

Garden Route Extravaganza
15 Days Self-Drive Tour along the famous Garden Route in South Africa

DAY 1: 08 September - Hermanus

Collect your hire vehicle and depart for Hermanus, a quaint coastal town offering some of the best **land-based whale watching** in the world. This is because its waters are the breeding ground and nursery of the famous Southern Right whale. September's whale breeding season sets the scene for the vibey and popular Hermanus whale festival. With its mild Mediterranean climate and safe, clean, sandy beaches, Hermanus is popular all year round, and little wonder it is often referred to as "**Riviera of the South**".

Here you will check in to Pelagus House. Pelagus is within walking distance of quaint village shops, restaurants and just a stroll from the cliff top, for the best views of dolphins and whales. Relax with a good book and a sea view in the library or lounge in front of the cozy fireplace, or enjoy an invigorating dip in the swimming pool where you can sun-tan in complete privacy.



Optional: For dinner tonight, try **Bientang's Cave**, a historical cave named after Bientang, the last known Koi Strandloper to have lived in the cave. This world-renowned seafood restaurant is not more than 10m from the water's edge, and is a prime tourist attraction on one of the most beautiful **Marine Reserves** on the Western Cape coastline.



Overnight at Schulphoek Guest House, incl. dinner B&B

DAY 2: 09 September - Swellendam

After breakfast, depart via Napier and Bredasdorp towards Swellendam, the third oldest town in South Africa. Check in at Jan Harmsgat Country House situated at the foot of the Swellendam Mountains – a truly spectacular setting.



Jan Harmsgat is a 680 hectare working farm with its orchards of fruit, nut and olive trees being the source of its highly acclaimed preserves and produce. The dairy, which is also part of the farm, supplies Jan Harmsgat with milk, butter and award-winning cheeses that are served after dinner and at breakfast. Guests are encouraged to spend time with the local cheese maker, Paul for a mini tour in cheese making. The guestrooms offer guests an understated elegance and comfort in the farm's original slave quarters, and consist of four large en-suite rooms with an adjoining lounge. Enjoy sundowners and dinner at Jan Harmsgat (included).

Overnight: Jan Harmsgat Country House (B&B)

DAY 3: 10 September - Oudtshoorn

After breakfast depart via the *beautiful Tradouw Pass* towards Barrydale, where a stop for lunch and a walk through the quaint *arts and crafts shops* is a must. Continue towards Calitzdorp and Oudtshoorn, and check in to your accommodation at De Zeekoe Guest Farm. This expansive *ostrich farm* on the banks of the Olifants River, provides an unique experience, with 3000 ostriches on extensive Alfalfa fields.

Daily farmtours and *meerkat tours* are done by a biologist and nature conservationist.



Rest of the day and evening at leisure.

Overnight De Zeekoe Guest Farm (B&B)

DAY 4: 11 September - Oudtshoorn

After breakfast, enjoy a visit to *the Congo Caves and the Congo Wildlife Ranch*, where you will discover a variety of animals rarely seen. Rest of the day at leisure to explore the area. Dinner at De Zeekoe or one of Oudtshoorn's many restaurants.

Overnight De Zeekoe Guest Farm (B&B)

DAY 5: 12 September - Botlierskop

Depart via the **Outeniqua Pass** towards George and Botlierskop, where you will check-in to luxury tented suites on wooden decks, offering breathtaking views of the river and tranquil mountainous surroundings, which are situated in a bird sanctuary with free roaming animals.



Each of the **luxury tented suites** at Botlierskop is elegantly decorated in a romantic colonial theme, with 4-poster beds draped with mosquito nets. The en-suite bathrooms are lavishly equipped with deep baths and stunning views. Late afternoon enjoy a **3-hour guided game drive** in a 4x4 safari vehicle, where you will get to view wildlife in their natural habitat up close and personal with Rhinos, Lions, Buffalos, Giraffes, Elephants, Eland, Zebras and including the rare Black Impala. Dinner in the **"Fire Place" Restaurant** to follow.

