

South Africa Family Safari Holiday

Trip Code: FSD

Version:



MULTI ACTIVITY



FAMILY



LEISURELY



HIGHLIGHTS

- Wildlife viewing in Kruger National Park, walking safari in Hlane Reserve
- Walks and relaxation time in the dramatic Drakensberg mountains
- Visit the coastal wetlands and wildlife by boat and enjoy a beach day
- Expert, fully qualified experienced South African safari guides

AT A GLANCE

- 13 days safari including short walks. Swimming pools at all accommodation except for 2 nights
- Join at Johannesburg

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

This classic route through northern South Africa takes you and your family on a 2-week tour seeing some of the world's finest game reserves, spectacular scenery as well as activities including boat trips along the coast and walks in the dramatic Drakensberg Mountains. Starting in Johannesburg we meet our specialist guide and drive along the Panorama route past Blyde River to the small, but impressive Edeni Reserve for our first night looking for Africa Wildlife. We have dinner around the campfire. Many of the campsites have swimming pools, a bar and restaurant, making it very flexible and family friendly. Perfect for families who like the outdoors. After a stop at the Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, where we can see lion and leopard, we continue to the world-famous Kruger National Park. Two nights here allows us enjoy several game drives for maximum opportunity to see the big five.

We then continue to Hlane Reserve in Swaziland where we can experience a walking safari (over 12yrs only) and camp next to a waterhole watching the wildlife come for a drink at sunset. The safari tradition of a 'sundowner' (a G&T or the like as the sunsets) is practised as we watch the wildlife. Travelling onwards to the coast we visit the Mantega Village to learn about Swazi village life. At the coast we have a boat tour at the St Lucia Wetland Park, a UNSECO heritage site to see turtles, hippos and crocodiles. Further south we have a couple of nights in Durban for a little beach time before heading inland to the Drakensberg Mountains. These stunning mountains are our last stop, and there are options of walks, mountain biking or an adventure park whilst here. Our accommodation here is haven of peace and tranquillity in sight of the mighty escarpment, and a beautiful end to an incredible 2-week adventure holiday through South Africa with the family.

Is this holiday for you?

Suitable for children from 6yrs old

This fantastic family adventure holiday in South Africa is a busy itinerary, with lots of sightseeing, wildlife viewing and interesting activities. There are a few long drives and game drives in safari vehicles on dirt roads and tracks. Accommodation is in a mix of chalets, lodges, apartments, safari-style bush camps and campsites. Many campsites have swimming pools, a bar and restaurant, making it relaxing for all members of the family. Everyone is asked to help the guide out whilst camping with preparing dinners, washing up and the like. There are a number of superb swimming opportunities. We request that all children are supervised by their parents during any swimming based activities. Direct flights from London to Johannesburg make this destination very appealing to families seeking wildlife and adventure.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional local guide and driver
- Single timed Johannesburg Airport transfers on the first and last day
- All land transport involved in the itinerary
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Entry fees to the various parks and reserve areas

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Tips for local staff
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Entrance fees for optional excursions
- Miscellaneous expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at Johannesburg Airport.

You should aim to arrive in Johannesburg on Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary between 7am-8am in order to make the long drive to the first night's accommodation. A money saving tip might be to arrive the day before and overnight near the airport.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, a single transfer will depart from the lodge in the Drakensberg in the morning arriving at Johannesburg Airport in time for a late afternoon check-in.

Private transfers are very expensive due to the distances. Additional nights at an airport hotel are available.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All breakfasts, 10 lunches and 9 dinners are included in the holiday price. The group will take the included meals together in camp or lodges, and the meals will be prepared by the guides. While staying on the North Natal Coast only breakfast is included so families can take advantage of the free days. There are many restaurants to choose from, and you should allow approximately £10 per person for lunches and £15 per person for dinners.

Food & Water

Many places on this holiday have drinkable water from the tap to fill your personal water bottles. Please check with the leader at the various locations. Please take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) for days when drinking water out of the tap is not available. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Food throughout the trip will mostly be prepared by the guides, although everyone is expected to lend a hand! This is usually a fun and sociable time. Breakfast will be cereals and yoghurt, with coffee, tea, toast and the occasional cooked breakfast. Lunch will typically be picnic style - cold meats, cheese, salads, bread, rolls and fruit. Dinner will be potjies (traditional stews), braais (barbecue), stir fries and pasta. Very often cooking will be on an open fire. Fresh produce will be used wherever possible and fruit squash, tea and coffee will be served with breakfast and dinner.

Accommodation

During this holiday we stay in a mix of accommodations. The majority of nights we have access to a swimming pool. The accommodation is chosen for being small and family friendly, and is often a local family business. Please note that all accommodation is subject to change.

Our first night is in Mpumalanga at the Mogodi Lodge, in chalet with 2 bedrooms, a bathroom and an open plan kitchen/lounge area. There is a swimming pool. On day 2 we are at Moholoholo Mountain view in one of the reed chalets. Camping at Kruger (2 nights) is in the park campsite with shared bathroom amenities, there is a swimming pool at the campsite. In Hlane we have the simplest campsite (1 night), and in Mlilwane we have a campsite with a swimming pool (1 night). When in St Lucia (2 nights) we camp at the Sugar Loaf campsite, here there is a swimming pool and we have shared facilities. These are the last nights camping (6 nights in total). At the coast near Durban we stay at the Greenfire Dolphin Coast Lodge. The last 2 nights are at the Sungubala chalets where one family has a chalet each. They have 2 ensuite bedrooms, an open plan kitchen/lounge area, again with plenty of room for a larger family and there is a swimming pool. This is a great place for the last nights of our holiday.

