

CULTURE + WALKING

# SOUTH AFRICA

Cape Town, Vineyards & Safari



*Classic*  
JOURNEYS



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

## A Cultural & Safari Adventure

The wonder of South Africa is the dramatic and irresistible diversity of its cultures, landscapes and wildlife. The challenge is how to experience the best without committing to an extended visit that's too long to make sense on your travel calendar. This carefully curated and wisely proportioned itinerary is the answer. You'll go on thrilling safari in a wonderful preserve with abundant chances to see the Big Five and more. You'll walk in gorgeous vineyards...taste your way to wine nirvana...and pair it all with remarkable cuisine. There are days in Cape Town with memorable visits to the Cape of Good Hope, the cultural townships and Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned. Throughout, you'll have the fulltime company of a fine local guide who helps you make sense of the complex history, the startling landscapes, and the native and colonial cultures that have clashed, sought common ground, and welcome you with warm hospitality.

## DAY 1

## CAPE TOWN

- Ride a cable car to the top of Table Mountain

Cape Town has been named one of the world's most beautiful cities, and you'll see why as you go exploring with your local guide. Since its founding in 1652, the city's culture and architecture have been influenced by the indigenous peoples as well as the Dutch and British. To grasp the Cape Town's scale and dramatic setting, the best vantage point is atop iconic Table Mountain. Up you go by cable car to take in views that encompass the entire city and bay.

**OVERNIGHT: CAPE TOWN**  
**MEALS: L, D**

## DAY 2

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

- See the Cape of Good Hope
- Walk with the penguins on Boulder Beach
- Explore one of the world's most beautiful botanical gardens

Your day starts with a southward drive over Chapman's Peak Drive, an engineering marvel that hugs the cliffs and offers jaw-dropping ocean views all along the way.

In the 15th century, Portuguese navigators were the first to reach the Cape of Good Hope, the crucial turning point in the long and dangerous trip around Africa to the Far East. Your day is dedicated to exploring this historic place. Walking on trails high above the ocean at Cape Point with the wind in your hair, you can't help at the marvel those sailors must have felt and the awesome challenges that their journeys entailed.

In nearby Simon's Town, you'll visit Boulder Beach, home to the largest colony of endangered African penguins. Hundreds of them populate the beach, and you'll be able to get a close-up look (and terrific photos) of the birds. Back in Cape Town, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens is a remarkable collection of more than 7,000 plant species on more than five square miles at the base of Table Mountain. On a guided walk, you'll see strange and beautiful fauna, much of which is unique to South Africa.

**OVERNIGHT: CAPE TOWN**  
**MEALS: B, L**

## DAY 3

## CULTURAL TOWNSHIPS / ROBBER ISLAND

- Learn about the history and culture of the townships
- Visit Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned

To understand modern South Africa and the path the country has taken since the end of apartheid, it's essential to visit the townships, informal settlements that grew at the peripheries of the city. While poverty is still evident in Langa, the oldest of the townships, it is also a place of hope as you'll see on this morning's visit. In the company of your local guide, you'll gain insights into South African culture that is hard to find anywhere else.

In the spirit of ubuntu – a philosophy of humanity towards others – you'll be invited to purchase soup ingredients that you'll deliver to the kitchen in a small school, where you'll meet the children in their classrooms. As you visit other

community initiatives in the township, you'll interact with a traditional healer and have a taste of home-brewed African beer.

This afternoon, you explore another crucial chapter in South African history on a tour of Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for almost 20 years in an attempt to silence his anti-apartheid voice. Today, the island is a UNESCO World Heritage site and a symbol of the transformative power of forgiveness.

**OVERNIGHT: CAPE TOWN**  
**MEALS: B**

## DAY 4

## THE CAPE WINELANDS

- Take a scenic stroll on a wine estate
- Try the local food and wine specialties on a culinary walk

Soil and climate conditions have long made South Africa a premier wine growing region. Stellenbosch is the capital of the winelands, and as you make your way there, you'll have ample opportunity to soak in the sweeping beauty of the land. En route, you'll go for a scenic walk on a sustainable wine estate in the Franschhoek Valley.

And then how about a cuisine walk? Starting near your hotel in Stellenbosch, you'll follow a lovely trail that just happens to include stops for bread fresh from the ovens on an artisanal baker, snacks at a family-run butchery, a tasting at a lively wine bar, and Cape desserts with a tasting of the locally grown teas.

Dinner tonight is on your own in one of the town's many terrific restaurants.

**OVERNIGHT: STELLENBOSCH**  
**MEALS: B, L**

## DAY 5

## THE CAPE WINELANDS

- Enjoy a scenic day full of wine country walks and tastings at boutique vineyards

After a leisurely breakfast, you're off for a daylong immersion in the romantic beauty of the Cape Winelands. Vineyards undulate over dramatic hills under perfect blue skies – perfect conditions for the tastings to come.

