East Cape, South Africa
Adventure Safari

Date: 23 or 26 April – 13 May 2019  Code: AFE19
Duration: 18 Days incl Bonus* Cape Town Book early Bonus, 4 nights Cape Town
Cost: $AU 6,790 Twin Share + Airfares
Tour Leader: Gabby Hunter

HIGHLIGHTS

LUXURY Game Lodges
  • ‘Big 5 Game reserves’

The best of South Africa in
THREE Private Game Reserves

  • 4WD & Boat Game Drives
  • Wildlife Photo Safaris
  • Photographic Workshops

For more of what to expect on this luxury Safari, view our previous trip VIDEO
East Cape
May ‘19

Itinerary

Departure
Sydney / Johannesburg – South Africa
Tue 23rd April 2019 (for Victoria Falls extension) (B,L)
OR Fri 26th April 2019

Depart Sydney (SYD) 10:50 pm, arrive Johannesburg (JNB), South Africa at 17:10
Here to greet us will be Schutte Bekker and his staff, who will transport us 10kms to their beautiful Africa Sky Guesthouse. After checking in we will be able to relax in the surrounds of this restored homestead. We stay here every time we travel thru Jo’burg, and it always a great pleasure returning. Dinner tonight will be a sumptuous affair, and certainly a quantum leap over aircraft food.

Johannesburg, South Africa / Livingstone, Zambia OR Cape Town (CPT, South Africa)
Wednesday 24th April 2019 (B) Depart Jo’burg (JNB) at 10:40 on SA48 arrive 12:20 Livingstone (LVI)
Zambia

OR….. For early bookings, BONUS four nights in Cape Town

Sat 27th April 2019 (B) Depart Jo’burg (JNB) at 10:55 on SA323 arrive 13:05 Cape Town (CPT) S.A.
Wednesday 1st May 2019, Cape Town / Port Elizabeth South Africa

Depart Cape Town (CPT) or JNB at 10:10 on SA flight arrive 11:40 Port Elizabeth (PLZ)

Wednesday 1st to Sunday 5th May 2019 Port Elizabeth - Kariega
At Port Elizabeth airport we will be pick up our hire mini buses /vans; our transport to three unique Game Reserves. Each reserve offers a totally different environment, climate and variety of wildlife. From the ocean to the mountains we will explore the best that South Africa’s East Cape has to offer. These three fabulous Game Reserves and Lodges will be our homes for the next twelve days.
Quest Tours Unique Guarantee: “There will be only TWO persons on each bench seat of the game vehicles.” This is essential to ensure that everyone in each game vehicle has a window seat for the absolute best experiences possible.

We will travel about two hours to near Kempton-on-Sea, where we will check-in at Kariega Reception, then transfer to the fabulous 5- STAR Ukhozi Lodge & The Homestead situated on Kariega Private Game Reserve. This will be our home for the next four nights. After checking-in, we will enjoy “high tea” before setting out on the first of our 3-hour game drives. (B,L,D)

Ukhosi Lounge Area >>>

Our party of EIGHTEEN will have EXCLUSIVE use of the entire Homestead, as well as some of the 5 STAR Ukhozi Chalets at Kariega. This family-owned “Big FIVE” Private Game Reserve stretches across 10,000 hectares of pristine wilderness, and is home to some of the richest biodiversity in Southern Africa, as well as the picturesque Kariega River.

Experience close up viewing of the Big 5 – lion, elephant, rhino, leopard and buffalo. There is an abundance of indigenous wildlife spread across this vast tract of wilderness, ensuring an authentic safari experience at this spectacular game reserve.

Each day whilst we are on safari in the three game reserves our pattern of activities will be the similar; early coffee and rusks, game drive with a break for coffee and pastries, sumptuous breakfast, relax or enjoy other activities, probably best to avoid lunch, then high tea around 2:45pm before afternoon game drive with a break for traditional sundowners, beer, cider, wine and nibbles. After sundowners and as dusk falls we may be lucky enough to witness the thrill of a lion hunt, or watch as a family of hippo emerge from the water for a night of grazing. As nocturnal life begins to stir, return safely to the camp to freshen up, before a superb evening meal where we can relate stories of our day’s adventures and experiences.

There are basically SEVEN opportunities for food every day, definitely best to avoid lunch!
The beautiful Kariega River makes Kariega game reserve in South Africa completely unique. Guests can complement their safari experience with a boat cruises on the Kariega River sighting abundant river birdlife, or take a kayak onto the river for a quiet paddle. The river is actually navigable all the way to the quaint village of Kempton-on-Sea; In the evenings, relax and sit back to simply enjoy the tranquil sights and sounds of the African bush within this unique environment.

