Cape Town

South Africa

31 October–3 November 2019

A 52nd AGA Post-Tour
Hosted by AIM
Introduction

A coming-together of cultures, cuisines and landscapes, there's nowhere quite like Cape Town, a singularly beautiful city crowned by the magnificent Table Mountain National Park. The flat-topped mountain defines the city and is the headline act, but there are many other equally gorgeous natural landscapes and attractions within the environs of Cape Town. There is dramatic coastal scenery, at Hout’s Bay and the Cape of Good Hope, wine yards producing world class wines at Stellenbosch and Franschoek, Robben Island where three future South African Presidents including Mandela were incarcerated and now overrun by comical penguins. Then of course there is Cape Town’s diversity in cultures and people, who shaped its food and spirit, an amalgamation of African, European and Asian influences. Without a doubt Cape Town is South Africa’s most popular destination.

The WACA tour accommodations are based in the Commodore Hotel, conveniently located at the V&A Waterfront of Cape Town, with many dining and shopping options.
Programme

Thursday, 31 October. Day 1 – Arrival in Cape Town (Dinner)

On arrival in Cape Town at 12:00 you will be met at the airport and transferred to the Commodore Hotel for a quick check-in and freshen up.
At 14:00 we will be taken on a city orientation tour to learn a little more about the vibrant history of Cape Town and take a visit to the colourful Bo Kaap and a walk in the Company Gardens (time permitting). A highlight of today will be a trip on a cable car to the top of Table Mountain from where you can enjoy panoramic views over the city and peninsula. This activity is weather dependent. From here you will be taken to the V&A Waterfront. Dinner tonight will be at a restaurant at the V&A Waterfront.

Table Mountain

Without a doubt it is Table Mountain that makes Cape Town the unique city it is. Rising over 1,000 metres above sea level, it is the icon that makes Cape Town instantly recognizable. It is a symbol, a playground, a spiritual retreat and a big draw card for tourists. So intertwined with the identity of Cape Town is Table Mountain that a visit to the city isn’t complete without having walked or taken the cable car to the top.

Bo Kaap

The colourful suburb of Bo Kaap was exclusively for coloured Muslims during the Colonial and Apartheid times and today this group still makes up the majority of residents. The quaint cobbled streets, the museum, the authentic purveyors of Cape cuisine and Cape Town’s oldest spice emporium are all worth a visit.

Friday, 1 November. Day 2 – Cape of Good Hope/Hout’s Bay/Cape Point/Chapman’s Peak/Boulder’s Beach (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)

After breakfast we will take a full day tour of the scenic Cape Peninsula. Highlights of the tour will include the spectacular Chapman’s Peak Drive, Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope (most south western tip of Africa: a great photo stop) as well as the comical African Penguins at Boulders Beach. Boma Dinner in the Gold Restaurant.

Chapman’s Peak

Chapman’s Peak Drive winds its way between Noordhoek and Hout Bay. Situated on the Atlantic Coast, at the south-western tip of South Africa, it is one of the most spectacular marine drives anywhere in the world. The 9 km route, with its 114 curves, skirts the rocky coastline of Chapman’s Peak. The drive offers stunning 180° views with many areas along the route where you can stop and take in the scenery or sit down for a relaxing picnic.

Cape Point

Cape Point is a spectacular sight, covered in endemic fynbos and home to breath taking bays, beaches and rolling green hills and valleys, just 60 km outside of Cape Town. Cape Point falls within the Cape Floral Region, a World Heritage Site. The Cape Floral Region is one of the richest areas for plants in the world – it is home to nearly 20% of Africa’s flora. Cape Point is open daily and is a must-see.
Cape of Good Hope
Part of the Table Mountain National Park that extends from Signal Hill in the north all the way to Cape Point in the south, the Cape of Good Hope is not the southern tip of Africa, despite lying at the south-west corner of the Cape Peninsula, just a little south of Cape Point on the south-east corner. Cape Agulhas, roughly 150 kilometres southeast of here, holds this title instead. The Cape of Good Hope, however, remains a significant headland in the sense that from here one travels more eastward than southward, and it is not hard to imagine that rounding of the Cape in 1488 was a major achievement. This said, the Cape of Good Hope is one of two world-renowned landmarks within the Table Mountain National Park, the other is Table Mountain. These two familiar attractions are what draws thousands of visitors to Cape Town.

Saturday, 2 November. Day 3 – Cape Town Wine Country (Breakfast and Lunch)

Today we will embark on a full day tour of the Cape Winelands. Enjoy a walk about in the historic university town of Stellenbosch, a chocolate and wine pairing with a cellar tour, an additional wine tastings and some leisure time to explore and have lunch in the beautiful town of Franschhoek. We will arrive back at the hotel after the tour and the rest of the evening and dinner is at your own leisure.

