Hop-on Hop-off touring around Cape Peninsula

Image courtesy of City Sightseeing Cape Town
Day Tours

Cape Town is unusually rich in diversity and offers a host of activities for visitors. Apart from sightseeing, shopping markets and high-end brands and visiting iconic World Heritage sites and beaches, the Western Cape also offers a wealth of cultural heritage, like food and wine, and is a favourite destination for adventurous activities such as rock-climbing and cycling. The largest timed cycle tour in the world takes place here every year and there is a cycle tour between Cape Town and Knysna, on the Garden Route, for the truly adventurous.

Cape Point
Cape Point is the southernmost tip of the Cape Peninsula. The drive takes you via Chapmans Peak past steep mountains, secluded coves, beaches, villages and fishing communities. At Cape Point visit the Cape of Good Hope nature reserve – home of fynbos species found nowhere else in the world and a variety of wildlife including baboons, rhebok, Cape Mountain zebra, bontebok and the elusive eland. Return via the historical Simonstown naval base.

Panoramic Cape Town City Tour
Visit the Castle, the oldest building in South Africa, then move on to another historic area of the city, the Cape Malay quarter situated on the slopes of Signal Hill. Imbibe its rich spiritual, musical and culinary heritage before diving down into the city centre itself. Drive along Adderley Street, the lively centre of town, past the historic Groote Kerk and St. George’s Cathedral, the Anglican Diocese of Nobel peace laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

Table Mountain
A cable car ride to the top of Table Mountain, a World Heritage Site, is a highlight of any Cape Town visit. The cableway takes you to the summit in under ten minutes whilst rotating gondola’s ensure a 360 degree view of Cape Town and Table Bay. At the top stroll along 2km of pathways and enjoy magnificent views from over 12 viewing sites and decks. Facilities on the mountain include a self-service restaurant, bistro, and a shop selling gifts and curios.

Winelands Tour
A visit to the Cape Winelands is an absolute must as the region is one of breathtaking vistas and majestic mountain backdrops while being steeped in rich culture and history. Rolling vineyards and quaint Cape Dutch homesteads await you, as well as award-winning wine farms offering some of the country’s best wines. The most popular and well-known regions are Stellenbosch, Franschhoek, Wellington, Paarl, and the Constantia Valley, that is just a 10-minute drive from the city centre.

Robben Island
Famous Robben Island, whose prison was once home to former South African president Nelson Mandela as well as many other black political freedom fighters, is now a World Heritage Site and provides stunning views across the bay with Table Mountain as its backdrop.
backdrop. A trip to the island is an unforgettable experience and offers a glimpse into the life and times of the apartheid era. Daily tours to the island, that take approximately 31/2 hours, include the ferry trip there and back, an island tour and a tour of the prison with a former political prisoner as your guide.

**Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens**

The beautiful Kirstenbosch gardens cover an area of 528 hectares with 36 hectares of cultivated garden. The gardens are a celebration of South African flora – showcasing only indigenous South African plants. Fynbos, proteas, cycads and rolling lawns are intermingled with streams and ponds and well-laid out pathways for easy walking.

**Cultural Tours**

A visit to one of the many townships surrounding the city is an experience that will open your eyes to the way in which the biggest portion of Cape Town’s population lives. Take a township tour of Langa, the oldest township in South Africa or vibrant Khayelitsha, the second largest township in South Africa. Township tours will usually be co-led by a resident in the area, showcase local industry and community projects and include a visit to a township bar or ‘shebeen’.

**Golf**

Cape Town and the greater Western Cape Province, with its sprawling and lush green lawns, is a golfer’s paradise. It is here, in Africa’s sport capital that you will find some of the most majestic and scenic championship-status courses in South Africa. Golfing enthusiasts will be pleased to know that Cape Town’s golf courses are highly rated in terms of setting, layout and quality.

**Adventure Activities**

Cape Town, and the Western Cape, caters for the more adventurous at heart. The mountains surrounding the area provide the perfect foil for abseiling, hiking, paragliding and mountain biking while the oceans are a playground for surfing, deep sea fishing and shark cage diving.
Pre & Post Tours in Southern Africa

South Africa is a long-haul destination for most international delegates so it makes sense to combine a trip to South Africa with a visit to one or more of the magnificent destinations that are on offer. From the elegance and historicity of the Cape winelands to the cross-country romance of steam-train travel and the wilderness of safari – to the bushland adventures beyond South Africa’s borders, the options are many and varied.

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Mark Twain
WESTERN CAPE

Garden Route & Klein Karoo
The tour visits the famed Garden Route, with a dramatic and spectacular coastline of cliffs interspersed with endless golden beaches, huge natural lagoons, and thick indigenous coastal forests. Inland there are mountain passes and desert scenery and the famed Cango caves, as well as the Addo Elephant National Park with its large elephant herds.

