

# 16 DAYS TOUR TO GARDEN ROUTE EXPLORER

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## **TOUR DETAILS:**

Come with us to experience this magical South African tour. Experience the magic of the Garden Route, a safari adventure, and the Winelands all rolled into one!

Relish the scenic splendour of South Africa's Cape Winelands, Klein Karoo and the southern coastline. Our Garden Route safari takes in the road less travelled through the Cape Winelands and the evocative Klein Karoo before traversing the Outeniqua Mountain Pass and descending to the lush Garden Route coastline. It is a circular route, ending back in Cape Town via the coastal roadway so you take in all the fantastic highlights of this beautiful region.

Expect breath-taking landscapes, warm hospitality, whale watching (in season) and the chance to taste fine wines. Don't miss out!

# **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

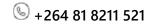
- Breath-taking landscapes and lush coastline of the Garden Route and Klein Karoo
- Big 5 malariafree safari adventure in a private game reserve along the Garden Route
- Wine tasting in the beautiful Franschhoek Winelands















# TRIP FACTS:

Destinations	Accommodation	Nights	Meals
andBeyond Phinda Private Game Reserve	andBeyond Phinda Rock Lodge	2 Nights	FB
Durban	SunCoast Hotel & Towers	1 Night	FB
Route 62	Baviaanskloof Lodge	1 Night	FB
Karoo	Prince Albert	1 Night	FB
Karoo	Swartberg Cottages	2 Nights	FB
Route 62	Karoo Art Hotel	2 Nights	FB
De Hoop Nature Reserve	De Hoop Collection	2 Nights	FB
Hermanus	Hermanus Lodge	3 Nights	FB
Franschhoek	Franschhoek Country House & Villas	1 Night	FB

# ITINERARY (DAY BY DAY):

## DAY 1-DAY 2: ANDBEYOND PHINDA ROCK LODGE, ANDBEYOND PHINDA PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

#### And Beyond Phinda Private Game Reserve

Described as "Seven Worlds of Wonder", &Beyond Phinda encompasses an impressive 23 000 hectares (56 800 acres) of prime Big Five wilderness in KwaZulu-Natal. This Reserve comprises seven distinct habitats – from dry sand forest to wetland systems and





mountain ranges. Catch a glimpse of the shy suni antelope, track rhino in the bushveld, observe breeding herds of elephant in fever tree forests, hold your breath as a cheetah teaches her cubs to hunt, glide past hippo on the Mzinene River and marvel at the gracious nyala. Phinda is home to more than 3 000 of these rare antelope.

#### Overnight: and Beyond Phinda Rock Lodge View iBrochure

Carved into the rocky mountainside, and Beyond Phinda Rock Lodge sits in sheer seclusion, suspended over the magnificent valley below. Six stone and adobe suites burrow into the heart of the cliffside, with solid wooden shutters and doors opening out onto a private viewing deck and plunge pool balanced on the very edge of a breathtaking precipice. Boasting spacious ensuite bathrooms, the suites also feature outdoor showers, providing some of the most scenic al fresco bathing on the African continent. The lodge's comfortable sitting areas offer the perfect vantage point for viewing the abundant birdlife in the surrounding trees and the wildlife roaming the bush below.

## DAY 3: SUNCOAST HOTEL & TOWERS, DURBAN

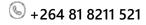
With its beautiful beaches, lively wining and dining scene, and rich cultural heritage, Durban is KwaZulu Natal's tourist hub. The swimming and surfing is rated the best of any major city across the world and because of the sub-tropical climate the water is warm all year round. Known as the Golden Mile, this stretch of beaches and amusement parks is Durban's major attraction with the recently developed UShaka Marine World at the southern end providing a world class aquarium and other entertainments.

#### **Overnight: SunCoast Hotel & Towers**

Suncoast Towers is Durban's landmark boutique hotel offering luxury accommodation just a short distance from the beach. Conveniently close to popular attractions like uShaka Marine World, the Durban Convention Centre, and the city's Golden Mile beachfront, Suncoast Towers offers visitors a choice of 36 well-appointed luxurious rooms and suites.

Amenities at our luxury Durban hotel include complimentary WiFi, 24-hour in-room dining, in-room tea and coffee facilities, DStv, and more. Guests are also able to make use of the fully-equipped fitness centre, cool off in the hotel's pool, or enjoy an array of relaxing treatments at the Suncoast Spa.

Guests visiting Durban for business can make use of the hotel's business and conference facilities. The setting is not only elegantly professional, but also offers the option of entertaining associates and guests with the many attractions presented by the adjacent Suncoast Casino.





