



Natural Landscapes and Gardens of South Africa

14 SEP – 3 OCT 2019

Code: 21930

Tour Leaders **John Patrick**

Physical Ratings 

Explore the spring flowers of the Western Cape and view some of South Africa's finest private gardens including contemporary designs by Franchesca Watson, Tim Steyn and Henk Scholtz.

Overview

This exciting tour of one of the most plant-rich zones in the world draws upon the expertise of foremost landscape architects, horticulturalists, botanists and gardeners, and upon the kindness of garden owners who have opened their private gardens to us. Experts and owners give us unparalleled insights into South Africa's truly unique flora and ecosystems and introduce the country's incredible range of distinctive plants, many of which have had a decisive impact upon Australian gardening.

Tour Highlights

- Landscape architect and former presenter for ABC's TV series *Gardening Australia* [John Patrick](#) leads this landscape and garden tour of South Africa.
- [Franchesca Watson](#), leading garden designer and writer for *Condé Nast House & Garden Magazine*, will show us a number of exciting projects in and around Cape Town, including Old Bethlehem Farm restored in cooperation with Danie Steenkamp of [DDS Projects](#).
- With horticulturalist Adam Harrower, explore the West Cape's wildflowers and the rich bio-diversity of Cape Point, the southernmost tip of the Cape of Good Hope.
- Visit the exceptional beach homes of Julian Treger; a secluded [Modernist ranch](#) on a cliff-top promontory, and a spectacular [futuristic villa](#) featuring a magnificent treetop skywalk overlooking Plettenberg Bay.
- Explore a number of picturesque Cape Dutch houses and their gardens; at Stellenberg we meet the doyenne of South African gardening, Sandy Ovenstone.
- Meet Henk Scholtz, whose garden featured in Monty Don's BBC series *Around the World in 80 Gardens*.
- Discover Cape Town's new Zeitz MOCAA, dubbed the 'Tate Modern' of Africa, and take a tour of artist [Dylan Lewis'](#) sculpture garden.
- Experience the biodiversity 'hot spot', Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens on the slopes of Table Mountain, home to nearly half of the country's 24,000 indigenous plants.
- With Arlo Mitchell, Director of Green Cube, tour [Water Oak Farm](#).
- View the work of Liz and Tim Steyn at the magnificent garden of [Pallinghurst](#), Johannesburg.
- Spend two days visiting private gardens in the Natal Midlands including Riversfield Farm, designed by David Hicks and implemented by Keith Kirsten.
- View the work of award-winning landscape designer Patrick Watson at the estate of Iwan and Irene Roux.
- Walk with African elephants at sunset in the Knysna Elephant Park and join a game drive in the Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve.
- Cruise Knysna Lagoon and visit the Yellowwood giants of Knysna's sub-tropical forests.
- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Cradle of Humankind, one of the most important paleontological zones in the world.
- Explore Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 25 years.
- Dine at the Silo Hotel's Granary Café above Zeitz MOCAA, Two Oceans Restaurant at Cape Point, traditional Bo-kaap Kombuis Malay Restaurant, Delaire Graff Estate, Leeu Estates, and Johannesburg's Roots Restaurant.

20-day Garden Tour of South Africa

Overnight Cape Town, Waterfront (3 nights) • Cape Town, Newlands (6 nights) • Mossel Bay (1 night)
• Knysna Quays (3 nights) • Umhlanga Rocks, Durban (1 night) • Hilton, Natal Midlands (2 nights) • Johannesburg (3 nights)

Post Tour Options

After the tour, participants may choose to extend their stay in this wonderful part of the world by taking an unforgettable safari in the Krüger National Park, with dawn and dusk outings by jeep to see the famous Big Five of South Africa - the lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino and/or by flying to Livingston in Zambia to see the spectacular Victoria Falls. Not included in tour price - please contact ASA to discuss any additional arrangements.

Leaders



John Patrick

Garden designer, prolific author, radio and former TV presenter for ABC's 'Gardening Australia'. John founded the Australian Open Garden Scheme. He initiated ASA's garden tours and has led over 50 tours to Europe, Asia & the USA since 2003.

John Patrick will be familiar to many for his work on radio and television presenting programs relating to gardens, their plants and their history. Until recently, he was a presenter on ABC's television series *Gardening Australia*. John has also written extensively on gardens throughout the world, including articles in *Vogue Living* and *The Australian Garden Journal*. He has written thirteen books as diverse as *Trees for Town and City Gardens* and *A Brief Biography of Robert Sweet*. John has lectured widely in Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand and has worked as a judge and consultant to garden shows and events. In 1985 he organised the opening of gardens for Victoria's Sesquicentenary which led to his involvement in the founding of what is now Australia's Open Garden Scheme. His knowledge of European history allows him to place garden history in a special context, one that reflects the social milieu in which gardens were created. His encyclopaedic knowledge of plants will give garden visits a special appeal and permit a greater appreciation of the particular environment and conditions of the garden. John has led ASA tours to New Zealand, the USA, South Africa, China, Japan, Bhutan, Spain, Portugal, Italy, France and Britain. He has independently visited gardens in Morocco and returns there in 2018 to lead ASA's 'Natural Landscapes and Gardens of Morocco' tour. He is an enthusiastic traveller with a special interest in the food and culture of countries he visits.



Itinerary

The following itinerary describes a range of private gardens, national parks and museums which we plan to visit. Some are accessible to the public, but others require special permission which may only be confirmed closer to the tour's departure. The daily activities described in this itinerary may change or be rotated and/or modified in order to accommodate alterations in opening hours and confirmation of private visits. Participants will receive a final itinerary together with their tour documents prior to departure. The tour includes breakfast daily, lunches & evening meals indicated in the detailed itinerary where: B=breakfast, L=lunch and D=evening meal.

Cape Town, Waterfront - 3 nights

Day 1: Saturday 14 September, Arrive Cape Town

- Arrival Transfer for participants arriving on the ASA 'designated' flight

Travellers taking the 'designated ASA flight' will arrive into Cape Town late this evening. A private coach will transfer you to your hotel. Situated at the foot of the majestic Table Mountain in the south of the Western Cape Province, Cape Town is South Africa's oldest and arguably loveliest city. Our hotel for the first three nights is located on the famous [Victoria and Alfred \(or V&A\) Waterfront](#). (Overnight Cape Town, Waterfront)

Day 2: Sunday 15 September, Cape Town

- Table Mountain with horticulturalist, Adam Harrower
- Welcome Lunch at the Bo-Kaap Malay Restaurant
- Bo-Kaap Malay Quarter
- The Company's Gardens

This morning we ascend Table Mountain on its aerial cableway which affords passengers a 360-degree view

of the city. Atop Table Mountain a number of pathways lead us to views over Cape Town, Table Bay, Robben Island, the Cape Flats and the Cape Peninsula.

Horticulturalist Adam Harrower will join us here to share his knowledge of the mountain vegetation. The Table Mountain National Park has the richest single floristic area on the planet, with over 1500 species of indigenous flora. 'Fynbos', an Afrikaans word meaning 'delicate bush,' is the name of the scrubby vegetation that is particular to the Cape; it is found in abundance on the mountain slopes. Fynbos consists of four primary plant groups: *proteas* (large broad-leafed shrubs), *ericas* (low-growing shrubs), *restios* (thin reed-like plants) and *geophytes* (bulbs). This is an ancient form of vegetation, some species (*restios*) of which date back 60 million years. Common garden plants like geraniums, freesias, daisies, lilies and irises originated in *fynbos*. Like many Australian natives, fynbos species depend on fire for seed dispersal and new growth. To survive they must burn every 15-20 years; weaker plants thereby flourish and avoid being overwhelmed by stronger species.

We spend the rest of the day exploring Cape Town. Known as the 'Mother City', Cape Town boasts a proud heritage spanning over 300 years. Its historical diversity is visible in the mixture of African, Asian and European influences that infuse its cuisine and cultural life, and especially its architecture – the colourful houses of the Bo-Kaap nestled on the slopes of Signal Hill, Cape Dutch homesteads, Victorian homes in its suburbs at the foot of the mountain, and Cape Town's colonial civic buildings.

