

TIMELESS AFRICA

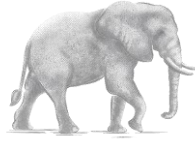
— SAFARIS —

Garden Route & Surrounds Activities Brochure

Introduction

The beautiful and dramatic Garden Route, that stretches from around Mossel Bay to the Storms River Mouth, is an area dense with forests, beaches, lakes, rivers, kloofs and hardwood trees and is regarded as one of the most beautiful regions in the country. The area is jam-packed with things to do, and visitors are spoilt for choice. Simply driving the Garden Route is a joy, with countless picnic spots, viewpoints and attractions. From bird watching in the Wilderness National Park and abseiling into the Kaaimans River, to black water tubing down the Storms River, one is never at a loss for things to do. *We can tailor-make a days' outing to suit all your personal interests and budget.*





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Oudtshoorn

Cango Caves and Ostrich Farm - Oudtshoorn

The Cango Caves are located in Precambrian limestones at the foothills of the Swartberg range near the town of Oudtshoorn. The Cango Caves are considered one of the world's great natural wonders sculptured by nature through the ages. The principal cave is one of the country's finest, best known, and most popular tourist caves and attracts many visitors from overseas. All tours are led by experienced, knowledgeable and accredited Caves Guides. All tours are offered in English, but other languages can be accommodated ahead of time.

Visit a working ostrich farm, just outside of Oudtshoorn. It remains a must-see attraction when visiting Oudtshoorn on your Garden Route holiday. During the tour where you will learn more about these remarkable birds and their fascinating nature. Your guide will explain every aspect of ostrich farming, from breeding to rearing.

Duration: Full day

Knysna

Paraglide – Knysna, Sedgfield & Wilderness

Tandem flight is an exciting way of experiencing the beauty of the Garden Route from a different viewpoint. It requires no experience. After a short run at the start and under the expert control of the pilot, the passenger will experience the exhilaration of a 15-20min flight.

Duration: Half day

Sunset Cruise or Sail - Knysna

Enjoy a sunset cruise across the Knysna lagoon exploring the Knysna heads and beyond (ocean conditions permitted). The cruise is accompanied by a delicious sundowner, anti-pasta platter and choice of wine. Relax and enjoy the sounds of the ocean, on a yacht, while creating lasting memories of Knysna. Sunset cruises accompanied by a delicious sundowner / anti-pasta platter and a choice of wine.

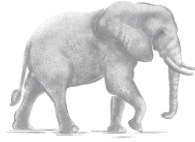
The catamaran yacht, 'Heads Explorer', is for the adventurous and romantic, creating another unforgettable experience.

This can be offered as a 2-hr dinner cruise aboard the Paddle Cruiser.

Duration: 2.5hrs

Featherbed Nature Reserve Eco Experience - Knysna

The Knysna Lagoon, more accurately defined as an estuary, has five fresh water rivers flowing in from the surrounding Outeniqua Mountains meeting with the surge of sea water from the Indian Ocean through the mighty headlands – known as the 'Knysna Heads' - the grand sandstone cliffs towering above the entrance to the Knysna Lagoon.



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After a devastating fire, the Featherbed Nature Reserve reopened in December 2019. Start off with a ferry trip across the Knysna lagoon - then a 4x4 trailer drive up the mountain onto the reserve with stops at magnificent viewpoints along the way. An optional 2.2km guided walk down the reserve takes you through coastal forest & fynbos, and into ancient sea caves (1-hour downhill walk). An optional 12-dish buffet lunch is served at lagoon side restaurant under the canopy of the Milkwood trees, followed by a return ferry.

Duration: 3hrs or 4hrs (includes lunch)

SUP (Stand Up Paddle) Knysna Lagoon - Knysna

Stand Up paddling is a refreshing, easy, and exciting way to get in shape. Proper paddling technique at higher intensities, using the right equipment, is a superb way to strengthen your core and have fun while doing it.

SUP is an excellent crossover sport that not only provides more time on the water but also strengthens core muscle groups, improves balance and generally improves fitness.

Beginner & intermediate lessons on the Knysna Lagoon - the perfect spot to learn SUP!