Overnight: Botlierskop Private Game Reserve (Full board)

Day 6: 13 September - Knysna

A game walk or **elephant back safari** can be enjoyed this morning. Depart after late breakfast for Knysna and your spectacular accommodation at Phantom Forest Lodge.



Nestled in the Afromontane Forest, with endless views, the large and elevated luxury 'tree suites' are an African celebration of natural textures. Experience the evocative **sounds... scents... and tastes of Africa...** at their very best!

Dinner can be enjoyed in the **"Boma"**, where a Bushbuck may just drop in for a drink! Sundowners at the "Eyrie" are spectacular, with sunsets and views to match – right to the famous Knysna Heads – a view shared only with their resident Fish Eagles.

End a memorable evening with tales around the fire, whilst sipping delectable African-blend coffee and liqueurs.

Overnight: Phantom Forest (B&B)

DAY 7: 14 September - Knysna

After breakfast, proceed to the Knysna Waterfront to board the ferry, which will take you across to the Featherbed Nature Reserve. The **Featherbed Experience** is regarded as one of the Garden Route's premier tourist attractions.



Upon arrival, board a Unimog drawn trailer and drive up to the top of the Reserve. While stopping at scenic lookout points, a guide will share some **fascinating tales about Knysna** and the surrounding area, while you enjoy the panoramic views. An optional 2,2 km **guided nature walk** takes you through the forest, onto the cliffs, into the caves and along the scenic coast. Once back in the Food Forest, you can enjoy a spectacular **12-dish buffet lunch** in a unique outdoor restaurant situated under the Milkwood Trees. After lunch browse through the 'Blue Duiker' Curio Shop, where a variety of curios can be purchased, including clothing and the famous carved '**Feathers of Knysna**' collection. Dinner at leisure. **Overnight: Phantom Forest (B&B)**

DAY 8: 15 September - Plettenberg Bay

After a leisurely breakfast, depart for Plettenberg Bay and your accommodation at Bosavern Guest House.

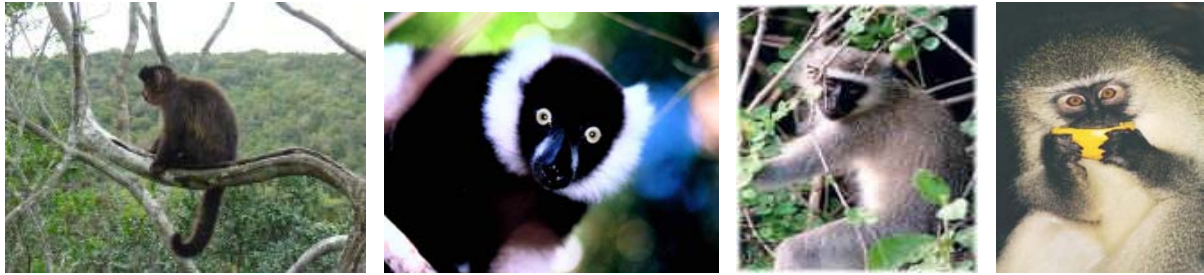


Bosavern is a stylish, upmarket guesthouse set on a cliff, offering **spectacular views of the ocean**, the pristine white Robberg Beach and Robberg Nature Reserve, and the green expanse of Plettenberg Bay Country Club. Enjoy an afternoon **Ocean Safaris excursion** (optional), to view dolphins, whales and seals. Evening at leisure. Plettenberg Bay has a variety of superb restaurants to choose from.

Overnight: Bosavern (B&B)

DAY 9: 16 September - Plettenberg Bay

After breakfast, check-out and depart for **Monkeyland**, a unique sanctuary which caters for several species of primate, that are not caged, but are free to move about the forest, and do so in harmony. Here a **one-hour walking safari** with the primates can be enjoyed.