The historic 'Bo-Kaap' or 'Cape Malay Quarter' is one of the most culturally interesting parts of the city. Many Bo-Kaap residents are descended from Indonesians, Sri Lankans, Indians and Malays, who were enslaved by the Dutch-East India Trading Company in the 17th and 18th centuries. A number of these slaves were Muslims who introduced Islam and played an important role in the development of the Afrikaans language. A simple form of Dutch, Afrikaans evolved so slaves from different countries and cultures could communicate with each other and with their Dutch masters. Educated Muslims were the first to write texts in Afrikaans.

We shall sample the area's excellent cuisine with a Welcome Lunch in a traditional Cape Malay restaurant situated in the heart of the Bo-Kaap. We then tour the Bo-Kaap area with its steep, narrow streets adorned with colourfully painted artisan houses and mosques. The architectural style of these buildings is a synthesis of Cape Dutch and Edwardian idioms.

We then make our way to Cape Town's city centre, or City Bowl, and the Company's Garden. The Company's Garden, now a large public park and botanical garden in the heart of Cape Town, is the oldest garden in the country. It was laid out by Cape Town's founding father Jan van Riebeeck on orders of the Dutch-East India Trading Company, so as to provision colonists with vegetables. As more produce became available from the Company's gardens at Newlands and from the Free Burghers who had settled along the Liesbeek River, the town garden was slowly converted into a botanical and ornamental garden, although vegetables continued to be grown for a number of years. Today the ensemble includes a rose garden, fishponds and a Saffron Pear Tree that is believed to be South Africa's oldest cultivated tree. (Overnight Cape Town, Waterfront) BL

Day 3: Monday 16 September, Cape Town

- Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MOCAA)
- Lunch at the Granary Café, Silo Hotel
- Robben Island Tour

We spend the morning visiting the Zeitz MOCAA, the largest museum of contemporary African art in the

world. Opened in September 2017, this converted grain silo overlooking the Atlantic on the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, was designed by architect Thomas Heatherwick. With 100 galleries spread over nine floors, the museum focuses exclusively on 21st-century work from Africa and the diaspora.

Lunch will be served at the Silo Hotel, a new luxury hotel situated above Zeitz MOCAA. Its Granary Café offers fabulous views over the city.

In the afternoon we depart by ferry for Robben Island from the Nelson Mandela Gateway. Located on the V&A Waterfront, this gateway was officially opened by Nelson Mandela on 1 December 2001. It is the embarkation point for exclusive access to Robben Island, the infamous site of the maximum-security prison where, along with other political prisoners, Mandela was imprisoned for 25 years by the South African apartheid regime. Robben Island has a long history as a place of banishment and punishment. In 1657, five years after Jan van Riebeeck established the first permanent European settlement in South Africa, he decided to use the island as a place of banishment. Thenceforth, various governors of the Cape used it as a place of exile. In 1846 the prison became a hospital. In 1855 part of the hospital became a colony for lepers and a lunatic asylum, whilst another portion was converted back into a prison. In 1959 the island became a maximum-security prison and between 1961 and 1991 over 3,000 political prisoners were incarcerated here. Since 1997 the prison has been a museum and in 1999 Robben Island was declared a World Heritage Site. Today's prison's guides are former inmates. (Overnight Cape Town, Waterfront) BL

Cape Town, Newlands - 6 nights

Day 4: Tuesday 17 September, Cape Town – Cape Point Reserve – Newlands

- Cape Point Nature Reserve with horticulturalist, Adam Harrower
- Lunch at Two Oceans Restaurant
- [Water Oak Farm](#), Klein Constantia – with Arlo Mitchell, Director of Green Cube

This morning we drive to the Cape Point Nature Reserve located at the tip of the Cape Peninsula, part of the huge Table Mountain National Park that stretches from Signal Hill and Table Mountain in the north to Cape Point in the south, encompassing the coastline of the peninsula. Lunch is at Two Oceans Restaurant which occupies an enviable position above False Bay at the southwestern tip of Africa. The restaurant is as famous for its seafood cuisine as it is for a superb wooden deck that looks out onto one of the most stunning ocean views in South Africa.

Horticulturalist, Adam Harrower, joins us again today to explore the indigenous fauna and flora that are conserved in this rich wilderness area. The Cape Peninsula has in excess of 2,500 fynbos species and within its 7,750 hectares it sustains more varieties of plants than the whole of the British Isles, including some 1,100 indigenous species, many of which are found nowhere else in the world. The reserve also protects a variety of animals including buck, baboons and Cape Mountain Zebra; over 250 species of birds are found here. Cape Point's treacherous cliffs form Africa's most south-westerly point: they mark the point where the cold Atlantic Benguela coastal current merges with the warm Agulhas Indian Ocean current from the south. We shall ride the funicular up to the lighthouse at the peak of Cape Point where you can view the Cape of Good Hope to the west.

This afternoon, we meet Arlo Mitchell, Director of landscape and garden design company Green Cube, who will show around Water Oak Farm. Situated in the heart of Constantia's winelands, this 'Kirstenbosch inspired' garden is a real gardener's paradise, which has evolved with the assistance of Greencube since 2008. It also bears testimony to the owner Wendy Floquet's artistic eye for detail and love for gardening on a grand scale. The latest addition, the 'Hot Garden', is a vibrant cornucopia of Aloes, Euphorbia's, Ferro

cacti and succulents.

We spend the next six nights at the 4-star Vineyard Hotel located in the leafy suburb of Newlands, on the slopes of Table Mountain. (Overnight Newlands, Cape Town) BL

Day 5: Wednesday 18 September, Newlands – Drakenstein Valley – Franschhoek – Newlands

- Babylonstoren Garden, Drakenstein Valley
- Private garden of Henk Scholtz, Franschhoek
- The Leeu Collection: Leeu House & Le Quartier Français. Guided tour of the Herb & Vegetable Garden, Bokkie Garden & Vineyard Walk; wine-tasting & lunch
- Private garden designed by Franchesca Watson, Franschhoek

Today we make an excursion to the historic town of Franschhoek located in the fertile Cape Winelands region. Thanks to its Mediterranean climate and winter rainfall, this region boasts some of the finest wines in the country.

We first visit the garden of Babylonstoren, a Cape Dutch farm with vineyards and orchards surrounded by the dramatic mountains of the Drakenstein Valley. It has an exceptionally well-preserved *werf* (barn) dating from 1690. Inspired by the 17th and 18th century formal Company Gardens of the Dutch East India Company and harking back to the mythical gardens of Babylon, its 8-acre fruit and vegetable garden is unique to South Africa. Every one of over 300 varieties of plants in the garden is edible. The garden is divided into fifteen clusters spanning vegetable areas, berries, bees, indigenous plants, ducks and chickens, and even includes a prickly pear maze. Gravity feeds water from a stream into the garden waterways as it has done for 300 years.

We next drive to the Franschhoek Valley, where French Huguenot refugees first settled in 1688. The region's climate and French cultural influence combine to make this valley South Africa's gourmet centre.

Businessman Analjit Singh bought several properties in the Franschhoek Valley including the art-filled Leeu House and Le Quartier Français. Both manor houses are surrounded by Franchesca Watson-designed gardens and vineyards overseen by the very best young winemakers Chris and Andrea Mullineux. Gardens designed by Franchesca include the Herb & Vegetable Garden, the Bokkie Garden and the Vineyard walk. The country herb and vegetable picking garden is laid out around three granadilla-covered pavilions with formal hedges. This was the first garden laid out on the property and it has incredible valley and mountain views. The garden provides fresh seasonal produce, which we shall enjoy during our lunch at Leeu House.

Nearby, we visit the private garden of well-known South African garden designer and artist Henk Scholtz. Scholtz's garden featured on the BBC's *Around The World In 80 Gardens* and was described by presenter Monty Don as 'probably the most photogenic garden [I've] ever been to. The garden uses only a few varieties of plants that provide a strong rhythm and continuity in both its structure and planting. Although a small garden, its clever use of borrowed landscapes gives it a feeling of enormity, which contrasts with the extreme intricacy of its myriad small spaces, graced by eccentric sculptures.

