

SOUTH AFRICA

**Scheduled Guided Tour Itinerary | TISD 01**

Johannesburg to Durban

Validity 01 November 2024 to 31 December 2025



**5-day Wildlife Discovery**

Travel through the natural wonders of South Africa. Stay at a private game lodge; connect with Swazis; visit a World Heritage Site and spot Africa's 'Big 5'. Enjoy a truly African experience in an open safari vehicle



**TOUR DETAILS**

<b>Tour Code</b>	TISD 01	
<b>Duration</b>	<b>5 days   4 nights</b> 1 night Hoedspruit 1 night Hazyview 1 night Eswatini 1 night St Lucia	
<b>Start location</b>	Johannesburg, Gauteng	
<b>End location</b>	Durban, KwaZulu-Natal	
<b>Group size</b>	2 – 8 guests per vehicle	
<b>Departure time</b>	±06h00 from Rosebank hotels ±06h30 from Sandton hotels - Collection times vary; are subject to the hotel collection route and will be confirmed, via the hotel, the day prior to departure - Selected pick-up and drop-off hotels list available on request	
<b>Language</b>	English guided German guided French guided Other language tour guides available on request if booked on a private basis and a surcharge applies	
<b>Accommodation</b>	4-star hotels and 5-star private game lodge	
<b>Vehicle</b>	Air-conditioned vehicle of appropriate size Sedan or minibus	
<b>Included</b>	<b>Meals</b>	4 breakfasts and 3 dinners
	<b>Entrance Fees</b>	Blyde River Canyon Bourke's Luck Potholes God's Window Conservation fees into Kruger National Park a private game reserve and iSimangaliso Wetlands Park Hotel Porterage
	<b>Excursions</b>	2 open safari vehicle game drives in a private game reserve Morning open safari vehicle game drive in iSimangaliso Wetland Park St Lucia Estuary boat cruise
	<b>Green Seat</b>	Endangered Wildlife Trust, Trees for Tourism
<b>Excluded</b>	Travel insurance, flights, visa fees, airport transfers, 5 lunches, 1 dinner and gratuities	