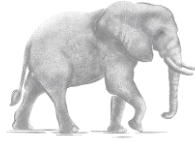
Foodie Exploration - Knysna

Start your day on Thesen Island with a stop at Ile de Pain for excellent coffee and baked goods. Perfectly located with views over the Knysna Lagoon towards the iconic Knysna Heads. They are well known for their great food, friendly service and vibey atmosphere.

Visit the Knysna Gin Distillery where the Knysna Gin is infused with nine natural botanicals and local spring water from the Witteberg Mountains. At centre stage is the Num Num berry, a favourite of the famous Knysna Loerie. Hand-picked and perfectly blended, these berries deliver a slightly tart element to the gin. The distillery and tasting room - once a truck parking area next to their family's manufacturing company - allows visitors to appreciate the entire distilling process whilst enjoying a refreshing gin and tonic.

For lunch, and a spot of shopping, visit the Knysna Waterfront home to many excellent restaurant and bars.

Knysna and Oysters go together like champagne and caviar, sea and sky, summer breezes and cold beers ... if you're more than a little intrigued by oysters, then in the afternoon join the ultimate oyster experience on the spectacular Knysna Lagoon. Learn all there is to know about one of the world's most loved delicacy, taste the difference between wild and cultivated oysters, all whilst cruising the lagoon to the Heads and surrounds. Ask questions, take photos, excite your taste buds - all on board the "Oyster Boat". The cruise includes complimentary local white wine and oysters for tasting. Extra oysters are available on pre-order to enjoy on the boat. Duration: Full day



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Plettenberg Bay

Ocean Blue Adventures – Plettenberg Bay

A rare and powerful experience to see whales and dolphins up close. In winter you have a very high likelihood of seeing Southern Right and Humpback whales. Tours include the Robberg Seal Colony and other marine life of the day.

In summer you have a great chance to see the rare Humpback Dolphins found in only certain areas of the South African coastline! You will also see Bottlenose Dolphins and Common Dolphins... You will also be taken to the Robberg Seal Colony where you will see around 5,000 seals in their natural environment. Accompanied by a marine guide, this trip takes about 90min.

CULTURAL TOWNSHIP TOUR: Ocean Blue Adventures and the Qolweni Community Development Trust offer guests a unique experience through the heart of the Qolweni Community settlement surrounded by breath-taking views of the Tsitsikamma Mountains.
Duration: Full day

Wine or Beer Route – Plettenberg Bay

While not as well-known as the wine routes near Cape Town, The Plett Wine Route stretches from the Garden of Eden in the west (between Knysna and Plett) to The Craggs in the east (on the road to Port Elizabeth. Must visits include:

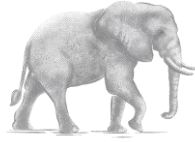
Bramon Winery - Bramon is the first wine estate this far east of the Western Cape! This family-owned and run estate has broken new ground pioneering vineyards in the Plettenberg Bay area. They specialise in Methode Cap Classique sparkling wines.

Plettenvale Wine Estate - Plettenvale Wine Estate boasts a tiny vineyard of 2.3 ha consisting of 3000 each of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay vines and 330 Syrah vines.

Packwood Wine & Country Estate - Packwood's boutique wines were developed by Peter and Vicky Gent in 2006. Located at the highest point of the farm, 330 metres above sea level, the happy vines are planted in a south easterly direction to optimize on air circulation. Cool climate varieties have been planted, namely Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

You can now also enjoy a beer tour - To define craft beer is challenging, beer can be very subjective and of course is largely be based on your personal taste. Explore some of the Garden Route's most popular craft breweries. Explore the world of Lagers, Ales and Stouts, ending the tour off by enjoying a gourmet burger served with a choice of 5 craft beers brewed in other regions in South Africa.

Duration: Half day



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Monkeyland & Birds of Eden – Plettenberg Bay

Birds of Eden is the World's largest free-flight aviary and incorporates an indigenous forest with waterfalls and elevated walkways. Previously caged birds from every corner of the globe live here in free flight. This is not somewhere you want to rush through, so allow enough time to soak up the splendour. Open 08h30-17h00

Monkeyland is the World's first multi-specie free-roaming primate sanctuary, renowned throughout the World for its rehabilitation work. Visitors are offered the opportunity to join a one-hour safari. Here you can expect to see many species of monkeys, apes and lemurs living as they should: free and in a forested habitat.

