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# WCCA Post Congress Tour July 2024 Jul 26, 2024 - Jul 30, 2024

# **Trip Summary**

## July 26 - Friday

Cape Town to Arniston via Caledon Morning Farm Visit Wine Tasting at La Vierge Lunch in Hermanus Afternoon Farm Visit Arniston Hotel Included on this day Farm Visits

# July 27 - Saturday

Full Day Bredasdorp / Swellendam Morning Farm Visit Lunch in Swellendam Afternoon Farm Visit Travel to Cape Agulhas Cape Agulhas - The Tip of Africa Included on this day Farm Visits

## July 28 - Sunday

Arniston to Wilderness Lunch at Botlierskop Game Reserve Botlierskop Game Reserve 4x4 Game Drive Botlierskop to Wilderness Fairy Knowe Hotel Included on this day

## July 29 - Monday

1:45 PM

Wilderness to George Outeniqua Research Farm Travel to Oudsthoorn via Outeniqua Pass Lunch at Buffelsdrift Buffelsdrift 4x4 Bush Drive Buffelsdrift Game Lodge Included on this day

Research Farm Visit

# July 30 - Tuesday

Elephant Experience Oudtshoorn to Cape Town via Robinson Pass and N2 Morning Farm Visit Lunch stop Return to Cape Town Included on this day Farm Visit

# July 26 - Friday



## Cape Town to Arniston via Caledon

Morning pick-up from your hotel in Cape Town. The drive on the N2 takes you from beautiful coastline views through the colourful rolling hills of the Overberg.



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#### Morning Farm Visit

Farm visit in the Caledon area: Wheat, Canola and animal integration.

#### Wine Tasting at La Vierge

Beautifully located in the Hemel-en-Aarde Vallev in the Overberg region. La Vierge is home to some of the most tantalising wines in the area.



#### Lunch in Hermanus

Walk along Cliff Paths, try spotting whales from shore (Whale Season) and enjoy free time for lunch in Hermanus. For own account.



#### Afternoon Farm Visit

Farm visit in the Caledon area: CA Pastures.

#### **Arniston Hotel**

Nestled in the quaint town of Arniston, characterised by drastic craqqy cliffs, white sandy beaches and charismatic fishermen's cottages, lies the coastal gem that is the 4 star Arniston Spa Hotel.

A mere two hour drive from Cape Town, through the colourful rolling hills of the Overberg, the Arniston Spa Hotel exudes a charm that cannot be matched. Unspoilt panoramic views of the turquoise ocean are flanked by majestic sand dunes. Arniston is surrounded by pristine nature reserves and boasts endless white beaches.



# Included on this day

Guided transport from Cape Town to Arniston via Caledon Wine Tasting in Hemel & Aarde Wine Valley Hermanus Town Visit Hermanus Cliff Paths Walk Overnight at Arniston Hotel in a standard room (non sea-facing) including dinner and breakfast



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# **Farm Visits**

Farm visit organised by WCCA

# July 27 - Saturday



## Full Day Bredasdorp / Swellendam

After breakfast, depart for Bredasdorp and Swellendam, where you will be spending the day.



#### Morning Farm Visit

Farm visit in the Bredasdorp area: Wheat, barley and pasures.

#### Lunch in Swellendam

Choose from a variety of restaurants and coffee shops that offer delicious meals. Lunch for own account.

# Afternoon Farm Visit

Farm visit in the Swellendam area: Canola, Wheat, barley and cover crops.

#### Travel to Cape Agulhas

Depart Swellendam and travel to Cape Agulhas for breathtaking sunset views.



# Cape Agulhas - The Tip of Africa

Whilst many will have you believe that Cape Point is the spot where the Atlantic collides with the Indian Ocean, it's actually Cape Agulhas (in the Overberg region) that holds the honour. Here, at Africa's southernmost point, the warm Agulhas current that flows along the east of the continent meets the colder Benguela current of the Atlantic.