Guests can enjoy a range of delicious meals reflecting Durban's fascinating Indian heritage at the hotel's Jeera restaurant and cocktails, music, and a unique ambience at The Bar.

## DAY 4: BAVIAANSKLOOF LODGE, ROUTE 62

Route 62 might market itself as the longest Wine Route in the world, but that's definitely not all there is to it. Lush greenery and fertile valleys form a stark contrast against the semi-desert of the Klein Karoo while towering mountains and their rivers and streams provide an awe-inspiring backdrop throughout. Some of the renowned attractions visitors will spot as they follow the route are the winelands of the Breede River Valley, the majestic Swartberg mountains, the Cango Caves and ostrich farms of Oudtshoorn, and the fruit orchards of the Langkloof Valley.

#### Overnight: Baviaanskloof Lodge

Bvaiaanskloof Lodge offers comfortable accommodation, Dinner Bed and Breakfast, Outdoor Recreation Facilities, Tourist Info Service. Accommodation consist of spacious en suite rooms, dining room, lounge as well as outdoor living area.

## DAY 5: PRINCE ALBERT, KAROO

Composed of the Great and Little Karoo, this vast semi-desert region may seem harsh and unforgiving to some, but to others it's a sanctuary of peace and silence with its own unique, compelling beauty. Extending across 400 000 square kilometres of the country, the Karoo is South Africa's biggest ecosystem and its arid scrublands shelter a surprisingly rich diversity of plant, bird and animal life. Highlights of the area are the fossil trail in the Karoo National Park and the annual Olive Festival in the small town of Prince Albert.

#### **Overnight: Prince Albert**

Gateway to the arid wilderness of the Great Karoo, the little town of Prince Albert is an oasis of magnificent mountains, fresh sparkling water, lush gardens and fruit orchards. This small gem is home to beautifully preserved Cape Dutch, Karoo and Victorian buildings. It is a popular place in which to relax in the sun or appreciate the spectacular clear and star-filled night sky to the rare sound of deafening silence.





## DAY 6-DAY 7: SWARTBERG COTTAGES, KAROO

#### **Overnight: Swartberg Cottages**

Swartberg Cottages has five rooms, each with its own entrance. We offer secure off-street parking behind locked gates, ensuring a peaceful night's rest.

Our guest house is also pet and child friendly.

We serve a full English breakfast and dinner (on request)

## DAY 8-DAY 9: KAROO ART HOTEL, ROUTE 62

#### **Overnight: Karoo Art Hotel**

Karoo Art Hotel is a funky, relaxed and welcoming country hotel situated in the Klein Karoo on the scenic Route 62, in Barrydale. This charming hotel offers the most vital ingredient: warm, old-fashioned Karoo hospitality.

The 15 rooms are all completely individual in character, some with beautiful views overlooking the village. There are 3 different room categories: Klein Karoo Rooms, Groot Karoo Rooms and the spacious Garden Suite.

We have secure parking for all our guests at the top of a beautiful terraced garden with water features. Around our crystal clear pool we have umbrellas and tables and chairs where our guests can lounge in the sun.

The restaurant serves excellent typical South African cuisine and authentic Karoo dishes, all designed with a twist. Together with our comprehensive top-notch wine list, you are promised an excellent Klein Karoo food & wine experience. Guests love sharing a drink at our bar where we regularly arrange live music events. The lounge with fireplace invites to a glass of Klein Karoo port during winter months.

## DAY 10-DAY 11: DE HOOP COLLECTION, DE HOOP NATURE RESERVE

De Hoop Nature Reserve is approximately 34 000 ha and is a favourite destination for hikers, cyclists, bird watchers and, during the winter and early summer months, whale watchers. The reserve extends to the De Hoop Marine Protected Area, which provides an important sanctuary for marine life. Aside from fynbos De Hoop also conserves 86 mammal species of which the bontebok and Cape mountain zebra, eland and baboon are most likely to be spotted enjoying the vast vistas of the reserve.





The southern right whales annual visitors to this stretch of protected Cape coastline, inspired the creation of the popular Whale Trail – a keen favourite for avid hikers.

Visitors looking to extend their visit are catered for at De Hoop Collection which offers a comprehensive range of options from campsites through to fully-catered suites. On-site activities allow day visitors and guests alike the option of exploring the Marine and Nature Reserve with an experienced guide. Whether an interpretive marine walk, or a eco-quad bike tour catches your fancy, the De Hoop Collection staff are on hand to share their knowledge with visitors.

