



Welcome



Travel has been my life for over 20 years. St Augustine's famous quote remains as true to me today as it was when I first set up 2by2 Holidays – "the world is a book and those who do not travel, read only one page".

My first love was Africa, the place of my birth. Its remarkable wildlife and cultures continue to captivate me today.

A recent visit to the wildlife of the Serengeti has starkly reminded me just how fragile the survival of so many endangered species remains and reinforced my belief that travel must always have conservation at its heart.

In recent years I have discovered the joys of travel in the Indian subcontinent and Latin America. The iconic sites and cultures there are no less enthralling and everywhere wildlife adapts and survives, from harsh barren deserts to cool mountain cloud forests and tropical wetlands.

My enthusiasm burns as brightly as ever and I continue to be as involved in every aspect of the business as I always have been, backed up by our superb travel team. I'm particularly thrilled that so many of our customers return time after time.

I do hope you find our latest brochure inspiring and we all look forward to hearing from you.

Hambe Kahle – Travel Safely

Claire Farley

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About Us

We specialise in tailor-made holidays to Southern & East Africa, Latin America and the Indian subcontinent – regions that are often difficult to explore on your own.

The excitement of long haul travel starts in the early planning stages, as you browse through inspirational travel sites, speak to friends and gather information from magazines and brochures such as ours. At 2by2 Holidays we understand this anticipation, as we ourselves are passionate travellers. We love to listen to your ideas and supplement them with our own experiences to help you plan the best possible trip – tailored to your special interests and budget.

Our sales team regularly visit the countries we sell to ensure our specialist knowledge remains up-to-date. Through our extensive contacts in each destination, we are also happy to research unusual activities and excursions for you.

With our expert knowledge we can advise you on all the great wildlife reserves in the world and help you to explore iconic cultural highlights in countries that you never thought you

would be able to visit on your own, as our experiences of these destinations is truly second to none.

Our tradition of customer service has been a vital element of our success and many of our customers come back year after year. Be rest assured that you will be well looked after every step of the way as you explore these remarkable countries with their astonishing wildlife, colourful cultures and breathtaking landscapes.



Types of Holidays

We tailor make all our holidays so you can choose to travel by road, plane, luxury train, houseboat or expedition cruise. We can arrange a private driver/ guide, you can self drive or join an escorted tour.

Browse through our brochure to see the wide range of destinations and types of holidays we offer. The example itineraries are intended to be a starting point, so ring us if you would like to talk with someone who has travelled to the country you are interested in. To see what travel options are possible, these symbols are shown under each example itinerary:

Our Values

Travel should be a force for good, especially where tourism is a crucial source of revenue for local people. We want you to experience the very best holiday and at the same time, where we can, help to contribute something back to the communities you visit.

Auriel Holidays

Our sister company, Auriel Holidays, is a retail travel agent that operates worldwide. Auriel Holidays is ABTA bonded (P8305) and can book bespoke holidays, luxury hotels and cruises anywhere in the world.

Financial Protection

2by2 Holidays holds an Air Travel Organisers Licence from the UK Civil Aviation Authority (ATOL 9025) which provides financial protection if you live in the UK, and we book some or all of your flights. Holidays that do not meet the above criteria are protected through our Client Trust Account, so your holiday is financially protected wherever in the world you live.



Land Transfers



Light Aircraft Transfers



Driver/Guide



Self Drive



Wheelchair Accessible



Escorted Tour



Train



On Water



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Kruger National Park

South Africa

With outstanding natural beauty and some of the best wildlife in the world, South Africa is an amazingly diverse country that combines a rich cultural experience with outstanding food and wine. It boasts over nineteen national wildlife parks and eight magnificent World Heritage Sites, and offers a wide array of outdoor and leisure activities.

The scenery ranges from Cape Town in the foothills of dramatic Table Mountain to the lush Garden Route, from the dry bushveld of the Kruger to the tropical vegetation of KwaZulu Natal, and from the mountains of the Drakensberg to the arid Kalahari. So it's no surprise this is a country people choose to visit many times. South Africa is simply one of the world's top holiday destinations.



Cape Town's Waterfront and Table Mountain

Cape Town & Winelands

With its magnificent setting on the Atlantic Ocean, against the backdrop of Table Mountain, Cape Town is one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

One of the best ways of exploring this relatively compact city is aboard the Hop-Off Bus, as this will give you an overview of all the highlights in one day. The bus conveniently stops at the Table Mountain cable car station, which is a little out of town, where you can ascend and enjoy one of the world's most famous views. Mornings are usually the best, as in the afternoon the cloudy 'tablecloth' may descend, obscuring the views.

The red city route includes the beaches of Camps Bay, whilst the longer blue peninsula route travels to Kirstenbosch Gardens and the fishing village of Hout Bay. Be sure to visit the Castle of Good Hope, the Houses of Parliament with their lovely gardens, and vibrant Victoria & Alfred Waterfront with its many shops, restaurants, museums, aquarium and other attractions.

An essential must-do is a day tour to Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, a long peninsula extending into the Atlantic Ocean with dramatic views along Chapman's Peak. Here you may see baboons, ostrich and antelope. Along the way you can take a boat ride to Seal Island where great white sharks breach, and visit the resident penguin colony at Boulders Beach.

A visit to Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned, is also highly recommended (advance booking is essential in season, as the ferry is small). You will get postcard views of Table Mountain from the ferry and some of the prison guides are former inmates, willing to share their personal stories. It is insightful to combine this with a visit to the District Six Museum, dedicated to the forced removals of the apartheid era, and a tour of the Bo-Kaap (the old Malay slave quarters). Township tours are also offered, to showcase modern township life.

