

CEDERBERG & WEST COAST

Begins in Cape Town **Duration** 7 days **Highlights** Cederberg Wilderness, Wupperthal, West Coast

This relaxing 6 day tour of the highlights of the Cederberg and the West Coast brings you the best that the region has to offer. We travel along back roads through the spectacular Cape Fold Mountains to explore the central areas of the Cederberg wilderness, with options to stroll amongst some of the most incredible rock formations in the country.

Later we head for the unspoilt West Coast, where we visit remote villages and nature reserves, and meet interesting local characters. There is time for strolls on the beach and to enjoy the fresh air and laid back atmosphere.



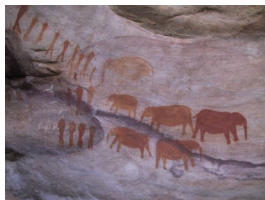
KOUÉ BOKKEVELD AND SOUTHERN CEDERBERG Day 1 & 2

We collect you from home, and set off through the Winelands into the towering Slanghoek Mountains beyond Wellington. Bains Kloof Pass was a major highway in the 19th century, and today the scenery is as unspoilt and dramatic as ever. We descend towards Ceres, where we stop for tea. From here we head north through mountainous country, entering the Cederberg along a lonely little road from the south, with grand views as we approach our destination.

We stay on a remote guest farm, deep in the mountains, in comfortable cottages. There is time to relax on your porch and soak up the peace and quiet of this very special place. We have our meals in the congenial atmosphere of the farmhouse dining room.



We set off the next morning for an easy touring day, with plenty of time to enjoy the fresh air, have a picnic and marvel at the views. Only a short drive away from the lodge are the Stadsaal Caves - a series of interesting sandstone arches, with easy walks and great views. Here one can learn more about the ancient rock art that is found throughout the area, and see a well preserved rock art site.



The plant-life is interesting and varied, and we pause frequently to look at unusual and spectacular plants. We return to our lodge by mid afternoon, allowing you to spend time as you wish: relax and enjoy the peace and quiet, watch the birds or join your guide on a little outing to the river for a swim.

Stay at Mount Ceder Lodge (2 nights)



PAKHUIS & AGTER CEDERBERG Day 3

Today we pack up and travel through spectacular scenery, traversing the Cederberg range from east to west. There are dramatic mountain peaks and superb views into the valleys below. We continue over the Nieuwoudts Pass to the valley of the Olifants River. There are enchanting river views and abundant bird-life as we follow the course of the river to Clanwilliam. From here we cross the Pakhuis Pass with its fantastic rock formations, pausing en-route to admire the views. There is time to explore bustling Clanwilliam, the centre of the Rooibos tea industry. Tonight we stay in a homely and comfortable guest house.



Stay in guest house, Clanwilliam (1 night)



OLIFANTS RIVER VALLEY TO THE WEST COAST Day 4



Today we learn more about agriculture in the Sandveld and Olifants River Valley. We follow the course of the river with its vast irrigated vineyards and pause for a wine tasting and lunch near Vredendal. We then continue through Lutzville to the mouth of the river where we visit the neat holiday village of Strandfontein. We tour southwards along the coast to remote little Doring Bay, famous for its sunsets. We stay in unpretentious apartments right on the coast, and tonight we can sample some of the West Coast seafood.



Stay in Doring Bay (1 night)

WEST COAST HIGHLIGHTS Day 5



Today we explore some of the highlights of the West Coast. We start with a visit to Lamberts Bay's famous Bird Island. This is a refuge and breeding ground for thousands of sea-birds such as gulls, terns and cormorants. In breeding season more than 10 000 pairs of Cape gannets can be observed here at close range from a state-of-the-art bird hide. Later we enjoy a traditional Sandveld lunch on a farm near the coast. This afternoon we head



for remote little Elandsbay, and after some more exploration we reach Velddrif at the mouth of the Berg River, our home base for the next two nights. We check into our hotel, and you can choose to do a walk on the river front or relax at the hotel.