As your guide will proudly remind you, the Stellenbosch region produces 3% of the world's wines, including many of the finest. On a variety of walks, you'll enjoy the fresh mountain air and a chance to see the distinctive Fynbos plants that grow only here. You'll also visit the crème de la crème of the top boutique wineries (and stay away from the commercial farms that draw touristic crowds). Along the way, you'll enjoy food pairings as well and a wonderful lunch.

With your new knowledge about favorite local wines, you may want to order a special bottle when for dinner in Stellenbosch tonight.

**OVERNIGHT: STELLENBOSCH**  
**MEALS: B, L, D**

## DAILY ITINERARY

SOUTH AFRICA | CAPE TOWN, VINEYARDS & SAFARI | CULTURE + WALKING

### DAY 6

#### SAFARI

- Fly to eastern South Africa
- Settle into your lodge on a private game preserve

Your safari officially begins this afternoon! After breakfast, you'll fly to the northeast where the Phinda Private Game Preserve sits inland from the Indian Ocean. "Phinda" means "return to the wild" and it refers to the remarkable transformation that these former farmlands have made back to their original natural state.

At Phinda, you'll have fine opportunities to spot The Big Five – the elephant, rhinoceros, Cape buffalo, lion and leopard – all of which are found within the reserve. It's also home to zebra, wildebeest, hippos, cheetahs, and more. The days ahead will provide plentiful opportunities for wildlife spotting.

Your luxurious and very comfortable lodge is on the grounds of the Preserve. Thanks to the wonderful architecture, your quarters look out on to the wild terrain. So from your first moment, and as you enjoy the pools and other amenities, the animals you came to see are never far away.

An al fresco dinner is a perfect way to enjoy the savannah sunset.

**OVERNIGHT: PHINDA PRIVATE GAME PRESERVE**  
**MEALS: B, L, D**

### DAY 7

#### SAFARI

- Thrill to wildlife sightings on a day of safari activities

Thanks to rainfall patterns caused by the Indian Ocean, Phinda actually contains seven ecosystems that range from Savannah and bush to sand forest and thornveld. That great diversity means that on your guided forays into the

countryside, it's remarkably easy to reach settings that are most attractive to the wildlife you came to see.

You'll have a variety of chances to go exploring, and they change daily depending on weather, time of day and animal activity. In the heat of the afternoon, you may want to follow the lead of the wildlife and relax at the lodge with a dip in the pool or a massage.

**OVERNIGHT: PHINDA PRIVATE GAME PRESERVE**  
**MEALS: B, L, D**

### DAY 8

#### SAFARI

- Add to your list of sightings on another day in the wild

In the bush, every day is different. As you head out today with your expert guides, you're likely to see more species, witness interesting behaviors, capture memories (and photos) you'll cherish forever. Thanks to the size of the preserve, you won't have to travel endless dusty miles to have the safari experience you've waited so long to fulfill.

**OVERNIGHT: PHINDA PRIVATE GAME PRESERVE**  
**MEALS: B, L, D**

### DAY 9

#### DEPARTURE

- Go for a final morning wildlife drive
- Transfer for your flight home

As you know well by now, morning hours are some of the best for spotting wildlife, and you'll have a chance for one final drive this morning. We will transfer you to the local airstrip. From here, you can connect to your homebound airline via Cape Town or Johannesburg.

**MEALS: B**



## DAILY ITINERARY

SOUTH AFRICA | CAPE TOWN, VINEYARDS & SAFARI | CULTURE + WALKING

### Tour Hotels



#### Cape Grace

Situated on a private quay between Cape Town's bustling V&A Waterfront and the tranquil yacht marina, there is no better position from where to soak in the natural beauty of the Mother City and the very essence of Cape Town.

**OVERNIGHT: VICTORIA AND ALFRED WATERFRONT | NIGHTS: 3**



#### Oude Werf Hotel

The oldest running hotel in South Africa, this classic property is an eclectic blend of old and new. Spacious rooms offer modern amenities and period-inspired styling. You're an easy walk from the shopping and historic highlights of Stellenbosch.

**OVERNIGHT: STELLENBOSCH | NIGHTS: 2**



#### Phinda Mountain Lodge

Beautifully sited within the game preserve, the Mountain Lodge and Forest Lodge each offer luxurious comfort, private views of the bush from your chalet, cooling swimming pools, and remarkable access to the wildlife opportunities.