Duration: Half or Full day

Plett Fishing Charters – Plettenberg Bay

Enjoy an awesome fishing charter experience around the Plettenberg Bay and an opportunity to view marine birds and animals. This deep-sea fishing charter starts early morning and takes about 5 hours. They supply all equipment and provide light snacks and mineral water, but you are welcome to bring your own drinks. If wanted, you can keep your catch, or they cook and serve it at the Ski-boat Club Restaurant for lunch. Duration: Full day

Keurbooms River Ferries – Plettenberg Bay

Take a relaxed tour up the Keurbooms gorge that is thousands of years old and lined with ancient indigenous forest and home to over fifty bird species. The incredible natural surroundings are paired with a narrative of fifteen years of experience, as you travel the river. It is situated +-8km from Plettenberg Bay on the way to Natures Valley. A planned stop on a natural formed river beach is made where you can picnic, swim or take a stroll through the forest. This is a wonderful excursion for the whole family.

Duration: Half day

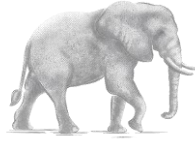
Tsitsikamma & Storms River

Canopy Tours - Tsitsikamma

This is a unique eco-wilderness adventure that takes place in the magnificent Tsitsikamma indigenous rainforest. Most of the platforms are in giant Outeniqua Yellowwood trees. The scenery and bird life are spectacular and professional guides provide interesting facts about the forest ecology during the 2.5 to 3 hours.

The concept of guiding people through the upper canopy of a rainforest originated in Costa Rica, where adventurous biologists devised new methods for accessing the forest canopy in order to conduct research on the undiscovered canopy ecosystem. The idea soon developed into a breath-taking form of eco-tourism which allowed people to enter and experience a previously inaccessible natural environment.

The tour begins with a detailed safety briefing followed by a kitting up session where full body harness, pulleys, and climbing equipment is issued and checked. A short drive into the Tsitsikamma forest and it is time to monkey around.



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From the start on the launch platform, a new world unfolds as one gently glides on a steel cable to the first tree platform. All groups are escorted through the forest canopy by a lead guide and a follow guide to ensure your safety as you slide from tree to tree. The platforms are built high up in the giant Outeniqua Yellowwoods and provide an unbelievable view of this enchanting new world, any fear of heights is soon lost as you gather in your new surroundings.

Duration: Half day

Bungee Jump - Tsitsikamma

Have the experience of a lifetime and bungee jump from Africa's highest bridge (216m). Jump with confidence thanks to the help of a professional and experienced team with a 100% safety record, who have hosted celebrities such as Prince Harry and Jack Osbourne as well as record-breaking bungy jumpers.

Reach the jump point via zipline from the bank to the arch. Before jumping, you will be kitted out with a full body harness and your feet will be secured using specially designed equipment. Leap out into the valley and feel the thrill of falling and rebounding whilst being securely attached to the bungy cord. Feel the smoothness of the bungee experience thanks to Bloukrans Bungee's pendulum technology.

On your way back up, get a winch ride coordinated by a recovery operator and enjoy breathtaking views of the surrounding national park. Walk along the 216-meter SkyWalk to get back onto solid ground.

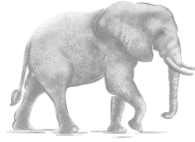
After or before your bungee, be sure to visit the **Big Tree**. Located in the Tsitsikamma Forest, it stretches its distinctive yellowwood leaves skywards, towering over the other trees in the canopy. This tree is estimated to be between 600 and 800 years old and stands 36,6 m tall with a trunk circumference of 9m. A lengthy and comfortable boardwalk path leads visitors through the dappled light of the lush, cool forest. The well signposted path to the big tree is just west of the Paul Sauer Bridge on the N2.

Black water Tubing - Storms River

A unique gorge adventure of tubing, swimming, rock jumping and hiking, through one of the most spectacular features of the Garden Route.

