

# ITINERARY SOUTH AFRICA – JANUARY 2024

#### 18 January 2024 (Thursday) Depart Dublin – Flight Times TBC

#### 19 January 2024 (Friday) Arrive Cape Town

# Transfer with English-speaking driver from Cape Town International Airport (CPT) to Southern Sun The Cullinan

Voted as the best place in the world to visit by the prestigious New York Times, Cape Town is one of the most popular destinations in South Africa. This vibrant multicultural city is a healthy mix of city and suburban living, vibey day and night spots, outdoor recreational activities and relaxation. Two oceans with their beautiful white sand beaches embrace this nature-saturated city. Ride the revolving cable car to the sky on Table Mountain; shop at the V&A Waterfront, one of Africas premier shopping destinations; stand on the edge of the world at Cape Point or delve into South Africas past at

Robben Island, the prison that once held one of the world's greatest heroes, Nelson Mandela. The Mother City, the "Green City", the "Tavern of the Seas"...whatever name you give it, this is a bucket list destination to be experienced and enjoyed.



In: Friday, 19 January 2024 Out: Friday, 26 January 2024 (7 Nights)

Accommodation at Southern Sun The Cullinan in a Standard Room on a Bed and Breakfast basis. Excludes: Any services not specified.



Southern Sun the Cullinan is set close to Cape Towns dynamic city centre as well as the Cape Town International Convention Centre, business district and other city attractions. The grand interior of the hotel is complemented by the marble floors, columns, and luxury furnishings. You will enjoy excellent dining at the Peach Tree Restaurant which serves up the wellloved Southern Sun breakfast daily or sip cocktails at the Stella Cafe and Bar. Facilities include a heated outdoor swimming pool, access to the fully-equipped fitness centre and a complimentary V&A Waterfront shuttle service.

#### 20 January 2024 (Saturday) - Full Day Cape Penninsula Tour

Following Breakfast at the hotel. Depart the hotel with English speaking guide on a full day Cape Peninsula tour Bring your camera; we're headed for Cape Point at the south western tip of the Cape Peninsula, and the most spectacular views in the world. The drive there is just as inspiring, passing steep mountains', secluded coves and sweeping beaches, as well as villages and fishing communities.

Our tour begins with a scenic drive along the Atlantic coast, passing through the cosmopolitan suburbs of Sea Point and Camps Bay with its glorious views of the Twelve Apostles, part of the Table Mountain range. We'll continue to the fishing village of Hout Bay, one of Cape Town's best-kept secrets. Here there is an option to take a short boat trip to Duiker Island (for own account & time permitting) to view the Cape Fur Seals, which inhabit the island. From here we travel to the Cape Point Nature Reserve, comprising over 17,300 acres of indigenous fauna and flora. Here we can see a variety of wildlife that includes baboons, Reebok, Cape Mountain zebra, bontebok and the elusive eland. The reserve is also one of the world's largest breeding grounds for tortoises. Bird-watchers, too, will find many fine species to observe.

The majestic coastline offers drama worthy of being called "Nature's Greatest Show." We'll be able to see the union of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans (as per legend), and may even feel the brisk wind that is dubbed the "Cape Doctor" for its presumed curative powers. Following the coastline along False Bay, we'll return to Cape Town by way of Simon's Town, where we visit the Penguin colony at Boulders Beach (entrance fee for own account) and Fish Hoek fishing village. Before our return, we'll stop for afternoon tea & cake and a visit to Rhodes Memorial, situated on the slopes of Table Mountain offering spectacular views across the city. We return to Cape Town, passing the University of Cape Town and the Groote Schuur Hospital.

**Includes:** Transportation, English speaking guide, entrance fees to Cape Point Nature Reserve, funicular, Penguins at Boulders Beach, lunch at Bertha's Restaurant in Simons Town, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens









### 21 January 2024 (Sunday)

Day At Leisure - Optional Excursions

#### 22 January 2024 (Monday)

Following breakfast, Transfer from the hotel to Stellenbosch Golf course for 18 holes of golf.

#### 23 January 2024 (Tuesday) - Full Day Winelands Tour

Depart the Hotel following Breakfast with English speaking guide on a full day Winelands tour.

While South Africa's fertile valleys are world famous for their crisp white and classic French-style red wines, the area is also a treasury of rustic beauty and sprawling estates shaded by giant oak trees.

