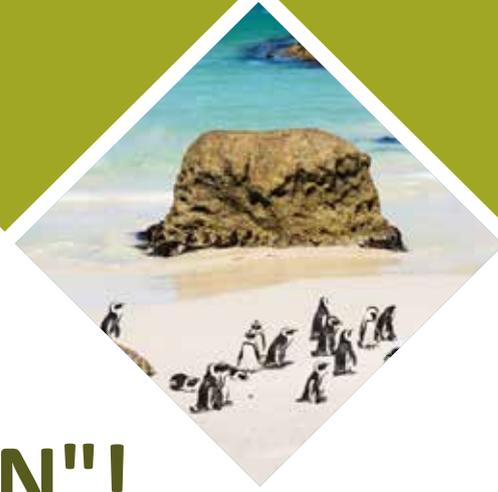




SOUTH AFRICA



LET US INTRODUCE THE "RAINBOW NATION"!



A holiday to South Africa offers an array of choice to the inquisitive visitor. City life in Cape Town with its 'living' history, the lush vineyards of the Cape Winelands or a few days in one of the many safari lodges – a brief sample of what Travel Solutions can offer in a holiday designed to match your expectations.

Within this brochure we have included some sample itineraries – giving you some of our most popular holiday ideas. South Africa is a vast and colourful country with specular scenery, miles of stunning beaches, home to some of the world's most amazing wildlife and a history that needs to be told.

Let us create your South African experience - you will not be disappointed!

Prices quoted are correct at time of print (Sept 18)





THE CITIES

Cape Town, with its cosmopolitan way of life, stunning urban beaches and the magnificent backdrop of Table Mountain is South Africa's most popular city for Irish visitors. But don't ignore Durban with white sandy beaches, historic battlefields, and year-round warm temperatures, or Johannesburg with its urban redevelopment and 'living' history experiences.

THE WILDLIFE

South Africa is home to a wide choice of game parks and private reserves, many offering the 'Big 5' and each offering a very different experience. Visit the Kruger National Park in the north of the country or stay close to the coast with a choice of smaller reserves in the Eastern Cape. Each has its own personality with prices to suit most budgets.

THE FOOD & WINE

No holiday would be complete without sampling the culinary delights of South Africa's different regions. African flavours mix with European and Asian influences to create a distinct experience.

Visit the Cape Winelands and explore beautiful estates. Sample award winning wines in cool cellars or on vine-covered patios, and experience some of the world's best cuisine in Franschhoek's famous restaurant scene.

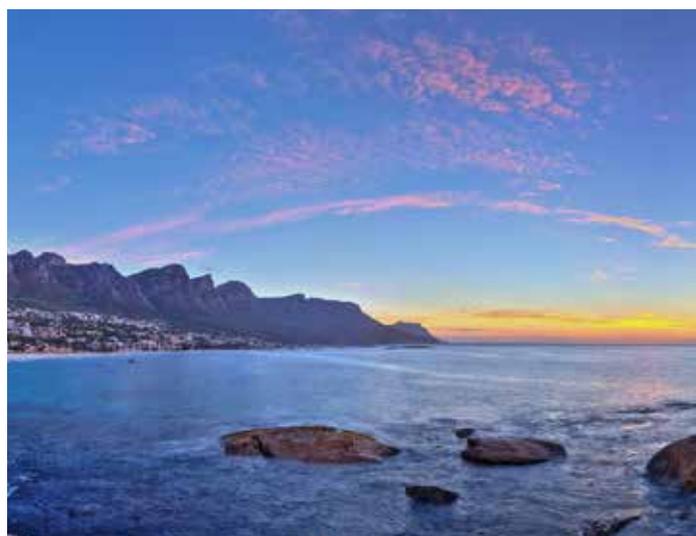
THE PEOPLE

South African is a melting pot of many cultures with each region having their own unique customs, and sometimes, languages. All are proud of their 'Rainbow' nation and are welcoming to visitors and always ready to help and assist.

THE HISTORY

South Africa is renowned for its modern history – emerging from the apartheid years and the release of Nelson Mandela. Follow in Mandela's trail from his capture site in KwaZulu-Natal to Robben Island, where he was held for eighteen years. In Johannesburg, visit the Apartheid Museum and Mandela House in Soweto.

