

## NDJ – 7 Day Swaziland and Kruger

### Local Payment

N/A

### Countries Visited

South Africa and Swaziland

### Vehicle

Overland Truck

### Malaria

Prophylactics are required for the last leg of the tour.

### Departure Point

8.00am. Happy Hippo, 222 Point Road,  
Durban +27 (0)31 3687181 / 031 3687196

### End Point

Fly Inn Lodge, Corner First St.& Eighth Ave. Boksburg North,  
JHB, RSA. Tel: +27 (0) 11 917-3911

### 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 Swaziland. 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. Please see Pre Departure Booklet for detailed information

### Did you receive your Pre Departure Information Booklet?

If not please contact us at [nomad@nomadtours.co.za](mailto:nomad@nomadtours.co.za) and we will e-mail you the document; alternatively visit us at our office (40 Shortmarket St, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town) to get one.

on each country. Travellers Cheques can take a long time to change into cash and often incur unreasonable charges. Credit Cards cannot always be processed – especially in remote areas.

### Vaccinations

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

### Onward Travel

This tour can be linked to the Garden Route and Lesotho Tour and Discover Mozambique 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 can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only.

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## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

COUNTRY	AREA	ACTIVITY	PRICE
Swaziland	Mlilwane NR	Sunset Drive	R 120 to R 145
Swaziland	Mlilwane NR	Horse Riding	R 100 to R 400
Swaziland	Mlilwane NR	Mountain Biking	R 150 to R 150
South Africa	Kruger NP	Sunset Game Drive 3-Hours	R 120 to R 160
South Africa	Kruger NP	Nocturnal Game Drive 2-Hours	R 160 to R 200
South Africa	Kruger NP	Dawn Game Walk 2 to 3-Hours	R 185 to R 230
South Africa	Timbavati	Local Village Tour	R 50 to R 150
South Africa	Johannesburg	Dinner at Local Restaurant	R 150 to R 200

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 GREATER ST LUCIA WETLAND PARK

We drive up along the Kwa Zulu Natal coast to the well-known Greater St Lucia Wetland Park. We take a boat cruise on the lagoon and will spend tonight near this amazing wetland.

*Optional Activities: Traditional Zulu Village visit.*

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Bibs International backpackers
Facilities:	Drinkable water, good ablutions
Route:	Durban to St. Lucia. ±280 km
Travel time:	±4-5 hrs

During the Cretaceous period, about 100 million years ago, the flat coastal area of Zululand, Maputoland and Mozambique lay beneath the sea. The Indian Ocean washed against the slopes of the Lebombo Mountains and laid down deposits of coral and shells. This sea bed became the coastal plain of today when the waters receded. This coastal terrace proved a complex obstacle of 100km barriers of sand to the rivers that originally reached the sea along the line formed by the Lubombo range. These rivers' flow was impeded by the flat nature of the plain and by chance depressions which trapped the water, forming shallow lakelets. A final ridge of high sand dunes piled up by wind action along the shore held the rivers back, creating lagoons, lakes and swamps. On 27 April 1897, 36 826 hectares covered by the waters of lake St. Lucia were proclaimed a game reserve. The land surrounding the lake, 1 km wide and comprising a total of 12 545 hectares was proclaimed the St. Lucia Wetlands Park in 1939.

### DAY 2/3 SWAZILAND – MLILWANE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Today on our way to Swaziland we take a morning game drive in Hluhluwe/Umfolozzi NP. We enter Swaziland where we will experience some more of Southern Africa's cultural diversity.

*Optional Activities: Mountain Biking, Hiking, Horse Riding.*

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Beehive huts: Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary
Facilities:	Drinkable water, swimming pool, bar, supply shop, restaurant
Route:	St. Lucia to Mlilwane. ±300 km
Travel time:	± 9-10hrs (including a border crossing & game drive)

The smallest country in the southern hemisphere, Swaziland has been independent since 1968. It is one of the only three monarchies left in Africa. The King, appointed in accordance with Swazi tradition, is the Executive Head of State. If he is absent, or unable to perform his duties, for any reason, the Queen Mother acts on his behalf.

Swaziland is a small landlocked kingdom, bounded on all sides by South Africa except for roughly 100km of border with Mozambique in the east. Swaziland's natural resources are extremely well managed, and despite the country's size it lays claim to some of the best game reserves and national parks in southern Africa. Elephants, lions and rhinos have been reintroduced after being wiped out.