“The Homestead” Dining Room and Outdoor Lounge

Kariega to Lalibela – Lentaba Safari Lodge / Mills Manor
Sunday 5th May 2019, (Sun 5th to Wed 8th at Lalibela)

After our early morning game drive and breakfast, we bid farewell to our friends at Kariega and set off for a leisurely one hour drive to our next destination - Lalibela Private Game Reserve

The Private Game Reserve of Lalibela covers over 9,000 hectares in the Eastern Cape,

Lalibela is the perfect place to enjoy a Big Five safari.

Predators here are lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, jackal, & lynx.

Expect to see elephant, buffalo, zebra, hippo, warthog, giraffe, impala, wildebeest, blesbuck, & eland.

Add to all of the wildlife experiences the quiet luxury of Mills Manor (sleeps 10) and Lentaba Safari Lodge (sleeps 8) This is to be our home for the next THREE nights. (B,L,D)
The lounge and dining areas of Mills Manor and Lentaba Safari Lodge are positioned to offer uninterrupted views across unspoilt bush. Large terraces provide a magnificent viewing deck, to an adjacent waterhole where hippos regularly reside. In the waterhole at Lalibela Hippo sightings can often be enjoyed right throughout the day into the evening. These two accommodations are just 3 minutes stroll apart.

You can expect an exceptional level of comfort and luxury during your stay at Lalibela. Relax and enjoy the scents and sounds of the African bush in beautifully appointed and spacious suites, each with private deck.

Experienced rangers maximize every opportunity to ensure exceptional viewing during your game drive and walks on this vast, established 9,000-hectare game reserve.

Excellent sightings are enjoyed on game drives across the open plains of the reserve. Expect to see lion, elephant, rhino, buffalo, cheetah, hippo, giraffe, hyena, zebra, warthog and many species of antelope.

Large herds of plains game, including eland, gemsbok, springbok, wildebeest & zebra, are all on this reserve which boasts diverse vegetation including 5 biomes: savanna grassland, valley bushveld, fynbos, riverine forest & acacia woodland.

With little or no light pollution, a night game drive at Lalibela is an opportunity to ‘hear the silence of Africa’, star gaze in wonder at the Southern Hemisphere’s Milky Way and identify Orion’s Belt, The Southern Cross and Scorpio with the guidance of our experienced rangers.
“If ever you wanted to experience an exclusive safari with David Attenborough, Lalibela's guides are probably the closest you will get to it. They are a very experienced and extremely passionate guiding team that will go beyond the call of duty to make your African experience a memorable one. The guides constantly strive for excellence through both an informal and formal skills development program. Lalibela is unique in that we make use of local Xhosa trackers who will share cultural aspects related to the reserve with you while on game drive. Your 5 star lodge experience continues while on safari and includes walking safaris, not to mention our “bush pub” sundowners.”
Lalibela to Mt. Camdeboo

Wednesday 8\textsuperscript{th} May 2019, (Wed 8\textsuperscript{th} - Sun 12\textsuperscript{th} at Mt. Camdeboo)

After our early morning game drive and breakfast, we will bid farewell to friends at Lalibela and set off for a 3-hour drive to our next destination, Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve, which lies just to the east of Graaff-Reinet, in the heart of the Great Karoo. This is to be our home for the next FOUR nights (B,L,D)

We will be accommodated in two historic Cape Dutch Manor houses that date back to the 18\textsuperscript{th} century. The two Manors lie cupped in the palm of the Sneeuberg Mountain range. Once homes to generations of settlers, these magnificent homesteads have been sensitively converted into havens of FIVE STAR luxury.

Luxurious beyond expectation. Come and experience a personalised safari in a region that is steeped in history and culture. Our party of EIGHTEEN will have EXCLUSIVE use of the entire Mt. Camdeboo FIVE STAR Manors and the Game Reserve

Mount Camdeboo provides wholesome traditional meals, a team of friendly and professional hosts and superior hospitality in a relaxed homely environment.

What started out as one family’s dream has evolved into the creation of a family of a different kind. Managers Richard and Daron Slater - supported by an exceptionally loyal, friendly and hardworking team - welcome guests to Mount Camdeboo. Not as strangers, but as long forgotten friends.

