



SOUTH AFRICA: A FAMILY SAFARI ADVENTURE

Celebrate the riches of the earth and nature's abundance on this family journey to the heart of the animal kingdom.

Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries, Families & Multi-Generational Travel



Africa, South Africa



14 days Call for a quote pp



Private

Journey Overview

Celebrate the riches of the earth and nature's abundance on this family journey to the heart of the animal kingdom. Discover the biodiversity that is South Africa as you explore the country's stark but breathtakingly beautiful desert reaches, the botanical and marine wonders of its southern coastline and an unrivalled wildlife experience in the heart of the bushveld. Complementing time spent in wilderness areas is a stay in Cape Town, one of the world's most beautiful and captivating cities. At every location, A&K has hand-picked hotels and lodges that are exclusively yours for the duration of your family's stay with flexibility enabling you to tailor your experiences to suit.

Journey Highlights

- Be treated to bespoke safari experiences with your own private chef, housekeeping team, dedicated ranger, tracker and private game viewing vehicle
- Discover marine wonders and botanical biodiversity on a private reserve at the continent's southern tip
- Track species large and small on foot or in the saddle at Tswalu Kalahari
- Choose active adventure on your exploration of the 'Mother City'
- Encounter an exciting culture of food, art and wine in and around Cape Town



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Johannesburg

On arrival in Johannesburg, South Africa's safari gateway, you are met and transferred privately to your boutique home away from home located in a leafy suburb of the city. Settle in with the rest of the day at leisure.

Athol Place House & Villa / Meals: D

Day 2: Johannesburg - Tswalu Kalahari

This morning you are met by A&K and transferred to the airport for your flight west to Tswalu Kalahari. On arrival at the airstrip, you are met and transferred to Tswalu's Tarkuni which is magically situated overlooking the vast grasslands of the Kalahari. This former private home has been converted into a stunning exclusive-use luxury holiday home which will provide the most exclusive, and fully inclusive, private safari experience for your family. After a warm welcome and time to freshen up, your personal field guide and tracker will lead you on your first game activity into this extraordinary private desert reserve. Keep a look out for some of the rare wildlife which is found here.

Tswalu - Tarkuni / Meals: BLD

Days 3-4: Tswalu Kalahari

Your bespoke safari experience continues to unfold over the coming two days with morning and afternoon game viewing activities. Tswalu Kalahari Private Desert Reserve covers a vast 100,000 hectares on the edge of the mysterious desert wilderness that is the Kalahari. A malaria-free reserve, some 70 species of mammal are found here including lion, cheetah and desert black rhino, and more than 200 species of bird. The reserve is also the historical home of the San, whose storytelling and dream imagery can be seen at the many archaeological sites dotted around the reserve.

Tswalu - Tarkuni / Meals: BLD

Day 5: Tswalu - Grootbos Nature Reserve

Farewell Tswalu and prepare for your next wilderness adventure. Fly south to Cape Town and then enjoy the scenic drive east in your private vehicle to the Grootbos Nature Reserve. Overlooking Walker Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, Grootbos falls within the Cape Floristic Kingdom - one of the world's natural wonders - and you'll soon understand why. Nestled between mountain and sea, it's an eco-paradise at the southern tip of Africa overflowing with incredible flora and marine life.

Grootbos Private Nature Reserve / Meals: BLD

Day 6: Grootbos Nature Reserve

Today is an opportunity to revel in nature with a full menu of activities to choose from. There's horse riding through the reserve, for experienced riders and novices alike; guided walks through thousand-year-old Milkwood forests to learn about the area's rich botanical diversity and native fynbos vegetation; a variety of nature, marine and coastal drives including the Walker Bay Nature Reserve; whale watching in season (June -December); shark cage diving and bird-watching.

