

## Garden Route Extension (Cape Town to Port Elizabeth)

### **Day 16 - Cape Town - Hermanus**

After breakfast, we'll head to Hermanus, known as the heart of the whale route, offering the best land-based whale watching in the world. This lovely seaside town retains its quaint fisherman's village charm while still offering a thriving resort experience.

This seaside village promises to enchant visitors all year round.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Auberge Burgundy (or similar)

### **Day 17 - Hermanus - Oudtshoorn**

The day is free until we depart for Oudtshoorn, the ostrich capital of South Africa.

It's about a four-hour journey to enjoy the Garden Route, an area celebrated for its distinctive natural beauty. We'll pass through the villages of Riviersonderend, Barrydale and Calitzdorp.

The Oudtshoorn area is celebrated for its natural beauty and has the most sunny days per year in the whole country.

**Optional Tour:** Whale watching trip. During whale watching season, you'll take an early morning boat trip to see these majestic creatures. We'll begin with an on-land briefing by a whale specialist guide before heading to the catamaran to ride to the Hermanus New Harbour. Whale season is between June and mid-December but it's at the whim of these gentle giants. If you're lucky enough to see these mighty beasts frolic, the permit allows the boat to go as close as 50 metres. - **\$125 per person**

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: La Plume Guest House (or similar)

### **Day 18 - Oudtshoorn - Knysna**

We'll explore Oudtshoorn's famous Cango Caves on a guided tour (all guides are accredited).

This is one of Africa's most spectacular natural formations with vast caverns, beautiful, delicate and sometimes majestic stalagmites and stalactites, and dripstone caverns. Some of these formations have quirky names that include 'glass flower fantasy' and 'weird cango candle'.

The Cango Caves have been formed over millions of years to create this enchanting subterranean world. Duck, crawl and manoeuvre your way through this limestone wonderland. It is one of the Garden Route's most beautiful attractions.

We'll drive to Knysna via the mountainous Outeniqua Pass. Be prepared for the twists and turns – it's worth it for the stunning views over the ocean framed by endless mountains.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The Rex Hotel (or similar)

### **Day 19 - Knysna**

We'll take the ferry to Knysna's famous Featherbed Nature Reserve, with its abundance of plant, bird and small wildlife, as well as a variety of marine life. We'll discover the 2.2km trail that winds its way through Milkwood Forests up to steep sandstone cliffs overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. It also meanders past ancient Khoi sea caves and through indigenous wilderness.

When we've finished the trail, you'll enjoy a buffet lunch at the restaurant on the edge of the lagoon.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The Rex Hotel (or similar)

## **Day 20 - Knysna - Port Elizabeth**

This morning after breakfast, we'll depart for Port Elizabeth and stop at Tsitsikamma Park and Storms River Mouth, weather permitting. See where the Storms River meets the Indian Ocean – the waves are spectacular here. Entrance fees are included.

When we arrive in Port Elizabeth, the rest of your day is at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: The Paxton (or similar)

## **Day 21 - Port Elizabeth - Home (via Johannesburg)**

Enjoy one last delicious breakfast this morning, before your African adventure comes to an end.

Later you will be transferred to the airport to board your flight home.

We hope you've enjoyed this extraordinary journey.

Meals: Breakfast

## **Day 22 - Home**

Arrive home today with memories to last a lifetime.