We also visit private contemporary garden designed by Franchesca Watson. (Overnight Newlands, Cape Town) BL

Day 6: Thursday 19 September, Cape West Coast

Full day trip to the Cape West Coast with horticulturist Adam Harrower including:

- !Khwatya San Education and Culture Centre (*time allowing*)
- Postberg section of West Coast National Park
- Tienie Versveld Reserve
- Darling Wildflower Show (*dates subject to confirmation in early 2019*)
- Waylands Wildflower Reserve

In August and September each year, the Cape West Coast bursts into a dazzling display of wild flowers, carpeting what is normally a barren semi-desert with a colourful array of daisies, yellow gansogies, felicias, nemesias and vygies. The West Coast flower region, an integral part of the Cape Fynbos Kingdom, boasts more than 1,200 species of flowering plants. About 80 of these are not only endemic to the West Coast but are encountered nowhere else on the globe. Conservation International has recognised the Cape Floristic Region as the only arid 'hot spot' for biodiversity, placing it among the 25 most ecologically valuable places in the world.

Today Adam Harrower leads us on a very special private tour of the West Coast reserves to experience their remarkable displays and study the distinctive vegetation types that contribute to Cape Fynbos Kingdom's unique species diversity.

We drive north to the top end of the West Coast National Park (Langebaan), where we visit Postberg, a special section of the park that is only open to the general public in early spring when the wild flowers are blooming in the Cape. There we shall admire the magical displays of multi-hued spring flowers, and perhaps also catch a glimpse of the many antelopes that populate the reserve.

Time allowing, we also stop at !Khwatya San Education and Culture Centre, to explore the world of the descendants of southern Africa's earliest indigenous people, the San. Located 70 kilometres north-west of Cape Town, this 850-hectare nature reserve is home both to hundreds of species of indigenous fynbos plants and a wide array of indigenous animal species such as Eland, Zebra, Oryx, Bontebok and Springbok.

Before leaving the West Coast National Park, we stop at Geelbek to collect our picnic basket and then continue to the small town of Darling where we hope to visit its famous flower show. The arid region through which we are travelling is termed 'veld' in Afrikaans, the equivalent of 'prairie' in the USA and grassland in Australia. There are many varieties of *veld*, which are distinguished by their soil types. Darling is surrounded by three distinct types, Strandveld (sandy plains, dunes and limestone with granite ridges), Renosterveld (coastal lowlands with shale and granite) and Sandveld (with dry, sandy soil) that account for the huge variety of plant species in its environs. To celebrate this extraordinary variety, the Darling Wildflower Society has held a show virtually every year since 1917, and pursued a sustained policy of educating local farmers to protect the region's species. The show's uniqueness is that it displays plants that are not cultivated but wild, having been picked under strict supervision.

We also visit the Waylands Flower Reserve and Tienie Versveld Wildflower Reserve. The former, founded in 1922, boasts some 300 varieties of Lowland Fynbos. (Overnight Newlands, Cape Town) BLD

Day 7: Friday 20 September, Newlands – Kenilworth – Stellenbosch – Newlands

- Stellenberg, Kenilworth: Tour of gardens and the private home of Sandy and Andrew Ovenstone
- Historic town of Stellenbosch
- Delaire Graff Estate
- Dylan Lewis Studio & Sculpture Garden, Stellenbosch

This morning we visit Stellenberg Garden, located at Kenilworth in the heart of Cape Town's southern

suburbs. Owner Sandy Ovenstone has lived on the property since 1974. She will give us a guided tour of her beautifully tended gardens that owe much of their inspiration to three well-known English gardens, Sissinghurst, Hidcote Manor and Hatfield House. The white garden, planted alongside the 1840s Cape Dutch homestead, displays a wonderful mix of romantic perennials. A vegetable patch boasts a companionable mix of herbs, vegetables, sweet peas and foxgloves. There is also a marsh garden area and a wonderful formal parterre designed by David Hicks as a silver wedding present for Sandy from her husband Andrew. Franchesca Watson has created three of its other gardens: the Medieval Garden, the Garden of Reflection and the Parterre Garden.

Delaire Graff Estate, a botanical paradise in a gorgeous setting, is our lunch destination. The estate offers spectacular views of the Stellenbosch valley and features an art collection including world-famous Tretchikoff's *Chinese Girl*.

After lunch, we continue to the pretty university town of Stellenbosch, situated at the head of the Eerste (First) River Valley. It was one of the first valleys to be settled by Europeans and the area contains many well-preserved examples of domestic Cape Dutch architecture and notable vineyards.

Dylan Lewis is a South African artist who has emerged, internationally, as one of the foremost figures in contemporary sculpture. Lewis's primary inspiration is wilderness. We take a guided tour through his extensive sculpture garden. From virtual flat farmland, Lewis has created an undulating landscape of valleys and hills, ponds fed by natural springs and shady secret gardens and groves. A visit to his circular studio with its huge barn doors, open out onto a magnificent view of the landscape. (Overnight Newlands, Cape Town) B

Day 8: Saturday 21 September, Newlands – Kirstenbosch – Pniel – Newlands

- Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden with horticulturalist Adam Harrower
- Old Bethlehem Farm, Pniel – design project by Franchesca Watson and Danie Steenkamp

Located on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain, Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden is considered one of the most beautiful botanic gardens in the world. It was established in 1913 on land left to the nation by Cecil Rhodes to protect the immense floral wealth of the Cape region. Kirstenbosch is one of 8 protected areas that make up the Cape Floral Region (CFR), a 528-hectare botanical wonderland that is home to over 22,000 indigenous plants; it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2004. This distinctive phytogeographic unit is listed among the 6 'Floral Kingdoms' of the world; it is by far the smallest of these and for its size the richest and most diverse. Species include almost 70% of the 9,500 plants that are endemic to this region. The Garden's senior horticulturalist, Adam Harrower, will lead a special tour introducing the collection of South African plants in the 40 hectares of developed garden.

Following lunch at the Kirstenbosch tearoom, we journey to Old Bethlehem Farm located in the Dwars River Valley between the villages of Kylemore and Pniel. The old farm buildings, which date from the late 1680's, have been beautifully restored. Here we shall meet Danie Steenkamp, a landscaper, town planner and founder of [DDS Projects](#); he is currently considered the best landscaper in the Franschoek/Stellenbosch region. Francesca Watson and Danie were responsible for designing the farm's simple gardens and restoring the natural fynbos landscape. (Overnight Newlands, Cape Town) BL

Day 9: Sunday 22 September, Newlands – Constantia – Bishopscourt – Newlands

- Private design projects by Franchesca Watson, Constantia and Bishopscourt
- Liz McGrath's award-winning gardens at Cellars-Hohenort

Today is devoted to visiting a number of private gardens designed by Franchesca Watson in the suburbs of Constantia and Bishopscourt, including the large garden of 'Middleton' which has been developed over the years as a series of large garden "rooms" with Table Mountain as the dramatic backdrop. The garden features wonderful seasonal plantings with a sensitive use of colour. Level changes give interest and structure to the various spaces. The newest addition is the rill garden planted with grasses and perennials.

The Cellars-Hohenort Hotel is located on the slopes of Table Mountain in the heart of the Constantia Valley. We shall take a tour of its beautiful gardens which have been voted by American magazine *Garden Design*, as one of the top 30 hotel gardens in the world. Set over nine spectacular acres, the gardens are the result of the owner Liz McGrath's 20-year vision. Giant camphor trees dating back to the eighteenth century are surrounded by more recent gardens including the unrivalled Cellars-Hohenort rose garden. (Overnight Newlands, Cape Town) BL

Mossel Bay - 1 night

Day 10: Monday 23 September, Newlands – Somerset West – Swellendam – Mossel Bay

- Vergelegen Wine Estate & Garden, Somerset West – guided tour with head gardener, Mr Richard Arms
- Historic town of Swellendam

We depart Cape Town for Mossel Bay, considered to be South Africa's historical capital, where the renowned 'Garden Route' begins. On the way we visit Vergelegen (meaning 'situated far away'), which has been a gardener's paradise since 1700 when the then Governor of the Cape, Willem Adriaan van der Stel, cleared land to establish a garden and develop its vineyards. Willem Adriaan, a keen horticulturist, was the author of *The African Gardener's and Agriculturists' Calendar*. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited here during their tour of 1947 and were reputedly 'overcome by Vergelegen's loveliness'. Restored in 1987, the ensemble now features a White Garden, a Rose Garden and the magnificent Octagonal Garden, which affords views to the house along 400m of twin herbaceous borders. The garden also includes a Wetland Garden and Yellowwood Walk. Along with summer flowering perennials, annuals such as cleome and nicotiana are planted in September.

