



AFRICA · RECOMMENDED 16 DAYS

Suspension bridge at Storms River Mouth, Tsitsikamma

South Africa: Cape & Garden Route

Cape Town, the Winelands, the Big Five on Route 62, the Swartberg Pass, the Garden Route and the elephants of Addo. Private, at your own pace

RECOMMENDED LENGTH

16 days

DATES

Your choice

you pick the dates

TRANSPORT

Your choice

self-drive or driver

PRICE

Coming soon

via the interest list

I arrange this route from Cape Town to Gqeberha in full for you as a 16-day private trip, entirely malaria-free. You start at Table Mountain and Cape Point, taste wine in Franschhoek and look for the Big Five in a private reserve on Route 62. From Oudtshoorn you drive over the Swartberg Pass, and along the Garden Route you walk in Knysna, among the primates of Monkeyland and the birds of Birds of Eden and at the Storms River Mouth. You finish with the elephants of Addo, a safari in Amakhala and the buffalo of Kragga Kamma. You drive yourself or sit back with a private driver.

✓ Personally composed

✓ No group travel

✓ At your own pace

✓ Leave out or add what you like

✓ Dates of your choice

✓ Eat wherever you like

Price coming soon

steennot travels · 2027

Highlights

- ★ Table Mountain, the Bo-Kaap and the penguins of Boulders Beach on the Cape Peninsula
- ★ Wine tasting in Franschhoek, with the Wine Tram between the estates
- ★ Two nights in a private game reserve on Route 62, with game drives in an open vehicle
- ★ The gravel Swartberg Pass to Prince Albert and the Cango Caves
- ★ Knysna, the primates of Monkeyland, the birds of Birds of Eden and the suspension bridge at the Storms River Mouth
- ★ Elephants in Addo, a safari in Amakhala and the buffalo of Kragga Kamma

Best time to travel

JAN FEB **MAR** APR MAY JUN JUL AUG **SEP** OCT NOV DEC

best time to travel: advice only, you travel when you like

TRAVELLERS

Only your own party, from 1 traveller. No group travel, no fellow travellers you don't know.

LENGTH

Recommended: 16 days · shorter or longer is always possible

DATES

Completely flexible: you leave on the day that suits you.

Your route on the map



Map: Natural Earth (public domain) · the arcs show the order of the route, not the exact road



DAY 5 Vineyards near Franschhoek



DAY 9 Hairpin bends on the Swartberg Pass

My recommended route

This is the route as I put it together for you. It is a starting point, not a fixed programme: leave out what doesn't appeal to you, add what you would like to do and travel at your own pace. Everything below is arranged for you in advance. Prefer a guide? I can add a local guide to any activity.

DAY 1

Arrival in Cape Town KAAPSTAD ♦ BREAKFAST

After an overnight flight with one connection you land in Cape Town in the morning (I am happy to book the flight for you, or you book it yourself). A driver waits with a name sign and takes you to your hotel in approx. 25 minutes. Catch your breath on the V&A Waterfront, with Table Mountain in the background. Your roadbook lists my favourite addresses.

DAY 2

Table Mountain and the city KAAPSTAD ♦ BREAKFAST

By cable car (or on foot via Platteklip Gorge) to the top of Table Mountain, with the city, Robben Island and the Twelve Apostles at your feet. Then you walk through the colourful Bo-Kaap, the Company's Garden and past the District Six Museum.

DAY 3

The Cape Peninsula KAAPSTAD ♦ BREAKFAST

Today the car comes in: your rental car is delivered to your hotel, or your private driver picks you up. Over Chapman's Peak Drive to Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope, and on the way back to the African penguins of Boulders Beach in Simon's Town. Return along False Bay and Muizenberg with its coloured beach huts.



Penguins on Boulders Beach, Simon's Town

DAY 4

To the Winelands FRANSCHHOEK ♦ BREAKFAST

Via Stellenbosch, with its oak-lined streets and Cape Dutch gables, to Franschhoek (approx. 1h15). On the way you taste at a first wine estate. Franschhoek is a Huguenot village, with the Huguenot Monument and a main street full of small restaurants.

DAY 5

By Wine Tram through the valley FRANSCHHOEK ♦ BREAKFAST

You leave the car behind: with the hop-on hop-off Wine Tram (tram and open bus) you go from estate to estate in the Franschhoek valley, with tastings and lunch among the vines. If you prefer walking, follow a trail up towards the Franschhoek Pass.

