

NADP – 8 Leotho & Addo

Local Payment

There is no LP on this tour.

Countries Visited

South Africa and Lesotho.

Vehicle

Overland Truck

Malaria

Prophylactics are required.

Departure Point

8.00am from Happy Hippo, 222 Point Road, Durban, South Africa. Tel: +27 (0) 31 3687196. www.happy-hippo.info

End Point

Port Elizabeth Airport (PLZ)
www.acsa.co.za/home.asp?pid=236

What's included

Meals as indicated on the itinerary, accommodation, registered guides, transport and selected activities as per itinerary.

What's excluded

All items of a personal nature, alcohol, snacks, souvenirs, tips and optional activities (see list for an indication of prices).

Health

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies that you may have.

Visas

Please note that these are your responsibility. Some Nationalities require visas for Lesotho and South Africa. See Pre Departure Booklet for more information.

Climate

The African sun is very strong, please use a factor 30 sunscreen and wear a hat. You should drink at least 3 litres

of water per day to avoid dehydration. African winters are cold. Please see Pre Departure Booklet for detailed information.

Currency and Banking

South African Rand is the best currency to use on this route. ATM's are available in all major towns and cities. There is often a limit on the amount you can draw each day. Please see Pre Departure Booklet for detailed information on each country. Travellers Cheques can take a long time to change into cash and often incur unreasonable charges.

Vaccinations

None required by law, but please see the Pre Departure Information booklet for more information on vaccinations in Africa.

Onward Travel

Fly for example to Cape Town and link to a Cape to Vic Falls or a Best of Namibia tour.

Pre and Post Tour Accommodation

If you require accommodation before or after your tour we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers – contact your travel agent to make these bookings.

Arrival

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will avoid any problems such as forgotten luggage, misplaced bags or any unpredictable problems such as airline strikes or delayed flight arrival.

Departure

Please book your flight to depart the day after the tour officially ends. This is to account for any delays that we may experience due to unpredictable road conditions.

Note: All information is subject to change without prior notice. Travel times and accommodation providers can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only.

Did you receive your Pre Departure Information Booklet?

If not please contact us at nomad@nomadtours.co.za and we will e-mail you the document, alternatively visit us at our office (40 Shortmarket St, 1st Floor, Leadership House, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town) to get one.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Country	Area	Activity	Price Range
South Africa	Drakensberg	Horse Riding - Per Hour	R120 to R150
Lesotho	Malealea	Village Walk - 1 hour	R10 to R15
Lesotho	Malealea	Pony Trekking	R250 to R350
South Africa	Knysna	Knysna Forest Entrance Fee	R10 to R40
South Africa	Knysna	Lagoon Cruise	R80 to R150
South Africa	Tsitsikamma NP	Treetop / Canopy Tour	R395 to R495
South Africa	Bloukrans Bridge	World Highest Bungee Jump	R590 to R650
South Africa	Oudtshoorn	Tour of Ostrich Farm	R100 to R150
South Africa	Stellenbosch	Dinner at local restaurant	R151 to R301
South Africa	Cape Town	Dinner at local restaurant	R150 to R300

Note:

There are more optional activities being created every day – we have listed only the most popular. If there is something specific you would like to do then speak to your guide as they will be able to assist you.

DAY 1/2 DRAKENSBERG

We leave the beautiful beaches of KwaZulu Natal, and travel inland to the Royal Natal NP, part of the massive Drakensberg escarpment. You can choose between many activities, including horse riding. A short guided hike to view Bushmen rock art can be very enjoyable. *Optional Activities: Horse Riding, Hiking.*

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Four to Six per Chalets (2 per Room): Drakensville Berg Resort. www.drakensville.co.za
Facilities:	Shared Bathroom in Chalets, hot showers, drinkable water, Restaurant, bar, lounge area.
Included Activities:	Royal Natal N.P entrance fee and Guided walk to Bushmen Paintings www.kznparks.com/accommodation/kwazulunatal_royal_natal.htm
Route:	Durban to Drakensberg. ±350 km
Travel time:	±5-6 hrs

Royal Natal NP - Drakensberg

Royal Natal boasts some of the most splendid mountain scenery in Africa. The main feature is the world famous Amphitheatre, a rock wall approximately five km in length, and 500m high. Above the amphitheatre is Mont-aux-Sources peak where, as its name implies, the Orange river starts its long journey to the Atlantic ocean and Thukela river cascades down the face of the amphitheatre, in one of the highest waterfalls in the world, on its way to the Indian ocean.

