

The Ultimate Heritage Tour : Celebrating Mandela’s “Long Walk to Freedom”

Come join us on a truly remarkable journey where we focus our attention on the fascinating history of Nelson Mandela – a man who has fought for social justice for 67 years and was instrumental in the birth of democratic South Africa as we know it today.
Highlights : Soweto, Vilakazi Street, Nelson Mandela House Museum, Kliptown, Apartheid Museum, Constitution Hill and Lilies Leaf, Robben Island, Parliament, City Hall & Grand Parade.

Cape Town (5n) - Johannesburg (4n) with an optional extension in search of the BIG5 (2n): Travel validity: 2020


DAY	ITINERARY	
	Depart US (proposal valid with departure on a Friday)	
<p>Day 1 <i>Cape Town</i> SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Arrive Cape Town and transfer to the hotel Visa requirements: Visa to enter South Africa is not required (subject to change without prior notice) <i>The world was transfixed when Nelson Mandela was finally released to freedom in 1990 after 27 years in jail for his role in the struggle to overcome the apartheid regime in South Africa. Cape Town is where we begin the journey of discovering the heritage of South Africa and learning of the greatness within those who fought for the freedom of this Nation. It is where Nelson Mandela walked from prisoner to presidency.</i> Transfer to the hotel Westin Cape Town 5*/ AC Cape Town Hotel 4* (or similar) Evening at leisure - explore Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, situated in the oldest working harbor in the southern hemisphere, with the iconic Table Mountain as its backdrop, it is one of Africa's most visited malls</p>	
<p>Day 2 <i>Cape Town</i> SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Full day ROBBERN ISLAND, CITY & DISTRICT SIX TOUR with an African English-speaking guide <i>Robben Island, the unique symbol of “the triumph of the human spirit over adversity, suffering and injustice”, is visited every year by thousands of people eager to understand and honour the important aspects of South Africa’s history that the Island represents. The Tour guides inside the prison are former political prisoners. They are fully conversant and knowledgeable about the Island’s multi-layered 500-year-old history. The tour route includes the Maximum-Security Prison where thousands of South Africa’s freedom fighters were incarcerated for years. The tour culminates with a viewing of Nelson Mandela’s cell.</i> <i>Time at leisure for lunch (own account) at a bustling Waterfront restaurant, we explore the city of Cape Town. Your city tour will include a visit to the front of City Hall, where from the balcony on February 11, 1990, only hours after his release from prison, Nelson Mandela made his first public speech. Also close by are the Parliament Buildings and Gardens. We also visit the District Six museum which is a memorial to the forced movement of 60,000 inhabitants of all races in District Six during Apartheid era</i></p>	
<p>Day 3 <i>Cape Town</i> SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>A wonderful day ahead where you are become a part of the solution #LETSBUILDMASIBULELE <i>Masibulele (an Isixhosa word that means ‘thank you’) was opened in 1995 by a lady named Thandi Xaba, who was the first principal. In 2015, she handed over this role to her daughter Patricia, who currently runs the school. Thandi chose this name, ‘Masibulele’ as she wanted to say thank you to the families who trusted her and sent their children to her Educare Centre.</i> <i>As an informal, make-shift structure in a high-risk fire zone area there is a high risk of fire damage and a life-threatening situation for the 8 teachers and 140 children at Masibulele. At this school there is a continuous sense of deep appreciation and gratitude towards each other and those who believe in them. These teachers are dedicated to the upliftment of their school and the education of our youth. Spend your morning interacting and playing with the children, learning about them and perhaps paint some walls.</i></p>	

