

Mission Imperative presents...

The "African Wildlife Safari"

DAY

ATTRACTION (B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner)



1-2
Saturday
&
Sunday

Leave the USA & travel to Durban, South Africa

Our adventure begins! After overnighting on Friday near the airport, we depart from New York (JFK) on South African Airways travelling through the night directly to South Africa – non-stop! Our flight arrives in Johannesburg in the morning on Sunday. We then transfer to King Shaka International Airport near the seaport city of Durban. From there, it is a mere 12 minutes to our hotel. This is Zululand, rich in history, culture and wildlife! Welcome to South Africa!

Overnight: Garden Court, Umhlanga, KwaZulu-Natal



3
Monday

St. Lucia Estuary and Heritage Boat cruise B

After breakfast, we will head north to the quaint coastal village of St. Lucia, where we will have time to walk around a bit, enjoying the sights. St. Lucia, a world heritage site, sits in an enormous wetlands area and is home to about 500 people, 800 hippos, and 1,200 crocodiles! We will officially start our wildlife safari in the afternoon by boarding a Heritage Tours boat, and cruising up St. Lucia Estuary, the largest on the continent. We will have the opportunity of seeing various waterfowl and also hippos. Depending on the weather, there might even be some crocs lying out on the banks!



Overnight: Umlilo Lodge or Lodge Afrique, St. Lucia



4
Tuesday

Zamimpilo Zulu Craft Market, Ilala Weavers & Zululand Rhino Reserve B L D

After breakfast, we'll continue northward along the N2 highway, stopping at the Zamimpilo Craft Market. Here you will have an excellent opportunity to see and purchase authentic Zulu crafts of all kinds. From here, we'll visit the Ilala Weavers – intricate Zulu basket weaving. Around noon, the Sprinter will take us into the Zululand Rhino Park, where you will have the unique opportunity to experience the famous Leopard Mountain Lodge. The lodge is set high on the hills providing a fascinating view over the bushveld. Each chalet is private and has its own balcony for you to enjoy. Your first game drive takes place this afternoon after high tea, and continues into the evening! A multi-course dinner awaits you upon your return.

Overnight: Leopard Mountain Lodge, Hluhluwe





Leopard Mountain Lodge B L D

The routine at Leopard Mountain each day is more or less the same. Each morning you will be woken at 5:30, and taken to the waiting, open Toyota Landcruisers to embark on a 3-hour game-finding adventure! This is the beauty of nature in Africa – you never know what you’re going to see! It will be cold, so you are provided a blanket, and sometimes even a hot water bottle. The rangers know the roads and tracks, and where it might be more likely to spot something. This is a “big five” game reserve, so any sightings are possible! There will, of course, be other big game. However, there is also an abundance of smaller creatures and bird life here. Furthermore, after the morning drive, there is the opportunity to go visit the



“hide” for an hour. This is a specialized building built next to a waterhole. If you prefer a game walk with an armed ranger instead of the hide experience, that can be arranged, too. After lunch, there are several hours in the afternoon for a nap or other relaxation. You can do any of these activities, or none!

High tea is served mid-afternoon before the afternoon/evening game drive. Recapping the day is always fun at dinner time! Drift off to sleep to the sounds of the African night...

Overnight: Leopard Mountain Lodge, Hluhluwe



Leopard Mountain Lodge, Swaziland, & Marloth Park B L D

After the morning game drive and another sumptuous buffet breakfast, we will bid farewell to the Zululand Rhino Reserve, and drive northward through the country of Swaziland (traveling right past the mountain that was my home throughout my growing-up years). Swaziland is an independent nation, so we’ll have to stop at both ends for passport checks. Once we cross the border back into South Africa, we will be immediately south of one of the most prolific game areas on the African continent – Kruger National Park! Marloth Park is literally adjacent to Kruger Park – just across the river, and is itself a game reserve.

Overnight: Marloth Park





Kruger National Park B D

This day we want to maximize our visit to the park, so we will leave early to get to the gate at Crocodile Bridge when it opens. Spotting anything is possible now! You are in old Africa with well-established herds of game. This day will be “customized” by what we see and how much



time we spend. We will plan several stops at various points in the game reserve, one for lunch. Our route will take us along the famous Sabie River. Keep your eyes open and your cameras ready! Winter is the perfect time to spot creatures



because the bush has died down so you can see further. Also, water is more scarce, so animals tend to form larger herds. After spending most of the day here, we will head to Moholoholo Game Reserve.

