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Rooiels Western Cape South Africa

TRIP DOSSIER: 15 Day Safari in South Africa and Eswatini

Revised 10 October 2025

South Africa is known for its serene beauty. It is a vast country on the southern tip of Africa, filled with spectacular scenery. One of the most breathtaking areas is the Panorama Route—an aweinspiring place of majestic mountains and dramatic canyons.

South Africa is also home to the world-famous Kruger National Park, teeming with abundant animal and birdlife. Eswatini, a tiny kingdom rich in culture and history, offers its own unique natural beauty and wildlife.

This tour also includes a visit to the tiny village of Kosi Bay in the far northeast of South Africa. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Kosi Bay features golden sand dunes

where the warm Indian Ocean waves break gently on the shore.

You'll also experience the towering sandstone cliffs and dramatic landscapes of the Drakensberg Mountains, camping under a blanket of stars.

Grading: Anyone in good health with a sense of adventure should be able to take part. There is no significant physical difficulty involved, but—like much of Africa—rough roads in national parks, limited facilities, and basic accommodation may require you to adjust your expectations.

NB: While it is our intention to operate the itinerary as printed below, it may be necessary to make changes due to flight schedules, weather conditions, accommodation availability, or other operational factors. Therefore, the order and location of overnight stops may vary.

Starting Point: OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg

End Point: OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg

Included:

- Transport
- Fully qualified Tourist Guide, and driver
- · Meals as indicated
- Accommodation in spacious tents
- Activities as mentioned in the trip dossier

Not included:

- Drinks
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Meals not specified
- Airline tickets
- Insurances
- Tips and Gratuities

Brief Day by Day Description

Day 1: Johannesburg to Sabie (360km)

We depart early, heading east from the hustle and bustle of Johannesburg to



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the Mpumalanga
Province—known as the
"Place Where the Sun
Rises." Travel through the
rolling grasslands of the
Highveld. Enjoy an
optional lunch stop en
route.

Tonight, we camp on the Drakensberg Escarpment in beautiful, lush valleys. After tent orientation, enjoy a delicious dinner, where your guide will introduce the two-week adventure ahead.

Accommodation: Sabie River Camp

Meals: None



Countryside

Day 2: Panorama Route (170km)

We explore one of South Africa's most scenic drives: the Panorama Route. Visits to the following sites are included:

- God's Window:
 Stunning views of
 the Lowveld—on
 clear days, you can
 see into
 Mozambique.
- Bourke's Luck
 Potholes: Striking
 natural rock
 formations carved by
 the Treur and Blyde
 Rivers.
- Waterfalls: One of the area's spectacular waterfalls, nearly 94m high.
- Blyde River Canyon: The world's thirdlargest canyon, but the greenest—25 km long and over 750 m deep. Visit the Three

Rondavels viewpoint.

Accommodation: Forever Resort, Swadini

Meals: B

Day 3 and 4: Central Kruger National Park (120km)

We stop for supplies before heading into the iconic Kruger National Park, covering 2 million hectares and home to 149+ mammal species and over 500 bird species.

Stay in the central region, known for large herds of grazers and predators.

. Accommodation:
Satara Rest Camp

Meals: B x 2

D x 1





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Bourkes Luck Potholes

Day 5 and 6: Southern Kruger National Park (170km)

After breakfast, travel south through changing landscapes—lush greenery and riverine forests dominate.

Enjoy a full-day safari with a picnic lunch (own expense) and settle into your new rest camp surrounded by rivers and mountains.

Accommodation: Berg en Dal Rest

camp

Meals: B x 2

D x 1



Leopard

Day 7 and 8: Hlane Royal National Park (140km)

After a morning safari, we travel into Eswatini, where we stay inside Hlane Royal National Park, a Big 5 reserve and the largest in the country.

The rustic camp is run on paraffin lamps and overlooks a popular waterhole. Enjoy a guided safari with a local Swazi ranger and learn about Eswatini's conservation efforts.

Accommodation: Ndlovu Camp, Hlane Royal National Park

Meals: B x 2



Lion

Day 10 and 11: Kosi Bay

After a bush walk and breakfast, we head to Zululand, entering the beautiful coastal region of Kosi Bay, part of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park.

Explore this "miracle" of nature over two days—swimming, snorkelling, and visiting traditional fish traps.

Accommodation: Utshwayelo Kosi Mouth Camp or similar

Meals:

B x 2

D x 2



Kosi Bay

Day 12: Ithala Game Reserve (250km)



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Travel through KwaZulu-Natal to the rugged Ithala Game Reserve, a lesser-known gem home to 4 of the Big 5 (no lions), rare black rhinos, and diverse birdlife.

Enjoy included safaris and home-cooked meals.

Accommodation: Ithala Game Reserve

Meals:



Zebra

Day 13 and 14: Northern Drakensberg (300km)

Journey north into the spectacular Drakensberg Mountains. We stay in the Royal Natal National Park, with hikes, waterfalls, and bushman paintings.

Accommodation: Mahai Campsite

Meals: B x 2 D x 2



Drakensberg Mountains

Day 15: Departure (360km)

After breakfast we set off for the airport and your flight home.

*Please note: Barefoot Safaris do offer the above program as a fixed accommodation safari. Please enquire with us, should you require further information.