## SCHEDULED DEPARTURE DATES

2025 Season 01 Nov 2024 - 31 Dec 2025	Language		Start Monday	End Friday
	<b>Scheduled Mondays</b>  <b>Block-out dates may apply</b>	<b>Group 1</b>	English	<b>04-Nov-24</b>
<b>Group 2</b>		German	<b>11-Nov-24</b>	15-Nov-24
<b>Group 3</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>18-Nov-24</b>	22-Nov-24
<b>Group 4</b>		German	<b>25-Nov-24</b>	29-Nov-24
<b>Group 5</b>		German	<b>02-Dec-24</b>	06-Dec-24
<b>Group 6</b>		English	<b>09-Dec-24</b>	13-Dec-24
<b>Group 7</b>		German	<b>16-Dec-24</b>	20-Dec-24
<b>Group 8</b>		English	<b>23-Dec-24</b>	27-Dec-24
<b>Group 9</b>		German	<b>30-Dec-24</b>	03-Jan-25
<b>Group 10</b>		English	<b>06-Jan-25</b>	10-Jan-25
<b>Group 11</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>13-Jan-25</b>	17-Jan-25
<b>Group 12</b>		German	<b>20-Jan-25</b>	24-Jan-25
<b>Group 13</b>		German	<b>27-Jan-25</b>	31-Jan-25
<b>Group 14</b>		English	<b>03-Feb-25</b>	07-Feb-25
<b>Group 15</b>		German	<b>10-Feb-25</b>	14-Feb-25
<b>Group 16</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>17-Feb-25</b>	21-Feb-25
<b>Group 17</b>		German	<b>24-Feb-25</b>	28-Feb-25
<b>Group 18</b>		English	<b>03-Mar-25</b>	07-Mar-25
<b>Group 19</b>		German	<b>10-Mar-25</b>	14-Mar-25
<b>Group 20</b>		English	<b>17-Mar-25</b>	21-Mar-25
<b>Group 21</b>		German	<b>24-Mar-25</b>	28-Mar-25
<b>Group 22</b>		English	<b>31-Mar-25</b>	04-Apr-25
<b>Group 23</b>		German	<b>07-Apr-25</b>	11-Apr-25
<b>Group 24</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>14-Apr-25</b>	18-Apr-25
<b>Group 25</b>		German	<b>21-Apr-25</b>	25-Apr-25
<b>Group 26</b>		English	<b>28-Apr-25</b>	02-May-25
<b>Group 27</b>		German	<b>05-May-25</b>	09-May-25
<b>Group 28</b>		English	<b>12-May-25</b>	16-May-25
<b>Group 29</b>		German	<b>19-May-25</b>	23-May-25
<b>Group 30</b>		English	<b>26-May-25</b>	30-May-25
<b>Group 31</b>		German	<b>02-Jun-25</b>	06-Jun-25
<b>Group 32</b>		English	<b>09-Jun-25</b>	13-Jun-25
<b>Group 33</b>		German	<b>16-Jun-25</b>	20-Jun-25
<b>Group 34</b>		English	<b>23-Jun-25</b>	27-Jun-25
<b>Group 35</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>30-Jun-25</b>	04-Jul-25
<b>Group 36</b>		German	<b>07-Jul-25</b>	11-Jul-25
<b>Group 37</b>		German	<b>14-Jul-25</b>	18-Jul-25
<b>Group 38</b>		English	<b>21-Jul-25</b>	25-Jul-25
<b>Group 39</b>		German	<b>28-Jul-25</b>	01-Aug-25
<b>Group 40</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>04-Aug-25</b>	08-Aug-25
<b>Group 41</b>		German	<b>11-Aug-25</b>	15-Aug-25
<b>Group 42</b>		English	<b>18-Aug-25</b>	22-Aug-25
<b>Group 43</b>		German	<b>25-Aug-25</b>	29-Aug-25
<b>Group 44</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>01-Sep-25</b>	05-Sep-25
<b>Group 45</b>		German	<b>08-Sep-25</b>	12-Sep-25
<b>Group 46</b>		English	<b>15-Sep-25</b>	19-Sep-25
<b>Group 47</b>		German	<b>22-Sep-25</b>	26-Sep-25
<b>Group 48</b>		English	<b>29-Sep-25</b>	03-Oct-25
<b>Group 49</b>		German	<b>06-Oct-25</b>	10-Oct-25
<b>Group 50</b>		English	<b>13-Oct-25</b>	17-Oct-25
<b>Group 51</b>		German	<b>20-Oct-25</b>	24-Oct-25
<b>Group 52</b>		English	<b>27-Oct-25</b>	31-Oct-25
<b>Group 53</b>		German	<b>03-Nov-25</b>	07-Nov-25
<b>Group 54</b>		English	<b>10-Nov-25</b>	14-Nov-25
<b>Group 55</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>17-Nov-25</b>	21-Nov-25
<b>Group 56</b>		German	<b>24-Nov-25</b>	28-Nov-25
<b>Group 57</b>		German	<b>01-Dec-25</b>	05-Dec-25
<b>Group 58</b>		English	<b>08-Dec-25</b>	12-Dec-25
<b>Group 59</b>		German	<b>15-Dec-25</b>	19-Dec-25
<b>Group 60</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>22-Dec-25</b>	26-Dec-25
<b>Group 61</b>		German	<b>29-Dec-25</b>	02-Jan-26

## ADDITIONAL TOURING OPTIONS

<b>Scheduled Private Guided Tour</b>	The itinerary is available on a private basis departing on scheduled Mondays - Available on 30-day freesell and on request thereafter - Departure on any other day is subject to availability and a surcharge applies - Public attractions and open safari vehicle game drives will not be private - Other foreign language tour guides available on request if booked on a private basis and a surcharge applies
<b>Scheduled Self-drive Tour</b>	The itinerary is available on a self-drive basis departing on scheduled Mondays - Available on 30-day freesell and on request thereafter - Excluding most entrance fees - Departure on any other day is subject to availability and a surcharge applies

## EXTEND THE EXPERIENCE Recommendations

Pre-Tour Accommodation in **JOHANNESBURG**: **4-star** Protea Hotel by Marriott Balalaika Sandton

**5-star** Sandton Sun

Pre-Touring in **JOHANNESBURG**:

**My Joburg Private Full Day Tour**

Post-Tour Accommodation in **UMHLANGA**:

**4-star** The Capital Pearls

Post-Touring **GARDEN TOUR extension**:

**4-day Klein Karoo & Garden Route** starts Sundays from PE, Ends Wed in Cape Town

**6-day Cape Kaleidoscope** starts Mondays from Cape Town, Ends Saturdays in Cape Town

## TOUR SUMMARY

Alternative accommodation may be booked when required and will be communicated 30-days before departure

DAY	ACCOMMODATION	MEALS	ACTIVITIES & ENTRANCE FEES INCLUDED	KM
1 Mon	aha Makalali Main Lodge	Dinner	Afternoon open safari vehicle game drive	456
2 Tue	ANEW Resort Hazyview	Breakfast Dinner	Early morning bush walk or open safari vehicle game drive Blyde River Canyon and Three Rondawels Bourke's Luck Potholes God's Window	180
3 Wed	Mantenga Lodge	Breakfast Dinner	Enter Kruger National Park at Phabeni Gate – game viewing in closed vehicle (included) Exit Kruger National Park at Malelane Gate Enter Eswatini at Jeppes Reef Border (visas for own account)	285
4 Thu	Forest Lodge	Breakfast	Visit Swazi Candle Factory and Crafts Market Enter South Africa at Lavumisa Border (multiple SA entry visas for own account)	335
5 Fri	TOUR ENDS IN UMHLANGA / DURBAN	Breakfast	Morning game drive in an open safari vehicle and short forest walk in iSimangaliso Wetlands Park Boat cruise on the St Lucia Lake	245