For earlier history, visit the KwaZulu-Natal, with Rourke's Drift, Ladysmith and other Boer War battle sites.



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EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA



GARDEN ROUTE

The Garden Route is a 300-kilometre (190mi) stretch of the South-Western coast of South Africa which extends from Mossel Bay in Western Cape to the Storms River in the Eastern Cape. It's all about an abundance of blue skies, white sand beaches, rolling oceans, dramatic mountain scenery, indigenous fynbos, ostrich antics and local hospitality. A place where you can travel along routes where you are often alone on the open road or make for the malls and beaches on packaged tour comforts. Golden vineyards, sun-drenched orchards, beaches, pin-drop-silent forests, sweeping lakes and birds eye view passes add to the mix. To experience the best of the Garden Route, we recommend stopping off at Oudtshoorn, Mossel Bay, Knysna, George and Plettenberg Bay.

Plettenberg Bay, just 30km east of Knysna and considered by many to be the jewel of The Garden Route, is the firmly established playground of South Africa's wealthy movers and shakers, many of whom refer to it affectionately simply as "Plett". It's a bit bigger than a village but not quite large enough to be a town. What it is, though, is something very special.

Sample Itinerary & Price

Best of Cape, Garden Route & Safari

Price Includes

- Departing Dublin
- Pick up car hire on arrival at Airport - Group C
- 3 Nights 4* Victoria & Alfred Hotel - B&B
- 2 Nights 4* Spier Hotel & Wine Farm, Stellenbosch - B&B
- 1 Night 4* Eight Bells Mountain Inn, Mossel Bay - B&B
- 1 Night 3* Madison Manor Boutique Hotel, Knysna - B&B
- 1 Night 4* Robberg Beach Lodge, Plettenberg Bay - B&B
- 3 Night Safari - 4* Amakhala Safari Lodge, Fully Inclusive including game drives

Based on 2 Adults

FROM £2395

Please call for a Quote





WINELANDS

Wine tasting is an utterly charming way to pass any day in South Africa. When paired with some of the most beautiful landscapes on earth, century old architecture and awe-inspiring food, it becomes one of Cape Town's most beloved activities for visitors and locals alike. Franschhoek is the gourmet capital of South Africa. In the village you will find wonderful crafts, art and antique shops and galleries. The main streets are lined with coffee shops and restaurants, base yourself here to explore the beautiful towns of Stellenbosch, Paarl and Wellington.

One of the best ways to discover the true essence of the Franschhoek Valley, is by the Wine Tram. Take in breath-taking scenery, warm hospitality, world-class cuisine, fine wines and a 300 year history. A combination of tram and tram-bus transports passengers around a loop of stops allowing them to hop-off at each stop and experience the activities on offer, be it wine tasting, a cellar tour, lunch or simply a stroll through the vineyards and when they are ready, hop-on to continue the tour. All of the towns offer either tram or coach tours to the local vineyards where tours and tastings are a must and you won't need to worry about driving back after one too many!

Sample Itinerary & Price

Cape Town, Winelands & Safari

Price Includes

- Departing Dublin
- 3 Nights 5* Queen Victoria Hotel, V&A Waterfront, B&B
- 3 Nights 5* Last Word Franschhoek, B&B
- 3 Nights 5* Sanbona Tilney Manor, full board including game drives

Based on 2 Adults

FROM £2495

Please call for a Quote



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EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

SAFARI

South Africa is one of the best-known safari destinations in Africa and arguably the best place on the continent for up close sightings of the Big 5 animals (lion, leopard, rhino, buffalo and elephant).

The Eastern Cape is one of the prime malaria free safari areas of South Africa. The Addo Elephant Park with its large and relaxed elephant herds is joined by several private game reserves. Some of the best Game viewing can be found at Shamwari, Pumba, Kariega and Amakhala Game Reserves.

Around Western Cape, Sanbona Wildlife Reserve and Aquila Private Game Reserve are also popular choices.

The Kruger National Park is a part of the South African psyche. It is a space which defines South Africa - a national treasure - the crown jewels in Mama Africa's tiara! The 20-million hectare Kruger National Park runs along the north-eastern border of South Africa and is larger than the state of Israel. It is the country's best known park and contains a wide variety of things to do and places to stay.