**OVERNIGHT: KWAZULU NATAL | NIGHTS: 3**

## Tour Dates & Prices

Tour Dates	Price per Person	Price per Person
	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy
March 15-23, 2020	\$7,295	\$8,890
June 21-29, 2020	\$7,295	\$8,890
October 4-12, 2020	\$7,095	\$8,690
Dec 28, 2020-Jan 5, 2021	\$7,495	\$9,090
March 14-22, 2021	\$7,395	\$8,990
June 20-28, 2021	\$7,395	\$8,990
October 3-11, 2021	\$7,195	\$8,790
Dec 27, 2021-Jan 4, 2022	\$7,595	\$9,190

Want a different date? Or your own date? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE) to learn more about private journeys.

### INTERNAL AIRFARE

This trip includes 1 internal flight, which is priced separately from the land tour. The total cost for the internal flight is approximately \$600 per person.

## Trip Essentials

**TRIP LENGTH:** 9 Days, 8 Nights

**START:** 9:00 AM Lobby of hotel, Cape Town, South Africa

**END:** Phinda Private Game Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

**TERRAIN:** Easy to Moderate

## What's Included

- Memorable accommodations for 8 nights
- All breakfast, 7 lunches and 5 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

- **Privileged Access Events**
- **Invisible Check-In**
- **Wine on Us**

READY TO BOOK?  
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

### Or give us a call

1-833-387-1210

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

[moreinfo@classicjourneys.com](mailto:moreinfo@classicjourneys.com)



### TRAVEL WORRY-FREE!

It's easy with insurance from Travel Guard. Your policy can cover trip cancellation, travel delays, lost luggage, medical emergencies, and more. If you are traveling with kids, add them to your policy at no extra cost. [Click here](#) or call 800-826-4919 for details.

### AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to a [whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

### ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

# THE Classic Journeys Difference

## HANDCRAFTING TRIPS OF A LIFETIME.



At the end of the day, we fundamentally believe that every guest on every departure of every trip should have a trip of a lifetime. We're fortunate to play the role of well-connected friend, linking our guests with amazing guides, artisans, winemakers, hoteliers, restaurateurs, naturalists, and too many others to list here.

That's what motivates me and our team — in our La Jolla HQ and around the world — every day. Join Us!

President & Founder



## You can expect the highest standards:



### Luxurious Lodgings:

Ours include coveted properties that appear in "World's Best" and "Gold List" rankings.



### Included Activities:

You'll never be surprised with add-on fees on your activities that include snorkeling to cooking lessons.



### Local Guides:

Your guides are locals who are always at your side like well-connected friends.



### Small Group Travel:

With an average of just 10-12 guests, it's a small footprint that guarantees you access that's off-limits to larger groups.



### Amazing Cuisine:

From Michelin-starred restaurants to lunch in a farmhouse kitchen, you'll have a seat for the region's signature dishes.



### Unmatched Value:

"Excellent value" and "unbeatable access" are two of the reasons that Travel + Leisure has consistently voted us a World's Best Tour Operator.

## You'll enjoy these handcrafted travel experiences in South Africa...

- Capturing the views of Cape Town and the Atlantic from atop Table Mountain
- Walking with African penguins near the Cape of Good Hope
- Tasting wines on walks and visits to boutique vineyards in the Winelands
- Luxuriating in perfectly-sited accommodations, including your luxurious lodge inside the Phinda Private Game Preserve
- Spotting the Big Five and other wildlife on a walking and driving safari

*"Classic Journeys has turned out to be a fantastic company to travel with - one I highly recommend. I truly feel as if I have been on vacation this past week."*

—Marcia B.

Let's Go!

TO RESERVE: 833.493.5038 | CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/RESERVATIONS

You might also enjoy...



## India

### Rajasthan & Taj Mahal

Culture + Walking

#### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Exploring rustic villages
- Traversing countryside trails
- Scouting bustling bazaars with a local chef

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/india/>.



## Morocco

### Marrakesh, Sahara & Fès

Culture + Walking

#### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Strolling the crest of colossal sand dunes
- Winding through the alleys of Fes Medina
- Exploring a kasbah, rest-stop of caravans

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/morocco/>.



## Portugal

### Lisbon, Douro Valley & Porto

Culture + Walking

#### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Tasting Port at a family-owned Douro Valley vineyard
- Walking the dramatic Atlantic coast from Cabo da Roca
- Luxuriating in some of Portugal's most historic hotels

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/portugal/>.



You might also enjoy...



## Zambia

### Victoria Falls, Villages & Wildlife

Culture + Walking

#### PICTURE YOURSELF...

- Walking among zebras, giraffes and impalas
- Boating on the Zambezi River
- Meeting villagers who live in balance with nature

For more information, visit <https://www.classicjourneys.com/zambia/>.