## DAY-BY-DAY BREAKDOWN

Alternative accommodation may be booked when required and will be communicated 30-days before departure

### Day 1 | Monday

#### JOHANNESBURG to MAKALALI GAME RESERVE via DULLSTROOM (±456km)

Breakfast at hotel (own arrangements and for own account)

Lunch en route (own expense)

Afternoon open safari vehicle game drive (included)

Dinner at the lodge (included)

aha Makalali Main Lodge or similar – Dinner, breakfast and 2 game viewing excursions (5-star)

### Day 2 | Tuesday

#### MAKALALI GAME RESERVE to HAZYVIEW via PANORAMA ROUTE (±180km)

Early morning bush walk or open safari vehicle game drive (included)

Breakfast at the lodge (included)

Blyde River Canyon and Three Rondavels (included)

Bourke's Luck Potholes (included)

God's Window (included)

Late lunch en route along the Panorama Route (own expense)

Arrive at the hotel late afternoon

Dinner at the hotel (included)

ANEW Resort Hazyview or similar – Dinner and breakfast (4-star)

### Day 3 | Wednesday

#### HAZYVIEW to ESWATINI via KRUGER NATIONAL PARK (±285km)

Early breakfast at the hotel (included)

Enter Kruger National Park at Phabeni Gate – game viewing in closed vehicle (included)

Exit Kruger National Park at Malelane Gate (included)

Lunch en route (own expense)

Enter Eswatini at Jeppes Reef Border (visas for own expense)

Arrive at the hotel late afternoon

Dinner at the lodge (included)

Mantenga Lodge or similar – Dinner and breakfast (4-star)

**NOTE:** When entering the Kingdom of Eswatini, guests must ensure they have a valid passport and for nationals of applicable countries, multi-entry visa regulations apply (own expense)

### Day 4 | Thursday

#### ESWATINI to ST LUCIA (±335km)

Breakfast at the lodge (included)

Visit Swazi Candle Factory and Crafts Market

Lunch en route (own expense)

Enter South Africa at Lavumisa Border (multiple SA entry visas for own expense)

Dinner at the hotel (own expense)

Forest Lodge or similar – Breakfast and 1 game viewing excursions (4-star)

### Day 5 | Friday

#### ST LUCIA to DURBAN (±245km)

Morning open safari vehicle game drive and short forest walk in iSimangaliso Wetlands Park (included)

Breakfast at the hotel (included)

Boat cruise on the St Lucia Estuary (included)

Lunch in St Lucia on the banks of the lake (own expense)

Arriving in Durban during the late afternoon (not before 5pm)

Drop off at your hotel

## DETAILED ITINERARY

Alternative accommodation may be booked when required and will be communicated 30 days before departure

### Day 1 | Monday

#### JOHANNESBURG to MAKALALI GAME RESERVE via DULLSTROOM (±456km)

Enjoy breakfast (at your own expense) at the hotel and board your touring vehicle for the drive to the Makalali Private Game Reserve. We will stop en route in Dullstroom, a quaint country town known for its trout fishing and tranquillity. The main street of the tiny town is packed with quirky shops and restaurants. From Dullstroom, we wind through the grasslands and hills of the Limpopo Province to the private game reserve. Your open safari vehicle and expert guide will be waiting to take you into the 25,000 hectares of reserve. Have your binoculars and cameras ready – this is 'Big 5' territory and we'll be looking for lion, elephant, buffalo, rhino and leopard. There is plenty of other wildlife, including hyena and the elusive cheetah. As you adjust to the rhythm of the bush, you will see animals of all sizes. The reserve is an important conservation area for the enormous, endangered Southern Ground Hornbill, which can be found hunting snakes or frogs. A delicious dinner will be served at the lodge as the star-studded southern sky makes its appearance. It's another beautiful evening in Africa.