Kruger Park has a range of accommodation options in the main rest camps with chalets, cottages, bungalows tents, bush lodges and luxury private safari lodges. These accommodation options vary in price and style, from rustic to luxurious.



Sample Itinerary & Price

Cape Town & Timbavati Reserve, Kruger

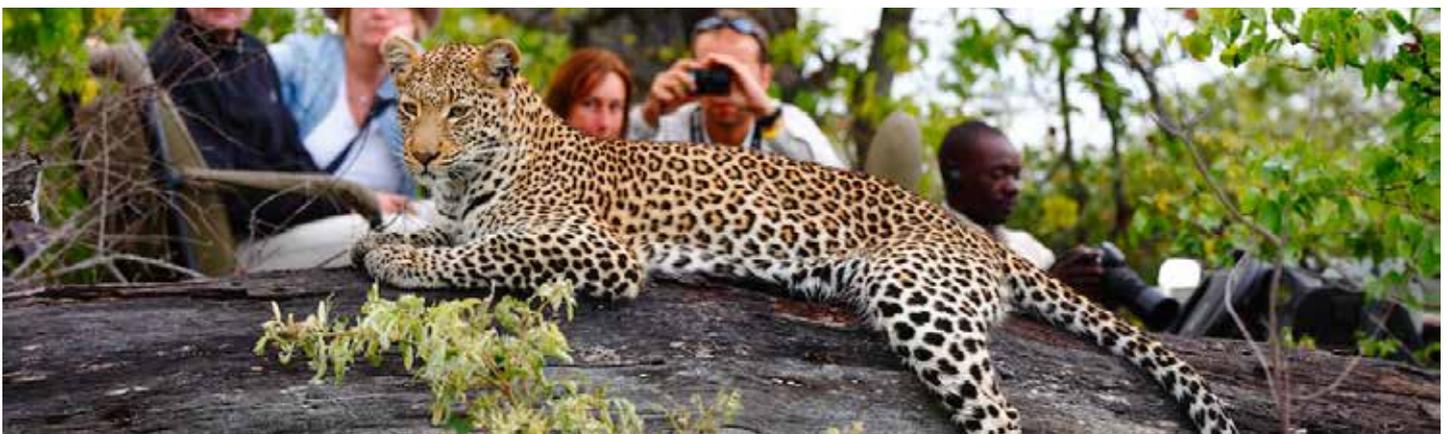
Price Includes

- Departing Dublin
- 4 Nights 3* La Splendida Hotel, Cape Town - B&B
- Internal flight from Cape Town to Hoedspruit
- 3 Nights 4* Motswari Private Game Reserve - full board including game drives

Based on 2 Adults

FROM £2395

Please call for a Quote





CAPE TOWN

Few places in the world possess the beauty and style of the historic and culturally vibrant Cape Town, the so-called “Mother City” and the oldest metropolis in South Africa with a cultural heritage spanning more than 300 years. It also has some of the top attractions in South Africa, all of which should be on your itinerary.

Apart from the unmissable charms of Table Mountain, the vibrant and cosmopolitan city of Cape Town offers a host of sights and activities, including wonderful Victorian and Art Deco architecture, fascinating museums, great shopping, superb restaurants, live music, theatres and night-clubs. A visit to the National Monument of Robben Island is well worth a visit, the notorious prison that once held Nelson Mandela, where even a casual visit becomes an emotional journey echoing with the tribulations of stalwarts of the struggle against Apartheid.

Look out for the beautiful Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens on the eastern side of the mountain, devoted almost exclusively to indigenous plants and amongst the most beautiful gardens in the world. The Sunday afternoon music concerts held here have become a Cape Town institution and are well worth a visit.

Sample Itinerary & Price

Cape Town & Mauritius

Price Includes

- Departing Dublin
- 4 Nights 4* Victoria & Alfred Hotel, V&A Waterfront, B&B
- Internal flight to Mauritius
- 7 Nights 4* Radisson Blu Poste La Fayette, All Inclusive

Based on 2 Adults

FROM £2499

Please call for a Quote



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EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

DURBAN & SURROUNDS

This is the wet'n'wild city, where the sun shines all year round, and the warm Indian Ocean calls. There's swimming, surfing, hiking, biking, history and spectacular mountain scenery.

Take a short drive to the north, to Umhlanga, also known as the 'new city centre'. You'll find a vibrant metropolis of the most impressive mansions, glittering office blocks and stylish beachfront apartments, the vast new development of today's residential and commercial lifestyle. Here are the bright lights of Durban's future. Near the heart of it all is the internationally known and acclaimed uShaka Marine World. Here is an aquarium to match anything in the world, housed in a gigantic 'Ship Wreck', with a snorkel tank and endless, thrilling water rides. Marvel at the experience of a gourmet meal, in the wreck, with a large shark population watching from close by!

You cannot think of visiting KwaZulu Natal without taking in the majesty and splendour of the Drakensberg Mountains, enjoying the numerous 'Berg lodges and chalets, and viewing for yourself the ancient San artwork adorning the walls of caves and crevices, one of South Africa's finest World Heritage Sites.

In and around Durban, there's everything under the sun and more!



Sample Itinerary & Price

Drakensberg, Umhlanga Rocks & Thanda Private Game Reserve

Price Includes

- Departing Dublin
- Pick up Group C car hire on arrival
- 3 Nights 3* Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa, full board
- 3 Nights 5* The Oyster Box, bed & breakfast
- 3 Nights 4* Thanda Private Game Reserve, full board including game drives

Based on 2 Adults

FROM £2299

Please call for a Quote





JOHANNESBURG

The largest City in South Africa, Johannesburg has many names, "Gauteng" and "Egoli" among them, most of which mean "Place of Gold" in various languages, particularly appropriate for a city where power and wealth are the driving forces, though it has to be said they live alongside some extreme poverty.

Jo'burg, as it's also known, is a vast and colourful city, with more than nine million residents - and it's still growing. Jo'burg is a young city too, which has really grown only since 1886, until which time it was little more than a transit point to other South African cities. Now it's a tourist destination in its own right and it really doesn't matter at which time of year you visit, provided you can stand the heat of a South African summer.

There is much to see in Johannesburg countless museums and theatres with performances of world class standards, all adding to the diversity and stimulating energy of the city.

Sample Itinerary & Price

Johannesburg & Sun City

Price Includes

- Departing Dublin
- 3 Nights 5* Monarch Hotel - B&B
- 4 Nights 5* The Cascades at Sun City - B&B
- Car hire included

Based on 2 Adults

FROM £1389

Please call for a Quote



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EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

HOTEL SUGGESTIONS

CAPE TOWN

Victoria & Alfred Hotel, V&A Waterfront – Framed by the ocean and Table Mountain, the elegance and luxury of the Victoria & Alfred Hotel is rivalled only by its relaxed atmosphere and warm personal service. Situated in the middle of one of the country's top destinations, Cape Town's beautifully restored Waterfront. The rooms are spread over three floors – it's the detail that gives the Victoria & Alfred Hotel its elegance, intimacy, romance and reputation.



The Commodore Hotel, V&A Waterfront – Conveniently located in the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town, The Commodore offers stylish accommodation and service excellence in a peaceful and secure environment. Guests can enjoy a refreshing swim in the pool or work out in the hotel's gym before relaxing in the steam room. With views of Table Mountain, Robben Island, the Harbour and the Atlantic Ocean, stylish accommodation and quality service, have ensured that our guests return time after time, be it as businessmen or tourists.



La Splendida Hotel, Mouille Point – This chic hotel is ideally situated on the bustling Mouille Point promenade - Cape Town's own 'Platinum mile', minutes away from the sights and sounds of the Atlantic Seaboard's happening beaches and bars, and the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Stroll along the promenade or just soak up the sun's rays from the comfort of your room. La Splendida offers 24 rooms as well as the popular Sotano Restaurant. Whether sea or mountain facing, each room is fully equipped and contains everything you need to make your stay comfortable.



EASTERN CAPE GAME RESERVES: MALARIA-FREE

Kariega Private Game Reserve – Family owned and managed, Kariega offers an unforgettable Safari experience at great value where you will find Big 5 Game Viewing. Comprising of 10000 hectares of pristine wilderness incorporating the and Bushman's rivers, a unique feature. Stunning beauty and rivers offer dramatic views and vistas resulting in unforgettable game drives and a diversity of unique activities including guided bush walks, river cruises, canoeing and visits to the nearby beaches.



Pumba Private Game Reserve – Set against the backdrop of Eastern Cape's beautiful landscape, experience the essence of ultimate luxury and style in one of two unique 5 star lodges. The reserve is home to Africa's Big Five as well as rare white lion, hippo, hyena, cheetah, giraffes, various antelope and more than 300 bird species. Visitors can experience a game drive at sunrise or sunset on summer evenings with an experienced game ranger to share in the sheer beauty of Africa, and although you may not be able to take this piece of heaven with you, you will always treasure the memories.



Shamwari Private Game Reserve – Shamwari Private Game Reserve is internationally renowned for its spectacular array of wildlife. This 25000 hectare reserve boasts various ecosystems featuring diverse vegetation which provides the ideal habitat for a range of wildlife including the infamous Big Five. It is known for its picturesque African vistas, abundant wildlife and offers world-class safari experiences. Visitors can enjoy an array of luxury accommodation options, cooking classes, game drives, bird watching, swimming, and fascinating bush walks. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the Rhino Awareness Centre, the Born Free Big Cat Sanctuary, and Shamwari's Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.



WINELANDS

Spier Hotel & Wine Farm, Stellenbosch – Spier Hotel and Wine Farm lies besides the calming waters of the Eerste River. The rooms are situated in village-style buildings grouped around six private courtyards, each with its own swimming pool. Rolling lawns, gardens and walkways connect the rooms with the reception area, lounge, bar, terrace and restaurant. Spier Hotel and Wine Farm is a pioneer in responsible tourism and was one of the first in South Africa to be awarded the Fair Trade in Tourism SA accreditation in 2004. In 2011, Spier won the top award in the Doing It All category in the Conde Nast Traveller World Saver Award. This followed our success in the same awards in 2007, where we received third place in the overall destination category. Spier Hotel and Wine Farm is a 20-minute drive from Cape Town International Airport and 15-minutes from the beaches of Gordon's Bay and Strand.



River Manor Boutique Hotel, Stellenbosch – River Manor is a boutique hotel located in the very heart of historic Stellenbosch. Our unbeatable location is within easy walking distance from everything that the historic oak-lined town has to offer. Housed in two adjacent manor houses and set in a landscaped garden on the banks of the Eerste River, we offer discerning travellers an unforgettable experience in a gloriously romantic environment. Luxuriously-appointed rooms are spacious and contemporary with a classic undertone.



The Ivy Apartments, Franschoek – The Ivy Apartments is a collection of luxury self catering one and two bedroom apartments, situated uniquely on the main strip of Franschoek Village. The Ivy apartments could be your new pied-a-terre to experience the hustle and bustle of the village in style. Franschoek is the gastronomic capital of South Africa boasting 8 of the top 100 restaurants in the country. Just an hour's drive inland from the city centre of Cape Town, this charming and picturesque town has a rich heritage and culture, with the first French Settlers settling here more than 300 years ago.



GARDEN ROUTE

Eight Bells Mountain Inn, Mossel Bay/Oudtshoorn – Eight Bells Mountain Inn is a typical English-style mountain resort with four-star facilities and a range of outdoor activities. Consisting of a range of different accommodation to suit all tastes, guests are encouraged to stay for more than just one night - leisure facilities include a bell-shaped swimming pool, all-weather tennis courts, a glass-backed squash court, games room, billiard room, bowling green, children's paddle-pool, playground, donkey cart rides, mountain biking, horse riding, birding and walking trails. The wide-open spaces, natural surroundings and absolute peace and tranquillity, makes Eight Bells Mountain Inn the ideal destination for breakaways.



Madison Manor Boutique Hotel, Knysna – Madison Manor is uniquely situated at the top of town hill with a 180-degree view of the town of Knysna, the lagoon and the famous Knysna Heads. Boasting 17 uniquely decorated suites offering luxury and comfort to all tastes. The restaurant and licensed pub, displaying items from yester-year, are overlooking the pool with panoramic views of the town, lagoon and famous Knysna Heads.



Robberg Beach Lodge, Plettenberg – Robberg Beach Lodge is ideally located at Plettenberg Bay's spectacular Robberg beach. Offering 29 rooms in four adjacent villas, connected by walkways through indigenous gardens. With two swimming pools, two honesty bars, two peaceful lounges & a spectacular rooftop terrace, the Robberg is a tranquil base from which to explore the many attractions of Plettenberg Bay.



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