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- Flights
- Unspecified Meals
- All Beverages
- Sleeping Bags and pillow
- Optional Activities & Entrance Fees
- Visas, travel insurance, tips and personal expenses

Practical Info

- ** Excursions: A qualified grade 1 safari guide from Barefoot Safaris will accompany clients on all excursions except where it is necessary to employ a guide from local parks.
- Please feel free to add on to this tour with any of the other possible tours we offer in the area.
- The accommodation specified in the itinerary is a
- guide only and subject to availability. Alternatives will be of a similar standard if required.
- The Dollar rate is just an indication of the price at the current exchange rate, it cannot be guaranteed until a confirmed booking is made

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Climate: South Africa's wet season runs from mid-October or early November to March or April. During the rainy season, daytime temperatures are pleasantly warm, but low-lying areas can sometimes be humid. The heaviest rain is confined to the highlands, while the lakeshore is much drier. The dry season tends to be cooler and generally runs from May to early October. During the dry season, daytime temperatures in the lower areas are consistent at 21 °C to 26 °C. In the highlands daytime temperatures can be considerably cooler ranging between 10 °C and 20 °C.

Nights can be particularly cold during the dry season, so warm clothing is essential. Kruger's can be cool, and dry season runs from May to Aug; the hot and dry. from Sep to Oct, and the wet season from Nov to Apr.

Baggage:

- 1 soft bag (maximum 20kg)
- ! daypack

Clothing and Footwear:

- Lightweight cotton, long sleeves for sun protection
- Warm layers for cold nights
- Waterproof jacket
- Hiking boots and sandals
- Swimwear, sunhat, insect repellent

Equipment:

- Head torch
- Sunglasses, sunscreen
- Binoculars
- Camera and cover for dust
- Basic first aid, and personal medication

Terms and Conditions

Price Includes:

- Shared tent accommodation
- Entrance Fees and park fees
- Transfers and activities, as listed
- Professional Guide
- Water
- Meals as listed

Price Excludes:



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Malaria Prophylaxis Recommended

Covid
For latest Covid-19 advice please
visit the South African
Government Website
www.gov.za/covid

Visas and Permits: South Africa: Holders of UK, USA, CAN, AUS, NZ, IRL, NOR, NL passports do not require a visa.

This information is given in good faith but may be subject to change without warning. Please note that, where appropriate, obtaining a valid visa is ultimately your responsibility. Please consult a visa agency or the consular authorities 4-6 weeks before departure for the most up-to-date information

Vaccinations & Health Advice:
Vaccination requirements & other
health advice can change, so
please check with a specialized
travel clinic for up-to-date
information before you depart.
For useful advice you can visit
The Medical Advisory Service for
Travelers Abroad www.masta.org
Nevertheless, we recommend
that you protect yourselves
against: Malaria and Hepatitis A
as a minimum.

Food: Although every effort will be made to accommodate any dietary requirements, the availability of certain products is limited in South Africa. Any special dietary requirements should be explained to us in writing at the time of booking.

Local costs: All meals are included Approximate costs are for guidance only and may vary widely according to location and type of establishment.

Coffee/tea USD\$1.30 Soft drink USD\$1.00 Medium beer USD\$2.60 *Reasonable Mid-range tourist class restaurant

Optional excursions:
Some or all the excursions
detailed below may be available;
others not listed may also be
available. Approximate costs per
person are given for
guidance only and may depend
on the number of participants.
Your safari guide should be able
to assist you in arranging them
as well as advise you on any.

Sunrise Drive \$30 Morning Walk \$50 Sunset Drive \$30 Night Drive \$35 Tipping: For better or worse, tipping is an accepted part of everyday life, and - although it is always at your discretion - you will be expected to tip to reward service. Your tour guide will give you an indication of when and how much is appropriate. This can vary widely, but please allow USD 200 per person for this tour. Seasonal changes: Although all rooms/chalets in malaria areas

that we use are protected with mosquito netting; there will be insects and mosquitoes about. The camps are essentially "al fresco" so you should be prepared with insect repellent and appropriate long sleeved/legged clothing. Insects are attracted to light at night and are especially prevalent during the rainy season. Switching the lights off and placing a hurricane lamp a distance from you will remove the problem.

The evenings and mornings will be chilly from about June to August: so, it is advisable to take a light sweater or fleece

Currency: South African Rand. We recommend that you bring all you need for the trip in cash in US\$ or make use of your debit or credit card.

NB: Pre-1990-dollar bills are not accepted in most African countries

Airport Tax: This should be included in your air ticket. Please confirm with your air carrier



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| Temperature data for Johannesburg Month Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Average high °C | 25.6 | | 24 | 21.1 | _ | 16 | 16.7 | 19.4 | 22.8 | | 24.2 | 25.2 |
| Average low °C | 14.7 | 14.1 | 13.1 | 10.3 | 7.2 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 6.2 | 9.3 | 11.2 | 12.7 | 13.9 |
| Temperature data Kruger NP | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Average high °C | 33 | 32 | 31 | 29 | 28 | 26 | 26 | 27 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| Average low °C | 21 | 20 | 19 | 15 | 10 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 13 | 16 | 18 | 20 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |