

# 12 Day Self-Drive Tour Along The Garden Route including

## Activities

- We ensure your Accommodation is Booked
- We ensure best possible rates
- We only book at the best possible Establishments which were previously visited to ensure the best quality accommodation.
- **INCLUDES:** Accommodation & Activities
- **EXCLUDES:** Transport & Airfare, Meals & Drinks, Travel & Medical Insurance and services of a personal nature (telephone calls, laundry, gratuities & curios)
- **PRICE:** R15,000per person sharing

### Itinerary (the package is per person sharing)

- **Day 1 & 2: Cape Town** *Distance from Cape Town to Hermanus: 87.56km*
- **Day 2: Activity: Stellenbosch - Tsiba Tsiba Wine Tour**

*Down at the southern en of Africa, the continent is anchored by this unique city. Rapidly becoming one of the 'must visit' destinations in the world, Cape Town holidays are a hard-to-beat experience.*

*On Cape Town holidays you can sight-see in the morning, hike up the mountain in the afternoon and cool off in the evening by taking in a stunning Cape sunset washed down with a world-class local wine. A delicious meal leaves you satisfied and ready for another day's adventure in the Cape. Unless you still want to go partying, that is.*

*While Cape Town's most popular attractions such as Table Mountain, Robben Island, Cape Winelands and Cape Point draw the most attention, it would be a shame to stop there. In fact, those who are prepared to be more a bit more adventurous will be rewarded by those little, out-of-the-way spots where you can enjoy your own piece of Cape splendor – discover the old fishing village of Kalk Bay or the penguin colony at Boulders Beach.*

*Naturally there's a full range of Cape Town accommodation to suit all your needs, whether you're a regular visitor and want a place that feels like home or a newlywed couple looking to celebrate romance. For parents who want a place to stay that not only caters for children but makes the grown-ups feel like they're on holiday too, a Cape Town family holiday will be what you're looking for.*

*People love the energy, vibe and multicultural mix that define this special place but speak to the locals, step off the beaten path and your Cape Town holiday will be immeasurably enriched.*

*The best time to visit Cape Town may be influenced by your interests – there are different seasons for the perfect Cape Town beach holiday, whale watching or to see the carpets of wild flowers.*

*Guided day tours are always a convenient way of exploring a city and its surroundings although Cape Town is really easy and accessible enough for you to do it on your own if you feel adventurous and have time. If you'd prefer the convenience of a tour, consider something like the Winelands lifestyle day tour.*

*And while Cape Town defined the region, the Western Cape is a widespread area with a treasure-trove of rivers, mountains, art, food and people that'll keep you coming back for more.*

*Cape Town holidays combine well with a South African safari and other African destinations – it's so easy to experience South Africa's wildlife and its urban jungles.*

*The city is a natural stop for many of the overland tours, but there are plenty of options for golf-enthusiasts, whale-watchers, people who want to see the Garden route...and so much more.*

***A holiday in Cape Town will never be long enough.***

- **Day 3 & 4: Hermanus** *Distance from Hermanus to Oudtshoorn: 284.4km*
- **Day 4: Activity: Hermanus - Hermanus Whale Cruises**

*Tucked between mountain and sea and featuring fynbos-covered hiking trails, a number of beaches, two lagoons and a meandering wine valley, Hermanus is one of the most popular destinations for both locals and international travelers.*

*A bustling harbour town on the edge of Walker Bay, Hermanus is not short of shopping opportunities or lively bars and restaurants to try.*

*But the main attraction visits between June and November. During whale season, Southern Right Whales come to the South African coast to make and calve, with calving usually happening during August and September, and the height of the whale season taking place between August and October.*

*A cliff path, stretching from one side of the town to the other, hugs the coastline for about 12km and gives whale-watchers unlimited opportunities to study these gentle giants in beautiful Walker Bay.*

*Hermanus boasts the best land-based whale-watching in the world, and offers boat-based whale-watching to get you even closer to the whales. Hermanus also hosts the famous Whale Festival that takes place in September, when the little town almost overflows with visitors.*

*Accommodation in Hermanus is plentiful, but it gets booked up over school holidays and during festival time so you would be advised to book in advance.*

*Activities: Hermanus is fast becoming an eco-adventure playground. With activities such as sea kayaking, abseiling, lagoon-canoing, sand-boarding, paragliding, horse-riding, scuba-diving, sailing, and of course whale-watching, visitors are never short of things to do and see.*