Stay at Riviera Hotel, Velddrif (2 nights)

BERG RIVER, FOSSILS & TOURING THE SCENIC COASTLINE Day 6



Our day starts with a boat cruise on the Berg River, to enjoy the scenery and prolific bird-life. We visit the Bokkom (dried fish) micro industries on the Berg River, a traditional practice that has remained unchanged for a century. We then head for the West Coast Fossil Park, with its fascinating dig exposing 5 million year old fossils of extinct animals. In the afternoon we head for the scenic coastline at Paternoster, and visit the unique Cape Columbine



Nature Reserve with its massive granite boulders and crashing surf. In the late afternoon you can choose to do a beach walk, browse in the shops, or relax and put your feet up at the hotel. Tonight we can look forward to a delicious seafood dinner.

SALDANHA HARBOUR AND LANGEBAAN LAGOON Day 7

This morning we have a leisurely breakfast, and then set off for Saldanha with its massive harbour. We tour the harbour and learn more about the interesting industries associated with it, and then head for Langebaan and the West Coast National Park, on the shores of the scenic Langebaan Lagoon. We learn more about this important wetland and the fascinating ecology and history of the area. After our last lunch together we head for Cape Town, where we deliver you safely back on your doorstep.



Cederberg and West Coast Information sheet

Please read the following information, which we trust you will find helpful, and phone us to discuss any thing you're not sure of. We will be calling you within a week before the tour departs to discuss your pick-up arrangements and any other aspects of the tour.

PICK-UP: Our transfer service will collect you at your home or hotel. The **exact time will be advised** when we phone you a few days prior to departure.

LUGGAGE TAGS: Your luggage tags will be given to you at the airport before departure. Please tie them to the handles of your main (stowed) luggage. Please do not add further details to this tag – we want to keep it simple to help sorting at the hotels. You may affix any other label of course, as you wish.

LUGGAGE: Allowed - stowed luggage: a soft bag max 20 kg per person.

PAYMENT FOR DRINKS: Drinks at hotels and with meals are for your own account. This includes soft drinks. At hotels you can sign these to your room, and settle on departure. Credit card facilities are available.

At individual restaurants where you may want a drink with your meal, you will be presented with a bill after the meal. Best practice is to keep some cash at hand for this. Landscape will provide water on board our vehicle and at the table during meals.

TIPS AND GRATUITIES: Your Landscape tour leader will tip hotel porters and restaurant staff on your behalf. Please feel free to tip individuals at lodges for any special service.

Tipping of transfer drivers and your Landscape tour leader is at your discretion, with the following industry guidelines:

Landscape tour leader: R50 – R80 per person per day.

WEATHER: Clanwilliam temperature and rainfall by month: (Coastal temperatures may be up to 5 degrees cooler)

	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Avg. Temperature (°C)	25.5	23.7	20.6	16.3	13.5	12.7	14.1	15.9	19
Min. Temperature (°C)	16.3	15	12	8.8	6.1	5.4	6.3	7.7	10.4
Max. Temperature (°C)	34.8	32.5	29.3	23.8	20.9	20	21.9	24.2	27.6
Rainfall (ml)	4	11	22	32	43	37	28	17	11

CLOTHING: We recommend "casual comfortable" throughout, and recommend dressing with varying numbers of thinnish 'layers': a light fleece / sweater and a warm, waterproof jacket / windbreaker for evenings and early mornings. Comfortable lace-up shoes with good gripping rubber soles are the best (such as athletic trainers or walking boots). No dress code is prescribed at the places we are staying. Where mosquitoes may be present, and especially in the evenings, it is preferable to wear long sleeves, slacks, etc. and to use mosquito repellent.

MALARIA: There is no Malaria risk.

CHECK LIST:

Highly desirable:

- Sun-hat
- Sunscreen
- Binoculars
- Camera

IF SOMEONE NEEDS TO CONTACT YOU VERY URGENTLY at anytime but particularly during the daytime when you will usually be travelling, it is best to contact us, and we will assist in getting hold of you.

Landscape Tours numbers are:

Office: 021-8517706

Cell phone: (Grant) 083-6576645