

All information provided in this tour dossier is subject to change without prior notice, changes would always be in consideration of your safety first and a better quality experience. This would be where we are able to make improvements, sometimes last-minute decisions due to the nature of the tour/event. Overnight accommodation stops can change depending on road or weather conditions or any unforeseen circumstances. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the properties listed in this dossier, these are to be used as a guideline only. We recommend that you download the most up to date version of this tour dossier one week prior to your tour departure date.

Partaking in an adventure tour in Africa involves covering hundreds if not thousands of kilometres and our tours are as much about this journey as they are about the destinations we visit. Use your time during these drives to talk to your fellow travellers, have a drink and take note of the world passing by your window. Some roads you travel on will be smooth and easy while others could take up to an hour to cover 1 kilometre. There is just no telling what could happen with road, weather, traffic and other conditions that may exist that will either increase or decrease the amount of time you spend on the road so take your watch off, put your iPad away, turn off your phone and just relax. An average day could take anything from 5 to 14 hours, it all depends on the day... and that's only an "average"!

Please ensure that you have downloaded and read a copy of the PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION booklet as this document contains important information (e.g travel insurance, visas, your money, health etc) you need to know before you depart on tour.

<http://nomadtours.co.za/media/Pre-Departure-Information.pdf>

Activity Package

This is an optional payment that covers what we consider to be 'essential activities' on our tours. This payment is 100% transparent and is listed below. The Activity Package must be pre-booked along with your tour booking. We cannot always guarantee availability of the activities if you only book on the morning of your tour departing.

Activity	Price
4x4 Game drive in Kruger National Park	R 800
Sundowner drive	R 600
Morning guided bush walk	R 600
	R 2 000

This itinerary has been written with the Activity Package items included. If you wish to participate in all the activities listed, you will need to purchase the Activity Package.

Maximum Number of Passengers

20

After hours emergency contact

Our reservations staff are available to receive emergency calls. We would like to request that you respect this emergency number and use it only in the event of emergencies. Please only contact this number if, for example, you have missed your incoming flight, you cannot find your airport transfer or you are running late for your tour departure.

If calling from outside South Africa: 0027 82 578 2199

If calling within South Africa: 082 578 2199

Arrival / Departure

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will avoid any unforeseen problems. As the activities on your tour can be moved to any day during your tour, we also highly recommend that you book your flights to depart the day after the tour officially ends.

Pre and Post Tour Accommodation

If you require accommodation before or after your tour we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers – contact your travel agent or Nomad to make these bookings.

Your tour will be departing from the following location

7.00am Belvedere Estate corner George and Belvedere road, Glen Austin Midrand, Tel: 079 510 6705 – www.belvedereestate.co.za

Your tour will be ending at the following location

East London Airport

Countries Visited

South Africa

What's included

Meals (Breakfast x 9 / Lunch x 8 / Dinner x 9) (unless otherwise specified, all meals are prepared and served at the Nomad truck), accommodation, guides and transport. Your marine park entry permit will also be included in this tour. We also include some of the highlights. These highlights are listed below in the day-by-day descriptions as "included highlights".

What's excluded

Items of a personal nature (snacks, alcohol, bottled water, soft drinks, tips) / entrance fees (associated with optional activities / souvenirs / activity packages and optional activities).

Insurance (Compulsory)

Please also note that for this tour you will require a diving insurance policy that permits multiple dives and dives to a depth of 30m (we recommend DAN divers insurance). Diving insurance can be purchased from the DAN website, www.diversalertnetwork.org. Travel insurance can be purchased via the Nomad website. (World Nomads travel insurance is in no way affiliated with Nomad Tours). www.nomadtours.co.za/page/travel-insurance.

