

# SOUTH AFRICAN ADVENTURE

February 13-27, 2013



\$6499.00 per person based on double occupancy

Contact Norma Joseph for booking and information: (309) 677-4747

# **Exclusive Tour Features**

- Round trip motor coach transportation from Peoria to O'Hare Airport
- Air transportation from Chicago to Johannesburg and from Cape Town to Chicago
- Air transportation from Johannesburg to Port Elizabeth
- 12 nights of First Class accommodations in hotels and lodges
- · Breakfast daily
- 6 Lunches
- 8 Dinners
- Extensive sightseeing w/English-speaking guide
- Visit to the Apartheid Museum

- 4 days in Game Reserves with game drives daily and animal viewing
- Visit to an Ostrich Farm
- Visit to Featherbed Nature Reserve
- Visit to Table Mountain in Cape Town with a cable car ride
- Cruise to Seal Island in Cape Town
- Visit to the Penguin Colony
- Visit of Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden
- Wine Tasting of South African Wine in Stollenbosch
- Current airline fuel surcharge of \$540.00 per person subject to change

Not included: U.S. and foreign departure taxes of \$190.00 per person, tips to guides and drivers, and optional insurance package

# **Day-by-Day Itinerary**

# Feb 13 - Depart Peoria

Depart WTVP via Peoria Charter Coach to Chicago's O'Hare Airport to board your KLM Royal Dutch Airlines flight to Amsterdam. Free long-term parking is available in WTVP's gated lot.

## February 14 - Amsterdam/Johannesburg

Arrive in Amsterdam this morning where you connect to your flight to Johannesburg. A country with a world of treasures, South Africa awaits your arrival. Breathtaking mountain scenery, winding coastlines, remarkable cultural diversity and abundant wildlife in its natural habitat comprise this incredible touring experience. Upon arrival, you will be greeted by your tour director and escorted to your hotel for a restful night.

# February 15 - Johannesburg (Soweto Excursion)

LANGUAGE DISCOVERY: Today, your Tour Director will help you discover the origin and history of the language(s) you will experience on your tour along with key words and phrases that will help you communicate with the locals. A guided tour of Soweto - South West Township - showcases luxurious mansions and informal settlements as you learn about the historic significance of the area. Experience the regional lifestyle when joining locals for lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon, visit the Apartheid Museum for a look into the dynamic history of racial segregation in South Africa. Welcome Dinner this evening. (B, L, D)

#### February 16 – Panorama Route - Kruger National Park

Travel through the spectacular Drakensburg Mountain Range en route to Kruger National Park—the largest game reserve in South Africa. Scenic wonders surround you as you pass through the Blyde River Canyon, made mostly of red sandstone and known as one of Africa's greatest natural wonders. The canyon (the third largest in the world) is set against the mountain formation of the Three Rondovals—natural formations that resemble traditional round houses of the indigenous people. Along this magnificent route you will also see Bourke's Luck Potholes, the dramatic natural cylinders shaped by millions of years of natural erosion caused by fast flowing sand filled waters. Later, arrive at your hotel that is situated at the entrance to Kruger National Park where you'll spend the next 3 nights. (B, D)



#### February 17 & 18 - Kruger National Park - Safari Game Drive

Have your cameras ready for unforgettable days of adventure and excitement! Start your day with an open-air vehicle safari game drive. A local expert leads you in search of the Big 5—elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard and rhino—and provides insight to these fascinating animals along the way. Watch carefully...you may also see a graceful impala, dazzling zebras or gorgeous giraffes. Return mid-morning for time to relax before venturing out in the late afternoon on another game drive to see what animals come out at that time of day! Enjoy a spectacular dinner this evening in the BOMA, which in Swahili means "safe enclosure." (B, L, D)

# February 19 – Johannesburg/Port Elizabeth - Kariega Game Reserve

Travel back to Johannesburg to board your flight to Port Elizabeth. Once you arrive, you are transferred to your lodge in the Kariega Game Reserve in the heart of the African Bush. (B, D)

# February 20 – Kariega Game Reserve

The Kariega Game Reserve is the place for a safari of a lifetime. You will be divided into small groups and assigned a personal game ranger who will design your daily program with you. Experience, learn and enjoy the very best that African wildlife viewing can offer from your modern open game viewing vehicles that have been specially converted to maximize comfort and viewing potential. Your game ranger will provide you with insightful and valuable information about the fauna and flora of your surroundings. (B, L, D)