The Cape Winelands are world-famous, with the historic university town of Stellenbosch and the foodie capital of Franschhoek less than an hour away. Paarl also has a wonderful wine route and the charming small towns of Wellington, Tulbach and Ceres are all waiting to be discovered. A wine tasting day tour from Cape Town is the easiest way of visiting these vineyards and cellars, but you can easily spend a few nights here. The Cheetah Outreach project at Somerset West is also worth a visit.

A little further afield is the small seaside



Boulders Beach

town of Hermanus, which offers some of the best land-based whale watching in the world. From July to November the Southern right and Humpback whales come here and give birth, wallowing right up to the cliffs. A whale-watching boat ride can give even closer views. The Stony Point penguin colony at Betty's Bay is also not to be missed.

Great white shark cage diving is offered in neighbouring Gansbaai, but be aware this is a thrilling adrenalin activity not for the faint-hearted! A little further along the coast you will find Cape Agulhas, where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet, delightful De Hoop Nature

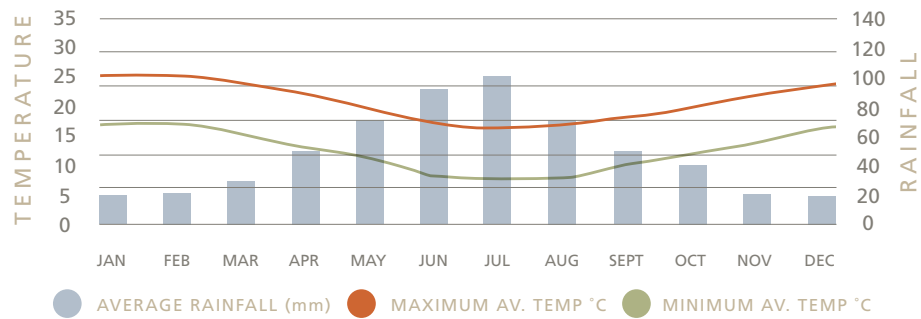
Reserve and the fishing village of Arniston. If you head up the rugged West Coast to Langebaan Lagoon, you can see small fishing villages and holiday towns. Visit Postberg Flower Reserve between mid-August and mid-September, where on a sunny day thousands of wildflowers emerge and carpet the ground in vivid colours, but the timing is dependent upon the rains.

If it's beaches you want, head south to Camps Bay with its relaxed café society, or north to the family-friendly beaches of Milnerton and Bloubergstrand. If you wish to swim in the sea, rather head for Muizenberg on the warmer Indian Ocean side of the Cape Peninsula.

If you enjoy luxury train travel, arrive in style aboard the nostalgic Rovos Rail, which travels all the way from Pretoria, Durban and Victoria Falls.

When to go

Cape Town and the Garden Route have a warm Mediterranean climate. The best time to visit is from October to March (the hot, dry summer), although the whale-watching season starts earlier from July to November. The mild, wet winter runs from June to August. Birding is best from November to March, when the migrants visit.





Knysna, Garden Route



Addo Elephant Park

Garden Route

The Garden Route offers eco-touring at its best with small picturesque seaside towns, wonderful local food and charming guest houses set in unparalleled scenery.

Combining time in Cape Town with a leisurely tour of the Garden Route is one of our most popular itineraries. This entire area is ideal for a self-drive holiday as the roads are good, driving is on the left and you can travel at your own pace. We also offer a variety of small group tours along the Garden Route.

Travel along the starkly beautiful Route 62, where the contrast between the lush coastal region and the arid Little Karoo is dramatic. Meander through small Winelands towns such as Robertson and Montagu to Swellendam – the third oldest town in South Africa with some wonderful examples of old Cape Dutch architecture – and onwards to Oudtshoorn, the ostrich farming capital. Here you can view the stalactites and stalagmites of the cavernous Cango Caves and watch meerkats emerge from their burrows at sunrise.

Take a detour to ascend the rugged Prince Albert Pass, or opt for the more direct route across the stunning Outeniqua Pass to George, renowned for its Fancourt golf estate.

A beautiful stretch of Indian Ocean coastline extends from Mossel Bay, where the Portuguese explorer Vasco Da Gama erected a cross, to Port Elizabeth, past the expansive beaches of Wilderness and lakes of Sedgefield, to the oyster capital of Knysna set on a vast lagoon. Here the must-do is a visit to Featherbed Nature Reserve by

ferry, followed by a nature walk and lunch under the milkwood trees. Dolphins are often seen here and from July to November you may see migrating whales.

There is good access to wildlife too, with Knysna Elephant Sanctuary offering interactions with these gentle giants. At the Wild Cat Sanctuary you can observe cheetah, caracal and serval, while at Monkeyland and Birds of Eden, you can see primates and birds in their natural habitats.

If it's beaches you long for, head for Plettenberg Bay which has four of the best in the country. Known as the playground of the rich and famous, golfers will be spoilt for choice too, with a wide selection of world-famous championship courses. Adventure seekers should head to the Tsitsikamma Forest, where you can glide through the treetops in a harness, black water tube down the Storms River or bungee jump from spectacular Bloukrans Bridge, the highest bungee jump in the world.

At the northern end of the Garden Route the beach resort of St Francis is found, and beyond this is the city of Port Elizabeth, which is the gateway to Addo Elephant Park and the malaria-free Big Five game reserves of the Eastern Cape.

Heading inland to Graaff Reinet, you can find Camdeboo National Park and the aptly named Valley of Desolation, as well as smaller wildlife sanctuaries such as Mountain Zebra National Park.