The most popular activity at Royal Natal is undoubtedly hiking. A comprehensive hiking guide is available for purchase at the Visitor Centre, at Thendele camp office and at the main entrance gate. The brochure shows a map of the park and the network of hiking paths which visit every part of the park from the gentle walk to Fairy Glen to the challenging hike up the Crack and down the Mudslide.

Trout fishing at Royal Natal is available in two dams in the park and in the Mahai and Thukela rivers, and picnicking and swimming in the clear mountain streams are both popular. The stables at Rugged Glen provide opportunities to ride into the mountains for unique views and sightings of mountain reedbuck and grey rhebuck that seem to have no fear of people on horse back.

DAY 3/4 LESOTHO

After a long but scenic drive we cross the Lesotho border. The popular pony trekking excursion requires an early morning of those who are participating. Lesotho natives will guide you along remote trails and the scenery is spectacular. For those who prefer to remain at the lodge there are more relaxing activities available, such as a visit to the village school or craft market. *Optional Activities: Pony Trekking Excursion, Hiking.*

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Two per room: Malealea Lodge. www.malealea.com
Facilities:	En-Suite, hot showers, good ablutions, drinkable water, bar, restaurant, basic shop.
Included Activities:	Local school and village visit

Route: www.malealea.com/malealea-history.html
 Drakensberg to Malealea Lodge. ±550 km
 Travel time: ±8-10 hrs including border crossing (Long Day)

Border posts: South Africa: Maserubrug, Tel: 051 9244300, Open: 24 hours
 Lesotho: Maserubridge, Tel: +26 2 313 796, Open: 24 hours

Lesotho

Lesotho (pronounced le-soo-too) is a mountainous kingdom completely surrounded by South Africa. It's roughly circular in shape and about the same size as Belgium. Lesotho's forbidding terrain and the defensive walls of the Drakensberg and Maluti ranges have given both sanctuary and strategic advantage to the Basotho (the people of Lesotho).

All of Lesotho exceeds 1000m (3280ft) above sea level with peaks reaching to well over 3000m (9840ft). The tourist slogan, 'kingdom in the sky', is not far wrong, as Lesotho has the highest lowest point of any country in the world. To the west, the land descends through foothills to a lowland belt along the border where two-thirds of the population live. Two large rivers, the Caledon and the Tugela, rise in the mountains.

DAY 5/6 SOUTH AFRICA - HOGSBACK

We leave Lesotho and drive south to the picturesque Hogsback valley. In addition to a gentle hike into the surrounding forest your guides will also provide information on the other available activities in this area. *Optional Activities: Horse riding, Mountain biking.*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
 Accommodation: Two per room: Away with the fairies. www.awaywiththefairies.co.za
 Facilities: En-Suite, Drinkable water, bar.
 Included Activities: Guided Hiking trail into Hogsback forest.
 Route: Lesotho to Hogsback. ± 510km
 Travel time: ± 11-12hrs (Long Day) including border crossing

Border posts: Lesotho: Vanrooyenshek, Tel: 051 583 1525, Open: 06h00-22h00
 South Africa: Vanrooyenshek, Tel: 051 583 1516 Open: 06h00-22h00

The town of Hogsback nestles on the slopes of the Amatola Mountains and is particularly renowned for its indigenous forests and its fairytale landscape. The Amatola Mountains rise from the dry grasslands and hot valleys, their green flanks an oasis of jewelled colours and coolness. Paths lead through the indigenous rainforest that crowds the slopes, to waterfalls sparkling down the cliffs. Misty rainbows lead to the pots of gold and fairy hideaways. The Hogsback Mountain, 1937 meters high, overlooks a handsome forest where azaleas, rhododendrons, daffodils and many other species of European plants and fruits grow as well as a profusion of berries.

Paths have been laid out through the forest and breathtaking views greet the climber after an easy hike to the top of the peaks. The Xhosa call it Qabimbola (red clay on the face) because the clay dug from the pits is red and is used for facial decoration and skin protection. Rumour has it that J.R.R Tolkien was inspired in part by the Hogsback when he created his classic Lord of the Rings trilogy. This wonderland caters for many outdoor activities from angling to rock climbing. The magnificent Amatola Mountains and the Hogsback have this Pan-like ability to lead you astray and lose track of time as you are lulled by the awe-inspiring beauty and the whispering cool breezes.