Our drive today will include the country's principal wine routes of Paarl, Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, with a stop en route for lunch at Boschendal.

Our day starts with a visit to Paarl where you will be struck by the beauty of the Valley, the pristine blue sky, the rolling vineyards and the Pearl of Paarl set high above the valley. Paarl made headlines when President Mandela

was released from the Groot Drakenstein prison (formerly known as Victor Verster), on the outskirts of the town, to freedom and the start of the new South Africa. We enjoy a wine tasting and cellar tour at one of the local estates.

From Paarl, we'll continue north-west to the beautiful village of Franschhoek, near the Drakenstein Mountains founded in 1688 by French immigrants fleeing the Huguenot religious persecution in Europe. A memorial in the town commemorates the arrival of these early settlers who helped develop the wines sought after by Napoleon, Bismarck and royalty such as Edward VII, the Prince of Wales. Here we will stop for lunch in the Valley and another wine tasting.

We'll then head to Stellenbosch, the second oldest town in South Africa and the historic heart of the country's wine region. In

1679, Dutch East India Company governor Simon van der Stel, recognized the fertility of this long valley on the banks of the Eerste River, as perfect for vineyards. The rest is history, which has been carefully cultivated in this town. A gracious blend of 18th-century Cape Dutch, Georgian and Victorian buildings is evident on Dorp Street, where massive oaks still shade original water furrows. Enjoy a final wine tasting before returning to Cape Town.

Includes: Transportation, English speaking guide, wine tasting & cellar tour, Lunch







Return late afternoon with evening at leisure

# 24 January 2024 (Wednesday)

Breakfast at the hotel with remainder of the day at leisure

Optional Excursions – Robben Island Tour, Table Mountain, Cape Town City Tour . Please Contact Barbara for more information

#### 25 January 2024 (Thursday)

Following Breakfast at the hotel, Transfer from the hotel to Clovelly Country Club for 18 holes of golf.

Nestled in the pristine and tranquil Silvermine Valley close to Fish Hoek in Cape Town lies Clovelly Country Club. With one of the finest golf courses in South Africa, Clovelly offers its members and visitors a memorable experience. Clovelly – like fine Cape wines – improves steadily with age, and its vintage and quality is well established throughout South Africa, and indeed, beyond our shores. This reputation is founded on the warmth of Clovelly's "family" character, its outstanding facilities, and steps we have taken, such as opening the Club to all irrespective of race, creed or gender, to ensure that Clovelly truly reflects the high ideal of its motto: "Fraternitas Ludorum".

#### 26 January 2024 (Friday)

Following Breakfast at the hotel Check out and proceed overland by coach to Knysna and check into Pezula Nature Hotel & Spa

The Garden Route is one of the most popular travel routes in South Africa. This coastal corridor stretches along the Western and Eastern Capes coastline and boasts a myriad of exciting and beautiful options for the traveller, whether in one of the stunning coastal towns or on the routes numerous glorious beaches. This culturally rich part of South Africa has its own unique flavour with many different activities. Whether ostrich viewing or exploring the 20-million-year-old Cango Caves in Oudshoorn, hiking the famous Knysna Heads trails, golfing on one of the many world-renowned golf courses, enjoying the beaches of Mossel Bay or trying the vast array of amazing South African cuisine along the way, the Garden Route is well suited to everyone.



In: Friday, 26 January 2024 Out: Tuesday, 30 January 2024 (4 Nights)

Accommodation at Pezula Nature Hotel and Spa in a Nature Standard Suite on a Bed and Breakfast basis. 2 x Rounds of Golf for 1 person at Pezula Championship Golf Course including shared cart, or 1 x Spa Voucher to the value of R 1,200.00

Excludes: Any services not specified.



Conrad Pezula Resort & Spa is a five-star resort in the verdant town of Knysna along the illustrious Garden Route. It overlooks the Knysna lagoon, the Outeniqua Mountains and the Indian Ocean; it is a place of distinctive natural beauty. The resort is decorated and designed with African and Balinese influences that include hang roofs and sliding shutters. The facilities include a games room, a library, a well-stocked wine cellar, a champagne bar, cigar lounge and whiskey bar. The restaurant, Zacharys serves gourmet meals which are masterpieces on a plate. For the adventurous of spirit there is an abundance of activity from canoeing and archery to a Field of Dreams multi-purpose sports amenity in the forest.