*Telescopes situated alongside the Old Harbor Museum make it possible to survey the entire Walker Bay and the whales and dolphins at close range.*

*While in Hermanus, make sure you don't pass up the quaint little museum on the harbor's edge – the whale song playing in the background comes live from underwater microphones in the bay.*

*Surrounding Areas: From Hermanus it's a beautiful drive through Overberg Country to the southern tip of Africa at Cape Agulhas, officially the point where the Atlantic and Indian oceans meet.*

***Drive around the bay to the sheltered whale-watching spot at De Kelders, exploring the quaint mission station at Elim and the traditional fishing village at Arniston – there's so much more than whales to keep you busy in this part of the Western Cape.***

- **Day 5 & 6: Oudtshoorn** **Distance from Oudtshoorn to Knysna: 92.46km**

- **Day 6: Activity: Oudtshoorn - Cango Caves & Cango Ostrich Show Farm**

The Klein Karoo is a semi-desert area wedged between the coastal mountains that separate it from the Garden Route and the impressive Swartberg mountain range in the north. The region is watered by a number of streams that flow down from the mountains to join the Olifants River. Grapes grow here (Calitzdorp produces some of the country's best port), as does Lucerne (alfalfa), which is why farmers practice – Lucerne is a favorite food of the ostrich. Oudtshoorn is the tourist capital of the Little Karoo and the ostrich capital of Southern Africa, with thousands of the beady-eyed birds all over the place. Which big bodies but small brains, these long-legged monsters eat pebbles to aid digestion and are particularly attracted to the odd earring or glinting necklace from unsuspecting tourists. At the turn of the century, ostrich feathers were in such high demand that the fashion-conscious paid a premium and feathered the nests of the barons, who built magnificent mansions known as 'Feather Palaces'. This fine architecture can still be seen around the sedate and pleasant town. Oudtshoorn has several ostrich show farms, which sell the beautifully downy feathers, but now make more money out of the desirable, soft, but strong and knobby leather. There's also an export demand for ostrich eggs, just one of which makes an omelette's for 20 people and at the show farms you can ride the birds in an ungainly manner. There's no shortage of things to do in the Oudtshoorn area. You can tour through the fascinating Cango Caves of stalagmites and stalactites, visit a crocodile farm, or stroke the fastest land animal on earth while it purrs like a tractor at Cheetah land. **There are some spectacular mountain passes around Oudtshoorn, including the Swarberg Pass (the most sensational in South Africa). The wonderful, twisted sedimentary layers of rock sport colors that look as if a painter were splashing about with his palette. The 24km road has some awesome sheer drops and hairpin bends leading down to great echoing canyons.**

- **Day 7 & 8: Knysna** **Distance from Knysna to Storms River: 76.35km**

- **Day 8: Activity: Plettenberg Bay - The Plettenberg Bay Game Reserve (Game Drive)**

Knysna is the unofficial capital of the Garden Route, the official oyster capital of South Africa and a bustling little town (especially busy during December and January) situated in the most spectacular natural surrounds. With its lush forests (and elusive elephants), lakes, rivers and a tranquil lagoon, Knysna is the ideal destination for nature and outdoor-lovers. Its outdoor lifestyle is complemented by good restaurants, art galleries and lots of comfortable accommodation. There's no shortage of restaurants on the Garden Route, and some really good ones at that. Curio shops, restaurants and bars line the main road, and the nearby waterfront development contains a yacht harbour, restaurants and boutiques. Unsurprisingly, many people choose Knysna as the base for their Garden Route holiday. **Activities and Attractions:** Knysna lazes by a warm, shallow lagoon that ebbs and flows with tides that gush through the narrow rocky entrance at the 'Heads', the enormous headlands that guard the entrance to the lagoon. The road climbing to the top of the eastern Head yields superb views (especially towards sunset) and you can watch yachts surf through the narrow ocean channel to the safety of their moorings. The other headland is known as the Featherbed Nature Reserve which features winding coastal and cliff walks through the pristine fynbos. Discover sandy coves, peer into giant caves and even stay for lunch. Surrounding the lagoon is the indigenous Knysna forest, the largest closed-canopy forest in Southern Africa featuring colossal Outeniqua Yellowwoods, Stinkwoods, Hard Pears and other trees that are often hundreds of years old. **Mystery and History:** The ancient indigenous forests used to be home to the Knysna elephants, the only forest-dwelling elephants in South Africa. Throughout history these elephants were hunted for their magnificent ivory and with their diminishing environment, it's uncertain whether any still survive in the depths of the forest. **The Knysna area is also famous for its most prominent, early 1800's resident Englishmen, George Rex. The man with an obviously royal name arrived with such pomp and circumstance and lived in such style, that a rumor spread that he was the illegitimate son of King George III. Rex never confirmed nor denied this rumor, and the truth remains a mystery.**