Following lunch, we drive to Mossel Bay, making a short stop in Swellendam, the third oldest town settled in South Africa by the Dutch East India Company. Founded in 1746, the town displays its rich history through marvellous Cape Dutch and Victorian architecture. (Overnight Mossel Bay) BL

Knysna Quays - 3 nights

Day 11: Tuesday 24 September, Mossel Bay – Garden Route – Knysna Quays

- Old Post Office Tree and Bartholomew Diaz Museum, Mossel Bay
- Knysna Elephant Park: sunset walk with African elephants

This morning we visit the Bartholomew Diaz Museum named after the Portuguese explorer who was the first European to land at Mossel Bay in 1488. Mossel Bay subsequently became an important port of call for many Portuguese ships taking on board fresh water and provisions. The museum complex comprises a number of buildings as well as a 500 year-old 'Post Office Tree' that was once used by sailors who deposited messages for other ships in a boot that hung from its branches.

We then drive to Knysna along what is known as the 'Garden Route', which enjoys a semi-Mediterranean climate and includes indigenous forest, freshwater lakes, wetlands, hidden coves, and long beaches. Our

hotel is located on the former harbour quays overlooking Knysna Lagoon, where sea and sweet water mix. The lagoon's salt marshes and sandbanks support an unsurpassed wealth of bird and marine life, the Knysna Loerie (brightly coloured bird of the banana eating family) and the Knysna Seahorse being the most famous examples.

We conclude the day with a quintessentially African experience, an opportunity to walk with elephants in the Knysna Elephant Park. On our sunset tour, we enjoy spectacular views of the Outeniqua mountain range and have the opportunity to get close to the elephants that live here in a controlled, free range environment. Knysna Elephant Park also supports a number of elephants at their orphanage near Port Elizabeth. The Park's primary role is rehabilitating elephants and providing them with better homes. (Overnight Knysna Quays) B

Day 12: Wednesday 25 September, Knysna – Plettenberg Bay – Knysna

- The Boardwalk Empire, "K-Cottage", Keurboomstrand
- The White House, Plettenberg Bay

Today we visit two exceptional beach homes owned by South African-born British investor Julian Treger, a well-known art and design collector.

We begin with a visit to the asymmetrical three-storey waveform structure that Julian Treger built on a dune overlooking the Indian Ocean at Keurboomstrand, north of Plettenberg Bay. Nominally the work of architects Silvio Rech and Lesley Carstens, the 'K-Cottage' as it has been christened, is an exuberant homage to the curvilinear optimism of mid-20th-century modernism. "The house has almost no straight lines and is designed to undulate with the dunes and hills in a natural way that recalls the development of twentieth century organic architecture, starting with Gaudi through to Frank Lloyd Wright, Oscar Niemeyer and John Lautner and ending with Dame Zaha Hadid". The home features a magnificent treetop skywalk that snakes through and above the indigenous flora linking the house to the beach. With the assistance of environmental consultant, Peet Joubert, and inspired by examples at Kew Gardens and Kirstenbosch, the boardwalk was designed to protect a number of milkwood trees and other sensitive species.

We also visit Julian's 'White House' located just inland from Plettenberg Bay. Designed by architect Christiaan van Aswegen, the low-slung holiday home lies discreetly on a clifftop promontory. From the house the landscape falls 1000ft and offers spectacular views of fynbos covered meadows and ravines and Tsitsikamma Mountains in the distance. (Overnight Knysna Quays) BL

Day 13: Thursday 26 September, Knysna

- Knysna Forest Tour
- Sunset Ferry Cruise on Knysna Lagoon

Knysna grew up as a small port from which timber from indigenous forests, part of the original montane rainforests, was exported. We make a full day excursion into the strictly protected 80,000-hectare Knysna Forest, the largest remaining forested area in South Africa. Our guides will introduce the forest's astounding diversity of plant life including huge Yellowwood trees, ferns and mosses and fynbos vegetation. We follow a trail of approximately 3.2 kilometres through to the heart of Diepwalle Forest, where we will stop for lunch under an enormous Outeniqua Yellowwood tree (*Podocarpus falcatus*). The 'Big Tree', or 'King Edward VII Tree', has staggering dimensions: a height of 39 metres with a crown width of 32 metres, and its age is estimated at approximately 650 years.

In the evening, we take a sunset cruise across the turquoise waters of Knysna Lagoon which opens up between two sandstone cliffs known as the Heads, once proclaimed by the British Royal Navy the most dangerous harbour entrance in the world. We shall also see some interesting birdlife such as African fish eagles, darters, kingfishers, cormorants and black oystercatchers.

The rest of the evening is at leisure; you may wish to sample the town's famous oysters. (Overnight Knysna Quays) BL

Umhlanga, Durban - 1 night

Day 14: Friday 27 September, Knysna – George – Durban – Umhlanga

- Late-morning flight George to Durban
- Private garden designed by Keith Kirsten, Durban
- Durban Botanical Gardens
- Oyster Box Hotel, Umhlanga Rocks – guided tour of landscaped gardens designed by Franchesca Watson

This morning we fly to Durban, described as a city where the 'sun never sets'. Durban is a coastal metropolis on the Indian Ocean, famous for its string of magnificent beaches known as the 'Golden Mile'. With a warm, sub-tropical climate, it is the largest city in KwaZulu-Natal, and South Africa's busiest port. Durban was first a Dutch and then an English colony, and now has the largest Indian population of any city outside of India. Its ethnic diversity has produced a vibrant mix of architectural styles, encompassing elegant Victorian houses and monuments, Hindu temples and modern high-rises, and the largest mosque in the southern hemisphere.

This afternoon we visit a private garden designed by Keith Kirsten, South Africa's most well-known gardener. The owner, Neville Schaefer, will also welcome us at Riversfield Farm, his property in the Natal Midlands.

We then tour the Durban Botanical Gardens, Africa's oldest surviving botanic gardens. They were established in 1849 to participate in the quest for Kew Gardens to establish a series of botanic gardens across the world which would assist in the introduction of economically valuable plants, and to supply plants to Kew that were new to science. The gardens include collections of sub-tropical trees, cycads, palms and orchids, and a lake with water lilies and pink lotus.

Tonight we stay at the luxury Oyster Box Hotel in Umhlanga Rocks, an exclusive resort north of Durban. Here, Cape Town based landscape consultant Jean Wouters and landscape designer Franchesca Watson have recreated beautiful sweeping gardens with a colonial feel to suit the style of the hotel. Having worked for the Botanical Gardens in Durban, Franchesca contributed her extensive knowledge of KwaZulu-Natal plants to the project. The garden features colourful tropical plants including bougainvillea, frangipani and local subtropical coastal plants.

This evening we dine at the hotel's Ocean Terrace restaurant overlooking the Indian Ocean and sample Durban's Indian culinary heritage with a selection of fine curries using fresh local ingredients and spices. (Overnight Umhlanga Rocks) BD

Hilton, Natal Midlands - 2 nights

Day 15: Saturday 28 September, Umhlanga – Durban – Pietermaritzburg – Oakpark – Hilton

- Private garden of Rob and Jane Crankshaw, Cowies Hill – with horticultural consultant, Geoff Nichols
- Private garden of Sue and Hugh Akerman, Pietermaritzburg
- Norwood Garden, Oakpark

Early this morning we depart Umhlanga for Cowies Hill to visit the private garden of Rob and Jane Crankshaw. We will be accompanied by horticultural consultant Geoff Nichols who helped lay out the garden in 1999. A few large trees remain from the original garden including a big *Casuarina cunninghamiana* and some *Jacaranda mimosifolias* with a border of azaleas (which might still be in flower during your visit). The rest of the garden now consists of local trees and shrubs. There are at least 100 species of tree planted in the garden. A very rare epiphytic orchid *Diaphanthe millarii* occurs in one tree in the garden.