The Fig Tree Restaurant is open daily for meals, teas and coffee

#### **Overnight: De Hoop Collection**

De Hoop Collection offers a wide variety of accommodation from affordable self-catering cottages to fully catered luxury suites. Few other reserves offer as complete an outdoor experience as De Hoop – sea, sand dunes, the vlei, a floral sensation of rare fynbos plants, diverse wildlife and the Potberg Mountains. Activities are diverse and guests choose between various day walks through the rich fynbos plains or along the deserted coastline, or mountain biking along the many gravel roads or scenic game drives. Lazing on the beach and snorkeling in the many turquoise rock pools is simply another way to pass a rewarding day. Day visitors welcome, and restaurant open daily.

### DAY 12-DAY 14: HERMANUS LODGE, HERMANUS

Built along the beautiful shores and cliffs of Walker Bay, Hermanus has grown from a small seaside resort town to become possibly the best-known place for whale watching in the world. Today, this busy town is more than just a popular holiday destination and offers visitors all kinds of activities, both energetic and relaxing.

#### **Overnight: Hermanus Lodge**

A guesthouse in Hermanus, nestled in the majestic Hermanus Mountains, is an enchanting base from which to explore the wonders of Hermanus .... Adjacent to the picturesque Hermanus Golf Club and overlooking the 25th green, it is only minutes from the beach, cliff path, whale watching and the Hermanus Village. Hermanus Lodge is ranked amongst the finest accommodation in Hermanus.

From the sun-drenched swimming pool area you are treated to the magnificent backdrop of the Overberg Mountain range and the world renowned Fernkloof Nature Reserve. Enjoy a stroll along the romantic Hermanus cliff path and hold your breath as a





mother whale and her new-born calf come within metres of the rocky shoreline. Here you will discover why Hermanus offers the best land-based whale watching in the world!

Tuck into our indulgent breakfasts, whilst watching early morning golfers making their way onto the 25th green. Later, grab some towels and head of to one of our famous beaches, or just laze around our sun drenched courtyard. Or sip a sundowner from your vantage point in the Rocky Lounge, next to a crackling, open fire place, watching the shadows lengthen on the fairway as another perfect day draws to an end in Hermanus.

## DAY 15: FRANSCHHOEK COUNTRY HOUSE & VILLAS, FRANSCHHOEK

Idyllically situated in the Cape Winelands, this peaceful country retreat is one of the oldest towns in South Africa. The once sleepy little village was named Franschhoek, meaning "French Corner" as it was founded by French Huguenots who fled Europe and were seeking a secluded hide-out. They found it in the fertile valley of Franschhoek and this heritage is showcased at the fascinating Huguenot Memorial Museum. The Cape Dutch architecture in much of the village remains remarkably well preserved as restrictions have been placed on the extent of renovations and new construction in order to preserve the spirit of the original settlers. The town's proximity to Cape Town allows for pleasant day trips during which visitors can explore the area's many world-class wine estates and impressive range of excellent restaurants or simply browse the quaint, upmarket boutiques strewn along the town's lovely tree-lined avenues.

#### **Overnight: Franschhoek Country House & Villas**

This exclusive boutique hotel is situated on the outskirts of Franschoek in a wonderfully restored manor house and former perfumery dating back to 1890. The hotel offers a world-class on-site restaurant, two pools, and 26 luxury rooms and Villas Suites. Most rooms lead out onto a private balcony or patio with magnificent views of enchanting vineyards and majestic mountains. The Villa Suites are extremely luxurious and boast a fireplace, air-conditioners, 2 balconies, and many more unexpected luxuries. An hour's drive from Cape Town makes it the perfect getaway for anyone visiting the Western Cape.

## DAY 16: DEPARTURE

Departure



1. Qualified professional driver guide

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- 2. Vehicle / fuel
- 3. Park entrance fees as per itinerary
- 4. Passenger liability 15%
- 5. VAT 2% tourism levy
- 6. Airport transfers
- 7. Accommodation
- 8. Breakfast and Dinner for the Client

### EXCLUDE:

- 1. Expenses of personal nature
- 2. Entrance fees not mentioned in the itinerary
- 3. Meals not mentioned
- 4. Drinks at lodges and on road
- 5. Optional excursions and activities
- 6. Tips for tour guides
- 7. International flights and airport taxes
- 8. Items not mentioned in the itinerary

#### HOW TO BOOK AND HOW TO PAY:

To reserve this tour, a payment of 30% of the total price must be made at the time of reservation. The balance of 70% can be made 30 days before the departure of your tour. Your deposit can either be made through a Bank Transfer, with the addition of a 45 US Dollar fee or by Credit Card which incurs an additional bank charge of 3.5%