Grootbos Private Nature Reserve / Meals: BLD

Day 7: Grootbos Private Nature Reserve - Cape Town

After breakfast return to Cape Town and the exclusive neighbourhood of Bantry Bay where your base is the glamorous ocean-facing Villa One at Ellerman House, the ultimate in privacy and personalised service with your own chef and team on hand to take care of your family's every need. During your stay be sure to admire the impressive art collection during a guided appreciation and step into the spa for a treatment, or two.

Ellerman House / Meals: B

Days 8-10: Cape Town

Spend the next three days exploring Cape Town in all its guises from its grand colonial architecture and vibrant Cape Malay heritage, to its breathtaking land and seascapes visible from almost every vantage point, its cool urban edge and world class museums to its famous wine country. Choose how you experience this exciting city.

Take the cable car up Table Mountain for unparalleled views of the city and Atlantic Ocean or hike up if you're feeling energetic. Spend a full day exploring the winelands with a specialist guide with exclusive access to family-run wine farms and intimate tastings with the people behind the wine. Choose a cycling experience through the vineyards or on the beautiful and dramatic Cape Peninsula. Grab a board, pack a picnic and hit one of Cape Town's legendary surf breaks.

To see more of Cape Town's vibrant culture, visit Zeitz MOCAA and join a curator on a tour of its contemporary African art collection. Or venture out to Robben Island for a moving insight to Nelson Mandela's 18 years of incarceration.

Cape Town has a huge range of rich experiences to choose from, and these can be easily tailored to your families interests. Our guides will help you to immerse yourself in the best of the Cape including its food, wine, wildlife, people, history and culture.

Ellerman House / Meals: BL

Day 11: Cape Town - Thornybush Private Game Reserve

This morning you will be met by A&K and transferred to Cape Town Airport for your flight to Hoedspruit. Here you will be met and transferred a short distance to Africa House at Royal Malewane, a slice of bush paradise for your exclusive use on safari. Located in the 12,000 hectare Thornybush Private Game Reserve on the western side of Kruger National Park, Africa House is spacious and elegant with vibrantly eclectic furnishings. Every room also has its own private deck and outdoor shower with spectacular views of the bush and your stay is completely flexible with everything included and tailored specifically to your family's needs.

Africa House at Royal Malewane / Meals: BLD

Days 12-13: Thornybush Private Game Reserve

The next two days are filled with exhilarating safari activities. Game viewing here gives you the best opportunities for seeing the natural abundance of wildlife on this private reserve which is home to Africa's iconic species - lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino. Bush walks, game drives and specialist safaris such as birding or photographic outings will provide an intimate and personalised connection with the bush and its inhabitants.

Several of the ranger team at Royal Malewane live with their families on the reserve and are perfectly suited to guiding safari-going families. And younger travellers will enjoy the specially designed children's activities including animal and plant identification, tracking tips and an introduction to local languages.