Next, we drive 90 kilometres to Pietermaritzburg, the capital and second largest city of the province of KwaZulu-Natal. Steeped in a history that has Zulu, Boer, British and Indian elements, it is one of the best-preserved Victorian cities in Africa. Its city hall, built in 1900, was then the largest all-brick building in the southern hemisphere.

In the afternoon, we visit the private garden of Sue and Hugh Akerman. This mostly indigenous garden has some exotically planted areas of bright annuals and mosaic features. The indigenous trees that have been established for over 25 years have created a riverine forest along a stream. The bird life in the garden is prolific.

We also visit nearby Norwood garden, with over 7000m² of rolling landscaped gardens in an informal, tropical, forest style, with numerous formal elements. Massive trees frame many beautiful vistas through the garden and over the city. The garden features masses of clivias, tree ferns and cycads and magnificent koi ponds.

We spend the night in Hilton, enjoying an evening meal together at our Tudor style hotel. (Overnight Hilton) BLD

Day 16: Sunday 29 September, Natal Midlands

- Riversfield Farm
- Benvie Farm

Today we visit more private gardens in the area, including a formal 18th century English garden by the late legendary British designer, David Hicks (1929-98), on Riversfield Farm. An architectural garden with a formal *potager*, a dovecote, and a Gothic pool pavilion, the garden displays a panache typical of Hick's work.

In Karkloof, we visit Benvie farm, established in 1882 by Scottish emigrant John Geekie, who is well known throughout South Africa by both the gardening and birdwatching fraternities. Geekie, who was a cabinet-maker by profession, also loved trees, and imported seedlings from across the world. Many of the trees which he planted are still standing today, including three giant eucalypts. Today the farm's arboretum is managed by Geekie's great grand-daughter. The 127-year old garden covers an area of about 30 hectares, and consists mainly of large conifers, rhododendrons and azaleas, all of which is bordered by a typical indigenous mist belt forest. The garden features a walkway, about 2kms long, where bird watchers stand a good chance of seeing Orange Ground Thrush, Chorister Robin Chat, Olive Woodpecker, Grey Cuckooshrike, Knysna Turaco, White starred Robin and Cape Parrot which use the property as a nesting site. (Overnight Hilton) BLD

Johannesburg - 3 nights

Day 17: Monday 30 September, Hilton – Durban Airport – Johannesburg

- Morning flight from Durban to Johannesburg
- Light lunch and private guided tour of Beechwood Gardens

This morning we fly to the economic hub of Africa, Johannesburg, a bustling, sprawling city of contrasts, spread across the small but densely populated province of Gauteng. Some people call it 'Jozi' or 'Joburg', others 'Egoli', meaning 'City of Gold', a reference to its origins as a gold rush town founded after the discovery of gold on the East Rand in the late 19th century. From its humble origins as a camp of rows of tents, Johannesburg has grown to be the economic powerhouse not only of South Africa, but much of the African continent, with one of the forty largest metropolitan areas in the world. The city's modern vibrancy is largely based on the diversity of its people and cultures, with a mix of indigenous African, and immigrant Dutch, English, Portuguese and Malay cultures.

Upon arrival, we make our way to Beechwood Gardens where owners, Christopher and Susan Greig, host us for lunch and give us a tour of their private garden. Designed by legendary landscape architect Joane Pym in 1945, the garden features magnificent trees including a colossal Water Oak believed to be one of the largest trees in Johannesburg. Christopher and Susan acquired the 3.5-acre garden some 12 years ago and have worked extensively on redesigning and landscaping this botanical sanctuary which features a rainforest, water garden, colonnade, formal rose garden, lotus garden and a sunken vegetable garden.

We spend the next 3 nights in the municipality of Sandton, one of the most opulent areas in Johannesburg. (Overnight Sandton, Johannesburg) BD

Day 18: Tuesday 1 October, Johannesburg – Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site – Johannesburg

- Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site: Maropeng Visitor Centre and Sterkfontein Caves
- Lunch at Roots Restaurant
- Private garden of Pallinghurst, Westcliff, designed by landscape designers Liz and Tim Steyn

Today our destination is the Cradle of Humankind, Gauteng, a UNESCO World Heritage Site considered one of the most important paleontological zones in the world, where remains of Australopithecus, distant forebear of humankind, have been discovered. The site comprises a strip of a dozen dolomitic limestone caves containing the fossilised remains of ancient forms of animals, plants and most importantly, hominids. The dolomite in which the caves formed, started out as coral reefs growing in a warm shallow sea about 2.3 billion years ago. We first visit the Maropeng Visitors Centre. Maropeng means 'returning to the place of origin' in Setswana, the area's major indigenous language. A series of fascinating exhibits focusing on the development of our ancestors over the past few million years are housed in the Tumulus Building designed to resemble a giant ancient burial mound.

We also visit the Sterkfontein Caves owned by the University of the Witwatersrand whose scientists have been responsible for the main excavations and the discovery of many fossils, including 'Mrs Ples', a 2.1-million-year-old Australopithecus skull, and 'Little Foot', an almost complete Australopithecus skeleton dating back more than 3 million years.

Midday we enjoy a 4-course lunch at the Roots Restaurant which is renowned as one of Johannesburg's top fine-dining restaurants. Located in the private Letamo Game Estate, chef Allistaire Lawrence specialises in French cuisine with subtle Asian and African influences.

This afternoon we visit the magnificent garden of one of Johannesburg's most important heritage homesteads, Pallinghurst. Here, designers Liz and Tim Steyn have transformed an old tennis court into an impressive circular garden, inspired by the Mughal-style gardens of Baker and Lutyens in Delhi. The gardens feature a round pond in a sunken central lawn enclosed by raised beds densely planted with small trees, shrubs and perennials. Tim has also designed an impressive driveway flanked by evergreen planting. From the house there is a spectacular vista over Johannesburg. (Overnight Sandton, Johannesburg) BL

Day 19: Wednesday 2 October, Johannesburg – Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve – Johannesburg

- Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve and Game Drive
- Private Estate of Iwan and Irene Roux – landscape project by Patrick Watson (*subject to confirmation in early 2019*)
- Farewell Dinner at the Bull Run Restaurant

This morning we take a game drive at the Rhino and Lion Nature Reserve, situated in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site. With roughly 600 head of game within the reserve, we are likely to view Kruger lion, white rhino, buffalo, cheetah, hippo and antelope. Our visit is timed to coincide with the feeding of lions and cheetahs. We also view the lion cubs. Most of the reserve's focus is on their breeding program and other animals bred here include the white rhino, white lion, Cape wild dog, Bengal tigers and Siberian tigers.

Next, we visit the private estate of Iwan and Irene Roux to study the work of award-winning landscape designer Patrick Watson. With flair and originality, he combines local species into a natural looking ecology, designed to have interest throughout the year.

In the mid-afternoon we return to our hotel where there will be some at leisure. This evening, we shall enjoy a farewell meal at the Bull Run Restaurant. (Overnight Sandton, Johannesburg) BLD

Day 20: Thursday 3 October, Depart Johannesburg

- Airport transfer for participants departing on the ASA 'designated' flight.