# “Enthusiasm is Contagious”

AS TRAVEL + LEISURE NAMES CLASSIC JOURNEYS THE WORLD'S BEST TOUR OPERATOR FOR 2019, FOUNDER EDWARD PIEGZA REVEALS HOW IT FEELS. ENTHUSIASTICALLY.



*EDITOR'S NOTE: Just before publication of this issue, Travel + Leisure magazine announced that its readers have voted Classic Journeys the World's Best Tour Operator for 2019. It's the second time Classic Journeys has won that recognition and the 14th consecutive year the company has been in the Top 10.*

### **Congratulations! How did you get the news?**

I received a top-secret email and phone call from the editor of *Travel + Leisure* a few weeks ago with orders not to tell ANYONE. Friends and neighbors must have wondered why my smile has been so extra big lately. Now they know.

### **And how does it feel to be the World's Best Tour Operator again?**

Awesome. Humbling. So, so satisfying. Deeply gratifying to learn that we have achieved what we set out to do which is to handcraft trips of a lifetime for every guest who travels with us. I'm known as long-winded, so I could probably come up with 10 or 15 more ways to describe it if you want me to keep going.

### **Why do you think *Travel + Leisure* gave you this recognition?**

Actually, it isn't the *T+L* editors who make the decision. That's the best part. Their readers cast the votes. So the people who do the traveling, the guests who explore the world with us and our competitors — they are the ones who raised their hands to tell *T+L* that Classic Journeys is the World's Best Tour Operator based on their own experiences. Let me say it right here: "To all of you who voted for us, you are the World's Best Guests!"

### **What do you think makes your guests the World's Best Guests?**

That's easy. They are curious. They care about connecting with people of different cultures and immersing themselves in the world. They treasure experiences more than things. Like the old ad slogan went, they go for the gusto and crave the chance to have one-of-a-kind moments. They are incredibly interesting and interested people, and all of us at Classic Journeys count it as a real privilege to share in their passion for travel. And we feel that way on the

other 364 days of the year when we're not celebrating recognition like this.

### **I guess this is what you meant when you told me that "Enthusiasm is contagious."**

Absolutely. That's not our official motto, but it could be. We love what we do. We enjoy helping guests figure out how to invest their precious time and budget. I can honestly say that all of us feel that way — the Guest Services folks who interact with you while you're planning your trip, the Tour Operations team members who plan all of the logistics, the local guides who lead each one of our trips full time. There's just a huge amount of positive energy in what we do, and I think it truly is hard to resist. We'd climb into every one of our guest's suitcases and go along with them if we could. Because we can't, we call each guest while they're on tour just to be sure they are having a trip of a lifetime.

### **Has anyone ever called Classic Journeys obsessive?**

I hope so, because we are. Everything is in the details. For instance, we've created a special tour for the total eclipse of the sun which is going to pass over parts of South America in 2020. We've already analyzed likely traffic patterns in the most remote areas and figured out how to structure our itinerary so that our guests will be in place in the path of totality while the people who don't plan ahead will be stuck in jams on remote dirt roads. We enjoy obsessing about details like that so that our guests never have to.



### **How can you top this?**

Oh, we never let ourselves think of it that way. We just continue to approach every single guest on each and every departure like the most important guest we've ever had. It seems to be working! Of course, we keep looking for new ways to win more converts. For 2019, we've launched a new series of Classic Journeys that are based from

## **"I voted for you!"**

We've heard that expression so many times lately from guests who registered their votes with *Travel + Leisure*. Given the results, we know it's true ... and you know that your votes really count!

### **STAFF AND GUIDES**

"I always feel like I'm traveling with a best friend. I prefer your local guides to the ones that other companies fly in."

### **ITINERARIES AND DESTINATIONS**

"If it's on my bucket list, you always seem to go there. Of course, with so many options you always seem to make my list longer and longer!"

### **ACTIVITIES**

"On your trips, I've cooked with Michelin chefs, sung songs with Quechua schoolchildren, and walked on glaciers with the descendants of Vikings. Fun doesn't begin to describe it."

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

"How you manage so many 5-star properties on these trips shocks me. But please, please, please keep it up!"

### **FOOD**

"I have never eaten so well so often so happily. When you people claim that you are foodies, you aren't kidding."

### **OVERALL VALUE**

"We have never had a better vacation at any price."

river cruise boats. On a different note, seeing how many travelers can't always find as much vacation time as they really want, we have developed a series of 6-day or shorter quick trips that go as far afield as Iceland, the Galápagos and Morocco.

### **Final thoughts?**

It's always an honor to win recognition. But, for all of us at Classic Journeys, the biggest privilege is to share the dreams of our guests and make those dreams come true. That connection is the best feeling of all.