

ACACIA AFRICA

Updated 13Nov09
FOR ALL 2010
DEPARTURES

CALL OF THE KRUGER - TOUR DOSSIER

Tour Code – COK4

JOHANNESBURG - JOHANNESBURG

4 DAYS

Departure Point & Time: 05:00 pick-up from joining hotel on Day One

HIGHLIGHTS

Cheetah Rehabilitation Centre
Kruger National Park

A classic camping safari into the great wilderness of Kruger National Park; Game viewing some of the continent's greatest wildlife by day and sleeping under the big African sky by night. An adventure not to be missed!



INTENDED ITINERARY

Whilst it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary.

Duration: 4 Days
Countries visited: South Africa

DAY 1 Cheetah Rehabilitation Centre Dx1

Twin Share – Share Facilities per 6 clients

Leaving behind Johannesburg we head through the scenic province of Mpumalanga and visit a cheetah rehabilitation centre, a non profit organisation, where we see the remarkable work carried out by volunteers to rehabilitate cheetah and other wildlife. Travelling onwards, we reach a private game reserve bordering the Kruger National Park and our bush lodge accommodation. These comfortable twin share, rustic rooms will ensure a good nights sleep in preparation for our early start the following day. To further help unwind enjoy the evening chatting around the fire as dinner is prepared by our crew.

DAY 2 - 3 Kruger National Park Bx2 Lx2 Dx2

Pre Erected Tents – Bed & Bedding Provided

We rise early and transfer into our open safari vehicles for two full days in Kruger National Park. South Africa's flagship game park the 'Kruger' has over 2 million hectares of unrivalled diversity of life forms fused with historical and archaeological sights. With cameras and binoculars at the ready, we explore the untamed wilderness on game drives, and hopefully we will see some of the Big 5 - elephant, rhino, leopard, lion and buffalo. The Kruger is home to over 505 species of birds, 148 species of mammals and many reptiles. The impressive atmosphere of the park enables you to understand why it holds such a unique place amongst the world's great game reserves. We spend two nights here and campsite within the park, staying in pre erected tents with beds, bedding and small light. A typical day would be going 'on safari' in the early morning, returning to our camp for lunch and going out again. Whilst in the park, if available, you have the option of going on a guided night drive to view nocturnal animals in their natural habitat.

DAY 4
Kruger National Park – Johannesburg
Bx1

We complete our Kruger Park experience with an early morning game drive before leaving the park, transferring our minibus back towards Gauteng, aiming to arrive back in Johannesburg in the late afternoon/ early evening.

TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR STYLE

Acacia Small Group Safari

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Tour highlights, transport, accommodation, sleeping mat, meals as indicated, camping equipment, services of an English speaking driver / tour leader.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport transfers, sleeping bag, optional activities, laundry, gratuities, passport & visa fees, meals not mentioned in the itinerary, items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is one night twin share/ en suite rondavels (rustic huts) and two nights in pre erected tents with camp beds and shared bathrooms (sleeping bag needed).

TRANSPORT

Minibus or microbus, open safari vehicle

MEALS

Meals are mainly prepared in camp by the tour leader and help preparing the meals is invited on tour. This is part of your contribution to the success of the tour. Most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment. Come along with a sense of adventure and a flexible attitude and you will be sure to have an amazing time.

TOUR PREPARATION

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent pre-departure information and related documents. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher giving details of your joining hotel. Johannesburg is well served by a variety of airlines. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

Meeting point in **Johannesburg**:
Address:

Backpackers Ritz

1A North Rd
Dunkeld West
Johannesburg

Contact details:

Tel. +27 11 325 7125/2520 Fax +27 11 325 2521

E-mail:

ritz@iafrica.com

Website:

www.backpackers-ritz.co.za

Tour start time:

05:00 on day 1

Tour end point in **Johannesburg**:

As above

Tour end time:

Late afternoon/ early evening on day 4.

EXTENDING YOUR STAY

We recommend you arrive the day before and stay overnight in Johannesburg the night prior to departure. Any additional nights can be booked on a direct pay basis. See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs.

These prices may be subject to change so please contact Acacia or your agent to check current prices.

Description	Price (ZAR)	Description	Price (US\$)
Johannesburg	R240	Pre tour accommodation – Twin pp/pn	\$35
Pre tour accommodation – Dorm pp/pn	R100	Pre tour accommodation – Single pp/pn	\$14

WHAT TO BRING

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg limit. It should be brought in a soft holdall or rucksack along with a smaller day bag. You will need to bring a mixture of lightweight clothing and warm clothing for the evenings and early morning game drives. You also need a **sleeping bag**. We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/belt that can be easily hidden. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use hotel safe (before/after your tour) to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets. You will require a sleeping bag if you intend to stay in a dorm room at the joining hotel.

VACCINATIONS/HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure. Please note that Kruger area is **malarial**; we recommend you seek professional medical advice about the appropriate anti-malarial tablets.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
S. Africa	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R

C = Compulsory, **R** = Recommended, * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the Acacia website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
S. Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes									

MONEY MATTERS

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$10-15 per day. Most spending will be in South Africa Rand (for incidental expenses along the way, optional activities, most additional accommodation before/after the trip) but it's a good idea to bring along some US\$ cash for any international airport taxes or visas.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in either South Africa Rand or in US dollars, Sterling or Euro which can be exchanged into Rand on arrival. Your guide will give general guidance about spending during the tour.
- **Currencies** are as follows: South Africa Rand.
- **ATM machines** are found in Johannesburg, Johannesburg airport and most towns and cities.
- **Credit cards** can be used to pay for larger optional activities although fees for use may be higher than you are accustomed to at home.
- **Travellers cheques** can be difficult to cash but make suitable emergency funds.

