

SOUTH  
AFRICA



PHOTO BY FRANK RICHMOND / SOUTH AFRICA



## SOUTH AFRICA

With Desert Botanical Garden

Led by Director of Education Tina Wilson

September 27 - October 13, 2012

Join Desert Botanical Garden Director of Education Tina Wilson for an experience of a lifetime in a destination unlike any other. South Africa is world-renowned as being one of the finest countries to visit for the garden and nature enthusiast. South Africa's gardens feature some of the most fascinating plantlife on the continent. This specially designed tour explores the magnificent gardens, amazing cities and quaint villages and towns, with delicious wine and food along the way. All this is highlighted by the incredible African southern coast and last but certainly not least, the astounding thrill of seeing Africa's wildlife.

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- View world-class public gardens and unrivaled natural wonders, cultures, and sights.
- Experience a ride on the "Flying Dutchman Funicular" to the top of Table Mountain.
- Visit Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve.
- Encounter whales and dolphins up close.
- Take a boat trip on Knysna Lagoon, visit to the Featherbed and Pledge Nature Reserves.
- Explore Walter Sisulu National Botanical Garden's magnificent Witpoortjie waterfall and breeding pair of majestic Black Eagles.
- Game drive at Sabi-Sabi Private Game Reserve.

## ITINERARY

### SEPTEMBER 27

Depart the United States to start your South African garden tour.

### SEPTEMBER 28 - CAPE TOWN

Upon arrival in Capetown, you will meet with your guide and transfer to the hotel. *Overnight at Radisson Waterfront Hotel.*

### SEPTEMBER 29 - CAPE TOWN

This morning you will enjoy a few hours of relaxation before boarding a cable car on table mountain for a bird's-eye tour of the city. You will then embark on a walking adventure to become familiar with Cape Town. After lunch, take a small excursion to Robben Island. Your day will finish with a visit to the beach of St. Simons to see penguins. *Overnight at Radisson Waterfront Hotel. (BL)*

### SEPTEMBER 30 - CAPE TOWN

More tours are in store for you as you begin your day with a morning guided golf cart and walking tour of Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Here you will meet with the succulent curators, Ernst and Andrew. After lunch at Black Marlin Restaurant you will pay a visit to Cape of Good Hope and ride to the lighthouse in the Flying Dutchman Funicular. Later you will delight in penguin waddling at Boulders. This evening a special dinner has been planned at the African Cafe. *Overnight at Radisson Waterfront Hotel. (BLD)*

### OCTOBER 1 - FRANSCHHOEK

Today's adventure takes you to Sandy Ovenstone Home, a 19th century manor replete with private garden. Lunch will be served en route. In the evening, carry on to your next South African destination, Franschhoek. *Overnight at Le Franschhoek Hotel. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 2 - FRANSCHHOEK

Enjoy your morning visit to Stellenbosch Botanical Gardens under the leadership of a freelance specialist guide. Later you'll experience Vergelegen Wine Estate with wine tasting, lunch, and an estate orientation. Later this afternoon you will travel to a private nectar garden, Old Nectar Homestead and Garden. *Overnight at Le Franschhoek Hotel. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 3 - FRANSCHHOEK

This morning you will visit the Karoo National Botanical Gardens. After lunch at Mont Rochelle Vinyard, you will take a full tour that overviews the wine-making process, including the vineyard, pressroom, and a tasting. *Overnight at Le Franschhoek Hotel. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 4 - OUDSHOORN

Today you'll travel along Warmwaterberg Road to see Karroid broken veld vegetation and flora of quartz pavements. As you continue through Huisrivier Pass to Oudshoorn, you'll stop for a worthwhile detour at Soekershof Botanical Gardens. Lunch will be served en route and dinner will be on your own upon arrival in Oudshoorn. *Overnight at Rosenhof Country House. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 5 - OUDSHOORN

Today will be a special day for minor league spelunkers, as you will explore the spectacular Congo Caves. Lunch will be at the hotel, followed by an afternoon at leisure. *Overnight at Rosenhof Country House. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 6 - KNYSNA

Today you will depart from Oudtshoorn, traveling over the Outeniqua pass and arriving in George. Next, you will travel to the Featherbed Nature Reserve by boat across the Knysna Lagoon. After lunch at the Featherbed Tavern you will visit the Pledge Nature Reserve. *Overnight at Phantom Forest Eco Reserve. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 7 - KNYSNA

This morning you'll encounter whales and dolphins from the bow of a boat. In the late morning you'll walk through the Garden of Eden and explore Knysa Forest followed by a picnic lunch in the garden. *Overnight at Phantom Forest Eco Reserve. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 8 - ROSEBANK

A day of traveling is ahead. You will transfer to George around 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served en route. Your 3:30 p.m. flight will arrive in Johannesburg from where you will transfer to Rosebank. *Overnight at The Peech Boutique Hotel. (BL)*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit [www.holbrooktravel.com](http://www.holbrooktravel.com), contact Sandy Schmidt at 877-907-5360 or [schmidt@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:schmidt@holbrooktravel.com)

### OCTOBER 9 - ROSEBANK

This morning you will visit the Pretoria Botanical Gardens and meet with their Herbarium curator. After lunch you will meet with the succulent curator at Walter Sisulu National Botanical Gardens, followed by an informative tour of the garden complete with a collections propagation. *Overnight at The Peech Boutique Hotel. (BL)*

### OCTOBER 10 - SABI SABI

This morning you will transfer to Johannesburg for a flight to Sabi Sabi. Lunch will be at the Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge followed by an afternoon at leisure to explore your new surroundings. In the late afternoon you will experience your first game drive with a picturesque stop at sunset. *Overnight at Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge. (BLD)*

### OCTOBER 11 - SABI SABI

Breakfast will be served late this morning, as a sunrise safari is priority. Walking safari or spa treatments are available during the mid-morning, with a leisurely lunch and afternoon. This evening you will enjoy another safari ride followed by dinner in the boma. *Overnight at Sabi Sabi Bush Lodge. (BLD)*

### OCTOBER 12 - JOHANNESBURG

This morning's early safari will be supplemented with a leisurely walking safari or a relaxing spa treatment before transferring to the airport for your flight to Johannesburg. Upon arrival you will be transferred to the Airport Grand Hotel to rest and relax before your 8:30 p.m. flight home. *Dayroom at Airport Grand Hotel. (B)*

### OCTOBER 13 - FAREWELL!

This morning you will arrive in Atlanta and take your connecting flight to Phoenix. Welcome home!



PHOTO BY TINA WILSON

## PROGRAM PRICING

**\$9246** (minimum 12 participants)

*Cost is based on double occupancy. Single supplement is available for \$2900.*

## THE FINE PRINT

*Program may incur unforeseen fuel surcharges. A \$350 per person deposit and enrollment form is due upon booking and no later than May 30, 2012. This deposit is refundable until 95 days prior to departure excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Final payments are due no later June 24, 2012. Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are not refundable. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call Travel Insured at 800-243-3174. Holbrook's agency number is 15849.*