

SOUTH AFRICAN PRIDE TOUR

SOUTH AFRICA + ZAMBIA

10 DAYS + 3 DAY EXTENSION

February 18 – 27, 2010 &

October 1 – 10, 2010

Where can you witness the dramatic, primitive cycles of life and death ... sample some of the finest vintages on earth ... stand in awe at magnificent scenery ... and lose yourself in the progressive rhythms of one of the world's most progressive cities. South Africa! And Hermes has the perfectly paced, activity-packed itinerary for you and your small group, with first-class and luxury lodges making us feel right at home. Join us, and see just what makes a Rainbow Nation.

HIGHLIGHTS/INCLUDES

- **Kruger National Park Safaris**, including 2 half-day safaris, 1 full-day safari, and a rare opportunity for a walking safari
- **3 Wine Tours and Tastings**, in Franschhoek, Paarl, and Stellenbosch
- **Cape Town Tour**, including Table Mountain and Robben Island
- **Cape of Good Hope Tour**, including Hout Bay, Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, and Boulders Penguin Colony
- Ample free time to explore Cape Town's gay life on your own
- Accommodations for 9 nights in luxury hotels
- Services of a Hermes Tours escort
- Services of an expert, local guide in all cities
- Entrance fees to all sites visited
- **\$100 per person savings if you reserve 5 months before departure!**
- **Extension to Victoria Falls, Zambia:** Marvel at one of world's most spectacular natural wonders.

Day 1– Arrive in Johannesburg (D)

Arrive in Johannesburg for an overnight stay at an airport hotel. Get to know your fellow travelers over our Hermes welcome dinner tonight.

Day 2– Johannesburg–Kruger National Park (B, D)

We board our short flight to Kruger National Park, one of the world's most renowned national parks and Africa's oldest. More than 147 species of mammals roam these plains and woodlands, including the sought-after Big Five—rhino, elephant, cape buffalo, leopard, and lion. Keep your eyes peeled as we set off on first game drive today. This evening, feast on a traditional Boma dinner.

Day 3— Kruger National Park (B, L, D)

After breakfast join your safari guide for a walk in the bush. This is a unique safari experience that's sure to reveal local flora and maybe even a game sighting or two. This afternoon we drive further into the park, concluding our day with another "Sundowner."

Day 4— Kruger National Park (B, L, D)

Spend another thrilling day in the bush taking in Kruger's incredible wildlife. This evening we gather for traditional dinner.

Day 5—Kruger National Park—Franschhoek (B)

Today we fly to Cape Town. Upon arrival, we drive to Franschhoek, a classic wine territory of the Western Cape set in a valley with a strong French Huguenot heritage. We'll sample some favored vintages at a local farm.

Day 6 - Cape Winelands Tour (B, L)

Today we visit Paarl, the third oldest European settlement in South Africa and a region known for its award-winning reds such as Roodeberg, Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, and even port. They all earned this area the title of the first "Red Route" in the world. We'll taste some of these superb reds, perhaps learning a bit about the full-bodied character of some winemakers, too!

We'll admire Paarl's architectural heritage of lovely Cape Dutch houses and breathtaking scenery. It made headlines when President Mandela was freed from the Victor Verster Prison on the outskirts of the town, heralding the new South Africa.

We'll also stop to admire the Taal Monument, or Afrikaans Language Monument, then continue to Stellenbosch. Many award winning wines originate from this superb growing area. We'll enjoy lunch and a wine tasting here.

Day 7— Cape Town (B)

We drive to Cape Town today, one of the most beautifully situated cities in the world, nestled between a dramatic bay and the flat-top Table Mountain. This is where the Rainbow Nation was born, a term coined by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, rich as it is in cultural diversity.

We board a cable car for a ride to the top of Table Mountain, where we're greeted by spectacular views. Afterwards we take a boat to Robben Island, the infamous site where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned.

Day 8— Cape Town (B, L)

Today we discover more of Cape Town's natural beauty as we drive along the scenic Chapmans Peak Drive to the Cape Peninsula, visiting Hout Bay. Our drive culminates at the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, where we'll ascend Cape Point by funicular to view the meeting of the Atlantic and Indian oceans. After our included lunch we visit the Boulders Penguin Colony and return to Cape Town for a free evening.

Day 9— Free Day (B, D)

You have the whole day to yourself to explore Cape Town on your own. You might browse the shops at the Victoria & Albert Waterfront, linger in the gay village at Green Point, or catch some sun at Clifton Beach. Share your memories at tonight's Hermes farewell dinner in the African bush on the cape.

Day 10— Depart for Home or Extend to Victoria Falls (B)

Your African discoveries don't have to end. Join us for our post-tour extension to Victoria Falls, Zambia. Otherwise, your Hermes tour ends today.

EXTEND YOUR VACATION IN VICTORIA FALLS!

Day 10— Fly to Victoria Falls (B)

Transfer north to Victoria Falls today. We'll stay on the Zambian side of this magnificent natural wonder.

Day 11— Victoria Falls (B)

High as Niagara Falls and 1.5 times as wide, "Vic Falls" were discovered by Stanley Livingstone, who proclaimed that "scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight." They are truly astonishing to behold. We'll see them up close today, then have free time at our lodge.

Day 12— Depart for Home (B)

Includes:

Accommodation as listed, meals as listed, transfers to/from airport on designated arrival/departure days, local tips to drivers/local guides, entrance fees to sights on itinerary, services of a Hermes Tours escort throughout the trip.

Not Included:

International airfare to/from South Africa, domestic flights as per itinerary (about \$320), visas expenses, personal expenses, trip cancellation insurance, tips to your Hermes Tours escort.

Hotels:

Johannesburg: The Peech Hotel 4*- A boutique hotel located in the north of the city. Conde Nast reviewed the Peech as "Contemporary, edgy and Afrocentric" and the Peech is currently the 2nd most popular hotel on Trip Advisor.

Kruger: Lukimbi Safari Lodge 5 stars - Lukimbi is a luxury safari lodge situated in the southern section of Kruger National Park. The lodge has exclusive use of 15000 ha of prime bushveld where no other vehicles are permitted. The Lukimbi lodge offers the supreme comfort of 16 luxury suites overlooking the Lwakahle River. This river is a favorite drinking place for elephants and buffalo and the adjacent plains are host to a variety of antelope.

Franschhoek: Mont Rochelle, Merlot Rooms 5 stars - Mont Rochelle Hotel invites you to relax in one of the luxurious bedrooms and suites, most of which offer spectacular views across the valleys and vines of Franschhoek.

Cape Town: Harbour Bridge Hotel 5 Stars (Feb Departure)

Ideally positioned on the fringe of the V&A Waterfront within the Cape Town International Convention Centre precinct, this state-of-the-art hotel offers no less than 360 degree views of the best the Mother City has to offer.

Bantry Bay Luxury Suites - 5 star (Oct Departure)

An exquisite blend of sea, the mountain and the city of Cape Town. 5 star luxury in the heart of Cape Town's Platinum Mile, for the pleasure-seeking tourist.

Costs: \$3895 per person based on double occupancy.
Single Supplement: \$1100 per person
Early booking discount of \$100
Deposit due at time of registration: \$500
Final payment due 80 days prior to departure

Extension to Victoria Falls:
Costs: \$TBD per person based on double occupancy.
Single Supplement: \$TBD per person

Please note that Hermes Tours has changed its payment policy for 2010 tours. Final payment may be made via credit card without surcharge. You will be asked to sign a credit card authorization form. For your convenience you may also set up a payment plan.