The name Mlilwane (Embers) refers to the glow of the fires on the Mountains. The Reilly family, in the face of apathetic attempts at conservation in the area, converted their farm, Mlilwane, into a wildlife Sanctuary. Poaching was a big problem in the beginning until King Sobhaza II called the nation to Lobamba and arranged for the Reilly's to show a film on wildlife. After the

film, the King told the assembly that Mlilwane was a sanctuary for wildlife and under his protection. The sanctuary was opened to the public in 1969.

## DAY 4 SOUTH AFRICA - KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

We return to South Africa and drive to the Kruger NP for two unforgettable days of game viewing. Kruger National Park is home to Africa's Big 5 as well as a multitude of other beautiful African animals, both small and large.

*Optional Activities: Night Drive and Dawn Game Walk.*

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Camp: Berg en Dal (Or other SANP site)
Facilities:	Good ablutions, hot showers, bar, shop, mail box, restaurant
Route:	Mlilwane to Kruger. ±300 km
Travel time:	±5-6 hrs plus a border crossing

## Day 5 KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Camp: Satara (Or other SANP site)
Facilities:	Good ablutions, hot showers, bar, shop
Route:	Game driving through the park for the day

On 26 March, 1898, President Paul Kruger signed a proclamation for the founding of a government game park in the Eastern Transvaal, between the Crocodile and the Sabie Rivers, covering an area of about 18 000sq kilometres. This area had attracted most intensive hunting by man which drastically reduced the animal population in the area. Mosquito and Tsetse fly however, prevented human settlement in the area. Traders used the routes through the area, including the well-known trader Juao Albasini. He sent so many porters carrying goods along the path that he created a depot and staging post near Pretoriuskop. The area stayed untouched until after the Anglo-Boer war. At the end of this conflict, the new British administration accepted the idea of a game sanctuary and appointed a warden for what was called Sabie Game reserve.

They appointed Major James Stevenson-Hamilton. He selected as his headquarters what is now named Skukuza, named after the African name the locals gave him (he who sweeps clean). Stevenson-Hamilton was the first to raise the idea that the area should be opened for viewing by the public, instead of the proposed plan of opening it for hunting. Thus, during the winter months of 1923, South African railways introduced a novel tourist service – a round-in-nine tour by train, which included a night transit through the park. This changed to stop in the reserve, where a ranger took guests on a short walk. The name, Kruger National Park, was first used in print on 14 Dec 1925 in a leading article in "Die Burger", a Cape Town morning paper.

On 31 May 1926, Mr Piet Grobler moved in Parliament the second reading of the National parks act. There were no dissidents. Under the administration of a board of control, comprising of ten members, the park was launched. The first road in the park was laid down from Sabie Bridge to the Olifants River, the second from Sabie Bridge to Pretoriuskop and the third from Sabie Bridge to Crocodile Bridge. The first three tourist cars entered the park in 1927, using the entrance at Pretoriuskop. Among the passengers was a seven year old, Douglas Jackaman, who was so impressed by what he saw that he later became a camp manager in the park. No accommodation was provided for the visitor's; they made their own camps in thorn-bush enclosures. Visitors also carried weapons for their protection.

In 1944 a cordon system was introduced between the park and local farms to decrease the impact of foot and mouth disease on the parks wildlife. Stevenson-Hamilton retired through the years of the Second World War, through which time the park was closed. The park was again opened to the public in 1946 under new control. Stevenson-Hamilton, aged 90, died of a stroke on 10 Dec 1957. His ashes and those of his wife Hilda were scattered in the park on 10 April 1979 at an outcrop of granite south of Skukuza. The world-renowned Kruger National Park offers a wildlife experience that ranks with the best in Africa. This national park of nearly 2 million hectares, Kruger National Park, is unrivalled in the diversity of its life forms and a world leader in advanced environmental management techniques and policies. Approximately 145 mammal species can be found in the park. Kruger has a list of almost 500 bird species, some of which are not to be found elsewhere in South Africa. There are 336 tree species in the park.

## DAY 6 WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTRE

With our minds full of memories of the most famous nature conservation area in the world, we leave the Park. En route to tonight's camp we visit a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	2 per Bungalow: Timbavati Safari lodge
Facilities:	Good ablutions, swimming pool, drinkable water, bar, restaurant, hot showers

Route: Kruger Park to Timbavati. ±200 km  
 Travel time: ±5-6 hrs, including the educational visit

## DAY 7 JOHANNESBURG

With our minds full of memories of the most famous nature conservation area in the world, we leave the Park. En route to tonight's camp we visit a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre.

