

## SPRING FLOWERS TOUR 2007 PROPOSED ITINERARY

We are excited to announce the provisional itinerary and dates for the popular **14 DAY/13 NIGHT SPRING 2007 WILD FLOWER GROUP TOURS**. We will offer 4 x Group Tours for 2007 with a maximum of 20 Guests per Tour.

As an added attraction, we are also offering our Guests an option of extending their stay in South Africa to enjoy a **7 DAY/6 NIGHT GARDEN ROUTE & ADDO SAFARI**, enjoying a Tour along the Garden Route and a Safari Experience at Addo Elephant Park in the malaria-free Region of the Eastern Cape. These Tours will depart directly after each FLOWER TOUR ends, with a maximum of 10 Guests per Safari.

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### **DAY 1 - OVERNIGHT IN CAPE TOWN; LUNCH BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Guests arrive at Cape Town International Airport. They are welcomed by Company Representatives and Tour Guides from ECO-TOURS SA and are taken to their Hotel, in Cape Town, for Check-In and to freshen up after their flight. At 12H30, we depart for the "Jewel" in our Crown, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Here, following a tasty Welcome Lunch and Tour Briefing. Guests are at leisure for the rest of the afternoon to enjoy a stroll through the Gardens. Late afternoon, we return our Guests to their Hotel and they are at their leisure for the rest of the evening. We suggest that Guests get an early night tonight as from tomorrow we have a full program ahead of us. An Optional Dinner can be enjoyed at any of the superb Restaurants and Cafes within walking distance of the Hotel.

### **DAY 2 - OVERNIGHT IN SIMONSTOWN; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Following breakfast, and Check-Out from our Hotel, we start our Day, weather permitting, with a trip up Table Mountain, via the rotating Cable Car for a guided walk on the summit. The scenic views from the top of the Mountain, overlooking the City and the entire Cape Peninsula are quite spectacular. The Plant Life found on the Table Mountain Range will give our Guests an idea of the diversity of Plant Species they will encounter over the duration of the Tour. From, Table Mountain, our Guests are taken on a short orientation Tour of the City. We will stop off at places of interest, including a walk through the Company Gardens, situated in the centre of our City, before we make our way to the "Jewel" in our Crown, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Under the guidance of a Specialist Botanist Guide, Guests have ample opportunity to stroll around and explore the Gardens and will gain a better understanding of the Cape Floral Kingdom. Late afternoon we depart the Gardens and via the Constantia Valley and the scenic Coastal Route, we head for the historical Royal Navy Village of Simonstown, where we overnight in our Hotel, overlooking the scenic Simonstown Waterfront. Guests will enjoy a Set Menu Dinner in a Local Restaurant overlooking the Harbour.

### **DAY 3 - OVERNIGHT IN SIMONSTOWN; BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Today we set out to explore the Greater Cape Peninsula. We start the day with a visit to view the Boulders Beach African Penguin Colony, before heading for the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve. Here we enjoy a walk up to the Cape Point Lighthouse, followed by a visit to Cape of Good Hope Rock, the South Westernmost point of Africa, where we should get a clearer picture as to why the Cape of Good Hope was first known as the “Cape of Storms” by earlier Sailors. The day is spent exploring this Region, which is so rich in floral splendour, whilst looking out for the variety of Wild Animals and Birdlife and perhaps, even huge Southern Right Whales frolicking along the Coast. On arrival at our Hotel in the late afternoon, Guests are at their leisure for the rest of the day, free to enjoy walks around this quaint little village or to explore the nearby private Gardens. Guests can enjoy an optional Dinner at any of the superb Restaurants in Simonstown, serving Local Sea Food cuisine, a perfect way to round off the day.

### **DAY 4 - OVERNIGHT IN CAPE TOWN; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Following a breakfast, our Guests check out from their Hotel in Simonstown, as today our Tour takes us to visit and explore the scenic Winelands region of the Western Cape, including Paarl, Franschoek and Stellenbosch. We visit various superior export Wine Estates, giving our Guests ample opportunity to enjoy superb Cheese & Wine tasting. Guests can enjoy an optional lunch at one of the many street Cafes found in Franschoek. Late afternoon we return to our Hotel in Cape Town, where our Guests will overnight. Guests will enjoy Dinner in a City Restaurant.