DAY 7 ADDO ELEPHANT NATIONAL PARK

As the name suggests, the Addo Elephant National Park is full of elephants! These magnificent creatures are always a highlight and you will be sure to get some superb photos.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
 Accommodation: Two per room: Addo Elephant Park www.sanparks.org/parks/addo
 Facilities: En-Suite, hot showers, drinkable water, bar, shop, restaurant.
 Route: Hogsback to Addo. ±450 km
 Travel time: ±7-8 hrs

Addo Elephant NP

Although the Addo Elephant belongs to the same species as the African Elephant, it is smaller, with more rounded ears and the females generally have no tusks. The park was named after the Khoi Khoi name Kadouw, which they gave to a forting place over the nearby Sundays River. The bush here is a combination of Acacia, Spekboom, Gwarrie and Boerboom. The English

name for the Spekboom is "Elephants food". In 1919 the Professional hunter, Major Jan Pretorius, was hired by the administration of the Cape Province to destroy the entire herd that inhabited the area at the time. It took him a year to kill 120, but he was then stopped due to a public outcry. Only sixteen Addo Elephants remained, but they were peppered with bullet holes, panic stricken, vengeful and cunning. And they declared war on man.

In 1931 the area was proclaimed as a national park. The Elephants, however, were still on the war path, destroying crops and attacking anyone who came near. Finally, in 1952, one of the beleaguered farmers of the area suggested that a fence made up of tram rails and lift cables be erected around the park. This finally kept the Elephants secure and out of the surrounding farming area. Black rhino was re-introduced in 1961- the first in the Cape for a hundred years.

DAY 8 Port PORT ELIZABETH

After an early morning game drive we bid farewell to the elephants and drive further south to the sunshine coast. You will be dropped off at the airport in Port Elizabeth where the tour will end.

Meals:	Breakfast
Accommodation:	Own Arrangements / Post tour accommodation can be booked through Nomad
Included Activities:	Morning game drive in Addo and Tsitsikamma NP entrance fee.
Route:	Addo to Tsitsikamma. ±350 km
Travel time:	±3-5 hrs

Tour Ends

This tour ends at the Port Elizabeth Airport. Please speak to your travel agent or Nomad if you need to arrange a transfers or accommodation.

TIPPING ON TOUR

Southern Africa: In general tipping in restaurants is generally expected and is around 10% for good service, more if you have received exceptional service, and, feel free not to tip at all if you received poor service. Tipping taxi drivers etc is really at your own discretion and not always expected. If in doubt please ask your guides.

Our guides do work hard, but they are also paid at (and often above) industry levels for this work. Our Crew can be tipped if you feel that they have done a good job and/or gone above and beyond the call of duty.

The best way to arrange tips is to elect one person in the group to collect the money. We recommend USD1 (or about R5) per day per person, per guide as a fair tip. So if you have 3-crew on a tour, we would recommend that 3 envelopes are used and each crew members name written on one. Place what you feel is fair in to each envelope and the elected person can give these to the crew at the end of the tour. If you do not feel that the crew deserve a tip, please, do not tip them. You must remember that tipping is only for exceptional service and is not at all compulsory or expected.

THE NOMAD AFRICAN TRUST www.nomadafricantrust.co.za

At Nomad we are passionate about the people, places and wildlife of Africa that make our tours so special. In order to give back we have set up the Nomad African Trust.

By the end of your tour you may have left-over local currency that you will not be able to change outside of its country of origin. Any assistance you could provide to the trust by donating this left over currency by depositing it in the secure box provided on the truck is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your help and please join our newsletter at the website above to receive regular updates on what we are doing to support our beneficiaries.



THANK YOU FOR TRAVELLING WITH NOMAD

At the end of your tour you will be provided with feedback forms. These forms are confidential and should be given to your crew in a sealed envelope. If you are not sure of the confidentiality of the feedback form please feel free to email us as well on ops@nomadtours.co.za Please make sure to also complete the feedback form as we use the answers on these forms to improve and maintain our service levels.

Accommodation providers are subject to change without notice, the accommodation listed in this dossier is our preferred supplier, but sometimes due to availability, we are unable to make use of the property listed in this dossier. If we cannot use the accommodation provider as listed we will substitute another property of similar standards, however, en-suite facilities are not always guaranteed.