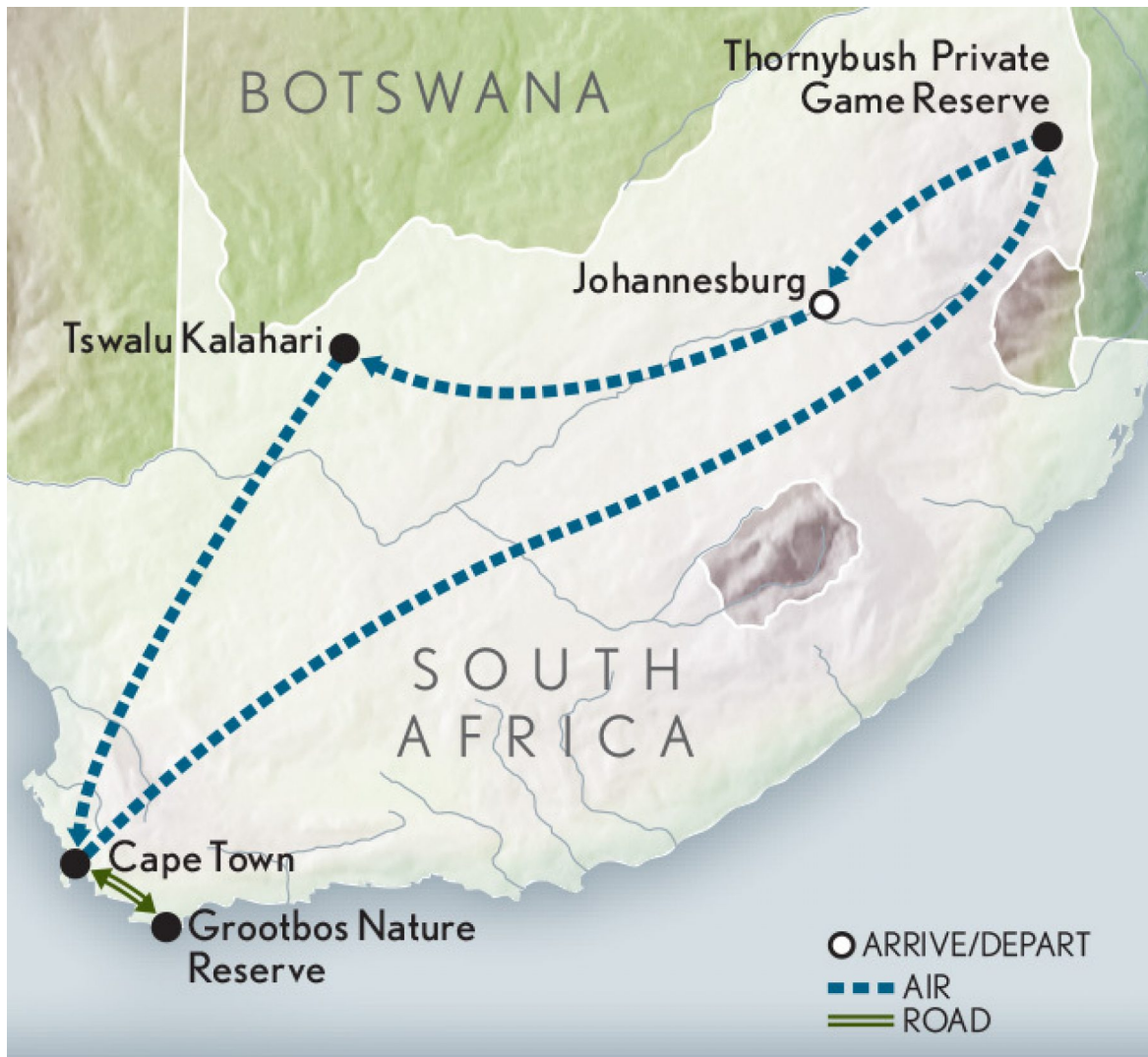
Africa House at Royal Malewane / Meals: BLD

Day 14: Depart Johannesburg

After a final morning in the bush, you are transferred to Hoedspruit airport for your flight back to Johannesburg and onward connections.

Meals: B

Map



Accommodation

Tswalu Kalahari



In the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, at the foot of the Korannaberg Mountains, lies Tswalu. Founded in 1995, it is one of the largest private conservation projects in Africa. The 100,000 hectare reserve (over half the size of the Masai Mara) is home to thousands of animals, including the rare desert black rhino, sable and roan antelope, Cape buffalo and cheetah.

The accommodation at Tswalu epitomises stylish yet rustic elegance. The main lodge The Motse consists of eight authentic stone-walled and thatch-roofed bungalows. For those looking for exclusivity and personal service, Tarkuni is ideal for a small party or family due to its privacy and the ability to book it exclusively. The Motse boasts a galleried library, outdoor and indoor dining areas, wine cellar and an outdoor heated swimming pool. Sundowners on lantern-lit dunes, boma dining and Lekgaba Lookout offer a variety of exciting eating experiences. Activities include game drives in open-sided, canopied safari vehicles, horse riding with a qualified equestrian and bush walks led by experienced field guides. There is an award winning spa offering a variety of wellness treatments and massages. Tswalu is a fascinating and magical place a pristine wilderness waiting to be discovered with so much to see and do here a minimum of three nights is highly recommended. Daily Flights from Cape Town or Johannesburg allow Tswalu to be added simply to any South Africa itinerary.