Camdeboo a “Place of green hills and pools” in ancient Khoisan. In the fore ground is Paadefontein, site of one of the decisive battles of the Boer War.
Mount Camdeboo invites you to share its people’s love for this sometimes harsh, yet always spectacularly beautiful, land of contrasts. During our 2016 visit here, we were one day on the high plateau, overlooking the Manor houses in the valley. We could clearly see a measured 170 kilometres down the valleys, just stunning!

As part of our stay at Mount Camdeboo we will be treated to 2 game drives per day, averaging about 3 hours each, at optimal wildlife viewing times, namely: pre-dawn & sunset.

The vehicles used on the Reserve are purpose-built, game viewing Land Rovers. They are SABS safety approved and are equipped with seatbelts, a shade canopy and drink holders.

Given that the Camdeboo Manors are nestled in a valley, the game drives typically start with a breathtaking climb up the mountain slopes, then on to the plateaus above where the animals graze and the world unfolds at your feet.

The highly knowledgeable and experienced game rangers will try their best to make sure you see our “Camdeboo Big Five”, namely the breeding cheetah pair, the rare white rhinos, giraffe and almost extinct mountain zebra. Not to mention Elephant, Lion and elusive Leopard, plus a bevy of birds and smaller less-spotted game.
Sunday 12th May 2019, Mount Camdeboo / Port Elizabeth / Johanessburg / Sydney

After our early morning game drive and breakfast, we will bid farewell to our friends at Mount Camdeboo and set off for a 3-hour drive to Port Elizabeth and commence our journey home.

Depart PLZ 12:55 on SA410 arrive14:30 JNB, depart JNB 19:10 on QF64 arrive 14:55 SYD Monday 13th May 2019

Cape Town BONUS (for bookings before 31st August ’18) pre-safari extension:

Saturday 27th April 2019, Livingstone, Zambia OR Johannesburg / Cape Town

Depart Livingstone (LVI) 13:00 on SA49 via JNB 19:15 arrive Cape Town OR
Depart Johannesburg (JNB) 10:05 on SA323 arrive 12:15 arrive Cape Town (CPT)

We will be transferred to our accommodation for the next four nights the beautiful Commodore Hotel, situated right in the heart of the Victoria & Albert Waterfront

Saturday 8th thru Wednesday 12th September 2018 (B)

Three (plus) days to explore Cape Town:

Our journey in Africa now continues in Cape Town, one of the most beautiful cities in the world. We will have the opportunity to enjoy tours of the highlights of Cape Town and surrounding districts. In Cape Town we always use the great services of our tour partners there, and we strongly suggest trusting them to introduce us to their city, its’ surrounds and all the hidden gems that are often only known to the locals.

The must do cable car ride to the top of Table Mountain, Muizenberg, Kalk Bay Station, Fish Hoek, Simon’s Town – here there is a penguin colony and great seafood, so maybe make this a lunchtime stop, and then take the cable car to Table Mountain in the afternoon. A visit to the Cape of Good Hope and the encompassing National Park, and the university town of Stellenbosch and the nearby wineries, are all must do’s. For the more adventurous, Great White Shark cage snorkeling morning, plus Hermanus Bay and Southern Right Whales and a winery visit make up a day to always remember. A ferry ride to Robben Island with half-day tour of the island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned, is possible, but must be booked well in advance.

We are staying right in the V & A waterfront, and it is here we will be able to enjoy a vast selection of shopping and dining experiences, as well as the Two Oceans Aquarium.
Tour Leader Profile

GABBY HUNTER

Gabby has escorted tours for 10 years with the family business and has travelled all over Indonesia, The Pacific, Europe and is now branching out to other destinations, Africa being top of the list.

Gabby has absolutely adored photography for over a decade now, and honed her skills in post – processing editing Ron’s images from his many years of tours to Africa. Learn about positioning each type of animal in the frame, taking photos on the right settings to preserve editing capabilities, perspectives, and get the most out your photographic equipment and capture some unbelievable images in the East Cape of South Africa.