- **Day 9 & 10: Storms River / Tsitsikamma** **Distance from Storms River to Addo: 147.34km**

- **Day 10: Activity: Tsitsikamma / Storms River - Tsitsikamma Tree Top Canopy Tours**

Storms River is a tiny scattered hamlet with shady lanes situated just north of Plettenberg Bay and on the edge of the Tsitsikamma forest. This ancient indigenous forest is a world of giant trees, forest ferns, clear streams and brightly colored birds. Storms River is the starting point for many adventure activities. Probably the most rewarding is the Canopy Tour, where you see between platforms built high in the forest canopy. **Storms River Mouth is found in the breathtaking Tsitsikamma National Park. There is a short walk along the rocky shoreline to the wonderfully wobbly suspension bridge strung across the mouth of the river.**

- **Day 11 & 12: Port Elizabeth** **Total Distance Travel for 14 Days: Cape Town to Port Elizabeth = 765.08km**

Referred to by many as 'The Friendly City', Port Elizabeth is a major seaport and tourist destination known for its sunshine, safe sandy beaches and thriving nightlife. This small coastal city located along South Africa's east coast, is 800km from Cape Town. Known to South Africans as 'PE', Port Elizabeth's clean beaches and warm water make it a major water sports venue. The combination of calm waters and fair breezes are perfect conditions for sailing, and the safe beaches allow for swimming, surfing, body-boarding and any kind of water sport. In fact, 1995 saw PE successfully hosting the World Windsurfing Championships. Scuba-diving enthusiasts can choose from a number of great spots with lots to see, such as shipwrecks, coral reefs and beautifully colored fish in the warm waters with up to 30m visibility. **Attractions:** One of the greatest attractions of Port Elizabeth is the easily accessible National Airport that connects the city to other centers in South Africa. With the start of the Garden Route only a few hours drive away, PE is a great place to start or end your journey. For safari-lovers there are a number of wildlife reserves around Port Elizabeth, and just 73km from the city is the exclusive private Shamwari Game Reserve – home to Africa's Big Five. **Parks are another major attraction in PE, the largest being St Georges Park. St. George's covers 73 hectares and is home to the world famous Port Elizabeth Cricket Club, the oldest bowling green in South Africa, Price Alfred's Gueard Memorial and the 1882 Victorian Pearson Conservatory.**

*Another famous park is Settlers Park. Settlers Park includes 54 hectares of cultivated and natural gardens in the valley of the Baa kens River, with the many native plants and flowers attracting many colorful birds.*

*Port Elizabeth is also a city for animal-lovers, with dolphins performing at the Oceanarium, a snake park, and even a Horse Monument in town commemorating horses that suffered and died during the Boer War.*

*Weather & Climate: Visitors to Port Elizabeth will soon discover that the climate is one major contributor to the reputation of the area as offering an outstanding quality of life.*

*Temperatures are moderate all year round with rain scattered throughout the year. Summers having a very temperate humidity level, while winters are mild and pleasant.*

*Nearby: On the coast towards Plettenberg Bay you can catch a few waves at a surf spot in Jeffreys Bay or play a round of golf in St. Francis Bay. In the other direction, the coastal towns of Kentson on Sea, Port Alfred and Great Fish Point, as well as the historically Grahamstown make exciting day trip destinations.*

Our driving passion of our diverse country - South Africa, led to the establishment of Khoisan Tours & Safaris by Charlene Odendaal.

We tailor make packages along the Garden Route to suite your requirements - and we will take care of everything from transport, accommodation, meals and adventure activities.

Charlene has been involved in the tourism industry, doing marketing, advertising and event co-ordinating for some of the best rated properties in the country. With a head for business and a heart for people she is one of the driving forces behind the success of the company.

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