Complete your Garden Route tour with a thrilling safari in the private game reserves of the Eastern Cape, which are malaria-free, or explore Addo Elephant Park near Port Elizabeth.



Garden Route Safari

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| DAY 1 | Arrive in Cape Town |
| DAY 2 | Explore with the Hop-Off Bus & ascend iconic Table Mountain by cable car Take the ferry to Robben Island & enjoy the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront |
| DAY 3 | Drive to Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, Seal Island & Boulders Beach penguins |
| DAY 4 | Travel to Stellenbosch or Franschhoek, with wine tasting |
| DAYS 5/6 | Travel to the seaside town of Hermanus, with whale watching in season |
| DAYS 7/8 | Drive along scenic Route 62 to Oudtshoorn & visit an Ostrich Farm |
| DAY 9 | View meerkats at sunrise, visit the Cango Caves & drive along the Garden Route to Knysna |
| DAYS 11/12 | Visit Featherbed Nature Reserve & Knysna Elephant Sanctuary |
| DAY 13 | Travel via Plettenberg Bay & Tsitsikamma Forest to Addo in the Eastern Cape |
| DAY 14 | Early morning & late afternoon Big Five game drives |
| DAY 15 | Depart from Port Elizabeth |



This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

Kruger National Park

One of the world’s greatest wildlife conservation areas, the Kruger National Park and the private game reserves around it are home to all the Big Five – lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant and rhino. Don’t miss the breathtaking Blyde River Canyon.



Wildlife sightings in the world-famous Kruger National Park region are amongst the best in the world, due to the wide diversity of species. The size of Wales, this huge game region offers many varied habitats and the highest concentration of lions in the whole of Africa. It is home to over 150 different mammals and more than 500 bird species, with superb big cat sightings. Where the bushveld is dense, sighting can be difficult at times but when a species you have been tracking is spotted,

the rewards are immeasurable! Most visitors stay in a luxury safari lodge in one of the adjoining private game reserves that are part of the Greater Kruger, where wildlife traverses freely as there are no fences between them. These include the Sabi Sands (a prime location for spotting leopard), Thornybush, Klaserie, Balule, Manyeleti and Timbavati reserves, where the white lions were discovered. There are also several excellent self-contained private game reserves in close proximity to the

national park, also offering a high level of luxury accommodation and guiding with open-top game drives. These include Kapama and Makalali. Walking safaris are available, as well as sleep outs with star beds for an extra special memory. Inside the Kruger National Park you will find a series of simple self-catering rest camps, such as Satara and Skukuza. These are ideal for self-driving or private tours with your own driver/guide – perfect for birders, photographers, wheelchair users and families.



On safari your day starts early with a dawn wake-up call for a 2 to 3 hour game drive, as this is when predators are most active. Large herds of elephants traverse through the park, and you can hope to see buffalo, crocodile and hippo in the rivers and dams, as well as storks nesting in the trees. A sighting of the king of the jungle is always a highlight, and a privileged few will see a magnificent nocturnal leopard. But don’t only search for the Big Five, as there are hundreds of other rewarding species such as the kudu with its magnificent horns, the small bushbuck, the prickly porcupine, the lanky giraffe, the cheeky baboon, the gregarious wildebeest and the striped zebra. Birding is also outstanding. Return to your lodge for a hearty brunch, before venturing out again in the late afternoon for another game drive, followed by sundowners in the bush and a

superb African sunset. Then look upwards at the magnificent night sky and try to find the Southern Cross. West of Kruger, the beautiful Drakensberg Panorama Route should not be missed. The green Blyde River Canyon is the third largest in the world with sites such as God’s Window, Graskop Gorge and Bourkes Luck Potholes, carved out by river waters. Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre is well worth a visit, as you can see animals orphaned or injured in the wild up close. The small town of Hazyview has an elephant sanctuary and is a convenient base for day trips into the Kruger National Park. Other activities include a visit to Jane Goodall’s Chimp Eden, the Lowveld Botanical Gardens with its amazing cycads, championship golf, hot air ballooning, treetop canopy tour and a boat ride on the Blyde River dam.



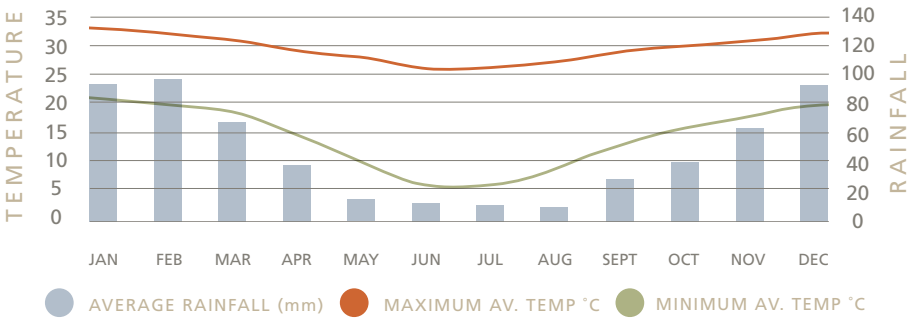
Southern Africa Highlights: Kruger, Cape + Victoria Falls

- DAY 1** Arrive in Hazyview
- DAY 2** Day tour of the Panorama Route, including the stunning Blyde River Canyon
- DAY 3** Visit an Elephant Sanctuary before entering the famous Kruger National Park
- DAYS 4/5** Thrilling early morning & late afternoon Big Five game drives
- DAY 6** After a morning of game viewing, fly to Cape Town
- DAY 7** Explore with the Hop-Off Bus & ascend Table Mountain by cable car
- DAY 8** Full day tour to Cape Point, Seal Island & Boulders Beach penguins
- DAY 9** Wine tasting in the vineyards of Stellenbosch & Franschhoek
- DAY 10** Fly to Victoria Falls
- DAYS 11/12** Explore Victoria Falls, with Zambezi sunset cruise
- DAY 13** Depart from Victoria Falls



When to go

Kruger National Park has a warm subtropical climate. The best time to visit for game viewing is from April to September (the mild winter) when the bushveld is dry, the grasses are low and the animals need to come to the waterholes to drink. The summer months are very hot, with heavy rains from November to March. However, this the best time for birding as this is when the migrants visit.



