

# South Africa, Swaziland and Zimbabwe – Southern Africa Highlights 2017

## Safari Knight Tour Itinerary

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### Day 1

### Arrival in Johannesburg

Upon arrival, you will be met by your guide. You will be transfer to your lodge for the night. There is option to visit a number of attractions around Johannesburg for the remainder of the day:

- Apartheid Museum
- Soweto Township tour
- Walter Sisulu National Botanical Gardens
- Rietvlei Nature Reserve
- Sterkfontein Caves
- Gold Reef City

Or you may spend it at leisure recovering from your international flight.

Accommodations: Outlook Lodge  
Included: Breakfast and Dinner

### Day 2

### Johannesburg to Blyde River Canyon



We leave Johannesburg today early and make our way east. For the first couple of hours, the scenery is dominated by extensive beef and maize farming. The scenery will slowly transform as we leave the highway and head over the mountains past Dullstroom and through the Origstad Valley until we reach the Blyde River Canyon.

We will visit the Bourkes Luck potholes, a geological featured formed by erosion over thousands of years. The potholes are named for a prospector, John Bourke, who proclaimed but never found gold in the area. The potholes are located in the Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve which has bridges and viewing platforms that allow visitors to see the interesting rock features from a variety of angles.

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If time permits, we can also do a short walk from the hotel along the canyon.

Accommodations: Forever Resort Blyde Canyon or similar  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### Day 3

Today we will leave early for a morning excursion to the Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. This center is educational and will allow you a hands on approach to some of our wildlife. Moholoholo is home for many of South Africa's abandoned, injured and poisoned wildlife. It is also a highly regarded contributor to wildlife education in our country.

After lunch, we will have the afternoon to relax or partake in one of the many activities on offer in the area, for example, cheetah and endangered wildlife project, zip lining, river rafting, visiting Jessica the Hippo, Monkey Land, Reptile Park and so on.

Accommodations: Hippo Hollow or similar  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### Blyde River Canyon to Hazyview



### Day 4



### Hazyview to Kruger National Park

At sunrise, we will start our day with an elephant interaction. We will learn about our jumbo friends and bath them before going on a ride with them.

After breakfast, we will transfer to Kruger National Park where we will spend the next 3 days game viewing looking for the Big Five.

Accommodations: Skuzuka  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### Days 5 and 6

### Kruger National Park

We will base ourselves out of the Skuzuka Lodge for the next 2 days. We will start early and head out on a morning game drive. After a couple of hours, we will stop for breakfast before stopping for lunch.

After lunch, we will have a short break where we can have a short rest before heading out for an afternoon game drive returning before the gates close.

There is also an option for a night drive with the SAN Parks rangers.

Accommodations: Skuzuka

Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 7



## Kruger National Park to Mlilwane, Swaziland

After a last morning's drive, we will head south towards Swaziland or Eswatini, as it is now called. Eswatini is a small landlocked monarchy in southern Africa. It is known for its wilderness reserves and festivals showcasing traditional Swazi culture.

We will be paying a visit to Ngwenya Glass before arriving at Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary. Your accommodation will be in traditional Swazi beehive huts with modern amenities.

Mlilwane is Swaziland's pioneer conservation area and a beautiful, secluded sanctuary situated in the Kingdom's Ezulwini Valley (Valley of Heavens). Activities available are horse riding, mountain biking or even hiking amongst plain animals like zebra and giraffe.

Accommodations: Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day 8

## Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary

We will spend another day at Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary. We can spend today walking on the Sanctuary's many trails or mountain biking. Some time will be spent in the local community giving aid to the needy.

Accommodations: Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary

Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day 9

## Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary to St. Lucia

Today, we will head south back into South Africa and make our way down the east coast to St. Lucia. In the afternoon, we will visit a Zulu cultural village and learn a little about the culture and partake in some traditional dancing, etc.

St. Lucia is mainly a hub for the Greater St. Lucia Wetlands Park. Cape Vidal has sprawling beaches and offers a time to relax. In the afternoon, we will take a short boat trip up the estuary to view hippos and whomever pops out of the woodwork.

Accommodations: Kingfisher Lodge or similar  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day10

St. Lucia



Today, we have another full day in St. Lucia. We can go to Isimangaliso Wetland Park or if you aren't too tired of game viewing, we can do a day trip to Hluhluwe National Park.

Accommodations: Kingfisher Lodge or similar  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day 11

St. Lucia to Balito

We make our way from St. Lucia to Balito, where you will spend the night. The drive will be along the Dolphin Coast so we will need to keep an eye out for dolphins along the way. We will also visit Durban, uShaka marine world and the waterfront today.

We will spend tonight in Balito near the airport so that we can catch our early morning flight to Victoria Falls tomorrow.

Accommodations:  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day 12

Balito to Victoria Falls

This morning, the guide will take you to King Shaka International Airport for your early morning flight to Victoria Falls. You will be met in Victoria Falls airport by a local guide who will transfer you to your lodge. On your first day in Victoria Falls, you will go on a guided walk to the Falls and go on a sunset cruise up the Zambezi River to the falls.

Accommodations: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge or similar  
Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner (on the cruise).

## Day 13

## Victoria Falls



Today, you will have a full day in Victoria Falls. There are options for walks around the town doing some souvenir shopping. Perhaps there is time for a helicopter ride over the Falls or go for high tea at the Victoria Falls hotel.

There is also an option to do a full day safari in Chobe National Park in Botswana or walk with lions. The lodge is well organized for all of your needs.

Accommodations: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge or similar

Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day 14

## Victoria Falls to Johannesburg

This morning you will have some time to finish up your souvenir shopping or walk to the bridge to have one last look at the Falls before departing for the airport to take your midday flight to Johannesburg.

Your guide will meet you in the airport and transfer you to the lodge for your overnight.

Accommodations: Marita's House or similar

Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Day 15

## Depart Johannesburg

Today, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight home.

### Included with your trip:

- All accommodations
- All meals in South Africa, except for meals in Johannesburg
- Breakfast and one dinner in Victoria Falls
- Airport transfers
- Entrance and conservation fees into all national parks

### Excluded with your trip:

- International flights
- All alcoholic drinks
- All meals in Johannesburg
- Lunches and one dinner in Victoria Falls
- Tips and gratuities for drives and guides
- Visa fees where required
- Items of a personal nature

### Optional Activities:

- Activities in Victoria Falls – helicopter ride, walk with lions experience, Chobe National Park safari