*Optional Activities: Morning Shangaan Village visit and Dinner Out.*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
 Accommodation: Own Arrangements  
 Route: Timbavati to Johannesburg. ±500 km  
 Travel time: ±9-10 hrs. (Long Day)

### Panorama Route

In 1840, the Voortrekker leader, Hendrik Potgieter, led a party on an exploratory journey to Lourenzo Marques. The women stayed behind on the height near Graskop and most of the men rode off. The time for their return came and passed. The waiting party became despondent. They named the stream on whose banks they were camped, the Treur (sorrow) and set out for home. Potgieter, however, returned safely, overtaking the women as they were fording the river from then on known as the Blyde (joyful). The Blyde River Canyon is one of the most spectacular canyons in Africa and its cliffs rise between 600m -800m from the riverbed. At the 'Three Rondavels viewpoint' (also called 'The Three Sisters') is an unforgettable view of three huge rock spirals rising out of the far wall of the canyon. Their tops appear to have a hut-like rounded roof. Where the Blyde River and the Treur River meet, water erosion has formed one of the most remarkable geological phenomena in the country, known as 'Bourke's Luck Potholes'. Over thousands of years, surreal cylindrical rock sculptures created by whirling water have formed a series of dark pools which contrast artfully with the streaked white and yellow lichen covered rocks. Following the road and the Treur River south, there are further viewpoints; Wonder View, God's Window and the Pinnacle. The Three Rondavels are named after the Swazi Chief - Maripi's wives. From the lowest to the highest, they are Magabolle, Mogoladikwe and Maserote.

### Johannesburg

Gold was discovered in March 1886 on the Witwatersrand by George Harrison. Two Commissioners, Johan Rissik and Christiaan Johannes Joubert were sent from Pretoria to inspect this discovery and to assess its profitability. They reported back that it was of enormous long-term economic value. The farms along the line of reef were declared to be public diggings and F.C Eloff, private secretary to the State President, Paul Kruger, sent to find a central site suitable for a town. He found a vacant piece of ground; a Government owned farm named Randjieslaagte. Surveyors were instructed by the government to lay this farm out as a future town. They completed their work on 03 Dec 1886. The name Johannesburg was written for the first time on their plans of streets and stands. Only five days after the completion of the survey the first 986 stands were auctioned for the sum of R13000. The first building to be erected was a corrugated iron hut. The first burglary in Johannesburg was on 22 Oct 1886, when thieves broke into the liquor store room. The first chief of police of Johannesburg was John McIntosh. The first Church service was in Nov 1886, held in the dining room of the Central hotel. The first couple to get married here was J.P Frost and A.S Oosthuizen, who took the bilingual plunge on 14 Dec 1886. The first death caused by a mining accident took place on the Rands on 04 Dec 1886. A Charles Johnson was hit on the head by a falling stone as he was being hauled up a shaft in a bucket. The first free fight, large enough to be called a riot, on the Rand was on Saturday, 06 Feb. 1887, where the entire Rand police force was put to flight after a tremendous brawl in a canteen in Ferreiras camp. Within 12 months Johannesburg was the second largest town in Transvaal.

By the middle 1890's there were 20 separate mining companies working from headquarters in Johannesburg. Dominating Johannesburg at this time was the so-called Randlords- the heads of the principal mining houses. Chief among these were Crown Mines and Rand mines. The second largest company was the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, run by Cecil John Rhodes. The Transvaal government granted Johannesburg municipal status in 1897. The city became almost deserted with the advent of the Anglo Boer war on 11 Oct 1899, as trainloads of refugees fled. Johannesburg was placed under martial law, to protect the existing claims. After the war the labour shortage led to a proposed suggestion to import Chinese labour. The first load of 1055 Chinese labourers arrived in 1904. By 1905 they numbered 46895. In December of 1905 the British liberal party (who just won the national elections) suspended the Chinese recruitment. In July of 1906, Winston Churchill introduced the new Transvaal constitution into the British parliament, noting that Dutch/Britons staying in the province for more than six months could vote. No mention was made of the black population. Women of any colour had no vote either. Johannesburg became a city in 1928. By 1960 it had more than 1 million inhabitants. The highest building is the J.G Strijdom Tower, completed in 1971, and built as a transmitting terminal. The second highest is the tower erected for South African Broadcasting Corporation. It was named in honour of Albert Hertzog, but today referred to as the Brixton tower, due to the suburb that is in. Today, Johannesburg is fondly known as Egoli, or place of gold.