onto our bicycles. Our route, which is mostly downhill, leads by numerous citrus farms. The Echo Caves marks the end of our tour. A local farmer stumbled upon this underground wonderland in 1923 whilst looking for his lost cow. We visit the cave before

driving along the Abel Erasmus Pass and entering the Lowveld for our last evening. The adventure begins in the late afternoon with a game drive accompanied by an experienced guide. Dinner is served around a fireplace in an African boma where we can listen to the sounds of the African night. <a href="https://driving.com/br/>strongers/br/">https://driving.com/br/</a>

Includes: Bike tour, entrance to Echo Caves, game drive, breakfast, lunch, dinner.

### **10th Day Departure**

Your final day starts with a bush walk accompanied by an experienced game ranger through Big 5 territory. After the bush walk, enjoy a leisurely breakfast whilst saying farewell to your cycling companions. This will be the end of our time together. Return to your home country via the Eastgate Airport in Hoedspruit or a Private Transfer to Johannesburg. <br/>

Included: Bush walk, breakfast

## **Dates, Prices & Services**

#### **Included services**

- 10- day/9-night tour
- 9 overnight stays in 3-star accommodation
- Meals: Full board (9 x Breakfast, 8 x Lunch, 8 x Dinner)
- 6 days cycling with support vehicle (combination of paved and gravel roads)
- Entrance to Kruger National Park
- Activities as per itinerary
- Transfer from O.R. Tambo International Airport Johannesburg (JNB) to first night's accommodation and transfer from last night's accommodation to Hoedspruit Eastgate Airport (HDS)
- High quality rental bicycle
- Drinking water during cycling tours

### Not included in the basic tour price

- Journey to O.R. Tambo International Airport Johannesburg (JNB)
- Journey home/to next destination from Eastgate Airport in Hoedspruit (HDS)
- A collective shuttle service is available from Hoedspruit airport. Departure at 11 am from Hoedspruit Airport, arrival at O.R. Tambo International Johannesburg between 5 6 pm: 90 euro per person/way
- Beverages and tips
- SGR Insolvency protection (5€ per person)

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☐ SGR Insolvency protection (mandatory consumer contribution SGR insolvency protection guarantee scheme: € 5 per person - will be specified separately on the booking confirmation)

#### **Prices for Additional Optional Services**

| E-Bike rental<br>(limited)  | 250 euro per tour |  |
|---|-------------------|--|
| Single room surcharge   | 280 euro          |  |
| Extension programs Johannesburg / Johannesburg [&] SowetoPrices see extension programs / Cape Town [&] Cape Peninsula / Big 5 in Hoedspruit |                   |  |

#### **Discounts**

If this is your third or more Islandhopping tour booked directly with us, you will receive our SEA-YOU-AGAIN discount for your next tour in 2025.

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As this tour is operated by a third party partner, not all regular Islandhopping discount offers apply.

# **Dates**

| Date                    | Accommodation         | Start City                | End City                | Base<br>Price |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 12.05.2024 – 21.05.2024 | Africa - Hotel & Bike | Johannesburg<br>Flughafen | Flughafen<br>Hoedspruit | 2.590,00 €    |
| 11.08.2024 – 20.08.2024 | Africa - Hotel & Bike | Johannesburg<br>Flughafen | Flughafen<br>Hoedspruit | 2.590,00€     |
| 01.09.2024 - 10.09.2024 | Africa - Hotel & Bike | Johannesburg<br>Flughafen | Flughafen<br>Hoedspruit | 2.590,00€     |
| 21.04.2024 - 30.04.2024 | Africa - Hotel & Bike | Johannesburg<br>Flughafen | Flughafen<br>Hoedspruit | 2.590,00 €    |
| 20.10.2024 - 29.10.2024 | Africa - Hotel & Bike | Johannesburg<br>Flughafen | Flughafen<br>Hoedspruit | 2.590,00 €    |
| 06.10.2024 - 15.10.2024 | Africa - Hotel & Bike | Johannesburg<br>Flughafen | Flughafen<br>Hoedspruit | 2.590,00 €    |
| 09.03.2025 - 18.03.2025 | Hotel South Africa    | Johannesburg              | Hoedspruit              | 2.690,00 €    |
| 06.04.2025 - 15.04.2025 | Hotel South Africa    | Johannesburg              | Hoedspruit              | 2.690,00 €    |
| 11.05.2025 - 20.05.2025 | Hotel South Africa    | Johannesburg              | Hoedspruit              | 2.690,00 €    |
| 08.06.2025 - 17.06.2025 | Hotel South Africa    | Johannesburg              | Hoedspruit              | 2.690,00 €    |
| 10.08.2025 - 19.08.2025 | Hotel South Africa    | Johannesburg              | Hoedspruit              | 2.690,00 €    |
| 05.10.2025 - 14.10.2025 | Hotel South Africa    | Johannesburg              | Hoedspruit              | 2.690,00 €    |

## **Arrival**

#### **Arrival**

The tour starts at the O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB) in Johannesburg on Sunday.

Arrival is possible at any time on Sunday, and your transfer to the hotel will be organized accordingly. A guide will welcome you at the arrival terminal with a sign with your name on it.

## **Departure**

The tour ends at 10 am on Tuesday. You will be transferred to the Hoedspruit Eastgate Airport (HDS) in time of your flight. The earliest flight a guest can book from HDS is 12:00.

If you would prefer to travel to Johannesburg by car, a shuttle transfer can be booked with us. Please note the transfer takes approx. 6 hours with a stop along the way.