Overnight at aha Makalali Main Lodge or similar – Dinner, breakfast and 2 game viewing excursions

### Day 2 | Tuesday

#### MAKALALI GAME RESERVE to HAZYVIEW via PANORAMA ROUTE (±180km)

Early morning in the bush is extraordinary. The clear air is filled with birdsong; animals make their way to drinking holes. Be part of the wilderness on a guided walk through the bush, or head out on an open vehicle game drive. After a lodge breakfast, we drive the Panorama Route where the road enters a scenic wonderland. Blyde River Canyon, the world's largest green canyon, filled with waterfalls and ancient geological formations, will take your breath away. Spot the Three Rondawels - three conical peaks resembling African huts. Stand on the bridges over the Bourke's Luck Potholes, where millennia of swirling water have carved giant holes into the sandstone. Be ready for the vistas from God's Window, the highest point of the day. We stop in an old mining town for a late lunch (at your own expense). Established in the 1880s, at the height of the gold rush, these towns are now mostly part of the timber industry. Savour a pancake bar and browse for curios. The scenic drive to Hazyview winds through rolling hills and forests. Soak in the outstanding natural beauty of the Mpumalanga Province as we head for your hotel.

Overnight at ANEW Resort Hazyview or similar – Dinner and breakfast

### Day 3 | Wednesday

#### HAZYVIEW to ESWATINI via KRUGER NATIONAL PARK (±285km)

After an early breakfast, we enter the Kruger National Park, the world's premier wildlife destination, through the Phabeni Gate, for a game viewing journey to Malelane Gate in your touring vehicle, immersing you in the world of the 'Big 5'. Sprawling over 20,000km<sup>2</sup>, The Kruger National Park is slightly smaller than Belgium and supports a staggering variety of fauna and flora - including rare bird species. The slow driving pace is in contrast to the anticipation of spotting an elusive cheetah or the highly endangered rhino. There's a lot to look for, with 336 tree, 49 fish, 34 amphibian, 116 reptile, 507 bird, and 147 mammal species. Graceful giraffe graze amongst the thorn trees, while raptors glide in vast African skies. We stop for lunch at a bush picnic spot (at your own expense). Listen for the laughing call of a hyena or the unforgettable, full-throated roar of a lion. At a water hole, look for crocodiles or a hippo suddenly surfacing for air. We exit the Park via the Malelane Gate. After the excitement of the morning, we make our way to the misty mountains of Eswatini, entering through Jeppes Reef Border Post in the late afternoon, leaving time to relax and enjoy dinner at the lodge.

Overnight at Mantenga Lodge or similar – Dinner and breakfast

**NOTE:** When entering the Kingdom of Eswatini, guests must ensure they have a valid passport and for nationals of applicable countries, multi-entry visa regulations apply (own expense)

### Day 4 | Thursday

#### ESWATINI to ST LUCIA (±335km)

Enjoy a hearty breakfast before visiting the Swazi Candle Factory. The candles, handmade in a music-filled workshop, are not ordinary. A special wax is used to create distinctive and colourful designs. The candle has a hard veneer from the ancient technique of "milliflore". This candle factory started as a simple initiative in a cowshed in 1982, now has a global reach and supports over 200 local people. Eswatini's vibrant craft market is overflowing with carvings, beadwork and colourful materials. Visit the Yebo Art Gallery to view the work of talented local artists. Sample local specialties, such as Baganu, a marula fruit drink or enjoy tea and cake at the Sambane Tea Garden. For something fiery, try the Black Mamba chilli sauce, a local delicacy. After a fascinating morning, we re-enter South Africa through the Lavumisa Border Post. We will enjoy lunch on the way to St Lucia. The landscape changes dramatically as we approach the iSimangaliso Wetland Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We travel through lush wetlands and dense forests in this paradise on the pristine shores of the Indian Ocean on the way to your lodge and a delicious dinner (at your own expense).

Overnight at Forest Lodge or similar – Breakfast and 1 game viewing excursions

### Day 5 | Friday

#### ST LUCIA to DURBAN (±245km)

Start your morning on an open safari vehicle, driving through wetlands teeming with wildlife and enjoy coffee with rusks on the beach. iSimangaliso is home to both white and black rhino; it's not often you are presented with the possibility of seeing both in one day. Keep your cameras ready for buffalo, elephant, and the elusive leopard. Buck are plentiful, from ever-present impala to the curved horned kudu, waterbuck with its distinctive markings, and rietbuck. After breakfast, take a boat cruise on the St Lucia Estuary. The Estuary, with its island-like setting, is one of the largest estuaries in Africa and a recognised natural wonder. This rich wetland is home to a mind-boggling 2,180 plant species, over 1,000 Nile crocodiles, more than 800 hippopotami and many prehistoric-looking monitor lizards. With over 400 species of birds, it is a watery paradise. Gliding over the water will be a very different experience from the morning safari. Enjoy lunch (at your own expense) on the banks of the lake listening to the sweet song of an Oriole or the chatter of the vibrantly plumed St Lucia Parrot. We depart for a late afternoon arrival at your Umhlanga and Durban hotel.