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Madikwe Game Reserve

Madikwe, Waterberg & Pilanesberg

Northwest of Johannesburg, on the border with Botswana, you'll find one of South Africa's largest malaria-free areas that includes the lesser known, but highly rewarding Madikwe Game Reserve – ideal to combine with the leisure resort of Sun City.

The game reserves found north and west of Johannesburg are extremely popular, as they offer outstanding Big Five game viewing in a malaria-free environment and are easily combined with time relaxing on the tropical island of Mauritius. Alternatively fly to beautiful Cape Town, with the option of including a trip on the luxurious Rovos Rail train.

The malaria-free Madikwe Game Reserve on the border with Botswana offers a luxury fly-in safari in a wonderfully wild setting, with outstanding predator sightings, especially lion. There are over 60 different species of mammals here, including endangered wild dog for which this reserve is so famous.

North of Johannesburg, there are

many smaller private game reserves in the Waterberg Mountains and at Welgevonden, some of which offer horseback safaris, cycling and walking. Entabeni Game Reserve is particularly rewarding. Driving further north to the Limpopo River, you can visit the archaeological World Heritage Site at Mapungubwe, where the golden rhinos were found. From a good vantage point, you can see across the river to both Zimbabwe and Botswana.

In the bustling city of Johannesburg, the poignant Apartheid Museum is a must see. On a tour of Soweto you can visit the home of Nelson Mandela and other monuments to the apartheid struggle.

At the Cradle of Humankind you can

see amazing archaeological finds from the Sterkfontein Caves and nearby Lesedi cultural village offers a fascinating insight into tribal life.

The pretty administrative capital of Pretoria (now known as Tshwane) has many historic buildings, including the impressive Voortrekker Museum.

Only two hours away, the sporting and casino resort of Sun City offers year-round sunshine and a wide array of leisure activities, including two famous championship golf courses and the Big Five Pilanesberg Game Reserve.

From Johannesburg you can also fly to the remote island of St Helena in the Atlantic, the place to which Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled.



Madikwe Game Reserve



Madikwe Safari

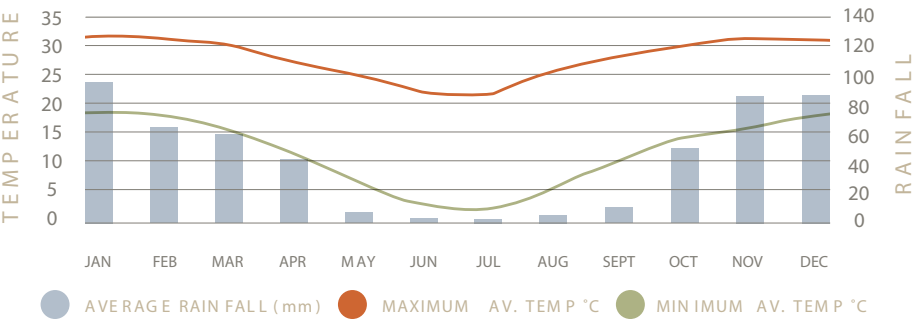
- DAY 1** Arrive in Johannesburg
- DAY 2** Visit the Apartheid Museum & Soweto, including Nelson Mandela's original home
- DAY 3** Explore the Sterkfontein Caves in the Cradle of Humankind & visit Lesedi Village to learn more about the various local cultures
- DAYS 4/6** Fly to Madikwe Game Reserve, with thrilling early morning & late afternoon Big Five game drives in an open-top game viewing vehicle
- DAY 7** Fly to Johannesburg and on to Cape Town
- DAYS 8/10** Ascend Table Mountain by cable car, visit Cape Point & the Stellenbosch Winelands
- DAY 11** Depart from Cape Town



This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

When to go

The best time to visit South Africa's northern game reserves is April to September. These are the mild winter months, when it is warm in the day but cold at night. The bushveld is dry, the grasses are low and the animals need to come to the waterholes to drink. The summer months are very hot, with rains from November to March. However, this the best time for birding as this is when the migrants visit.



KwaZulu Natal

Warm tropical KwaZulu Natal deserves a holiday of its own, to appreciate all that it has to offer – from the historic Zulu Battlefields and the mighty Drakensberg Mountains, to its superb wildlife and beaches.



Isandlwana

KwaZulu Natal is South Africa’s main holiday region due to its balmy climate, outstanding Indian Ocean beaches and the surfer’s paradise of Durban. It is an ideal destination for a thrilling Big Five beach safari, especially from April to September when the Cape peninsula has its cold, wet winter. You can also traverse lush KwaZulu Natal and enjoy its beautiful scenery on the luxury Rovos Rail train.

Most visitors head for the more upmarket beaches at Umhlanga and Ballito on the north coast, but if you

are on a budget the small towns along the south coast offer a wide range of accommodation with superlative beaches.