DAY 6

To the Big Five on Route 62 PRIVÉ-WILDRESERVAAT AAN ROUTE 62 ♦ BREAKFAST · LUNCH · DINNER

Over the Du Toitskloof Pass or via Worcester and Robertson to the Little Karoo and a private game reserve on Route 62 (approx. 2.5 to 3 hours). After lunch at the lodge you set out in an open safari vehicle with a ranger in search of elephants, lions, rhinos and buffalo, with a sundowner in the bush.

DAY 7

Safari in the Karoo PRIVÉ-WILDRESERVAAT AAN ROUTE 62 ♦ BREAKFAST · LUNCH · DINNER

Two game drives with the lodge's ranger: early in the morning, when the animals are most active, and again in the late afternoon until the sun sets over the mountains. In between, enjoy the pool and the wide view.

DAY 8

Route 62 to Oudtshoorn OUDTSHOORN ♦ BREAKFAST

After a last morning drive you follow Route 62, past Barrydale, Ladismith and the port wines of Calitzdorp, to Oudtshoorn (approx. 2.5 hours). Around 1900 Oudtshoorn was the world capital of ostrich feathers: visit an ostrich farm and the 'feather palaces' of the ostrich barons.

DAY 9

Cango Caves and the Swartberg Pass OUDTSHOORN ♦ BREAKFAST

In the morning the Cango Caves (visited only with the Cango cave guide, included). Then you drive over the Swartberg Pass, a gravel mountain road from 1888 with hairpin bends and views over the Karoo, to the village of Prince Albert for lunch. Back through the Meiringspoort gorge (loop of approx. 3 hours' driving).

DAY 10

Over the Outeniqua Pass to Knysna KNYSNA ♦ BREAKFAST

Over the Outeniqua Pass to the coast, past the lakes of Wilderness to Knysna (approx. 2 hours). Walk to the Knysna Heads, the two cliffs at the mouth of the lagoon, or take a boat across the lagoon to the Heads.

DAY 11**Monkeyland, Birds of Eden and Robberg** KNYSNA ♦ BREAKFAST

To The Crag near Plettenberg Bay (approx. 40 minutes) and Monkeyland, a sanctuary for primates that roam the forest freely: you walk with a sanctuary ranger (that is how a visit works there, included) over a suspension bridge through the canopy. Right next door is Birds of Eden, one of the world's largest free-flight aviaries, stretched over a forested gorge, where you walk on boardwalks among hundreds of tropical birds. Then a walk on the Robberg peninsula, with seals and views over the Indian Ocean.

DAY 12**The Storms River Mouth** STORMS RIVER ♦ BREAKFAST

To the Tsitsikamma section of Garden Route National Park (approx. 1h15). You walk through the coastal forest to the suspension bridge over the Storms River Mouth and the first part of the Waterfall Trail over the rocks along the ocean. On the way back, the 'Big Tree', a yellowwood more than 800 years old.

DAY 13**The elephants of Addo** ADDO ♦ BREAKFAST

Along the N2 past Jeffreys Bay and Gqeberha to Addo Elephant National Park (approx. 230 km, approx. 2.5 to 3 hours). You drive yourself through the park, home to more than 600 elephants: at the Hapoor and Rooidam waterholes they often drink in large families. Also buffalo, zebras, kudu and with luck lions.



Elephants at a waterhole in Addo Elephant National Park

DAY 14**To Amakhala** AMAKHALA GAME RESERVE ♦ BREAKFAST · LUNCH · DINNER

An early morning drive through Addo, then on to the private Amakhala reserve (approx. 45 minutes), where local farming families returned their land to nature. In the afternoon the first game drive with the lodge's ranger, in search of the Big Five.

DAY 15**Safari in Amakhala** AMAKHALA GAME RESERVE ♦ BREAKFAST · LUNCH · DINNER

Two game drives a day with the lodge's ranger, and a boat trip on the Bushmans River (included at most lodges). In between, relax by the pool overlooking the bush.

DAY 16**Kragga Kamma and flight home** ♦ BREAKFAST

After a last morning game drive you drive to Gqeberha (approx. 1.5 hours) and Kragga Kamma Game Park, where you drive yourself among buffalo, rhinos, giraffes and zebras. The park is 20 minutes from the airport, where you return your car (or your driver drops you off) for your flight home.

What I arrange for you

1 Pickup on arrival

A driver waits with a name sign in the arrivals hall of Cape Town International and takes you to your hotel in about 25 minutes. The car only comes in on day 3, when you are rested. On the last day you return the car at Gqeberha airport, or your driver drops you off there.

2 Hotels

Every night is booked and confirmed in advance, at the level you choose: Budget, Comfort or Premium. Prefer another hotel? I change it.