Whilst camping we provide safari canvas tents 2.4m x 2.4m x 1.8m. They have built in mesh windows and door, and a rain cap. We provide a camp bed with a 5cm thick camping mattress. They are for 2 people, if you are a family of three you will have 2 tents. Children under 11yrs should share with an adult or an older sibling. You will need to provide your own sleeping bag and pillow, however these can be hired if you wish. The guides can set up camp, however it's a lot more fun (and quicker) if everyone helps in.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be accompanied by a local English-speaking professional guide from arrival on day 1 to departure on day 13. During the tour the group will travel by minivan driven by a professional driver.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

We estimate that a total of around £200 per person (or equivalent in euros/dollars) should be allowed for tips, soft drinks, snacks, non-included meals and miscellaneous expenses. Alcoholic drinks, souvenirs and optional activities are additional so you may wish to budget for these.

You can choose to take your money in pounds sterling, dollars, euros or in South African Rand. There will be the opportunity to change money into local currency on arrival at Johannesburg Airport. Additionally, you will be able to get currency from bank ATMs in many of the towns that we will visit. Credit cards are useful and it is a good idea to carry one in case of emergency.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY COSTS:

Please note that these prices are correct at time of writing, but are subject to change without warning. Optional activities taken outside the KE holiday are at your own risk.

Open game vehicles in Kruger National Park, day 4: *(Note that during this period game drives in our vehicle are included)*

Morning or sunset 3 hours, South African Rand 380pp

Night game drive, 2 hours, South African Rand 290pp

Full day game drive in open vehicle, South African Rand 5000 per vehicle

Guidance on Tipping

In South Africa it is usual to tip staff including your local guide and driver if you are happy with the services provided. We suggest you co-ordinate these tips as a group and as a rough guide we recommend each group member contributes around £30 per family member. The exact amount should be determined by the group and the guide will give advice on the appropriate levels.

Beat the Jet Lag

Our holidays are normally designed with minimal 'down time' at the start of the trip, but having a day or two at the beginning will have the additional benefit of allowing you time to get over the stress of a long journey or travelling across time zones, leaving you refreshed and ready for your holiday. We can easily arrange for you to have additional nights and airport transfers.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Your baggage will travel in the vehicle with the group, and you should try to keep the weight to approximately 12kg. You should bring a soft bag as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicle. For international flights please check your baggage allowance with your airline.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

South Africa Indemnity Form

As a member of the South African Tourism Service Association, our ground agent in South Africa may require you to complete an indemnity form at the start of your holiday, which you will need your insurance details for. As a client of KE Adventure Travel, your rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangement Regulations (2018) are unaffected and KE Adventure Travel will remain liable for the actions of our suppliers.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

Visa South Africa

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays. You must have 2 blank pages in your passport.

Rules on **travelling with children under 18 years** have been relaxed. Visa exempt children entering South Africa only need passports, and not birth certificates as previously required. This applies if the child is travelling with both parents, one parent or an adult who is not a biological parent, and school groups. There are some different requirements for unaccompanied children, and children who do not have UK passports or visa exempt passports. For full details please see the FCDO website.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you specific require any vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella), along with hepatitis A and typhoid. A certificate of yellow fever vaccination is required if travelling from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transitted for more than 12 hrs through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dentist check up. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

Currency

The unit of currency in South Africa is the South African Rand.

Climate

South Africa has a generally sunny and pleasant climate, with regional differences due to the weather systems from the surrounding oceans and altitude above sea level. This area experiences most of its rainfall in the southern hemisphere summer, from October to March. From May through to August is drier, with long spells of mild, stable weather. However, cold fronts moving in from the south-west can bring rain and snow-fall to the Drakensberg Mountains. Daytime temperatures range from around 10 - 20°C from April to September, to 20 - 30°C from October to March.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

FAQ's about our family holidays

We welcome all family dynamics and we will try to accommodate you in the roomings of your choice. The only stipulation for joining a family group holiday is that 1 party member is 17yrs or under, and they are accompanied by an adult. An average group size is around 10 members in total. Further general information and FAQ's are available here: [KE Family Adventure Holidays general information](#).

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Please note that a paper copy of your travel insurance is required if you are travelling to Huaraz and the Huayhuash region.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

You should bring the following items:

- Sleeping bag (comfort rated 5°C). *Sleeping bag hire is available, please contact the office*
- Comfortable walking shoes/trainers and sandals
- Lightweight trousers / shorts / skirts
- Socks & underwear
- T-shirts / tops
- Fleece jacket
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Swimwear
- Sunhat with wide brim
- Warm hat
- Sunglasses
- Daypack 20 to 30 litres (depending on how much of the kids' stuff you need to carry)
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 Litre x2 (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Dry bags(s) for daypack (to ensure they keep dry)
- Washbag and toiletries
- Antibacterial handwash
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Basic First Aid Kit - Antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters, blister treatment, Insect repellent, antihistamine cream and tablets, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite). Glucose tablets and multi-vitamin tablets are a good idea.

The following items are optional:

- Binoculars (a really good idea so you can see the wildlife better)
- Travel clothes
- Sleeping bag liner (essential if hiring a bag)
- Pillow (or pillow case which you can stuff with a soft fleece)
- Pen-knife (note: always pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Camera
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Notes

A foam camping mattress is provided for the camping nights

Cotswold Outdoor



Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers. [>> Find out more](#)

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary, joining at Johannesburg Airport.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Johannesburg.

Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the evening, arriving the morning of the following day (day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights will depart in the evening of the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

One of the few family South Africa holidays that includes the super Drakensberg. This is a complete, once in a lifetime itinerary.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 03/07/2024 and the trip is subject to change