Zululand’s wildlife is renowned, with some of the best birding in South Africa. The malaria-free Hluhluwe Game Reserve and adjoining iMfolozi, once the royal hunting ground of the Zulu king Shaka, gained fame as it was here that the Black rhino was saved from extinction. All the Big Five can be found as well as many other species. There is one luxury lodge situated in the park and a range of affordable safari lodges situated outside the gate. There are

simpler rest camps inside the park. There are also some excellent private game reserves that cater for the upper end of the market such as Thanda, Phinda and Nambiti. Mkuze Game Reserve is great for birders.

A boat ride on the St Lucia estuary in the iSimangaliso Wetlands, a World Heritage Site, is a must as here you can see hippo and crocodile, as well as great birdlife. You can also take an ocean safari to see turtles, dolphins, and migrating Humpback whales from July to October.

Further up the coast at secluded Thonga Beach you can snorkel and take a boat ride to search for wild dolphins. From November to January Loggerhead and Leatherback turtles nest on this secluded stretch of coastline and a night-time guided marine walk is a magical experience.

You can also canoe on the lakes at Kosi Bay, where local fishermen still use traditional woven fishing traps, enjoy tiger fishing from a houseboat on Lake Josini and visit Tembe Elephant Park, famous for its enormous tuskers.

Small group tours travelling from the Kruger National Park to Durban usually break their journey in the kingdom of Eswatini (Swaziland), with the added attraction of a Swazi passport stamp. Here the proud Swazi people are renowned for their rich cultural heritage including the spectacular annual Umhlanga festival (or Reed Dance).



Drakensberg Mountains

Sodwana Bay is the centre for scuba diving off the warm Mozambique Reef and deep-sea game fishing for combative marlin, sailfish, barracuda and kingfish. On the south coast you will find Aliwal Shoal and Protea Banks, two famous shark diving sites for advanced drift divers, where you can swim among Tiger, Zambezi, Ragged tooth and Hammerhead sharks.

But it is the Zulu culture that fascinates visitors the most and a trip to the remote Zulu battlefields at Isandlwana and Rorke’s Drift is a must. Here expert guides bring these famous British battles to life, with heroic stories from both sides as Victoria Crosses were won. Be sure to watch Michael Caine in

the film Zulu, before you leave home.

The Bushman paintings found in the mighty Drakensberg Mountains are another World Heritage Site that should not be missed. Named ‘Barrier of Spears’ by the Zulus, these mountains offer wonderful walking, horse riding, tennis, mountain biking and trout fishing opportunities. Bird watching is also excellent, especially for raptors that nest in these cliffs. Many famous Boer War battlefields such as Spioenkop, Ladysmith and Colenso are within easy reach and from the southern Drakensberg you can ascend the Sani Pass by four-wheel drive vehicle into the tiny mountain kingdom of Lesotho, home to the Basuto people.



Zululand Explorer

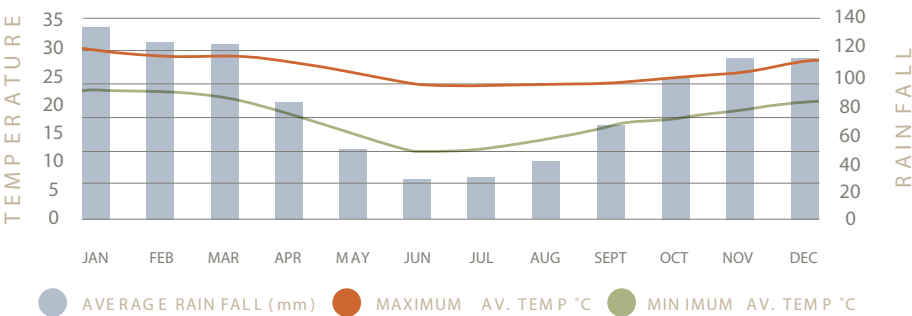
- DAY 1** Arrive in Durban
- DAYS 2/3** Drive to Hluhluwe Game Reserve, famous for its rhino, with morning & afternoon game viewing
- DAYS 4/5** Travel to Lake St Lucia Wetlands, with boat ride on the estuary to see hippo, crocodile & birdlife. Also whale watching in season
- DAYS 6/7** Drive to Zulu Battlefields, with tours of Isandlwana and Rorkes Drift
- DAY 8** Continue to Boer War Battlefields around Ladysmith, with tour of Spioenkop
- DAYS 9/11** Relax in the Drakensberg Mountains, with opportunity to walk to Bushman rock paintings
- DAYS 12/14** Drive to the warm beaches of the Durban North Coast, with visit to uShaka Marine World
- DAY 15** Depart from Durban



No one can remain unmoved by the gripping stories of KwaZulu Natal’s Battlefields, told with such passion and insight by local guides.

When to go

KwaZulu Natal has a hot subtropical climate. April to September (winter) is the best time to visit, as days are pleasantly warm but cooler at night. October to March is the hot summer, with heavy rains. The Drakensberg has a fresh mountain climate, with warm summers and cold, sunny winters with some snow. Birding is best from October to March (the hot summer), as this is when the migrants visit. Diving is good all year.



Hluhluwe Game Reserve

This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

Kalahari

The vast and arid Kalahari Desert is home to the Bushman people and unique desert-adapted wildlife, including the majestic black-maned Kalahari lion.



Black-maned Kalahari lion

David Attenborough brought the stunning red sands of the Kalahari into our homes with his famous TV documentaries about this huge eco-system and its desert-adapted wildlife. One of the largest conservation areas in the whole world, and one of the last remaining wilderness regions, Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park is a visionary joint venture between South Africa and Botswana, straddling both countries and covering over 14,000 square miles.