3 Transport

You choose: self-drive with a rental car waiting for you, or a private driver and private transfers. Domestic flights, trains and boats where they make sense, all booked in advance.

4 Activities, at your pace

The activities and entrance tickets on the route. No guide or group travels with you: you set the pace, and anything you would rather skip, you simply leave out.

5 Eat wherever you like

Breakfast is included, as are the meals at remote camps and lodges where there is no alternative. For the rest I give you my restaurant tips, but you are completely free to choose where you eat. I never recommend a place because I earn a commission on it.

Level and transport

Price coming soon – join the interest list to be the first to receive it. You receive the price per level (Budget, Comfort, Premium) and per transport mode (self-drive or private driver) in your personal proposal.

INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT

I'm happy to book your flight for you, or you book it yourself; if I book it, the flight price for your dates is in your personal quote. Flight to Cape Town, returning from Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth) via Johannesburg or Cape Town, not included. I am happy to book the flight for you, or you book it yourself.

SELF-DRIVE

South Africa is a pleasant country to drive yourself: good tarred roads and clear signposting. You drive on the left and never after dark. On day 3 your rental car is delivered to your hotel in Cape Town; you return it at Gqeberha airport on day 16. A normal car or compact SUV is fine; the Swartberg Pass is gravel but easy in dry weather (otherwise you take Meiringspoort). Only the optional Baviaanskloof needs a 4x4. The longest driving days take approx. 2.5 to 3 hours (days 6, 8 and 13). Fuel, tolls and parking are paid locally.

WITH A PRIVATE DRIVER

Rather not drive on the left? Then one dedicated English- and Afrikaans-speaking private driver takes you from day 3 to day 16 in a comfortable vehicle. He waits while you walk or visit; fuel, tolls and his meals and accommodation are included. He is a driver, not a guide. Game drives in the reserves are with the lodges' rangers.

Three accommodation levels

Budget

Simple, excellently reviewed guesthouses and B&Bs with breakfast; in the game reserves the simplest lodge or tented camp with meals and game drives.

Comfort

Characterful guesthouses and small hotels, often with a pool or a view, and comfortable safari lodges on full board with game drives.

Premium

Boutique hotels and the best guesthouses on the route, a wine estate in Franschhoek and top-rated safari lodges in Sanbona and Amakhala.

Possible guided moments

Prefer a guide? I can add a local guide to any activity.

- ✦ On this trip you discover everything at your own pace, without a fixed guide: your roadbook tells you what to see where.
- ✦ Always included, because that is how it works there: the cave guide at the Cango Caves (day 9), the Monkeyland ranger (day 11) and the safari lodges' rangers (days 6–7 and 14–15)
- ✦ Optional: a city guide in Cape Town (day 2) or a guided game drive in Addo (day 13). I am happy to arrange them for you.

Ideas to adapt the route

- For adventurous travellers (+2 nights): the Baviaanskloof – from Storms River through the Langkloof (Route 62) to Willowmore, a full day by 4x4 across the kloof from west to east, and via Patensie to Addo. Only with a 4x4 or high-clearance vehicle, for experienced drivers or with a private driver
- Longer: 1–2 nights in Mountain Zebra National Park near Cradock (Cape mountain zebras, cheetahs, Karoo landscapes), approx. 3 hours from Addo
- Shorter (14 days): one night less in Cape Town and in the Winelands
- Whales: if you travel between July and November, I add a night in Hermanus between Cape Town and the Winelands
- Every hotel can be swapped: e.g. Budget on the road and Premium in the safari lodges

Included

- ✓ 15 nights at the level you choose (Budget, Comfort or Premium): guesthouses and small hotels with breakfast, and 4 nights in safari lodges in a private game reserve (Route 62 and Amakhala) on full board with two game drives a day
- ✓ Breakfast daily; at the two safari lodges all meals and the game drives with the lodge's ranger
- ✓ Private transfer from Cape Town airport to your hotel on arrival
- ✓ Your choice: a private driver with a comfortable vehicle from day 3 to day 16 (fuel, tolls and the driver's board and lodging included) or a rental car (compact SUV) from day 3 (delivered to your hotel in Cape Town) to day 16 (returned at Gqeberha airport), with zero-excess insurance, second driver and one-way fee
- ✓ Entrance and park fees: Table Mountain cable car, Cape Point, Boulders Beach, Cango Caves (with the cave guide), Monkeyland (with the sanctuary ranger) and Birds of Eden (combo ticket), Tsitsikamma (Storms River Mouth), Addo Elephant National Park and Kragga Kamma Game Park
- ✓ Wine Tram in Franschhoek (hop-on hop-off ticket) and a wine tasting on the way
- ✓ Detailed roadbook with routes, driving times, safe parking and my favourite addresses