Cape Winelands
The Cape Winelands are situated east of Cape Town among beautiful mountains creating some stunning vistas. The region is steeped in culture and history with some excellent examples of typical Dutch architecture dating back to the 17th century. The Winelands encompass several regions each with their own wine tasting tours. The most popular towns include Stellenbosch (which is closest to Cape Town), Franschhoek, Wellington, and Paarl.

Cape West Coast
For many the West Coast is an acquired taste—kilometers of empty, often windswept beaches and hardy coastal scrub, low horizons and big skies, lonely tree-lined dirt roads, and distant mountains behind which lie lush pockets carpeted in vineyards. Catch the spring flower displays that occur in the West Coast National Park anytime from the end of July to early September or take a walk on the wild side with water sports including angling, diving, surfing, sailing, kite-boarding, windsurfing and swimming, as well as hiking and horse-riding.

Cape Karoo
The Cape Karoo’s windmill-peppered landscapes inspire poetry, the scenes resemble movie sets and it is the ultimate escape from the world. It has a colourful past – explore Khoi and Xam (Bushman) rock art in Nelspoort, Beaufort West; or take a trip to the Anglo Boer War graves and block houses and follow the battle routes near Prince Albert or travel back in time along Smuggler’s Route, an old liquor smuggler’s trail through the settlements near Laingsburg. For a walk on the wild side, visit the Karoo National Park and see the Kgalagadi lions, known for their impressive dark brown manes.

Cape Overberg
A short one-hour drive from Cape Town over the spectacular Sir Lowry’s Pass lies the magnificent mountain ranges, fynbos (Cape Flora), rolling wheat and canola fields, and coastal towns of the Cape Overberg. Its coastlines are spectacular and famous for whale watching. People flock here from across the globe to watch the whales and the town of Hermanus is home to the only whale crier in the world. The adventurous get their kicks in a variety of activities, shark-cage diving, deep-sea fishing, abseiling and quad-biking- but there are also gentle back roads and the Hermanus Wine Route to explore.
SOUTH AFRICA

Safari
South Africa is one of the top safari destinations in the world offering a large number of private game reserves as well as being home to one of the biggest game reserves in the world, the acclaimed Kruger National Park. In addition to the Kruger National Park and the surrounding luxury Private Game Reserves, a wide selection of other Safari options are also available in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Northern Cape areas.

Sun City
Only 2-hours drive from Johannesburg, Sun City is a vibrant mix of entertainment, watersports, golf, gambling and family fun – a lush and tropical fantasyland deep in the African bushveld. Renowned for its concerts and extravaganzas, Sun City offers four different hotels to choose from, from affordable family fun to the height of luxury. This, combined with exhilarating game viewing at the adjacent Pilanesberg National Park makes for a truly memorable holiday experience.

Eastern Cape
South Africa’s ‘wild’ province, the Eastern Cape features expanses of untouched beach, bush and forest. This was Nelson Mandela’s home province, and is an area with some enticing attractions – among them the Addo Elephant National Park, with the densest elephant population in the world; the dramatic Wild Coast; and, of course, Mandela’s home at Qunu.

KwaZulu-Natal
Durban is one of the fastest-growing urban areas in the world. Its port is the busiest in South Africa and also one of the 10 largest in the world. Durban is blessed with balmy weather all year round, and a beachfront bordered by 5-star hotels and apartments, making it a perfect holiday paradise. A short flight takes you to the historic city of Pietermaritzburg, gateway to the Natal Midlands and the charming Drakensberg resorts.

Luxury Trains
Luxury train journeys and holidays make for a different and exciting way to experience South Africa. From the romance of steam travel on Rovos Rail to an overnight stay on the legendary Blue Train there is no grander way to traverse the country. Premier Classe offers a more affordable option.

NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES
From the spectacular Victoria Falls on the Zambia/Zimbabwe border, considered by many to be among the 7 Natural Wonders of the World, to the Okavango Delta in Botswana, a vast wetland in the Kalahari desert, or the vast open spaces of Namibia, South Africa’s neighbours offer unforgettable tours for game viewing and just experiencing the wonders of unspoiled Africa. But if the bushveld holds no appeal, you can opt to visit instead an Indian Ocean island. Whether it’s the Seychelles with its stunning beaches or magical Mauritius with its pampered five star luxury or the outdoor adventure and French culture of Reunion or the underwater coral reefs of the Bazaruto archipelago in Mozambique, all are easily in reach of South Africa as affordable and extraordinary tropical getaways. Not to be overlooked are South Africa’s tiny, landlocked neighbours, Swaziland, one of the few remaining executive monarchies in Africa, and Lesotho, aka The Mountain Kingdom, offering rugged landscapes and overwhelming friendliness.