Gabby Uses:
Canon 7D
100 - 400mm 3.5 L Lens

We will be in touch regarding gear and specific equipment to bring.
Inclusions

• Mini buses for 12 days in East Cape including fuel
• 4-nights’ accom 5★ Kariega Homestead & Ukhosi
• Three nights’ accom 5★ Lalibela Game Reserve
• Four nights’ accom 5★ Mt. Camdeboo Manors
• Eleven nights’ all superb meals, softs, beer & wine
• 21 Game Drives plus other activities in East Cape
• Fun & Informative Photographic Workshops
• Experienced Africa Guides and Safari Rangers
• **BONUS** Four-nights 4★ Commodore Hotel,
• Cape Town accommodation incl breakfasts (only for bookings confirmed before 31st August ‘18)
• All Meals and transfers as per itinerary

Not Included

• Pre-tour extension to Victoria Falls
• International & internal return flights to Africa
• Meals & drinks other than specified
• Tours and transfers around Cape Town
• Tips & Personal Travel Insurance (compulsory)

Tour Cost: $AU 6,790 + airfares

- Costs as at 20th March 2018 at an exchange rate of AU$ 1:00 = ZAR $9.50 (South African Rand)
- Flights in itinerary are as at 20th March 2018 and are subject to change
- Maximum number on Africa Tour is EIGHTEEN.
- Costs based on twin-share accommodation.
East Cape
May ‘19

N.B. All three lodges, and everywhere else on the East Cape, prominently advertise their areas as “malaria free”. Quest Tours understands that this is the case, but does not warrant nor guarantee it is so, & accepts no responsibility nor liability in the event of anyone contracting malaria whilst on tour.

Itinerary overview April / May 2019:

- **OPTIONAL Victoria Falls pre-tour extension:** April 23rd Sydney - Johannesburg (B,L)* - Africa Sky
- Wed 24th Africa Sky Guesthouse Jo’burg (B) – Livingstone, Zambia; afternoon visit Victoria Falls
- Thu 25th Maramba River Lodge (B) Select from many activities available around Victoria Falls
- Fri 26th Maramba River Lodge (B) Select more of the many activities available around Victoria Falls
- Sat 27th Maramba River Lodge (B,) Morning activity at Victoria Falls – **Fly to Cape Town to join group**
  - Fri 26th Sydney - Johannesburg (B,L)* - Africa Sky Guesthouse Jo’burg
  - Sat 27th Africa Sky Guesthouse Jo’burg (B) – Cape Town - Commodore Hotel
  - Sun 28th – Tue 30th – Three full days of adventure and tours in and around Cape Town (B)
  - Wed May 1st Cape Town – Port Elizabeth – The Homestead & Ukhosi Lodge, Kariega Reserve (HT,D)
  - Thu 2nd Kariega Game Reserve, 2 game drives plus other activities each day (B,HT,D)
  - Fri 3rd Kariega Game Reserve, 2 game drives plus other activities each day (B,HT,D)
  - Sat 4th Kariega Game Reserve, 2 game drives plus other activities each day (B,HT,D)
  - Sun 5th Morning Game drive, Kariega – Lalibela Game Reserve, afternoon game drive (B,HT,D)
  - Mon 6th Mark’s Camp, Lalibela - 2 game drives plus other activities each day (B,L,D)
  - Tue 7th Mark’s Camp, Lalibela - 2 game drives plus other activities each day (B,L,D)
  - Wed 8th Morning game drive, Lalibela – Mt. Camdeboo Game Reserve, afternoon game drive (B,HT,D)
  - Thu 9th Mt. Camdeboo Game Reserve, 2 game drives each day (B,HT,D)
  - Fri 10th Mt. Camdeboo Game Reserve, 2 game drives each day (B,HT,D)
  - Sat 11th Mt. Camdeboo Game Reserve, 2 game drives each day (B,HT,D)
  - Sun 12th Mt. Camdeboo – Port Elizabeth – Jo’burg - Sydney (B)
  - Mon 13th Arrive Sydney (D,B)*

- **Meal Codes:** B, Breakfast. L, lunch. HT, High Tea. D, Dinner. Note meals indicated with* are in-flight meals
For airfares to, from and within Africa please contact us

We are really across the excursion flights, which can deliver a considerable saving over buying the flights separately.

Flights SYD / JNB / (LVI) / CPT /PLZ / JNB / SYD are around $2000 as at March 2018. Flights are also available ex: Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth

We are notified as soon as airfare “specials” become available, and we can book these for you at that time, saving you many hundreds of $$$s in the process

** Travel insurance is compulsory on all of our tours. We strongly recommend taking out travel insurance at the same time as paying your deposit. SureSave, our recommended insurance provider, will cover you from the time of paying your premium, until your tour’s return date. We suggest carefully checking conditions of any other travel insurance you may be considering.

Contact us for all your Travel Insurance needs

If you choose to book your own flights, and then in the event of changes of schedules, we will not be responsible for any punitive charges that may be applied by other companies or airlines