Not included

- Flight to Cape Town and back from Gqeberha (I am happy to book the flight for you, or you book it yourself; guide price: see below)
- Lunches and dinners outside the safari lodges, and drinks (allow approx. €25–40 pp per day; my restaurant tips are in your roadbook)
- Optional excursions and guides: Robben Island, a city guide in Cape Town and a guided game drive in Addo (available, I am happy to book them for you)
- Tips for the driver, rangers and trackers
- Travel and cancellation insurance
- When self-driving: fuel, tolls and parking (paid locally)
- When self-driving: credit-card deposit with the rental company and any traffic fines

Practical information

VISA (BELGIAN CITIZENS)

No visa required for tourist stays up to 90 days. Passport valid at least 30 days beyond departure from South Africa, with at least 2 blank pages. An Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) exists since 12 August 2026 but is not (yet) mandatory for visa-exempt Europeans. Check before departure. Minors may need extra documents.

HEALTH

No mandatory vaccinations, except a valid yellow fever certificate when arriving from (or transiting more than 12 hours through) a yellow fever country. The whole route (Western and Eastern Cape) is malaria-free. See wanda.be.

CURRENCY & PAYMENT

South African rand (ZAR). Cards accepted almost everywhere.

FLIGHT TIME FROM BRUSSELS

Approx. 13–15 hours with one connection (Amsterdam–Cape Town direct approx. 11.5 hours).

TIME DIFFERENCE

South Africa (UTC+2): +1 hour in Belgian winter, no difference in Belgian summer.

LANGUAGE

Eleven official languages, incl. English, Afrikaans (quite understandable for Flemish speakers), isiZulu and isiXhosa.

MEALS

Breakfast is included every day, and all meals at the two safari lodges (there is no alternative there). For the other meals you get my restaurant recommendations, but you are completely free to choose where and when you eat.

GUIDES

By default you travel without a guide. Prefer a guide? I can add a local guide to any activity.

As of September 2026: check diplomatie.belgium.be (travel advice) and wanda.be (health) before you travel.

Travelling responsibly

You stay in small, locally owned guesthouses and lodges and travel in one vehicle for your own party, without a domestic flight. Amakhala is a reserve where farming families returned their land to nature; the SANParks fees go to conservation. Monkeyland takes in primates rescued from captivity. If you choose a guide, I arrange someone from the area, paid per activity.



Steennot Travels

Contact

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Personally composed, down to the last detail.

No group travel and no fixed dates: you travel privately, at your own pace. Leave out what doesn't appeal to you, add what you like. I give you my restaurant tips, but you choose freely where you eat: nobody sends you to expensive restaurants for a commission.

PRICE

Price coming soon – join the interest list to be the first to receive it.

Interested? Join the no-obligation list at steennot-travels.be or email info@steennot-travels.be. Other dates, more or fewer days, something left out or added? Everything can be adapted.

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COVER

Suspension bridge at Storms River Mouth, Tsitsikamma · Photo: Ossewa · CC BY-SA 4.0 (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) · [commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Storms_River_Mouth_\(Tsitsikamma\)_Suspension_Bridges_02.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Storms_River_Mouth_(Tsitsikamma)_Suspension_Bridges_02.jpg) · *cropped, resized*



DAY 3

Penguins on Boulders Beach, Simon's Town · Photo: Satdeep Gill · CC BY-SA 4.0 (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) · commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Penguins_at_Boulders_Beach_04.jpg · *resized*



DAY 5

Vineyards near Franschhoek · Photo: Olga Ernst · CC BY-SA 4.0 (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) · [commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Weinfarm_bei_Franschhoek_\(Südafrika\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Weinfarm_bei_Franschhoek_(Südafrika).jpg) · *cropped, resized, recompressed*



DAY 9

Hairpin bends on the Swartberg Pass · Photo: South African Tourism · CC BY 2.0 (creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/) · [commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Swartberg_Pass_-_Central_Karoo,_South_Africa_\(3918434213\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Swartberg_Pass_-_Central_Karoo,_South_Africa_(3918434213).jpg) · *cropped, resized*



DAY 13

Elephants at a waterhole in Addo Elephant National Park · Photo: Dariusz Jemielniak · CC BY-SA 4.0 (creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) · [commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:African_elephant_\(Addo\)_20.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:African_elephant_(Addo)_20.jpg) · *resized*