

ACACIA AFRICA

KRUGER ENCOUNTER - TOUR DOSSIER

Tour Code KEN4

JOHANNESBURG - JOHANNESBURG

4 DAYS

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

HIGHLIGHTS

Kruger National Park – Private Bushcamp

A classic safari with a touch of comfort and class in South Africa's premier national park, Kruger. We stay in a private concession in the Greater Kruger area. Enjoy expert guiding, superb cuisine, and the peace and beauty of Africa's natural wildlife habitat.



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

Panzi Bushcamp (or similar),
Dx1
Twin Share Chalets – En Suite

After leaving Johannesburg behind we travel through scenic Mpumalanga to a private game reserve bordering the Kruger National Park. The Panzi Bushcamp is situated in the Gurnsey Private Reserve in the Greater Kruger Park. It is a secluded and shady camp situated near the Orpen Gate. Accommodation, for a maximum of 16 guests, is in en-suite twin chalets with full bedding. There is a raised wooden walkway connecting the chalets with the dining and viewing deck area, bar, pool and open fire. A comfortable and restful bushcamp, ideal to relax after a hard day's game viewing.

DAY 2 - 3

Kruger National Park
Panzi Bushcamp (or similar),
B x2 Lx2 Dx2
Twin Share Chalets – En Suite

We rise early and transfer into open safari vehicles each day for game viewing in the National Park. Kruger is South Africa's 'flagship' reserve. With over two million hectares of unrivalled diversity, Kruger - home to over 500 species of birds, almost 150 species of mammals (including some 12000 elephants), over 100 reptiles, some 23000 plant species, and a variety of amphibians and even some 50 species of fish – is one of the world's great reserves. Bordering Mozambique's Limpopo National Park (to the east), and Zimbabwe's Gonarezhou National Park (to the north) - creating the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park – it forms an enormous and varied area where wildlife roams at will in its natural habitat. The free movement of wildlife throughout the area was made more open by the recent removal of fences on Kruger's western boundaries with the adjacent private reserves. We have time to explore the wilderness and gain an insight into why this is such a world renowned reserve. We maximise the typically 'best times' for viewing (ie early morning/late afternoon) and hope to see the 'Big Five' - elephant, rhino, leopard, lion and buffalo – and some of the little known smaller but no less rewarding varieties.

Keep in mind when gamedriving that Kruger is not like a 'wildlife park' such as ones you may find in the western

world; it's a wildlife reserve set in the African bush (what in South Africa is known as the 'low-veld'), covering an area the size of Wales! It contains an enormous variety of Africa's wildlife but with all safaris, we may need to search awhile before finding; keep camera and (or) binoculars at ready – catching sight of lion, or elephant, or rhino, or antelope in its natural habitat will make the driving and waiting worthwhile!

Meals are had in camp (breakfasts/dinners) and during gamedriving, where lunch is usually had at selected picnic sites within the park. As evening comes on most clients are ready to relax by the pool or around the fire and experience the quiet and calm of the African night.

Another idea to consider at some stage during your stay is to arrange (optionally) a Night Drive or a Game walk in the National Park (or neighbouring private reserve). Speak to your guide who will be pleased to arrange it.

DAY 4 **Kruger National Park to Johannesburg** Bx1

We have a final early morning game drive before eventually leaving the Kruger area. We transfer back into mini-vans and make our way through Mpumalanga and Gauteng provinces to Johannesburg where we aim to arrive by late afternoon/ early evening.

TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR STYLE

Acacia Small Group Safari

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Tour highlights, transport, accommodation, meals as indicated, camping equipment, services of an English speaking driver and tour leader (one driver/guide if group size is less than nine)

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visa for South Africa (if required) ; travel insurance; flights; airport transfers; optional activities; laundry; gratuities to driver / guides; passport ; items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is in twin share/ en suite chalets (3 nights) at privately owned Panzi Bushcamp (or similar) in the Gurnsey Private Reserve; facilities include viewing deck, bar, pool.

TRANSPORT

Mini-bus or microbus, open safari vehicle

MEALS

Breakfast/dinner prepared in bushcamp by camp chef; lunch is usually 'packed picnic lunch' taken as rest-break during gamedrives.