Whilst eagle-eyed visitors look for a discernable difference between the two oceans – some say the Indian Ocean is slightly greener – most travellers will make the pilgrimage to the official plaque and take the requisite photo with one foot on each side of the ocean or for those that dare to brave the cooler Atlantic currents, in the water.

The surrounding fynbos, lighthouse and nearby shipwreck add to the atmosphere, but dusk turns on the best show of all as the sun dips below the horizon and floods the sky with pink and purple.

Cabo das Agulhas (Cape of Needles) was named by Portuguese seafarers after noticing the direction of magnetic north on their compass needles coincided with true north in the region.



#### Included on this day

Return guided transfers to/from Bredasdorp/Swellendam Sunset at Southern-most Tip of Africa Overnight at Arniston Hotel in a standard room (non sea-facing) including dinner and breakfast

Farm Visits Farm visit organised by WCCA

# July 28 - Sunday



#### Arniston to Wilderness

After breakfast travel to Botlierskop



#### Lunch at Botlierskop Game Reserve

Choose from a variety of delicious options at the beautiful fireplace restaurant. For own account.



# Botlierskop Game Reserve 4x4 Game Drive

🔁 2,5 hours - Guided

A passion for wildlife and nature saw the founders of Botlierskop combine game farming and tourism on their farmland, a short drive from the thriving seaside town of Mossel Bay.

As per usual, wildlife is wild and animal sightings can't be guaranteed - but that makes game drives or walking safaris even more exciting as you'll never know what you'll find around the next bend.

The vast private reserve's diverse habitats (consisting over 4200 ha) – coastal fynbos, woodlands, veldlands and mountain fynbos, are home to 200 species of birdlife and more than 1800 animals including 13 antelope and 13 mammal species - including 4 of the Big 5 animals.

Bring your camera, warm clothes and a sense of adventure. The team at Botlierskop will take care of all the little details (and the big game animals).



#### **Botlierskop to Wilderness**

After the game drive travel to Wilderness, an endless paradise of forests, lakes, mountains and coastline.

# Fairy Knowe Hotel

Here nature sets the pace. On the reed-lined edge of a jungly riverside forest, you'll find this birders paradise... with more than 280 species of birds listed in the area, and colourful Knysna Loeries and Giant Kingfishers are regular visitors. The Fairy Knowe Hotel, affectionately referred to as 'the grand dame' of Wilderness, has been welcoming guests since 1924. This landmark hotel are renovated from mid 2021, and the new look focuses on uncomplicated, cosy and modern accommodation inspired by nature. Situated on the banks of the Touw River, the hotel forms part of the greater Wilderness Nature Reserve and Estuary.

Rooms are complete with coffee and tea making facilities, a TV with open view channels, wifi and a bar fridge/freezer. All rooms have a private bathroom with either a walk-in shower or shower over bath. Experience this slice of paradise on your Garden Route trip.



# Included on this day

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Guided transport from Arniston to Wilderness 4x4 Game Drive at Botlierskop Private Game Reserve Overnight at Fairy Knowe Hotel in a standard room including dinner and breakfast

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#### Wilderness to George

After breakfast travel to George.

#### **Outeniqua Research Farm**

Research Farm visit in George: Irrigated CA pastures and dairy.

#### Travel to Oudsthoorn via Outeniqua Pass

From the lush Garden Route to the vast arid plains of the Klein Karoo, your journey over the Outeniqua Mountain Pass really shows off our magnificent country of contrasts as the scenery changes before your eyes.

#### 1:45 PM - 1 hr 15 min

Lunch at Buffelsdrift Lunch at Buffelsdrift for own account.

#### **Buffelsdrift 4x4 Bush Drive**

The Buffelsdrift bush drive evokes memories of Hollywood movies where khaki jeeps move across bumpy dirt tracks and chance upon grazing antelope against moody mountain backdrops – in this case, the jaw-droppingly beautiful Swartberg Mountains. Add in the theatrical Klein Karoo plains and captivating commentary during your ±2 hour sundset or sunrise bush drive to enjoy an Afri-chic safari show from your front-row seat.