It is recommended you bring your money in a mixture of ways and your guide can best advise on what to use where.

TIPPING

As in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy, it has become customary to give a small gratuity to local staff at the end of a tour for services rendered. This is at your own discretion.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (subject to change and availability).

Optional Activities – approximate prices; subject to change & availability

Activity	Price (US\$)	Activity	Price
Kruger Night Game Drive	\$40		

NB The above costs have been converted into approximate US dollars for convenience.

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition of Acacia that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can recommend a respected, specialist travel insurance provider for this tour. Please contact Acacia for more information.

Country Information – SOUTH AFRICA

Facts

Capital: Pretoria (official), Bloemfontein (judicial), and Cape Town (legislative)
Size: 1 219 090 sq km / 470 693 sq miles
Population: 44,344,136 (Sept. 05)
Groups: African/Black, White (mainly of Afrikaner and British origin), Coloured, Indian/Asian
Languages: English, Afrikaans, Ndebele, Xhosa, Zulu, Pedi, Sotho, Tswana, Swati, Venda, Tsonga (all 11 are official languages)
Local time: GMT + 2
Seasons: Western Cape: warm (September-April), cold and wet (May-August); East coast: humid all year; Northern provinces: wet (September-April), dry (May-August)
Currency: 1 South African Rand = 100 Cents
Telephone: Country code 27, international access code 09
Electricity: 220 V / 230 V / 250 V / 50 Hz, the plug fits a 15A socket with three round pins
South Africa is a country rich in minerals, with abundant wildlife and spectacular scenery; a land of beauty with a social and political structure that is anything but! The country has three capitals - the Administrative (Pretoria), the Legislative (Cape Town), and the Judicial (Bloemfontein). Having the most developed and sophisticated economy on the continent, South Africa is essential to many of its neighbours as an avenue for exports and a provider of electricity and high-tech products. An excellent network of roads and an abundance of high quality campsites (as well as beautiful scenery) makes travelling in and around South Africa a rewarding experience.

Points of Interest

Johannesburg

Looking at the modern façade of South Africa's largest city it is easy to forget that it is only a little over 100 years old. It started as a 'boom town' after gold was found in the area and may still be referred to as the gold capital of the world. Besides its great shopping and nightlife, Johannesburg is a good base for daytrips.

Things to do within Johannesburg city are the views from the top of the Carlton Centre, Museum Afrika, the Market Theatre precinct, Houghton Gold Reef City (a replica of Johannesburg as an old gold mining town), tribal dancing, street theatres and amusement parks.

You can also go on a Soweto township tour where you visit a township, the Hector Petersen monument, apartheid museum and a local shebeen (pub).

At the nearby Lion breeding park you can see cheetah, zebra, giraffe and cuddle lion cubs.

Mpumalanga

Mpumalanga – the 'land of the rising sun', is also nicknamed the **Panorama Region** for its many natural sights. It stretches east from Johannesburg towards Swaziland and Mozambique. Most visitors to South Africa pass through Mpumalanga on their way from Johannesburg to Kruger Park.

Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park contains an enormous diversity of wildlife, stretching 352 kilometres from north to south along the Mozambique border. At 24,000 sq kilometres, it is South Africa's largest game reserve; it contains 5 river systems and 16 different ecosystems with 457 types of trees and shrubs and 1500 smaller plants. It is home to 147 mammal species, 500 species of birds, 116 reptiles, 34 amphibians, 49 fishes and countless insects. The park is visited by almost 1 million people each year, most coming to see the famous 'Big 5' (lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino).

Kruger National Park was established in 1898 to protect the wildlife of the South African lowveld. Today, it is part of the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park connecting it with the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique and with Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe. To the west it is linked to numerous private game reserves such as Klaserie, Sabi Sands, Timbavati and Manyeleti. Recently all the fences separating the private game reserves from the national park have been dismantled, creating an area known as the 'Greater Kruger'.

But Kruger does not only offer great wildlife in beautiful landscape, it also has cultural heritage sites showing that man has lived in the Lowveld for centuries: bushman rock paintings and the archaeological sites of Masorini and Thulamela Hill.

ACACIA ON THE ROAD – NEWS & EVENTS



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimises negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa.

PHOTOS & STORIES SEARCH

If you've ever thought you can take better pictures than the brochures or have a great travel story and want to see yourself in print, then we're looking for you. If you've captured a great moment on tour, whether it's of the wildlife, local people, landscape or life on the road why not enter our monthly photographic competition starting in 2009. Not only do we give away a monthly prize, you may also see your photos published in a future brochure or on our website. We are also on the lookout for stories of life on the road, the funny, exhilarating, moving or simply unforgettable things you did on tour. We publish the best stories on the Tales from the Road section of our website. Send your photos or stories to acaciaontheroad@googlemail.com

Photos should be in digital format & good resolution (max 6 pics per person) and labelled with the location of where the photos were taken. Meanwhile if you have a story or anecdote about your tour (up to 400 words) it needn't be word perfect, we'd love to hear about it.

Legalities: You, the photographer/author, retain copyright of all images & words submitted but we reserve the right to use of them for Acacia brochures, promotions & advertising.

For information on our Acacia Small Group Safaris, Adventure Tours, Comfort Class Safaris, Short Breaks & City Stays, Voluntours, Dive Tours, New Horizons and Access Tours or to contact us please visit www.acacia-africa.com

Acacia Adventure Holidays Ltd

23A Craven Terrace
London W2 3QH

UK Tel. +44 (0)20 7706 4700

Fax. +44 (0)20 7706 4686

SA Tel. +27 (0)21 556 1157

Fax. +27 (0)21 557 5983

Email: info@acacia-africa.com

Website: www.acacia-africa.com



Association of British Travel Agents