Our tour ends in Johannesburg. Passengers travelling on the ASA 'designated' flight will transfer to the airport for the return flight to Australia. Alternatively, you may wish to extend your stay in South Africa. Please contact ASA if you require further assistance. B

Accommodation

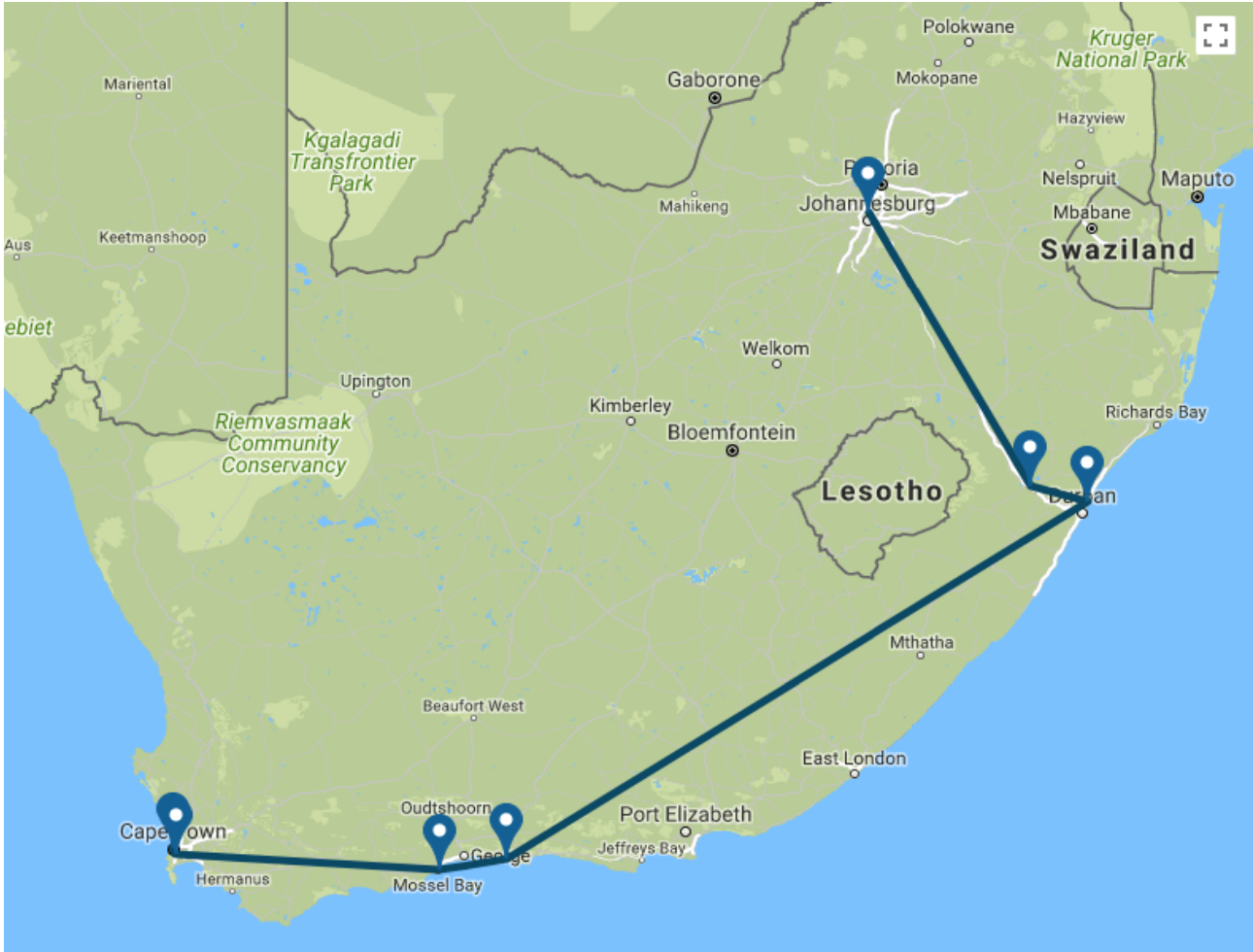
20-day Garden Tour of South Africa

ASA has selected a range of 4- and 5-star hotels located in secure surroundings close to restaurants and other amenities. A highlight of the tour will be our stay in the exquisite Oyster Box Hotel in Umhlanga, a 5-star hotel overlooking the azure waters of the Indian Ocean and surrounded by lush tropical gardens designed by Franchesca Watson. Double/twin rooms for single occupancy may be requested – and are subject to availability and payment of the Single Supplement. Further information on hotels will be provided in the 'Tour Hotel List' given to tour members prior to their departure.

- Cape Town, Waterfront (3 nights): 4-star Victoria & Alfred Hotel – situated alongside the Alfred Basin's working dock in the heart of the V & A Waterfront, with splendid views of Table Mountain and the harbour, and within easy walking distance to shops, restaurants and craft markets. www.newmarkhotels.com
- Cape Town, Newlands (6 nights): 4-star Vineyard Hotel – situated in 7 acres of landscaped parkland on the banks of the Liesbeek River, within easy walking distance of the Cavendish Shopping Centre. This beautiful establishment comprises the original home of Lady Anne Barnard and bedrooms designed by highly acclaimed architects Jack Barnett and Revel Fox. www.vineyard.co.za
- Mossel Bay (1 night): 4-star Protea Hotel Mossel Bay – located in the coastal town of Mossel Bay and overlooking Santos Bay and the harbour. Built in 1846, the hotel's main building is one of the oldest in Mossel Bay and forms part of the Dias Museum Complex. www.marriott.com.au
- Knysna Quays (3 nights): 4-star Protea Hotel by Marriott Knysna Quays – located on the bustling Knysna Quays Waterfront. www.marriott.com
- Umhlanga Rocks, Durban (1 night): 5-star luxury Oyster Box Hotel – a member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World, this award-winning colonial-style hotel is surrounded by lush tropical gardens in a breathtaking seaside setting. www.oysterboxhotel.com
- Hilton, Natal Midlands (2 nights): 4-star Protea Hotel by Marriott Hilton – located in the heart of the Natal Midlands, 12 kms from historic Pietermaritzburg. www.marriott.com
- Johannesburg (3 nights): 4-star Protea Hotel by Marriott Johannesburg Balalaika Sandton – located in the business and financial district of Sandton in Johannesburg's prestigious northern suburbs. The hotel is directly linked to the Village Walk Shopping Centre with its numerous restaurants, shops, and an African Market, and within walking distance of the Nelson Mandela Square, a fashionable area with many cafes, fine dining and shops. www.marriott.com

Note: *Hotels are subject to change, in which case a hotel of similar standard will be provided.*

Tour Map



Tour Price & Inclusions

AUD \$10,780.00 Land Content Only – Early Bird Special: Book Before 30 September 2018

AUD \$10,980.00 Land Content Only

AUD \$2350.00 Single Supplement

For competitive Economy, Business or First Class airfares and/or group airfares please contact ASA for further information.

Tour Price (Land Content Only) includes:

- Accommodation in twin-share rooms with private facilities in 4-and 5-star hotels
- Breakfast daily, lunches and dinner indicated in the tour itinerary, where: B=breakfast, L=lunch & D =dinner
- Drinks at Silo Hotel lunch on Day 3 and farewell dinner on Day 19. Other meals may not have drinks included.
- Transportation by air-conditioned coach
- Two internal flights (Day 14: George to Durban; Day 17: Durban to Johannesburg)
- Evening cruise on Knysna Lagoon (Day 13)
- Airport-hotel transfers if travelling on ASA 'designated' flights
- Porterage of one piece of luggage per person at hotels (not at airports)
- Lecture and site-visit program
- Tour notes
- Use of audio headsets during site visits
- Tips for the coach driver, local guides and restaurants for included meals

Tour Price (Land Content Only) does not include:

- Airfare: Australia-Cape Town; Johannesburg-Australia
- Personal spending money
- Airport-hotel transfers if not travelling on 'designated' flights
- Luggage in excess of 20kg (44lbs)
- Travel insurance



Physical Endurance & Practical Information

Physical Ratings 

The number of flags is a guide to the degree of difficulty of ASA tours relative to each other (not to those of other tour companies). It is neither absolute nor literal. One flag is given to the least taxing tours, seven to the most. Flags are allocated, above all, according to the amount of walking and standing each tour involves. Nevertheless, all ASA tours require that participants have a good degree of fitness enabling 2-3 hours walking or 1-1.5 hours standing still on any given site visit or excursion. Many sites are accessed by climbing slopes or steps and have uneven terrain.