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 : | Rivonia Road Lodge (or as indicated during booking) |
| Address: | Cnr: Rivonia Road and 10 th Avenue Rivonia Johannesburg |
| Contact details: | Tel: +27 11 803 5220/ Fax : +27 11 803 2778 |
| E-mail: | rlrivonia.dm@citylodge.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. If time allows you may wish to take a few extra days in the city at the end of the tour. We would be pleased to arrange additional nights (pre or post tour) where accommodation is usually arranged on a 'direct pay' basis (ie where we make the reservation in your name but all payments for the accommodation and sundry services are made by you direct to the hotel on check in/check out). Please note the rates given below may be subject to change.

| Description | Price (ZAR) | Description | Price (ZAR) |
|---|-------------|---|-------------|
| Johannesburg | | Johannesburg | |
| Pre tour accommodation – Twin per night B&B | R500 | Pre tour accommodation – Twin per night B&B | R500 |

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 (in US\$ unless otherwise stated. subject to change and availability).

| Activity | Price (ZAR) | Activity | Price (ZAR) |
|------------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Night game drive | R160 | Game walk | R350 |

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. We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/ belt that is easily hidden. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use your hotel safe to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets. You require a sleeping bag or sleep sheet 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 be aware that the Kruger area is **malarial**. We strongly recommend you consult your doctor or other medical professional for advice on the appropriate anti-malarial tablets to take (be aware that some of these recommend taking several days or weeks before you arrive in the malarial area, therefore we recommend seeking this advice as early as possible)

| 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 our website (www.acacia-africa.com) .

| 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 |

At time of printing (March 2009) British passport holders do not need to obtain the visa in advance for entry to South Africa for tourism purposes for stays up to 30 days. The visa will be stamped into your passport at point of arrival. However please note: the South African authorities require that your passport has a **blank double page spread** upon which they will stamp the visa.

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. Please take the policy document with you to Africa; it will be of considerable assistance in the event of an emergency and your guide may ask you for a copy when you join. We also suggest you leave a copy of your insurance policy document with a friend or family member at home, or the person you nominated on the booking form as emergency contact.

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\$15-20 per day. Also don't forget to budget for any additional accommodation or activities before/after the tour.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in South Africa Rand. Foreign currencies (Sterling , US dollars, Euros) may be exchanged on arrival at Oliver Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg. Facilities to change money once you are on safari are very limited; please ensure you have Rand cash to buy incidentals along the way or in camp..
- **Currency:** South Africa – Rand (ZAR)
(exchange rate March 09): £1 = ZAR 13 (approx);
- **ATM machines** are found in Johannesburg. Please note they are sometimes unreliable.
- **Credit cards** can be used to pay for larger optional activities although charges for credit card use may be higher than you are used 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.

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 - Pretoria the Administrative, Cape Town the Legislative, and Bloemfontein the Judicial. Having by far the most developed and sophisticated economy on the continent, South Africa is essential to many of the neighbouring countries as an avenue for exports, and a provider of electricity and high tech products. A good network of roads and an abundance of high quality camp sites (as well as beautiful scenery) makes travelling in and around South Africa an easy and very rewarding experience.

Points of Interest

Johannesburg

Looking at the modern façade of South Africa's capital it is hard to imagine that it is merely over a hundred years old. It started to boom toward the end of the 19 century when gold was discovered in the area, and within a short time became known as the **gold capital of the world**.

Today Johannesburg is a major commercial city, offering an array of shopping and nightlife.

Johannesburg also offers a variety of day trip activities. These include (but not limited to) the Museum Afrika, the Market Theatre precinct, Hillbrow and Houghton Gold Reef City (a replica of Johannesburg as an old gold mining town), tribal dancing, street theatres and amusement parks. There are day tours of **Soweto 'township'** (actually a city of several millions) the Apartheid museum, and to the nearby **Lion breeding park** where you can see cheetah, zebra, giraffe and lion cubs.

Kruger National Park

Kruger National Park is where the **greatest diversity of wildlife in Africa** can be experienced. Kruger Park stretches 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 1,500 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 one million people annually, most of whom come here to see the famous 'Big 5' (lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino).

The 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** which connects it with the neighbouring Limpopo National Park in Mozambique (to the east) and with the Gonarezhou National Park in Zimbabwe (to the north). To the west, the national park is **linked to numerous private game reserves**: Klaserie, Sabi Sands, Timbavati and Manyeleti being the most known ones. Recently the fences separating these private reserves and the national park were dismantled, creating an area known as the '**Greater Kruger**'. In addition to wildlife in beautiful natural settings Kruger also offers **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 are particularly evident.

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 our website: www.acacia-africa.com

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>Acacia Adventure Holidays Ltd 23A Craven Terrace London W2 3QH</p> <p>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</p> <p>Email: info@acacia-africa.com Website: www.acacia-africa.com</p> |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|---|