## February 21 – Kariega Game Reserve to Knysna via Tsitsikamma

Journey through the Tsitsikamma Forest—a natural gem along the Garden Route. Tsitsikama is a Khosian word meaning "place of much water." The park incorporates 50 miles of rocky coastline with spectacular sea and landscapes, a remote mountainous region with secluded valleys covered in mountain Fynbos and temperate high forests with deep river gorges leading down to the sea. Continue to the Birds of Eden—a unique dome that spans a gorge of indigenous forest. The sanctuary has its own mysterious ruin that includes a walk-behind waterfall. The decision to develop Birds of Eden stems from the need to create a safe environment in which to release a large collection of free-flight African birds and miniature monkeys. Arrive in the picturesque resort town of Knysna at the heart of the Garden Route where you will spend the next two nights. Enjoy a delightful dinner at one of Knysna's waterfront restaurants. (B, D)

#### February 22 – Knysna (Featherbed Nature Reserve)

This morning you will be transferred to the Knysna Lagoon to board a cruise out to the famous Knysna Heads that mark the entrance to the lagoon. Next, board a 4x4 vehicle and travel deep into the forest. Later, discover the local flora and fauna during a leisurely-paced nature walk. Enjoy lunch set amongst the ancient Milkwood trees before your return cruise. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure at your hotel or exploring the waterfront. (B, L)

#### February 23 - Knysna - Oudtshoorn/Cape Town

Travel to Oudtshoorn, the ostrich capital of South Africa! En route, visit the spectacular underground wonder of Klein Karoo—The Cango Caves. Located at the head of the picturesque Cango Valley, The Cango Caves are situated in a limestone ridge parallel to the well-known Swartberg Mountains and feature the finest dripstone caverns with vast halls and towering formations. Then you're off to an Ostrich Ranch where you will enjoy lunch and a tour. You can observe large flocks of ostriches at different stages of development. There are petting areas where you can cuddle the chicks or feed an ostrich by hand. Continue by motor coach via the famous Route 62 through semi-desert and the wine land region to Cape Town. The city is blessed with blue skies and a balmy climate as well as a rich cultural heritage and a magnificent backdrop of ocean and mountain. Known as the "Mother City," Cape Town boasts a profusion of museums, art galleries, restaurants, shops, theaters, and landmarks that are instantly recognized by the awesome view of and from Table Mountain. (B, L)



#### February 24 - Cape Town

This morning, depart for your half-day Table Mountain and City Tour. This tour gives you the opportunity to sense the spirit of Cape Town and traces the history of the port from 1652 when the first Dutch Governor set foot on the nearby beach. The tour spends time on Table Mountain summit (via cable car) for a spectacular view of the city. Afterwards, you'll head down to the Malay Quarter, well known for its narrow, cobbled streets and colorful mosques. Continue to Government Avenue where you'll park at the top and stroll to the National Gallery and South Africa Museum and see the Houses of Parliament. Travel to the City Hall on the Grand Parade and visit the Castle. Enter Victoria & Alfred waterfront, a region that abounds with shops, pubs, restaurants and entertainment. A visit to the Shimansky Diamond Museum offers an insightful look at the intricate process of achieving the ultimate stone. You will have time to browse through the showroom. Return to the hotel in the early afternoon. (B)

#### February 25 - Cape Town

Today enjoy your full day Cape Point Tour. You flank the cold Atlantic Ocean en route to Hout Bay. Once a fishing community and now one of the most popular residential areas, the harbor still has a charm of days gone by. Enjoy a half-hour cruise to "Seal Island" before you continue over the famous Chapman's Peak Drive—with a 60-foot drop on one side of the coach and a 60-foot rise on the other. As you make your way south, you'll be following the Atlantic Ocean until you reach Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope. Said to be the romantic meeting place of the two mighty oceans—the Atlantic and the Indian—Sir Francis Drake the explorer once called it, "The fairest Cape that we saw in the whole circumference of the Globe." It is the highlight of any visit to the Mother City, if not all of South Africa. Those in the group who would like to experience the Indian Ocean close up will have a chance to dip their toes in the water. Continue along the Indian Ocean and stop to see the Jackass Penguin colony that has become well established at Boulders Beach near Simonstown. Your last stop of the day is at the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, home of some 3,500 species of Southern African fauna and flora. Enjoy your farewell dinner this evening. (B, D)

#### February 26 – Cape Town - Wine Land/Departure

Enjoy a morning at leisure for last minute shopping and exploration. In the afternoon, discover the enchanting beauty of the famous Cape Wine Land region with its colorful mountainous landscape and endless vineyards. Visit local wine farms and learn about the history of wine making in this region and how prominent South African wine has become in the wine world. Enjoy lunch and wine tasting. Bid farewell to Cape Town as you watch the sunset before you are transferred to the airport for your overnight flight to Amsterdam. (B, L)

#### February 27 - Amsterdam/Chicago/Peoria

Arrive in Amsterdam in the morning and connect to your flight to Chicago, arriving the same afternoon. After you clear Customs, your motor coach will take you back to WTVP in Peoria with wonderful memories of your "South African Adventure."