This 20-day Garden Tour of South Africa involves:

- A moderate amount of walking mainly during outdoor site visits, often up and down hills (incl. steep inclines at Cape Point and in Knysna Forest) and/or flights of stairs, and uneven terrain at gardens, along forest tracks, and in nature reserves (Wildflower Reserves, Table Mountain, Knysna Forest & Knysna Elephant Park). You therefore need to be a good walker and also be prepared to stand for some time in front of buildings, art works and during guided tours of museums and gardens.
- Moderate coach travel - often on minor roads, and two internal flights (Day 14: George to Durban; Day 17: Durban to Johannesburg).
- A daily schedule often involving early-morning departures (between 8.00-8.30am) and concluding in the late afternoon (6.00-6.30pm).
- Evening cruise on Knysna Lagoon (Day 13).
- This tour includes the use of audio headsets, which amplify the voice of your guide (despite noisy surroundings). This technology also allows you to move freely during site visits without missing any information.
- 4- & 5-star hotels with six hotel changes.
- You must be able to carry your own hand luggage. Hotel portage includes 1 piece of luggage per person.

It is important to remember that ASA programs are group tours, and slow walkers affect everyone in the group. As the group must move at the speed of the slowest member, the amount of time spent at a site may be reduced if group members cannot maintain a moderate walking pace. ASA tours should not present any problem for active people who can manage day-to-day walking and stair-climbing. However, if you have any doubts about your ability to manage on a program, please ask your ASA travel consultant whether this is a suitable tour for you.

Please note: it is a condition of travel that all participants agree to accept ASA's directions in relation to their suitability to participate in activities undertaken on the tour, and that ASA retains the sole discretion to direct a tour participant to refrain from a particular activity on part of the tour. For further information please refer to the ASA Reservation Application Form.

Practical Information

Prior to departure, tour members will receive practical notes which include information on visa requirements, health, photography, weather, clothing and what to pack, custom regulations, bank hours, currency regulations, electrical appliances and food. The Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade website has advice for travellers: www.smarttraveller.gov.au

Visa Requirements for South Africa

Australian, New Zealand and British passport holders do not require a visa for a stay of up to 90 days provided they have return/onward tickets and two completely blank pages in their passport. Please also note you will need at least six months validity on your passport from your return date.

Booking Conditions

Make a Reservation

ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION FORM

Please complete the ASA RESERVATION APPLICATION and send it to Australians Studying Abroad together with your non-refundable deposit of AUD \$500.00 per person payable to Australians Studying Abroad.

Passport Details

All participants must provide no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the program a photocopy of the front page of their current passport.

Single Supplement

Payment of this supplement will ensure accommodation in a double (or twin) room for single occupancy throughout the tour. The number of rooms available for single occupancy is extremely limited. People wishing to take this supplement are therefore advised to book well in advance.



Reservation Application

TOUR NAME _____
TOUR DATES _____

Please complete **one application, per person in block letters and sign**. Parental signature is required for participants under 18 years of age. Please mail this form with the appropriate deposit to: **P.O. Box 8285, ARMADALE, VICTORIA, 3143**. On receipt of this Reservation Application and deposit, ASA will process your booking and if approved, send you a tour confirmation.

Applicant Details (as in passport)

TITLE Mr Mrs Ms Miss Dr Other _____
FIRST NAME _____ Preferred FIRST NAME _____
MIDDLE NAME _____ SURNAME _____
POSTAL ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ COUNTRY _____ POSTCODE _____
TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____
EMAIL address _____
Date of birth / / _____ GENDER Male Female

Passport Number _____ Expiry date / / _____ Nationality _____
 Colour copy of my current valid passport enclosed I'm renewing my passport ASA has a colour copy of my current passport

Travel Plans

I wish ASA to book my airfare, please contact me to discuss my options. Business Class Economy Class
 I plan to leave Australia before the tour commences. Planned departure date / / _____
 I will be arranging my airfare independently and taking the Land Content Only option.
Frequent Flyer _____ Name of Airline _____ Airline Seat preference _____
Membership # _____ (please note request only)

Tour Accommodation (rooming preferences)

I/we would like: a twin-bedded room a double-bedded room a room for sole occupancy
I am travelling: on my own with a friend/family member Travel Companion _____

Meals

I do not have any specific dietary requests
Allergies: Refer to the Medical Information

Please **X** the box if you **CAN NOT** eat any of the following:
 fish poultry red meat dairy products
 eggs pork nuts
 Other _____

Correspondence

Your preferred method of correspondence Postal Mail Email Address _____

Emergency Contact Details

Note: this person **MUST** be available by telephone and be present in Australia for the duration of your tour with ASA

Name _____ Relationship to Traveller _____
Address _____
TEL. (AH) () _____ TEL. (BH) () _____ Mobile Tel: _____
EMAIL address _____

The purpose of seeking this information is to assist ASA to determine, where necessary, whether ASA is able to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate your specific needs and whether your health and safety (or that of your fellow travellers) is likely to be compromised given your choice of tour. It will also assist you and ASA if you fall ill or have an accident whilst travelling.

- ASA reserves the right to decline your Reservation Application if this Medical Information section is not completed properly and may reject or cancel your reservation, or terminate your participation on any tour, if ASA subsequently learns that you have failed to make full and proper disclosure.
- ASA is committed to protecting the privacy of your personal information. ASA's privacy policy is available for viewing at www.asatours.com.au
- If ASA has any concerns about the information you have provided, it will contact you to request clarification before considering your Application.
- ASA requires you to consider carefully your limitations in light of ASA's Physical Endurance Star Rating System in ASA's Brochure and Itinerary when choosing your tour.
- If you are not likely to satisfy ASA's Participation Criteria (see below), ASA, in its sole discretion, may reject your Reservation Application.
- It is a condition of your tour that you agree to accept the directions of ASA's Tour Leaders in relation to your suitability to participate in activities planned on tour.
- ASA reserves the right to cancel your participation on a tour if your behaviour is in ASA's opinion causing undue distress or damage to any person or their property.
- If your participation is discontinued during a tour, ASA will assist by arranging your onward travel (if required) at your own cost, but you will not be refunded for forfeited parts of the tour.
- ASA tour groups are not accompanied by a medical practitioner. ASA recommends that you see your doctor for advice about your specific needs while overseas. You may also wish to contact a travel and vaccination clinic for advice. www.traveldoctor.com.au tel: 1300 658 444; www.travelvax.com.au tel: 1300 360 164.
- Travel insurers require you to declare all existing medical conditions.
- Please carry a complete list of medications with you during the ASA tour. Include **generic names** of each medication (consult your local pharmacy for information).

Please mark **X** in the YES or NO box to every question below and provide details where necessary:

Participation Criteria

To participate in an ASA tour, you must be reasonably fit, in good health and able to participate in all activities without assistance from Tour Leaders or other tour members. If you require assistance, a fit and able travel companion must undertake to accompany and assist you with all tasks for the duration of the whole tour. The responsibility of the Tour Leader is to ensure that the larger group enjoys a relaxing and informative journey, and he or she cannot be relied upon to provide ongoing individual assistance to any one guest.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Can you walk and stand unassisted for at least 2-3 hours a day in hot, humid conditions? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. Can you walk unassisted on and over uneven surfaces? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Can you climb at least 3 flights of stairs and/or walk up and down steep slopes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 4. Can you walk at a steady pace and no less than 1km every 15 - 20 minutes unassisted? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 5. Can you organise, manage and carry your own luggage? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 6. Can you follow and remember tour instructions and meet punctually at designated times and places? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 7. Can you administer your own medication? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 8. Do you have impaired vision or hearing which may impact your capacity to participate on this tour? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Mobility and Fitness

As many of ASA's international sites do not provide access to wheelchairs or similar mobility aids, we regret that ASA tours are not suitable for people who require the use of a walking frame, wheeled walker, wheelchair or motorised scooter.

1. Do you suffer from any medical conditions that may compromise your mobility and/or fitness to participate on this program? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

Allergies and/or Food Intolerances

ASA will make reasonable endeavours to organise meals to suit you, provided that you give ASA adequate notice of your specific dietary requirements or allergies. You may be required to research dietary alternatives, as not all destinations may be able to offer suitable food substitutes.