Tubing the Storms River is the original experience that set the adventure scene in Tsitsikamma some 50 years ago and introduced the Storms River Gorge as one of the first iconic adventure attractions on the Garden Route. The delicate negotiation with this phenomenal river on specialized one-man inflatable river tubes takes you on an unforgettable journey through Tsitsikamma's diverse habitat.

It is the only Tsitsikamma Activity that provides an experience of our pristine forests, rivers and unique coast line all in one extraordinary excursion.



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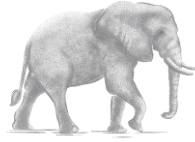
Storms River Kayak and Lilo Tour - Tsitsikamma

Enjoy a 2 to 3-hour adventure on the Storms River in the Tsitsikamma National Park. Meet your kayaking group and paddle from the harbour, across the ocean and then under the suspension bridge and up the beautiful Storms River Mouth. If sea conditions don't allow for ocean paddling, take a short, guided hike through the Tsitsikamma Forest and start the kayak trip from inside the river mouth.

Your true kayaking adventure begins from here as you paddle up the Storms River, the pinnacle of Tsitsikamma National Park. Wave to all the tourists photographing you from the suspension bridge and continue the kayak trip up the Storms River. Paddle right into a bat cave and spend time gazing up at the magnificent and spectacular cliffs all around you from the comfort of your double sit-on-top kayaks.

At the low-water point, disembark the kayaks and jump onto the unique “lilos” - small inflatable boats specially designed for this trip to access the narrow sections of the gorge. From here, walk and float over a short section of rocks and simply wade deeper up the river on the lilos. Admire the stunning views as you lie on the lilo at water level and gaze up to cliffs that appear to touch the sky. For the adventurous, take the opportunity to leap off the overhanging cliff walls of the gorge into deep pools. The cliff jumping adds a good dose of adrenaline for the trip back, as well as some good laughs, friendly encouragement, and one-of-a-kind photo opportunities. Cliff Jumping is not compulsory – you can simply enjoy the spectacle as you leisurely float in the long pools below.

Duration: Half day



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Golf – Garden Route

Goose Valley (Plettenberg Bay) +27 (0) 44 533 5082: The Goose Valley Golf Club is situated in pristine surroundings, only 4km from Plettenberg Bay, bordering on the Keurbooms Lagoon, access to the Club is from the N2. This magnificent golf estate offers a splendid Gary Player designed 72 par, 18-hole signature golf course in the heart of the Garden Route.

Plettenberg Bay Country Club (Plettenberg Bay) +27 (0) 44 533 2132: Plettenberg Bay Country Club has an 18-hole par 72 golf course set in a private nature reserve as well as 2 magnificent bowling greens and 4 all-weather tennis courts.

Pezula Championship Golf Course (Knysna) +27 (0) 44 302 5332: Pezula Golf course was designed by Ron Fream. Type - Links golf course. Holes - 18. Par - 72. Fairway Grass - Kentucky Blue & Rye

Simola (Knysna) +27 (0) 44 302 9677: Golf course was designed by Jack Nicklaus (The Golden Bear). Type - Parklands golf course. Holes - 18. Par - 72. Fairway Grass – Kikuyu

Fancourt (George) +27 (0) 44 804 0040: Three amazing 18-hole golf courses to choose from;

1. Ranked 14th in South Africa by the Golf Digest experts, Fancourt's Outeniqua golf course offers a leisurely and entertaining golfing experience
2. Fancourt's Montagu Golf Course, originally designed by Gary Player, has earned a world class reputation as one of the finest 18-hole parkland layouts. It holds the prestigious 8th position on Golf Digest South Africa's list of top golf courses in the country.
3. Fancourt Estate's The Links private club is South Africa's number one golf course. Exclusivity and privacy, and Fancourt's signature hospitality, is guaranteed.

Pinnacle Point (Mossel bay) +27 90) 044 606 5323: Overlooking the Indian Ocean near Mossel Bay, and designed by Peter Matkovich and 2011 Open Champion, Darren Clarke, Pinnacle Point is one of the most scenic golf courses in the world.