Upington is the most convenient gateway to the Kalahari, as it is linked by daily flights from both Johannesburg and Cape Town. Kgalagadi is a further 3 hours north by road, with accommodation in simple air-conditioned self-catering rest camps such as Twee Rivieren, Nossob and Mata Mata. There are a few smaller, tented camps that require booking up to a year in advance, and one Bushman-owned camp. A top end luxury fly-in safari is

also available at Tswalu Kalahari Reserve, which is in a class of its own.

Wildlife viewing centres on the dry river beds, searching for the enormous black-maned Kalahari lion, the region's most famous inhabitant. The Kalahari is also renowned for the magnificent oryx with its long sharp horns, cute meerkats that emerge from their burrows at sunrise, prancing springbok, prickly porcupine, spotted hyena, black-backed jackal, Cape fox, African wild cat and aggressive honey badger.

You will see large herds of antelope such as eland and blue wildebeest and some of Africa's most unusual animals. These include many of the big cats (lion, cheetah and leopard) which are more easily seen in these wide open landscapes, but the sparse vegetation does not support elephant, rhino or buffalo.

Birdlife is also surprisingly prolific with over 260 species, including 20 different raptors. In this land of far horizons, marvel at the gigantic nests of the sociable weaver birds set high in camel thorn trees and stop to examine the amazing succulent desert plants which have adapted to survive in such harsh conditions.



Oryx, Kalahari Desert



Augrabies Falls

The granite Augrabies Falls (meaning 'Place of Great Noise') should be the next stop on your itinerary, with accommodation in simple but comfortable air-conditioned chalets. Here the thundering Orange River dramatically crashes over the rim of a granite canyon, plunging 82 metres into the gorge below forming South Africa's largest waterfall and the sixth largest in the world. Activities here include a sunset cruise,

canoeing in the gentler rapids above the falls, abseiling down the cliffs and white water rafting in the turbulent gorge below.

Namaqualand is also within easy reach. From mid-August to mid-September each year, this landscape bursts into a spectacularly vivid display of wildflowers as far as the eye can see, although the exact timing depends on the rains.

Riemvasmaak Canyon, the mountainous Richtersveld and the beautiful coastline at Port Nolloth can also be explored from here and you can learn more about the Bushman culture.

Self-drive holidays to this region are very popular, as well as photo safaris exploring with your own private driver/guide.



Kalahari Safari

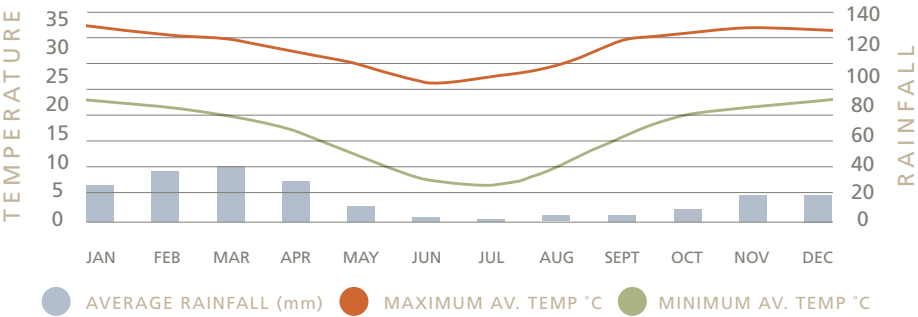
- DAY 1** Arrive in Upington
- DAYS 2/4** Drive to Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park to see desert-adapted wildlife
- DAYS 5/6** Travel to the thundering Augrabies Falls
- DAYS 7/9** Explore Namaqualand & learn about the Bushmen, or view the wildflowers in season.
- DAY 10** After a final morning in Springbok, drive back to Upington
- DAY 11** Depart from Upington



This is an example itinerary – see page 5 for key. For more ideas, information and prices call us on 01582 766122 or visit www.2by2holidays.co.uk

When to go

Kalahari has a very hot, semi-desert climate. Augrabies Falls is in flood from February to April, but the best time to visit for game viewing is May to September (winter) when the days are hot and dry, but evenings very cold with ground frost. October to April (summer) is extremely hot, with erratic rainfall. Namaqualand's wildflowers bloom mid-August to mid-September, depending on the rains. Birding is best from November to March (the hot summer) when the migrants visit.



Special Interest Holidays

Travel offers a wonderful opportunity to do and see things that you have previously only dreamed of. We can introduce you to a wonderland of new experiences and if you have a particular passion or interest, we are the people to talk to. Known for our wildlife and cultural holidays, we also have expertise in many other specialisms. Unlike most travel companies, we take the time to research and book even the most unusual requests. Here we highlight some of the special interest holidays that other customers have loved.



Walking

If you enjoy hiking, we offer a thrilling range of walking safaris – ranging from a few hours in the early morning or late afternoon, accompanied by an armed ranger, to specialised walking camps in Botswana and South Africa where all game viewing is on foot. We also offer point-to-point trails in Zambia, where you can spend a week walking from one remote bush camp to another – a truly unforgettable experience!

You can trek to see mountain gorillas, and in most of our destinations we can incorporate a variety of walking and hiking trails into your itinerary, ranging from day hikes to waterfalls and volcanoes in Costa Rica, to Peru's iconic Inca Trail and Nepal's stunning Annapurna Trek.

If you are sufficiently fit, you can even combine a safari in East Africa with climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, accompanied by experienced mountain guides.

Birding

Many of our customers are avid birders who want to spot regional endemics, as well as increase their life list, whilst others are more casual birders who simply enjoy the pleasure of identifying known species and spotting new ones. Whichever category you fit into, we know how important it is to design an itinerary that visits the best birding regions, at the right time of year.