1. Do you have any food allergies or intolerances? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

2. Have you ever had an anaphylactic reaction to anything? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

Do you carry an epipen? YES NO

3. Do you have any other allergies or reactions to anything, including medical drugs? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

Existing Medical Conditions

You alone are responsible for managing any existing medical conditions, your medication and any medical equipment that you may need when on your tour. Please plan for contingencies and take extra medication, dietary supplements and/or fully charged batteries for medical equipment if your health and safety depends on these. You should take into consideration that power sources at some destinations may be unavailable, inadequate, inconvenient or unreliable.

1. Have you any significant medical conditions that may impact your capacity to complete this tour? YES NO
 If yes, please specify

If yes, how will you manage this on tour?

2. Do you require some form of powered medical aid, such as a CPAP machine? YES NO

These machines may not be operable on certain international flights, modes of transport, in remote or other areas with inadequate or unreliable power sources without a fully charged independent long life battery or batteries.

Diabetics: You may be travelling and sightseeing for many hours at a time. Insulin dependent diabetics must carry extra supplies of insulin (as this medication cannot be obtained in some destinations), regulators, applicators, storage and refrigeration equipment, as well as any necessary supplements. Accommodation may not provide refrigerators in rooms.

3. Are you diabetic? YES NO

Are you insulin dependent? YES NO

4. Do you suffer from travel sickness? YES NO
 Remember to use an appropriate medication while on tour.

Declaration

I declare that: I have read and understood the ASA Tour Itinerary, Reservation Application and Booking Conditions. I am aware of ASA's terms as relating to refunds, cancellations, responsibility and liability. I understand that ASA relies upon this declaration when considering this Application. I accept that there are inherent dangers and risks that may occur during any tour. I have made full and complete disclosure and have not knowingly withheld any medical information about myself from ASA. I have completed this Reservation Application honestly and accurately. I warrant that I am able to participate independently in all activities described by ASA in the itinerary without assistance from any person.

I will advise ASA in writing if any aspect of my fitness and or health conditions change materially at any time before my departure date. I understand and accept that the itinerary, accommodation and lecturers scheduled for this tour may change.

I agree and consent that ASA may give my personal information in this Reservation Application to tour service providers and relevant authorities as required by law, but for the purpose of making bookings with and engaging services provided for the tour. I understand that if I do not consent to the use of my personal information for this purpose, ASA will decline my Reservation Application.

In consideration of ASA's acceptance of my Reservation Application, I irrevocably release and indemnify ASA from all claims that I, or any other party, may have against ASA its employees, invitees, agents and contractors, however arising in respect of any loss, damage, injury, death or expense incurred in the course of travelling to, on and from any tour.

I understand and acknowledge that this Release and Indemnity applies with respect to:

1. Every general risk to which I or my personal belongings may be exposed in the course of travelling to, on or from any ASA tour
2. Every special risk, in particular medical risks, to which I may be exposed in the course of travelling to, on or from any ASA tour arising from, including, but not limited to:
 - a. intermittent power cycles and/or the temporary or permanent loss of power (beware CPAP or any other medical machine users);
 - b. dietary, food or other allergies (ASA cannot guarantee that traces of items to which you are allergic are not present in food or drink you are served, medication you are administered or other substances with which you may come into contact);
 - c. any event or situation that may compromise the administration of necessary medication or my health, safety and wellbeing generally.
3. All claims arising as a result of my or ASA's cancellation or termination of my continued participation on a tour for whatever reason (refund conditions in ASA's Booking Conditions excepted).

Limitation of Liability

ASA is not a carrier, event or tourist attraction host, accommodation or dining service provider. All bookings made and tickets or coupons issued by ASA for transport, event, accommodation, dining and the like are issued as an agent for various service providers and are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by each service provider. ASA is not responsible for their products or services. If a service provider does not deliver the product or service for which you have contracted, your remedy lies with the service provider, not ASA.

ASA will not be liable for any claim (eg. sickness, injury, death, damage or loss) arising from any change, delay, detention, breakdown, cancellation, failure, accident, act, omission or negligence of any such service provider however caused (contingencies). You must take out adequate travel insurance against such contingencies.

ASA's liability in respect of any tour will be limited to the refund of amounts received from you less all non-refundable costs and charges and the costs of any substituted event or alternate services provided. The terms and conditions of the relevant service provider from time to time comprise the sole agreement between you and that service provider.

ASA reserves the sole discretion to cancel any tour or to modify itineraries in any way it considers appropriate. Tour costs may be revised, subject to unexpected price increases or exchange rate fluctuations.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

A deposit of \$500.00 AUD per person is required to reserve a place on an ASA tour.

CANCELLATION FEES

If you decide to cancel your booking the following charges apply:

More than 75 days before departure: \$500*
75-46 days prior 25% of total amount due
45-31 days prior 50% of total amount due
30-15 days prior 75% of total amount due
14-0 days prior 100% of total amount due

This amount may be **credited to another ASA tour departing within 12 months of the original tour you booked. We regret, in this case early-bird discounts will not apply.*

We take the day on which you cancel as being that on which we receive written confirmation of cancellation.

UNUSED PORTIONS OF THE TOUR

We regret that refunds will not be given for any unused portions of the tour, such as meals, entry fees, accommodation, flights or transfers.

WILL THE TOUR PRICE OR ITINERARY CHANGE?

If the number of participants on a tour is significantly less than budgeted, or if there is a significant change in exchange rates ASA reserves the right to amend the advertised price. We shall, however, do all in our power to maintain the published price. If an ASA tour is forced to cancel you will get a full refund of all tour monies paid. Occasionally circumstances beyond the control of ASA make it necessary to change airline, hotel or to make amendments to daily itineraries. We will inform you of any changes in due course.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

ASA requires all participants to obtain comprehensive travel insurance. A copy of your travel insurance certificate and the **reverse charge** emergency contact phone number must be received by ASA no later than 75 days prior to the commencement of the tour.

FINAL PAYMENT

The balance of the tour price will be due 75 days prior to the tour commencement date.

PLEASE READ THE ABOVE CAREFULLY, PRINT AND SIGN BELOW

I accept the conditions on this booking form I have read the information about the physical requirements of the tour in the detailed itinerary and confirm that I am able to meet these requirements

Applicant's Signature

Print Full Name

Dated

Tour / Course Name

Name of Traveller 1 _____

Name of Traveller 2 _____

I have enclosed a payment to the value of \$ _____ (including CC or bank fee if applicable) for this tour

The above amount is payable for:

- Intention to Travel Tour Deposit
 Balance of Payment Upgrade from Intention to Travel to a Deposit
 Travel Insurance Other (eg. Airfares, Accommodation) _____

International Payments

Welcome to our international travellers! If you are making a payment and do not have an Australian bank account/credit card, we can only accept payment as follows:

- via credit card with the applicable fee - the credit card company/bank will set the exchange rate
- via bank transfer; please give your surname and tour code (eg. Smith 21705) as a reference and ask your bank to allow for all charges.

Bank cheques or personal cheques will not be accepted.

By Cheque (accept Australian cheques only)

Please make cheques payable to *Australians Studying Abroad*

Direct Deposit or Internet Banking

You will need to:

1. Provide your bank with ASA's bank details (see below) and the amount you wish to transfer OR make a direct deposit through any ANZ branch
2. Include any fees levied by the banks
3. Provide a reference number (Mobile or last name recommended).
4. Complete section below, including confirmation no. (given when transaction completed).

Australians Studying Abroad bank details

Bank ANZ
Branch 420 St Kilda Road, Melbourne Vic
Swift Code ANZBAU3M
BSB 013-423
Account No 3472-32759

Bank confirmation No. _____

Reference used: Mobile or last name recommended

Date Money Transferred

Credit Card Payment

Credit card fees apply: Mastercard & Visa 2%
 American Express 2%

Please debit my: Mastercard Visa American Express

I authorise ASA to debit my credit card for the amount due plus the applicable fee as above

Credit Card Number

Expiry Date _____ Security Code (CVC) _____

Bank the Card is linked to (eg. NAB or ANZ)

Cardholders Name

Cardholders Billing Address

Postcode

State _____ Country _____

Phone

Email

Cardholders Signature

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