You won't find much big game or cats on this private game reserve, but chances are good you'll see a hippo submerged in the waterhole flicking its ears possibly a rhino, a journey of giraffes against the horizon and you'll certainly stumble across

native antelope like springbok, duiker and eland during this unique bushveld experience. If you're lucky you can spot a wide variety of smaller wildlife shows off their best side on the Karoo stage... from A to Z – aardvark to zebra and almost everything in between. This bush drive focuses more on discovering and explaining indigenous plant species, insects, birds and get close to nature as the reserve is not home to many big game species.

Your khaki-clad ranger knows the best locations to see the wild and they're happy to share knowledge of the local wildlife.



#### **Buffelsdrift Game Lodge** Tented ★★★4-star Deluxe

Buffelsdrift is an unexpected oasis in this semi-desert region. In the heart of the Klein Karoo, hippos wallow in a dam that borders the luxe khaki tents and giraffes graze on distant treetops – all of which adds to the true safari atmosphere.

The permanent canvas tents are set only a few metres away from the waterhole and provide an elevated view of the surroundings. They also have great views over the whole area and is surrounded by true Karoo fynbos.

Out in the game reserve, waterbucks, hartebeests, wilderness, caracals and elands share the space with jackals, aardwolves and honey badgers. Hippos yawn lazily and snort and snuffle at night and in the early morning and meerkats rise on hind legs as if greeting all that pass by.

The reception, restaurant, spa and bar areas are purpose-built around the waterhole dam. The outdoor bathroom and nature shower adds to the wow factor and the small decks on the tents are perfect for watching the sun rise and fall. Out in the game reserve, waterbucks, hartebeests, wildebeests, caracals and elands share the space with jackals,





#### Included on this day

Guided transport from Wilderness to Oudtshoorn 4x4 Bush Drive at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge Overnight at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge in a luxury tent including dinner and breakfast

Research Farm Visit Research Farm visit

# July 30 - Tuesday



#### **Elephant Experience**

Meet orphaned African elephants with suitably tribal names: Bulelo, Jabari and Malaika (meaning "Thank you", "Powerful" and "Angel" in the Zulu language) as you observe them in their natural bushveld habitat. Their parents were poached in the Kruger National Park, and in efforts to keep this family together; the herd was hand-reared and now roam freely in the vast Cango Valley at the Buffelsdrift Private Game Farm.



# Oudtshoorn to Cape Town via Robinson Pass and N2

Travel via The Robinson Pass, which is located on the R328 in the Southern Cape with beautiful sweeping curves and superb views around every corner.

#### **Morning Farm Visit**

Riversdale / Heidelberg farm visit: Pioneer CA adopter.

Lunch stop Stop for lunch on your way back to Cape Town. For own account.

#### Return to Cape Town Afternoon drop-off in Cape Town.

#### Included on this day

Guided transport from Oudtshoorn to Cape Town Morning Elephant Experience at Buffelsdrift Game Lodge

# **6** Farm Visits

Farm visit organised by WCCA



Minimum of 8 pax @ ZAR 13 900 nett per person sharing in a twin or double room

ZAR 16 900 nett per person in a single room



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- No bookings have yet been made.
- Subject to amendments should there be any major fuel and 3<sup>rd</sup> party increases beyond our control.
- Accommodation is subject to availability and will only be confirmed once the deposit has been received.
- 20% deposit is required if the departure date is more than 30 days from the date of booking. The remaining balance must be paid in full at least 30 days before the departure date.
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- Certain suppliers have other Terms & Conditions to ours listed above and will be charged for accordingly.

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- You understand that you are obliged to notify Hotspots2c of any medical condition that might affect you during any activity while on tour with Hotspots2c so that special precaution can be taken beforehand.
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