Why we like it

- South Africa's largest private game reserve owned by the Oppenheimer family
- A member of the prestigious Relais & Chateaux
- Activities available include bush walks, horse riding, game drives, talks with the reserve's ecologists, visit the staff village and an
- array of interactive children's activities
- The perfect choice of camps for travellers looking to immerse themselves in the wilderness and life in the bush
- A dedicated team of field guides and butlers allow guests to choose how to get the best of their day

Grootbos Private Nature Reserve



Grootbos delivers the basics with ease, international cuisine, fine wines and stunning lodge accommodation along with some more refined touches. There are telescopes in the main lounge area for armchair naturalists and boat trips for those who want to get a little closer. Within the reserve itself highly-qualified resident research botanists offer fascinating guided tours around the unique ecosystem, by vehicle or on the superbly trained thoroughbred horses from Grootbos' own stables. Community projects are important at Grootbos and guests are actively encouraged to learn and engage in local township life.

Grootbos has carved a unique niche in the upmarket eco-lodge sector by specialising in the Cape region's world-renowned flora and marine biodiversity. The multi-award winning 1,750 2500 hectare reserve is home to more than 740 different species of plants and is a nature lover's paradise. Revered conservationist, David Bellamy has described Grootbos as 'The best example of conservation of biodiversity I have ever seen - Grootbos says it with flowers'. This is a truly exceptional nature destination and is linked with the Eden project in Cornwall.

Why we like it

- Biodiverse eco-paradise in the Cape Floristic Kingdom
- Marine Big Five - whale watching, great white shark cage diving, penguins, seals and dolphins
- Pristine ecosystem and rare fynbos
- Conservation and horticulture training programme for local students

Royal Malewane, Thornybush Game Reserve



Set high amongst a canopy of indigenous acacia and lanternbush trees and linked via elevated walkways, each of the six Royal Malewane suites benefit from rich deck wood terraces, thatched gazebos and infinity pools. Window-side Victorian baths add to the glamour of these opulent suites. In addition, the stunning Royal Suite and Malewane Suite comfortably accommodates up to four guests and affords the complimentary services of a private chef, butler and game drives. For the ultimate exclusive stay, Africa House with its six bedrooms is a vibrant and beautifully appointed villa complete with your private safari guide and vehicle.

Royal Malewane provides an escape from the constraints of modern life to a synthesis of wildest Africa and age-old colonial splendour. As the lodge is set deep in the African bush, this is ideal for the traveller who wants to experience true Africa. Game viewing, by open vehicle or on foot, is tailored to each guest. Royal Malewane is privileged to have the only surviving Master Tracker currently working in Southern Africa. All the guides at Royal Malewane are also avid photographers, with numerous awards among them. This also proves invaluable at assisting guests with their photographic requirements. In addition they have an extensive knowledge of the beautiful Africa night skies. This guiding excellence combined with a staff to guest ratio of four to one ensures a supremely personal service.

Why we like it

- Hidden on a 30,000 acre private reserve adjacent to the Kruger National Park is Royal Malewane
- An exclusive lodge for travellers who value privacy, personalised service in a prime game viewing area of Kruger

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- The Waters of Royal Malewane Bush Spa has internationally qualified therapists to provide therapeutic massage, luxurious body treatments and hydrotherapy
 - Air conditioned suites all with private plunge pool
 - Sumptuous dining is a signatory feature, the lodge is the first to boast a Chaîne des Rôtisseurs Blazon for cuisine

Abercrombie & Kent

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