



TourSouthAfrica

Tour Brochure

4 day Gauteng Historical Tour

Experience Apartheid history at 2 cities. Gauteng means “place of gold”, after the 1886 discovery of gold in Johannesburg. It is a city built on dreams of great wealth and now becoming a true cosmopolitan African city. Many sites related to the country’s 20th-century struggle to end segregation, including the Apartheid Museum. Pretoria (Tshwane), the capital of South Africa is only 50 km away and houses many more museums and places of interest.

You have the option to choose between the Magalies Adventure or a Pilanesberg Big 5 Game Drive on day 4.

Start point: O.R.Tambo Airport or nearby hotel, Johannesburg or Pretoria.

Itinerary:

Day 1: This tour takes you into the most famous sprawling township in Africa, home of about 2 million people. Full of surprise and contrast, Soweto is a township located on the South-Western side of Johannesburg. It is home to sites of historical importance; as many of the struggles were fought against the injustices of the apartheid. We start this tour by crossing the Nelson Mandela Bridge to visit the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg’s Newtown Cultural District. You will see the Telkom Tower, an imposing 269 meters tall and Constitution Hill, where we take a highlights tour.

Now to Vilakazi Street where we can relive the history of two Nobel Peace Prize winners: Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. We visit the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum, and then the Mandela House Museum. The Kasi Beer Garden, Ubuntu Kraal Brewery is legendary for giving visitors an authentic African eating experience. We have a late lunch (not included) at this local township tavern, and ending the day with a drive past the Chris Hani Baragwanath hospital, the largest in the Southern Hemisphere and the Orlando power station’s towers.(When closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, lunches will be at Wandie’s Place.) We overnight at the Gold Reef City Theme Park Hotel (or similar). (Dinner not included)

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Day 2: Pretoria was named after one of the "Voortrekker" leaders Andries Pretorius, and is the administrative capital of South Africa. The many historic buildings, museums and monuments make this a historical 'heimat' of South Africa. It is also called the "Garden City" due to the abundance of Jacaranda trees flowering into a sea of purple. It is the capital city and steeped in the history of South Africa.

On entering Pretoria city centre, we visit the historic Church Square with its beautiful buildings and the Kruger Statue. Visit the Voortrekker Monument to study the Pioneer history of South Africa and the history of the Afrikaner (Lunch en-route not included). We then traverse to the Sammy Marks Museum for a guided tour through the Marks Mansion. Visitors hear the story of Sammy Marks and his family, their experience throughout the South African War and Marks's achievements as businessman and entrepreneur. Union Buildings concludes this rich South African heritage excursion. We overnight at a 3/4 star hotel.

Day 3: The Rhino and Lion Nature Reserve is a game reserve in Gauteng covering 1200 hectares. Besides the game drive where white lions and rhinoceros can be seen, visitors can view a wide variety of game including some very rare and endangered species and can expect to see in excess of 650 head of game. The Reserve falls within the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site (COHWHS).

You can choose from a big variety of additional things to do here, from lion, cheetah and wild dog feeding, live snake display, a visit to the vulture hide and predator camp. It includes a visit to the Wonder Caves, a Natural Wonder 5 – 10 million years old, where Cave Pearls, Stalactites & Stalagmite Formations up to 15m, and a Rim Stone pool can be seen. (We have lunch at one of the restaurants, own cost) From here we go to one of the city's most underrated museums, Liliesleaf Farm. This was the secret headquarters of the ANC (African National Congress) during the 1960s and reopened as a museum in 2008. Here we can learn the story of South Africa's liberation struggle through a series of high-tech, interactive exhibits. We spend the night at the Marriott Protea Hotel (or similar). (Dinner not included).

Day 4: *“At a time, several millions of years ago, the inland plain and drainage wetland underwent massive geological upheaval and the area slit into two sections, and the ground tilted to the north, forming a line of two parallel mountain ranges which stretch for some 120 kilometers, from Pretoria, through Rustenburg to the Pilanesberg. This was the birth of the Magaliesberg Mountain range, which forms a natural barrier between the lower lying bushveld to the north, and the cooler highveld to the South and is the “meeting point” of many a species.”*

You have the option to choose between the Magalies Adventure or a Pilanesberg Big 5 Game Drive.

Magalies Adventure:

Having a cable car ride to the top of the Magalies Mountain, we can enjoy the spectacular views from the top. You will then go to the Harties Horse Trail Safaris where you will have an unforgettable experience on a 1.5 hour horse trail safari that will get you into reaching distance of wildlife. The following wildlife can be seen up close from horseback: Giraffe, Kudu, Blue Wildebeest, Nyala, Impala, Ostrich, Blesbuck, Zebra, Springbuck. You might also see exotic wildlife which includes:

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Sable, Golden Wildebeest, white Blesbuck and more. Children from the age 6 and older can join on the ride BUT they MUST be able to steer their own horse.

After this, we stop at the Monate Citrus Kelder to taste the flavours of locally brewed fruit varieties into spirits called Mampoer and choose one of the delightful restaurants for lunch (not included).

Following this is Ama Zwing Zwing Zip Lines, to enjoy this unique adventure of sliding on steel cables while viewing game below! With a total length of 1.3 km, made up of 7 slides, this adventure in the sky continues over ten platforms ranging in height from 2m up to 14m. We take you back to the airport.

Pilanesberg Big 5 Game Drive:

Pilanesberg Game Reserve is ideal to explore an abundance of wildlife in 580 km of diverse and arresting bushveld terrain. The park is home to healthy populations of lion, leopard, black and white rhino, elephant and buffalo – Africa's "Big Five". A wide variety of rare and common species exist with endemic species like the nocturnal brown hyaena, the fleet-footed cheetah, the majestic sable, as well as giraffe, zebra, hippo and crocodile, to mention but a few. Bird watching is excellent with over 300 species recorded.

After pick up and the 3 hour drive to Pilanesberg from Gauteng, we drive on the many roads through the Pilanesberg Game Reserve in a Kombi/minivan for 3 to 4 hours, where you will have opportunities to see the Big 5 in their natural habitat. We enjoy lunch (not included) in the restaurant at the visitor centre. After observing more spectacular wildlife from bird hides, we take you back in the afternoon to your hotel or the O.R. Tambo Airport,

Included:

- Accommodation as per itinerary
- Entrance fees
- National Park fees
- Breakfast
- Driver/guide
- Professional guide at specialist venues
- Transport by private vehicle

Excluded:

- Excess luggage charges (where applicable)
- Lunch, Dinner

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- Drinks
- Gratuities (recommended)
- Travel insurance; Flights; Airport transfers; Porterage; Visa fees

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