# 27 January 2024 (Saturday) Golf – Pezula Golf Course

Covering 254 hectares on the Knysna clifftops, the Pezula Championship Course has views of both the Knysna Lagoon and the Indian Ocean. Par for the course is 72. It is designed to include a full range of shots, making it a challenging, rewarding and complete golf experience for players of all levels. Signature holes have been

earmarked as the 13th and 14th and the average round takes 4 hours 50 minutes, including a half-way break. Our brand-new luxury golf carts with GPS and flyover demos of each hole top off the experience at Pezula. Golf course architects Ronald Fream and David Dale of GolfPlan USA have sculptured an incredibly diverse coastal terrain into a course that offers a total golfing experience for all players.





Overnight hotel in Knysna

# 28 January 2024 Optional Excursions

# Optional Excursion to Monkeyland and Birds of Eden







Optional Excursion to Oudtshoorn, and the Cango Caves.







Optional Excursion to Featherbed Nature Reserve







# 30 January 2024 (Tuesday)

Early morning check-out and transfer to George Airport (flight before 12h00 departure) for domestic flight to Johannesburg.

Transfer with English speaking guide to Sun City Complex and check-into the Sun City Hotel

North West is a surprisingly diverse experience within South Africa with its historical significance and abundant nature reserves. About 160km outside of Johannesburg, is the extravagant Sun City with a myriad of entertainment options, concerts, cinemas, water parks and luscious golf course. This is a favourite for business travellers and families alike with its variety of options for everyone. Another popular destination within this province is Pilanesberg, considered one of South Africas most popular "Big Five" (lion, leopard, buffalo, elephant, rhino) game park and is just one of the many game reserve options within the province. Visitors can also enjoy a variety of water sports such as windsurfing and jet skiing at the Hartbeespoort Dam or hike the many trails or rock climb in the Magaliesberg, which is a paradise worth visiting. Much older than Mount Everest, these mountains have an awesome array of plants and indigenous trees and explorers are never disappointed.



In: Tuesday, 30 January 2024 Out: Friday, 02 February 2024 (3 Nights)

Accommodation at Sun City Hotel in a Luxury Twin Room on a Bed and Breakfast basis.

Includes: Breakfast

**Excludes:** All other meals and personal extras not specified, Any services not specified.



The Soho Hotel is Sun Citys original hotel and is the focal point of the resort. The Soho Hotel is glamorous and has a world of activity from simply lounging poolside in the African sun or having a pampering spa treatment to improving your handicap on a championship golf course. The hotel overlooks the Gary Player Golf Course, which is home to the annual Nedbank Golf Challenge and is a walk away from the Gary Player Country Club with its gym, spa, restaurant and pro shop. The Soho Hotel is one of holiday indulgence and nights spent wining and dining or enjoying the thrill of the tables.

#### 31 January 2024 (Wednesday) Golf – Lost City GC

The Lost City Golf Course with undulating and rocky terrain has an 18-hole desert-style golf course that is surrounded by spectacular views across the bushveld. Wide fairways, a series of lakes that separates the ninth with the finishing hole, the course covers more than 100 hectares and **incorporates 28 000 square metres of water features**.

The 72-par course has live 2-metre long crocodiles on the 13th hole with a green in the shape of the African continent. This makes it one of the most unusual, exciting and interesting golf courses in the world. The course facilities include a Pro Shop, a practice putting green and a driving range.





# 01 February 2024 (Thursday) Optional Game Drive



Mankwe Gametrackers: Scheduled Game Drive in the Pilanesberg National Park - Sun City Departures Only Point of departure - The Welcome Centre. Duration of tour - 3 hours.

Departure times - Seasonal Discover the exquisite Pilanesberg National Park, located in an extinct volcanic crater, two hours from Johannesburg. This game drive is a unique opportunity to experience the pristine flora and wildlife, spread over 55 000 hectares, offering some of the best game viewing in Southern Africa. This game drive is a gripping one, on which you come face to face with the unspoilt beauty of the bushveld. From a 25-seater open vehicle you could encounter Africa's Big Five and many other natural inhabitants at close range. Game drives depart twice daily from Sun City and last three hours.

The departure times differ throughout the year according to the season.

#### 02 February (Friday)

Check out the hotel and transfer to OR Tambo Airport for return flight to Dublin. Times TBC

03 February 2024 (Saturday)

Arrive Dublin