Stellenbosch
A blend of historical architecture, student life, epicurean delights and oak-lined avenues, Stellenbosch is a picturesque university town surrounded by mountains and vineyards. A walking tour of the town centre allows visitors to take in its beautifully preserved Cape Dutch and Victorian architecture, as well as the many enticing art galleries, craft shops, clothing boutiques and gift stores, while foodies may prefer indulging in mouth-watering cuisine and fine wines at one of the chic restaurants or buzzing bistros. Stellenbosch is also the ideal base from which to explore the renowned local wine route, boasting a high proportion of the country’s leading wine estates.

Franschhoek
Idyllically situated in the Cape Winelands, this peaceful country retreat is one of the oldest towns in South Africa. The once sleepy little village was named Franschhoek, meaning ‘French Corner’ as it was founded by French Huguenots. The fertile valley of Franschhoek boasts a rich heritage showcased at the fascinating Huguenot Memorial Museum and the Cape Dutch architecture in much of the village remains remarkably well preserved. The town’s proximity to Cape Town allows for pleasant day trips during which visitors can explore the area’s many world-class wine estates and impressive range of excellent restaurants or simply browse the quaint, upmarket boutiques strewn along the town’s lovely tree-lined avenues.
Sunday, 3 November. Day 4 – Robben Island and end of package (Breakfast)

After breakfast we will take a brisk walk down to the Nelson Mandela Gateway. You are booked on the 09:00 excursion across Table Bay to Robben Island. The ferry ride takes 30 minutes and the tour of the island takes three hours. You will be back at V&A Waterfront between 12:00 and 13:00.

Transfer from the hotel back to Cape Town International Airport will be at 14:00. Please book your departure flight after 16:00.

Robben Island

Robben Island is an island in Table Bay, 6.9 kilometres (4.3 miles) west of the coast of Bloubergstrand, Cape Town, South Africa. The name is Dutch for "seal island." It is flat and only a few metres above sea level, as a result of an ancient erosion event.

Nobel Laureate and former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela was imprisoned there for 18 of the 27 years he served behind bars before the fall of apartheid. To date, three former inmates of Robben Island have gone on to become President of South Africa: Nelson Mandela, Kgalema Motlanthe, and Jacob Zuma.

Robben Island is a South African National Heritage Site as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Important Note: Participants are responsible for organising their flights to and from Cape Town at their own expense. Ensure you arrive in Cape Town International Airport no later than noon on 31 October and schedule your departure flight no earlier than 16:00 on 3 November.
Registration and Payment Details


Package Cost: USD 840.00 per person based on twin share.

Package Includes
1. Three nights’ accommodation on twin share at the Commodore Hotel.
2. Two dinners including one Boma dinner at the Gold Restaurant. Other meals as specified in the programme.
3. Activities and entry fees as detailed in the programme with English speaking guides. *Gratuities are included.*
4. Transfer in private vehicles.
5. Round trip transfer from Cape Town International Airport to the Commodore Hotel.

Package Excludes
1. Expenses of a personal nature such as laundry and phone calls, etc.
2. Visa fees.
3. Transportation, meals, drinks, optional tours and entertainment, etc. not specified in the programme.
4. WACA fee of USD 10.00.
5. Single supplement of USD 120.00.

Payment Details
A deposit of USD 420.00 per person to be paid by 15 June with the balance of payment to be paid by 1 September.

*Note:* Deposits are subject to a USD 100.00 cancellation fee up to 15 June. No deposits will be refunded after 15 June. Balance of payments are subject to a USD 50.00 cancellation fee up to 1 September. No refund on balance of payments will be made after 1 September.

Payment by bank transfer:
Beneficiary name: WACA AFRICANA FESTIVAL
Beneficiary’s address: Air Mauritius, HR Department, Suite 004, SSR International Airport, Plaine Magnien, Mauritius
Beneficiary’s bank: Mauritius Commercial Bank
Bank address: 3 Royal Road, Plaine Magnien, Postal Code 51516, Mauritius
Bank Account Number: 000441325998
IBAN: MU18MCBL0944 000 441 325 998 000USD
SWIFT code: MCBLMUMU or MCBLMUMUXXX

*Note:* Bank processing charges may vary from country to country and the AIM Region will recover any outstanding amounts arising from such charges as indicated in the actual transaction records.

Payment can also be made by cheque, money order or bank draft in United States dollars made payable to “WACA Africana Festival” and submitted with the completed Registration Form to Ms. Joyce Pierrot, Air Mauritius, Human Resources Department, 1st Floor, NACS Building, Suite 004, SSR International Airport, Plaine Magnien, Mauritius. E-mail: jpierrrot@airmauritius.com.

*N.B. All registration forms to be copied to the WACA Headquarters e-mail: millerk@iata.org.*