With our extensive network of

specialist birding guides, we can tailor make private tours to key destinations such as Costa Rica, Colombia, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Peru, Ecuador and Galapagos, Brazil, Guyana, Madagascar, South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania, India, Bhutan and Sri Lanka. We can also help you track down iconic species, such as the Harpy eagle in Panama.

We offer cheaper lodge-based birding holidays too, using guides employed by

the various lodges – although the quality of guiding can vary – and a few scheduled departure tours in high demand countries such as Costa Rica.





Sports & Cultural Events

As we tailor make all our holidays, we cater to a wide range of special interests.

Golf

Our golf holidays in South Africa are particularly popular, allowing golfers to escape the northern winter and combine championship golf with wine tasting and a luxury safari or beach break. You can select the courses you wish to play, varying from social to world class.

Riding

Our riding holidays vary from thrilling mobile horseback safaris in Big Five territory for experienced riders, to family-friendly lodge-based riding holidays suitable for all levels.

Diving

The Indian Ocean offers outstanding diving in warm water, from Kenya all the way down to Zanzibar, Mozambique and South Africa, as well as the islands of the Maldives, Andamans, Mauritius, Seychelles

and Madagascar. Galapagos offers live-aboard dive ships, whilst Mexico and Belize offer superb Caribbean diving.

Fishing

These same regions offer some of the best deep-sea fishing in the world. To this must be added the renowned fishing waters of the Baja Peninsula in Mexico.

Sports Events

Sports events are often the catalyst for a special holiday. We can source tickets to rugby internationals in South Africa and Argentina, as well as cricket tests in India, Sri Lanka and South Africa. We can also arrange Grand Prix packages.

Cultural Events

We can also build a holiday around special events such as the Rio Carnival, Holi in India or the Day of the Dead celebrations in Mexico



Cruises & Houseboats

Expedition cruises explore regions that are difficult to reach in other ways, whilst relaxing houseboats provide a different perspective from the water.

Expedition Cruises

Expedition cruises to the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador are the best way to explore the unique wildlife of this stunning archipelago. Itineraries vary in length from several days to a week or more, with a wide choice of boats varying in size, design and cost.

Patagonia expedition cruises sail from southern Argentina to Chile, and vice versa, navigating via Glacier Alley and Cape Horn.

Expedition cruises to the Falkland Islands and Antarctica use much larger vessels capable of handling the polar ice.

You need to be relatively mobile to enjoy an expedition cruise, as you will disembark twice a day for excursions, making your way down a gangplank into a zodiac-type inflatable.



Houseboats

Houseboats are a relaxing way to watch the world go by. They are the perfect way to explore the mighty Amazon River, the largest in South America, whether boarding from Manaus in Brazil, Coca in Ecuador or Iquitos in Peru.

You can also explore Brazil's southern Pantanal by houseboat or sail down the Magdalena River in Colombia.

India has houseboats that sail down the Brahmaputra and Ganges Rivers and are wonderful for observing local life. You can also spend a night on a traditional rice houseboat gliding through the Kerala backwaters.

In Africa, Botswana has houseboats on the Chobe River, superb for both wildlife viewing and tiger fishing, whilst Zimbabwe has houseboats on Lake Kariba. Lake Jozini in South Africa also offers tiger fishing by houseboat.

Houseboat facilities will be en suite, but expect the cabins on many boats to be relatively small and simple.

Ocean Cruises

Through our sister company, Auriel Holidays, we can source a wide variety of ocean cruises that can tie in with tailor-made land arrangements, either before or after your cruise.



Quark Expeditions



Rovos Rail

Luxury Trains

If you love train travel, there is no better way of leisurely exploring a country than aboard one of the world’s iconic luxury trains, travelling in the utmost comfort with superb dining.

Southern Africa

Rovos Rail

The nostalgic Rovos Rail train journeys across Southern Africa at a leisurely pace, pulling along its historic reconditioned carriages. The traditional observation car provides a delightful way of viewing the unfolding landscape, whilst enjoying superb service and delicious food and wine – everything from mouth-watering afternoon teas to cocktails and formal dinners. All off-train excursions are included. Dress code is smart casual, but a little more formal in the evening.

A selection of short journeys is available in both directions (two to four nights), with three cabin styles – Pullman, Deluxe or Royal:

- Pretoria to Cape Town
- Pretoria to Victoria Falls
- Pretoria to Durban

Longer journeys are also available in both directions:

- South Africa Collage (Pretoria to Cape Town)
- South Africa to Namibia
- Dar Es Salaam to South Africa
- Dar Es Salaam to Angola

A few specialist golf journeys are also available in both directions:

- Golf Collage (Pretoria to Cape Town)
- Golf Safari (Sun City, Durban and Kruger)

Blue Train

The modern Blue Train also travels regularly between Pretoria and Cape Town.



Rovos Rail - Deluxe Suite

India

India is well served by a range of luxury trains that offer superb service and dining reminiscent of the opulent Maharaja era.

Maharaja’s Express

The famous Maharaja’s Express is India’s most luxurious train and offers a wonderful way to explore the treasures of the Golden Triangle and Rajasthan, starting from Delhi. A short three-night journey visits the stunning Taj Mahal in Agra, Ranthambore Tiger Reserve and Jaipur in Rajasthan. A longer trip includes Orchha Fort, the magnificent temples of Khajuraho and the sacred city of Varanasi. There is also a journey that combines the Golden Triangle with more of Rajasthan - including Bikaner, Jodhpur and beautiful Udaipur - before continuing all the way to Mumbai. This trip is available in both directions. There are four different cabins – Deluxe, Junior Suite, Suite or Presidential Suite.