### **DAY 5- OVERNIGHT IN LANGEBAAN; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Following a hearty breakfast, Guests check out from their Hotel, as today, we commence our Tour, overland up the West Coast Region of the Western Cape Province. Assuming the Flowers are still in bloom, we will stop off at a number of pristine Nature Reserves found in this Region including the Tienie Versfeld Nature Reserve near Darling. This Nature Reserve is well known for its diverse display of Spring Flowers ranging from Bulbous Plants to the common African Daisy. Later on in the day, we head into the West Coast National Park. Here we will enjoy a drive around this spectacular Reserve, well known for its spectacular displays of Spring Wild Flowers, with plenty opportunity for stops along the way to explore the veldt. Late afternoon we make our way to our Hotel overlooking the Lagoon in Langebaan. We will enjoy Dinner at the Hotel.

### **DAY 6 - OVERNIGHT IN LANGERBAAN; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Today, we spend the day exploring the West Coast National Park from the comfort of our Vehicles and enjoying short walks into the veldt. If open to the Public, we will go into the Posberg Nature Reserve, looking out for the spectacular colourful displays of Wildflowers, together with a host of Wild Animals such as various Antelope species, Zebra, Wildebeest, Bontebok, etc. The West Coast Nation Reserve is also home to about 220 different species of Birds. Guests can purchase a “snack or picnic” Lunch from a nearby Supermarket in the morning, before we enter the Nature Reserve. Late afternoon we return to our Guest Lodge in Langebaan. Dinner is enjoyed at the Hotel or at one of the fine Restaurants found in the village.

### **DAY 7 – OVERNIGHT IN CLANWILLIAM; DINNER BED AND BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

After breakfast we resume our journey to the North West, travelling all along the Coast, exploring the Region, searching and viewing the Wild Flowers found en-route. Lunch will be enjoyed along the way. Mid afternoon we leave the Coastal Region behind us as we head inland to the Cederburgh Mountain Region. Here we are certain to encounter a diverse variety of Fynbos Plants, many of them indigenous to this Region. We overnight in a Guest Lodge in Clan William. We enjoy a traditional South African Barbeque (braai) for Dinner.

### **DAY 8 – OVERNIGHT IN CLANWILLIAM; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

After breakfast, we commence our journey northwards into the Namaqualand Region. We will visit a number of Nature Reserves found in the area, as well as going onto private Farmland, not normally open to the Public. We will visit the quaint village of Niewoudtville, known as the Bulb Capital of the World. This Region offers a spectacular diverse range of Plant life and our Guests will have ample opportunity to enjoy this Spring Wonderland. A visit to the “prehistoric” Quiver Tree Forest cannot be missed, before we return to Clan William in the early evening, where we overnight. Dinner is enjoyed at one of the Restaurants in the Village.

### **DAY 9 – OVERNIGHT IN CLANWILLIAM; LUNCH BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

After an early breakfast, we head out into the Farmland Region to visit a Rooibos Tea Estate and Nature Reserve. The amazing Rooibos Tea plant is found only in this Region and despite attempts to grow it in other parts of the world, they have not survived. Our Tour starts with a trip in an open Landrover into the veldt to experience the complexity of the Fynbos that grows in this Region. A knowledgeable Botanist, resident of the Area, guides us on this excursion. Our Tour then takes us to view the Rooibos Tea process, from cultivation to export. Following a hearty Lunch consisting of Local Cuisine at the Owl House Open Air Restaurant, we head up into the spectacular Cederburgh Mountains. These Mountains offer some of the most amazing Rock-Art and Shapes imaginable, which together with its diverse Fynbos and spectacular scenery, makes this a delightful visit for all nature lovers. If time permits, Guests can enjoy an optional Hike to view a number of these historical Khoi-San Rock Art sites. We return to our Guest Lodge in Clan William, where we overnight. Guests can enjoy an optional Dinner at a local Restaurant.

### **DAY 10 - OVERNIGHT IN TULBAGH; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Today is a little more relaxed. Guests can enjoy a leisurely walk through the Village or enjoy a walk through the Ramskop Nature Reserve and mid morning, we resume our journey, further inland to Tulbagh, where we overnight. The quaint village of Tulbagh was virtually destroyed by an earthquake in 1969 and has been completely rebuilt, since then, restoring much of its Cape Dutch style & character. This Region is well known for its superb Export quality Wines, Fruits, Olives, Dried Fruit, etc and en route we will sample these tasty morsels. Guests will have the opportunity to explore the Village Gardens and surroundings, before enjoying Dinner at a local Restaurant in Tulbagh.