Time permitting, visit the Aviary situated next to Monkeyland. **Birds of Eden** is well worth a visit. The unique two hectare dome (the World's largest) spans over a gorge of **indigenous forest**. The sanctuary has its own mysterious ruin, which incorporates a "walk-behind waterfall". Another feature is its amphitheatre, which has the ability to seat over 200 visitors. The sanctuary's dome incorporates the ability to synthesise thunder and create short spells of rain from an irrigation system in the dome structure. Roofed viewpoints within the gorge have been erected for use during these brief rain storms. This afternoon, visit the **Elephant Sanctuary** situated in the same vicinity as Monkeyland. Here you will enjoy a **magical one-hour elephant back ride**. Rest of the afternoon and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Bosavern (B&B)

DAY 10: 17 September – St Francis

Depart after breakfast for **Tsitsikamma and the Stormsriver Mouth**. Take a walk on the suspension bridge and enjoy the spectacular scenery. Lunch can be enjoyed at the informal restaurant overlooking the Mouth (*optional*).



Depart after lunch for St Francis and your accommodation at The Dunes. The **Dunes Guest Farm** is an exclusive family owned retreat, whose architecture and interiors are reminiscent of an old Cape farmhouse revived with Colonial flair. The guest house sits on a 200-hectare estate surrounded by beautiful indigenous gardens and coastal fynbos.



Personalized service and friendly hospitality are the hallmark of every stay. The individually decorated rooms are designed for absolute comfort, luxury and privacy. Each has its own separate entrance with a **private verandah overlooking the gardens** and surrounding veld. The suites all feature television, DVD players, telephones, beverage and bar facilities and white percale linens on the beds. The en-suite bathrooms are spacious and elegant with ball-and-claw baths, marble counter top vanities and under floor heating. Enjoy a **nature walk** or nature drive in the nearby St Francis Nature Reserve expertly guided by your host from The Dunes. Dinner can be enjoyed at The Dunes or at one of St Francis' numerous restaurants. **Overnight: The Dunes (B&B)**



DAY 11: 18 September – Pumba Game Reserve

Depart this morning for Pumba Private Game Reserve and Safari Lodge. The Reserve stretches over an area of 6.000 hectares, making it the third largest privately owned game reserve in the Eastern Cape, covering 5 of the 7 biomes. Uniquely positioned, this South Africa Safari Lodge is set amongst dense bushveld, overlooking Lake Kariega, where the animals come to drink.



Pumba Private Game Reserve is home to **Africa's Big Five** and offers visitors the chance to experience the wonders of Africa – from the graceful Giraffe to the rarely seen Leopard, 22 species of Antelope and other small game. The 200 plush bird species at the Reserve will delight bird lovers. Watch the game from a custom-made Landrover. This South Africa safari lodge offers stunning views of the wilderness and the lake from every vantage point, with timber decks surrounding each of the **8 stone cottages and main lodge**. Relax by the bushveld pool for lazy summer days, with the "Bush Bar" and floating pier being the perfect setting to enjoy a sundowner before dinner – a *cordon bleu* delight complemented by an extensive collection of excellent wines. Take home a memento from the Curio Shop, to remember your stay at this fantastic South Africa safari lodge.



The Lodge's rustic appearance belies its sophisticated elegance. No luxury or detail has been spared to create a **truly unique wildlife experience** for guests. With only 8 waterfront stone cottages, the guests can be ensured of personal attention and care from their hosts at all times. Each cottage has its own elegant sense of décor and style, with flawless luxury which compliments the untamed surroundings. The cottages open up onto **private timber decks** with outside showers and plunge pools.



Pumba Private Game Reserve overlooks Lake Kariega, a natural waterhole where the animals come to drink, and you can view game from just metres away. Enjoy an **afternoon game drive** and dinner at the lodge.

Overnight Pumba (Full Board)

DAY 12: 19 September – Pumba Game Reserve

At leisure at Pumba to enjoy their game activities. All meals included.

Overnight Pumba (Full Board)

DAY 13: 20 September – East London

Enjoy an early morning game drive and breakfast, before departing for **East London** where you will check in to your accommodation at Quarry Lake Inn. Quarry Lake Inn enjoys a unique position overlooking the lake in the environmentally pristine quarry. Centrally situated in the established suburb of Selborne, the Inn is ideal for business and leisure travellers. Birdlife abounds in this peaceful setting.