<p>Day 3 (continued)</p> <p>Cape Town SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>After a traditional lunch, we continue to BO-KAAP CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL experience</p> <p><i>The Bo-Kaap is one of Cape Town's most distinct and historically rich neighbourhoods. See, taste and explore the wonders that is this magnificent area and learn the local way of living and immerse yourself in the wonders that is the history of South Africa.</i></p> <p><i>Even with Signal Hill as a backdrop, Bo-Kaap, has a distinctive terrace of multi-coloured homes on steeply cobbled roads that sets this area apart. Back in 1760s this area was allocated to build "huurhuisjes" (rental houses), all of which were painted white. These homes were leased to slaves brought from Malaysia, Indonesia and the rest of Africa. When slavery ended and the residents were eventually allowed to buy their properties, they expressed their freedom by painting their houses in bright colours. The tour will end with a visit to TABLE MOUNTAIN (weather permitting)</i></p> <p>Evening at leisure</p>	
<p>Day 4</p> <p>Cape Town SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Following breakfast, a full day guided excursion to CAPE POINT - a world heritage site and a romantic meeting place of the Indian and the Atlantic Oceans - we travel through the picturesque Hout Bay, along the breathtaking Chapman's Peak Drive towards a narrow finger of land, covered in endemic fynbos and home to picturesque bays, beaches, rolling green hills and valleys. The day includes a delicious lunch and a visit to Boulders beach - COLONY OF ENDANGERED AFRICAN PENGUINS</p>	
<p>Day 5</p> <p>Cape Town</p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Day at leisure to explore the vibrant streets and perhaps some market shopping</p> <p>Early evening, transfer to THE GOLD restaurant for dinner</p> <p><i>Africa is home to hundreds of tribes, ethnic and social groups. This diversity is reflected in the cuisine at this restaurant.</i></p> <p><i>As you enjoy the cuisine, you also enjoy 3 unique performances during your dinner, starting with a praise singer who welcomes you to GOLD and introduces you to the singers, dancers, puppets and musicians. The second performance showcases the vibrant dancing and elaborations in Africa and the third performance is in honour of our royal African queens. The queen will scatter 24 carat gold dust on the guest to say thank you for visiting. This is a unique African restaurant in the heart of Cape Town. It is a set 14 course Cape Malay and African menu often referred to as a taste safari that will transport you from Table Mountain to Timbuktu.</i></p> <p>Dinner & entertainment included; drinks are for client own account</p>	
<p>Day 6</p> <p>Johannesburg</p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Following breakfast, transfer to the airport</p> <p>Flight to Johannesburg – economy class (2 hrs. in flight). <i>Luggage is limited to 44lbs per person for checked in baggage and 15lbs per person for carry on</i></p> <p>Arrive and transfer to the hotel</p> <p>Sandton Sun Hotel 5*/ Hilton Sandton 4* (or similar)</p> <p><i>Dinner is recommended at the Butcher Shop & Grill restaurant, specializing in different meats, located at the famous Nelson Mandela Square, within easy walking distance from the hotel. Dinner is for your own account and is not included as part of the tour</i></p>	 

<p>Day 7 <i>Johannesburg</i></p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel and depart on a LESEDI CULTURAL VILLAGE tour, including a delicious lunch</p> <p><i>Introduction to various cultural groups of South Africa and their traditions and way of life - the Northern Pedi, Zulu, Southern Sotho and Xhosa. This is the Rainbow Nation of today's South Africa. Following a cultural dance show, a traditional African lunch - an experience of a lifetime</i></p>	
<p>Day 8 <i>Johannesburg</i></p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Today a full day LONG WALK TO FREEDOM tour</p> <p><i>We head to the Apartheid Museum and spend a couple of hours exploring the museum, discovering the history of the Apartheid era. Following a delicious lunch, visit the Liliesleaf Heritage Site. Once known as Liliesleaf Farm this fascinating heritage site is closely linked to the Rivonia Treason Trial that led to Nelson Mandela's incarceration. In the early 1960's Liliesleaf was a sanctuary where most prominent leaders of South Africa's struggle against Apartheid sought shelter, attended secret meetings and engaged in key debates on political and military policy and strategy. Many of these individuals, including Nelson Mandela, were discovered in the 1963 police raid on Liliesleaf Farm, and tried in the subsequent treason trial. You will learn in great detail what happened during those days and the ultimate arrest of Nelson Mandela.</i></p> <p>In the course of the tour, we visit a local arts and crafts market</p>	
<p>Day 9 <i>Johannesburg</i></p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>This morning we depart to SOWETO township</p> <p>Should you wish, you get a chance to worship with the locals and take part in the 9am service at local Church in Soweto</p> <p><i>During apartheid this churches provided shelter to activists and played a big a role in the 1976 student uprisings. The students fled Orlando stadium to this church to escape police's bullets. Bullet holes are still visible in the church ceiling and damaged marble stand provide tangible evidence of the violence during these police raids and the rush to evacuate the building. Locals refer to this church as "the people's church" or "the people's cathedral". The Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings chaired by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu also took place right here. In 1997, Nelson Mandela set 30 November as "Regina Mundi Day" to honour the church</i></p>	 
<p>Day 10 <i>Departure day</i></p>	<p>Breakfast at the hotel and time at leisure for additional shopping. Transfer to the airport and connect to your outbound flight home ALTERNATIVELY – EXTEND YOUR TOUR WITH MODULE A/B/C/D</p>	