Overnight: Moholoholo Forest Camp, Kampersrus



Moholoholo Rehab Center & the Drakensberg Mountains B L D

Moholoholo is famous for its animal rehabilitation center, a very educational experience. There are some animals that are permanent residents here, as well as those who are being cared for in an attempt to return them to the wild. We will have the privilege of experiencing this after lunch. But, we'll enjoy the morning by relaxing in the beauty of the forest surroundings and spending some time in worship of the Creator, since this is Sunday. We'll then take a game walk next to the majestic Drakesberg Mountains!



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Hoedspruit & Timbavati Game Reserve (Kruger Park) B L D

After breakfast, we'll travel through Hoedspruit, the famous little town in the center of the game reserves. Here we'll take some time to visit the shops before moving on to two days in Timbavati Game Reserve – part of the Greater Kruger Conservancy. Here we will again go into the wild, and perhaps do some

“bundu bashing” (when rangers have permission to leave the road or track that the vehicle is on, and go into the bush when a unique animal is sighted). Here the schedule is very similar to Leopard Mountain Lodge, and so are the activities. The trackers that sit perched on the hood of the Landcruiser are experts at spotting animals and their movements, so you have an excellent chance for great animal sightings. In the afternoons, relax on the verandahs and enjoy the beauty of the surroundings!



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Overnight: Motswari Lodge, Timbavati Game Reserve



Timbavati Game Reserve & Cape Town B L

This is our last night in the bush. But it's not over yet! There's still the full, 3-hour morning game drive! You will have this last opportunity to see African wildlife in its natural, beautiful setting. After the morning game drive and breakfast, we will transfer to Hoedspruit Eastgate Airport, a 90-minute drive through the game reserve, for our flight to Cape Town. No visit to South Africa is complete without seeing the "jewel of the African continent"! We will stay right down at the beautiful waterfront/harbour at the Victoria & Alfred Hotel.

Overnight: *Victoria & Alfred Hotel, Cape Town*



Cape Town & Cape Point B



The days are spent touring the Cape Peninsula to Cape Point, south of the city. The route will take us through the quaint fishing village of Hout Bay, then up to Chapman's Peak drive. This drive, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, is considered by many tour operators to be the most beautiful marine drive in the world. Our trip takes us also to old Simons Town (the South African naval base) and to the only penguin colony outside of Antarctica. Weather-permitting, we will be able to take the cable car to

the top of Table Mountain, overlooking the city. We will spend half of the other day on a city tour of Cape Town, and visit the beautiful botanical gardens. The balance of this day will be spent at the waterfront itself, where there are all kinds of shopping and excursions available.

Overnight: *Victoria & Alfred Hotel, Cape Town*



Cape Town, & Home Sweet Home B

After breakfast and perhaps a quick, final trip down the mall for some last-minute shopping, you will again be transferred to the airport for the flight to Johannesburg. There you will board the flight back to the USA, arriving the following day – Day 16. The safari is over, but the memories will last a lifetime!

Specific facts related to this itinerary:

1 – Our primary goal is to give you a great creation experience! There is no place on Earth where more variety of God's creation can be seen! Cape Town is added because it's the "jewel of the continent", and you don't want to go the whole way to South Africa without a visit to this beautiful city! Besides, there's wildlife here, too!

2 – We want you to enjoy your days, but also to be comfortable at night! To that end, we have selected the TripAdvisor top choice hotels and lodges!

3 – We are not professional "tour operators". We are a mission organization that is simply facilitating this "safari" by pre-booking coach transportation, lodging, certain meals, certain excursions, and national park entry. We want you to have a quality, genuine "African Safari" experience, while also saving you money. Furthermore, great fellowship can be experienced with a group this size!

4 – This is an "at cost" excursion. That is, Mission Imperative's goal is not to make a profit. This trip is *our* ministry to *you*. However, just like when we present seminars, you are still welcome to donate to the ministry as a "love offering" should you choose to do so.

5 – Of course, the schedule and routes are subject to change due to conditions beyond our control.

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