## **DAY 11 - OVERNIGHT IN MONTAGU; DINNER BED AND BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

After an early breakfast, we resume our journey, heading into the Little Karoo, via the scenic Breede River Valley to Montagu. This morning, time and weather permitting, we will enjoy either a visit to the Karoo Botanical Gardens or a tour of a private succulent garden, followed by an afternoon guided tour of the Montagu Botanical Gardens. The rest of the day, Guests are at leisure to visit a number of Private Gardens in the Village, open for viewing. We return to Montagu where we overnight. Prior to Dinner, Guests will enjoy a presentation given by Members of the Local Botanical Society. Dinner, consisting of traditional South African Cuisine is enjoyed at our Guest Lodge.

## **DAY 12 – OVERNIGHT IN CAPE TOWN; BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Today is a little more relaxed. This morning Guests have an opportunity to explore this colourful historical Village, visiting and viewing a number of Private Gardens on display, before we commence our return journey back to Cape Town, arriving at our Guest Lodge in the City in the mid afternoon. Guests are at their leisure for the rest of the day, catching up with the sights and sounds of the V & A Waterfront.

## **DAY 13 – OVERNIGHT IN CAPE TOWN; DINNER BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

Following an early breakfast, we head out to visit the quaint seaside village of Hermanus, known as the Whale Capital of the World. Our Route takes us all along the Coastline on the Eastern Side of False Bay, searching for Whale sightings till we reach Betty's Bay. Here we stop off to visit the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens, well known for its Mountain Fynbos and other Plants. If possible, we will also visit one of the Private Fynbos Gardens found in this Region. From here we head to Hermanus where Guests will have ample opportunity to enjoy walks along the seaside cliffs, while getting up nice and close to any number of the huge Southern Right Whales that visit this coastline during spring. Late afternoon we return to Cape Town, to our Guest House to freshen up, before heading for a nearby Restaurant where we enjoy our "Totsiens" (Farewell) Dinner. Guests overnight in Cape Town.

## **DAY 14 – BED & BREAKFAST INCLUDED**

This morning, following a leisurely breakfast and Checking Out from their Guest Lodge, Guests are at their leisure for the rest of the day, catching up with some last minute exploring or shopping, before meeting up again, late afternoon, to transfer out to Cape Town International Airport to commence their return journey home.

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## **COST OF TOUR**

£2300 PER PERSON BASED ON 2 SHARING INCLUDING FLIGHTS. SINGLE SUPPLEMENT £340

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## **GENERAL NOTES**

As advised, the Itinerary may vary to comply with your particular Interests, Local weather conditions, Road conditions and other factors beyond our control, etc. The area we will be visiting is well known for its varying weather conditions, going from hot during the day to cool in the evenings, with possible rain. Kindly be advised that appropriate clothing, packed in soft baggage, not exceeding normal suitcase size. Don't forget a sunhat, comfortable walking shoes, your camera, with plenty batteries, film or Memory Cards and binoculars.

The Tour Rate as quoted, is inclusive of Lunch and Dinners where indicated, Bed & Breakfast, Air-conditioned Vehicles, Qualified Tour Guides, Entrances to all Botanical Gardens, Nature Reserves, all activities per Itinerary, including Table Mountain Cable way Ticket, all Cheese, Olive and Wine Tasting, etc.

Excluded are all liquid refreshments, any additional Entrance Fees or Activities, any items of a personal nature and any activities not forming part of this Itinerary.

## **TOUR GUIDES**

Tour Guides accompanying the Tour will be skilled in Veldt work and identification of Plants, Birds and other Animals. Various Flower and other Reference Books will be available on the Vehicles and Guests are able to consult these if required. From time to time, certain Specialist Botanist Guides will be available to lead any Tours in the various Botanical Gardens and Nature Reserves that we visit.

## **ACCOMMODATION**

Guests will be accommodated in superb quality, comfortable accommodation such as Hotels and Guest Lodges, typical in character for the area we are visiting. In certain areas, because of its remoteness away from the "touristy" Routes, Guests will overnight in comfortable Guest Lodges, where possible, all Rooms will be En-Suite, except for Singles, who may have to share a Bathroom.

## **MEALS**

Bed and Breakfast, together with certain Lunches and evening Dinners is provided everyday. Country Folk just love too spoil their Guests, so be assured of comfortable Beds and huge hearty breakfasts. Lunches and Dinners, where included, as indicated will consist of Set-Menu Meals, consisting of Main Course and Desert. There will almost always be a choice of Meat, Fish or Chicken, with Vegetarians also being accommodated. Guests must kindly indicate any special dietary requirements, well in advance. Certain Lunches and Dinners as indicated in the Itinerary, together with Drinks are not included and are for guests to settle independently.

We trust that your Tour with us will be an enjoyable experience and that your 2007 SPRING FLOWER TOUR will be a truly memorable one.

Standard Terms and Conditions apply to all tours