Each spacious upstairs bedroom has a balcony overlooking the gardens and pool, whilst the downstairs rooms open onto the garden. All bedrooms have been refurbished and include air-conditioning and ADSL connection. Alfresco breakfasts on the patio is also the place to meet fellow travellers for sundowners at the end of the day. Rest of evening at leisure.

Overnight Quarry Lake Inn (B&B)

DAY 14: 21 September – East London

Day at leisure to enjoy your surroundings. Visit **Khayalabantu Cultural Village**, where you can become acquainted with Xhosa music, dancing, traditional fare and Mqomboti (the powerful local brew).

Overnight Quarry Lake Inn (B&B)

DAY 15: 22 September – East London

Depart for East London airport, where you will deliver your hire car and board your **flight** to Johannesburg, and **back home** 😊.

BON VOYAGE!

**Garden Route Extravaganza
15 Days Self-Drive Tour along the famous Garden Route in South Africa**

From EUR 2.795,00 per person SHARING

Inclusive of:

- 1 x night accommodation at Schulphoek Guesthouse / Hermanus, (DB&B)
- 1 x night accommodation & dinner at Jan Harmsgat (DB&B)
- 2 x nights accommodation at De Zeekoe Guest Farm (B&B)
- 1 x night accommodation at Botlierskop **(Full Board)**
- 2 x nights accommodation at Phantom Forest (B&B)
- 2 x nights accommodation at Bosavern (B&B)
- 1 x night accommodation at The Dunes (B&B)
- 2 x nights accommodation at Pumba **(Full Board)**
- 2 x nights accommodation at Quarry Lake Inn (B&B)
- Entrance to Cango Caves & to Cango Wildlife Ranch
- **Picnic with the elephants** at Botlierskop
- Featherbed Nature Reserve experience
- Entrance to Monkeyland & **1-hour elephant back ride** at The Elephant Sanctuary
- Entrance to Khayalabantu Cultural Village
- One-way flights for 2 persons: East London – Johannesburg
- Car Hire for 15 days (Automatic Nissan Almera 1.6, or similar with unlimited kilometers, super insurance and one-way drop off fee)



Exclusive of:

- International flights, Travel Insurance, Visas
- Drinks, meals and excursions (marked OPTIONAL) in the itinerary
- Insurance excess on rental vehicle & fuel price increases
- Items of a personal nature
- Credit card surcharge & Gratuities

IMPORTANT:

- This is a **quotation only** – only provisional enquiries have been made. A confirmed booking can only be made once African Nature Adventure receives notice thereof in writing. An invoice will be issued and a deposit equivalent to 35% of the total trip cost must be received by African Nature Adventure. The balance of the trip cost will be due 8 weeks prior to arrival date.
 - This quotation is **subject to availability** of specified establishments and other services, and African Nature Adventure reserves the right to amend costs in the event that the quoted services are not available, and alternative and more expensive accommodation needs to be sourced.
 - African Nature Adventure reserves the **right to amend** this quotation due to price fluctuation such as it applies to flights, fuel price, entrance fees, currency exchange rates and other factors beyond our control.
 - All bookings made with African Nature Adventure are **subject to the standard terms and conditions** of the local tour operator, a copy of which is available on request.
 - Please take note of the services quoted under **Included and Excluded**. Unless otherwise stated, all quotations made by African Nature Adventure do not include international flights, personal and other insurances and specific language guides or translation services.
 - **Cancellation fees** apply as follows:
 - before 8 weeks prior to arrival: 25% of total tour cost
 - between 2 – 8 weeks prior to arrival: 50% of total tour cost
 - less than 2 weeks prior to arrival: 100% of total tour cost
- We strongly recommend, that all clients take out comprehensive travel insurance, including medical cover, cancellation and curtailment cover, as this is not included in the offer by African Nature Adventure.