Palace on Wheels

The opulent Palace on Wheels, India’s original luxury train, also starts in Delhi and explores the Golden Triangle and Rajasthan including a longer route to Jaipur, Ranthambore Tiger Reserve, Chittorgarh Fort, Udaipur, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Agra before returning to Delhi. The train has two different cabins - Deluxe or Super Deluxe.

Deccan Odyssey

The blue Deccan Odyssey explores the state of Maharashtra in style, including the holy city of Nashik, the incredible Ellora and Ajanta Caves with their magnificent sculptures and paintings, the temples of Kolhapur and the beaches of Goa. Another route links Mumbai with Delhi, travelling via Udaipur, Jaipur, Agra and Ranthambore Tiger Reserve. There are two cabin styles – Deluxe or Presidential Suite.

Golden Chariot

The luxurious Golden Chariot train explores South India. Starting from Bengaluru, the Karnataka route visits Bandipur Tiger Reserve, Mysuru Palace, the temples of Halebid, the hill station of Chikkamagaluru, the spectacular ruined city of Hampi and the beaches of Goa. The Tamil Nadu and Kerala route explores the temples and palaces of Mysuru, the Shore Temple at Mahabalipuram,

the Great Chola temples at Thanjavur, Chettinad Palace and Kochi, including a cruise in a traditional rice houseboat on the Kerala backwaters. This train has one adapted cabin.

Peru

Belmond Train

The luxurious Belmond Train journeys through Peru, travelling from Arequipa to Lake Titicaca and Cusco – gateway to the stunning Inca citadel at Machu Picchu. The train runs in both directions. Be sure to visit Machu Picchu aboard the famous Hiram Bingham train.

Mexico

El Chepe

Although not a luxury train, another iconic train journey is aboard El Chepe, which travels through the stunning Copper Canyon.



Maharaja Express, Dining Car



Deccan Odyssey



Accessible Travel



If you are a wheelchair user or have limited mobility, long-haul travel poses a unique set of challenges, but as the UK market leader in accessible safari holidays we have considerable expertise in this field. Our greatest experience is in Southern and East Africa, but we have been expanding our knowledge in recent years and we now also offer accessible holidays to India, Sri Lanka and Latin America.

Whether you are simply unsure about travelling without assistance, walk with sticks or use a wheelchair permanently, we can design a holiday appropriate to your needs. We know which hotels and lodges are accessible (i.e. ramps, roll-in showers and grab rails) and which are not, and your private guide can travel with a shower chair if needed. However if you use a power chair, we will need to get the approval of the airline before we can confirm your holiday.

In South Africa, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Tanzania and Namibia we have access to a small number of accessible vehicles, with ramps for wheelchairs. If you have upper body strength and can transfer into a regular vehicle, you will have more destination choices.

In India we also have a few accessible vehicles on the famous Golden Triangle route. In Latin America accessible vehicles are found mostly in the larger cities, but if you use a manual wheelchair we can take you to places such as Machu Picchu and the Galapagos Islands.

The accessible section of our website

showcases the many destinations we offer, but as you will have many questions please call us to discuss your specific needs or visit us in person and we will be happy to go through all the details with you.

As accessible hotels, guides and vehicles are always in short supply, you should book your holiday well in advance.



Small Group Tours

We offer a range of sociable small group tours in many of our key destinations, if you don't want to travel independently or self drive.

Southern Africa

South Africa offers a range of small group tours, travelling from beautiful Cape Town along the scenic Garden Route to Port Elizabeth. Afterwards you can add on a Big Five safari in the Eastern Cape. Alternatively, you can combine the wildlife of the famous Kruger National Park with Eswatini (Swaziland), Zululand and the beaches of Durban.

Namibia tours take in this country's dramatic landscapes, from the Fish River Canyon to Etosha, with longer tours

travelling through the lush Caprivi to Victoria Falls.

Botswana wildlife tours are generally done under canvas, exploring the wildlife of the Okavango Delta and Chobe.

East Africa

Kenya small group tours visit the famous Masai Mara, the elephants of Samburu and Amboseli in the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro, with shorter tours from Mombasa.

Tanzania tours explore the northern circuit of Tarangire, Ngorongoro Crater and the vast open plains of the wildlife-rich Serengeti.

Uganda tours focus on chimp and gorilla trekking. Ethiopia tours explore its ancient history.

Latin America

Peru tours visit Cusco and the stunning Inca citadel at Machu Picchu, with an extension to Lake Titicaca and the salt flats of Bolivia. Alternatively, you can combine Peru with Ecuador and the fascinating Galapagos Islands.

Brazil tours combines vibrant Rio de Janeiro with the thundering Iguassu Falls, whilst tours of Argentina and Chile focus on their capital cities and the dramatic landscapes of spectacular Patagonia.

Mexico small group tours explore their pyramids and the spectacular Mayan ruins of the Yucatan, before relaxing on the warm Mayan Riviera.

Through our sister company, Auriel Holidays, we offers tours to many other destinations.





Book with confidence

Booking your holiday

When you are ready to book, we will guide you through the process. Our terms and conditions can be found on our website at www.2by2holidays.co.uk.

Through our membership of ATOL (9025), our Client Deposit Trust Account and Tour Operator Insurance, your holiday is financially protected wherever in the world you live.

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Worldwide Holidays

Almost anywhere in the world that 2by2 Holidays doesn't cover, our sister company Auriel Holidays does.



Auriel Holidays brings the same high standards of travel expertise and service as 2by2 Holidays, but as a retail travel agent.

Ring us to discuss a tailor-made holiday anywhere in the world:
01582 766122 or visit www.aurielholidays.co.uk