BON VOYAGE!!

Optional Extension Modules A /B/ C - IN SEARCH of the BIG5 (2 nights)

<p>Days 10-11</p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>Following breakfast, transfer to a Game Reserve/ National Park – BIG5 territory (+/- 2 hrs. by road).</p> <p>MODULE A: SAFARI PLAINS LODGE 5*</p> <p>Accommodation for 2 nights</p> <p><i>Set against the backdrop of the magnificent Waterberg Mountains in the Limpopo Province, Safari Plains offers exquisite beauty of wide-open savannas with rich wildlife heritage and spectacular vistas. The wildlife experience will not disappoint with open 4 x 4 vehicle safaris exploring the one hundred and twenty square kilometres (46 square miles) big five private game reserve. A wide array of additional optional activities available as well, such as hot air balloon safaris, horseback safaris, quad biking adventures and guided bush walks among others</i></p> <p>Module A : 2 days include accommodation in a TENTED SAFARI UNIT on FULL BOARD basis (breakfast, lunch and dinner) and 4 scheduled SAFARI game drives</p>	
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<p>Days 10-11</p> <p><i>continued</i></p> <p>SOUTH AFRICA</p>	<p>MODULE B BLACK RHINO GAME LODGE Accommodation for 2 nights <i>Black Rhino Game Lodge is a hidden treasure set within a Tamboti forest at the foot of an ancient volcanic crater within the 58 000 ha Pilanesberg National Park. This area has become renowned as one of South Africa's most exciting big five eco-tourism destinations.</i></p> <p>Module B : the next 2 days include accommodation in a TENTED SAFARI UNIT on FULL BOARD basis (breakfast, lunch and dinner included) as well 4 scheduled SAFARI game drives and conservation levies</p> <p>MODULE C BAKUBUNG BUSH LODGE Accommodation for 2 nights <i>Bakubung, or "People of the Hippo", offers everything needed in regards to comfortable and luxury accommodation. With the bush just outside your window you will be able to relax and take in everything about the bush and the animals living around you.</i></p> <p>Module C : the next 2 days include accommodation in a standard SAFARI ROOM on HALF BOARD basis (breakfast and dinner included) as well 2 scheduled SAFARI game drives and conservation levies</p> <p>MODULE D KWA MARITANE BUSH LODGE 4* Accommodation for 2 nights <i>Kwa Maritane, or "Place of the Rock" offers unparalleled comfort, in a malaria free area, less than two hours from Johannesburg. The property features two traditional bomas, wooden enclosures, where drinks can be enjoyed by the fire.</i></p> <p>Module D: the next 2 days include accommodation in a standard SAFARI ROOM on HALF BOARD basis (breakfast and dinner included) as well 2 scheduled SAFARI game drives and conservation levies</p>	   
<p>Day 12</p>	<p>Breakfast at the lodge Transfer to the airport (+- 2,5 hours by road) and connect to your outbound flight home</p>	

Notes:

- This itinerary does not require any shots or specific medical precautions
- Luggage limited to 44lbs per person for checked in baggage and 15lbs per person for carry on
- We recommend clients to purchase travel insurance.
 Salute Africa is an approved and covered vendor through Allianz and Travel Insured International

Visa requirements:

US Citizens are not required to hold a visa to enter South Africa for intended stays under 90 days, provided guests hold a passport with validity of at-least 6 months after departing the country and have at-least 2 unstamped empty pages