#### Please Note:

Currently U.S. citizens do not need a visa to enter South Africa.

You do need a passport that is <u>valid until March 18, 2013</u>, and it must have 2 empty visa pages (not amendment pages).



#### **TOUR CONDITIONS**

TOUR DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT: Reservations are accepted by checks only.

**ARRANGEMENTS:** The tour price is based on the current rate of exchange, tariff rates and air fares in effect 6/1/2012. In the event of a marked increase in foreign currency in air tariff, in hotel, or transportation rates, notification will be mailed to tour members in writing no later than 30 days prior to departure.

TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE: You will have the opportunity to purchase an insurance policy to cover you should you have to cancel for a medical reason. In the event you elect not to purchase the trip cancellation insurance, penalties will be implemented according to the terms below.

**CANCELLATION:** WRITTEN NOTIFICATION is required for all cancellations. A \$50.00 per person administration fee will apply if notification is received prior to 120 days before departure date. A \$500.00 per person fee will be apply for cancellations received 90-119 days before departure. Cancellations made within 89 days of departure will be subject to the following to cover the considerable penalties of the different suppliers: 50% of the land rate and, if greater, any other expenses incurred on behalf of the passenger. For air portion, the regulation of the carrier will apply.

**AIRLINE MILEAGE PROGRAM:** Eskin Tours' programs are based on negotiated group air fares with various airlines. Some of the airlines may not offer mileage credit when traveling on a group fare.

**INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE TRAVEL:** One piece of checked luggage is allowed on the tour. Its combined total measurement (length+width+height) cannot exceed 62 inches and 50 lbs. You are also allowed one carry-on per person which must be able to fit under the seat in front of you with a total measurement of 45 inches. All special requests that we receive for particular seating arrangement (must be noted on your reservation form as you sign up for the tour) are forwarded to the airline involved. However, we regret in this time of mass travel and computerized seating reservations; we cannot guarantee or be responsible in the event that your request is not honored by the airline. Should you wish to deviate from the package tour by changing your departure and/or return dates of travel, there will be a service charge of \$100.00 per person, plus the additional cost of the change in air fare.

RESPONSIBILITY: Eskin Tours of 425 Huehl Rd., #16A, Northbrook, IL 60062, WTVP, and/or any travel agency and/or suppliers of services pursuant to or in connection with this itinerary shall not be responsible or become liable for any delay incurred by any person in connection with any means of transportation; nor for any loss, damage or injury to person or property by reason of any event beyond the control of any agency or supplier, or occurring without the fault or negligence of such agency or supplier. The right is reserved to substitute the airline; the type of aircraft; and to alter the dates of the tour; the tour routing; or to cancel the trip if a minimum number of bookings is not reached for either the land or air portion of this itinerary. The right is also reserved to substitute hotels for other hotels in similar category. Further, the right is reserved to decline, to accept, or to retain, at any time, any person as a participant on any tour. No refund will be made for voluntary absence from a portion of the tour, unless arrangements are made at the time of booking. The carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. The passage contract in use by a carrier concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carrier and the purchaser of this tour. By utilizing the travel services of the suppliers, you agree that neither Eskin Tours, WTVP nor any representative of Eskin Tours or WTVP shall be liable, or that you will look to such suppliers, for any accident, injury, property damage, or personal loss to you or to those traveling with you in connection with any accommodations, transportation, or other travel services, or resulting directly or indirectly from any occurrences or conditions beyond Eskin Tours and WTVP control, including, but not limited to, acts of terrorism, political unrest, war, defects in vehicles, breakdown of equipment, strikes, theft, delay or cancellation of or ch

#### TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY:

Eskin Tours International, Inc. 425 Huehl Road, Unit 16A Northbrook, IL 60062-2323 (847) 291-1510 (800-315-9179) E-mail: eskintours@gmail.com



WTVP TRAVELS RESERVATION FORM \$500.00 per person deposit is required for reservation. Make checks payable to WTVP and mail to: WTVP 47, P.O. Box 1347, Peoria, IL 61654-1347					
Tel					
Address		City		State & Zip	
Name for nametag (if different f	rom passport)				
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