Diving notes

Water conditions in South Africa can vary day by day. Temperatures will range from 14-26 degrees celsius and we recommend a wetsuit of a minimum of 5mm for your comfort. Visibility ranges from 5-20m, with slightly better conditions in the winter months. Diving is conducted on semi-rigid ribs with launches taking place either straight from beaches or via river mouths. These launches involve breaking through the incoming waves and can get bumpy. All divers joining a Nomad Africa Dive Tour must hold an Advanced Open Water (or equivalent) certification as a minimum and be confident and comfortable in the water. If you are unsure whether your experience level is sufficient please contact us. All dives are conducted within no decompression limits to a maximum of 30m and are standard air dives. Nitrox is available to divers at some of our diving locations. This will be at the extra cost of the diver and will require the proof of a Nitrox certification. All divers must understand that Nomad Africa Dive Tours cannot guarantee any ocean sightings and there will be no financial reimbursement for dives where highlights are not seen. Please note in particular that the Sardine Run is not guaranteed and we can only work to the best of our knowledge with respect to time of year

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 – Johannesburg to Kruger National Park

Please note that during the next few days (while we are visiting Kruger National Park), the order of activities could change without prior notice and a degree of flexibility is needed. This is to allow for maximum game viewing opportunities and experiences. Leaving the city of Johannesburg behind us we make our way east through the coalfields of Mpumalanga. Our journey today follows in the footsteps of the old trade-routes to the Lowveld and the Kruger National Park. We set up camp at our base for the next three nights and enjoy a sundowner drive before being treated to some local dancing and dinner around the campfire tonight.

Accommodation	Nkambeni Safari Camp http://www.nkambeni.com
Facilities	Two per permanent tent with en-suite bathroom <i>Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.</i>
Route	Johannesburg to Kruger National Park
Activity Package	Sundowner drive
Included Highlight	Local Dinner and Dance

Day 2 – Kruger National Park

This morning we enter the Kruger National Park for a full-day of game viewing. Our activity package offers you the opportunity to explore the park in open game viewing vehicles, giving you access to areas our truck can't always go.

Accommodation	Nkambeni Safari Camp http://www.nkambeni.com
Facilities	Two per permanent tent with en-suite bathroom <i>Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.</i>
Activity Package	Full-Day Kruger Park Game Drive in 4x4 Vehicles
Included Highlight	Afternoon game drive in Nomad Truck in Kruger Park (clients not participating in the Activity Package)

Day 3 – Kruger National Park – Panorama Route

This morning we re-enter the Kruger National Park and spend the morning on a game drive in our Nomad truck. After our game drive, we exit the park and journey along the scenic Panorama Route where we will visit God's Window, Bourke's Luck Potholes and the Three Rondavels. We return to camp in the early evening for dinner and a well-deserved rest.

Accommodation	Nkambeni Safari Camp http://www.nkambeni.com
Facilities	Two per permanent tent with en-suite bathroom <i>Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.</i>
Included Highlight	Morning Kruger Park Game Drive in Nomad Truck / The Panorama Route (God's Window, Bourke's Luck Potholes and Three Rondavels)

Day 4 – Kruger National Park to Johannesburg

As is customary when on safari, we rise early this morning to enjoy a guided bush walk. Being in the bush on foot offers a unique opportunity to appreciate the smaller details of this great wilderness area. We arrive at Belvedere Estate in the late afternoon and all travellers are invited to join us for a traditional meal tonight, this can be booked with your guide on the day before arrival. Many great tales are shared and tonight presents an opportunity to join fellow travellers in celebrating the many wonders of African travel.

Accommodation	Belvedere Estate www.belvedereestate.co.za
Facilities	Two per room with en-suite bathroom <i>Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.</i>
Route	Kruger Park to Johannesburg
Activity Package	Morning guided bush walk
Optional Activity	Dinner at Belvedere Estate

Day 5 – East London to Coffee Bay

Please note that during the next few days we will be subject to weather and ocean conditions and may not be able to launch each day. To account for this risk we have created this lengthy stay in Coffee Bay in order to ensure you have the best possible chance. Please also note that Nomad cannot guarantee Sardine Run action at any time and are only able to book tours in the best possible window to the best of our ability.

This morning we will be transferred to OR Tambo International airport and fly to the city of East London, where we will meet our crew upon arrival at the airport. Leaving the city of East London behind, we travel north along the Wild Coast of the Eastern Cape to the small town of Coffee Bay, our launch site for the famous Sardine Run. After settling into your hotel you will have the chance to explore this stunning area and visit the iconic "Hole In The Wall". This evening you will have a full briefing on the operating of the Sardine Run adventure over the next few days.

Accommodation	Ocean View Hotel, Coffee Bay www.oceanview.co.za
Facilities	Two per room with shared bathroom <i>Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.</i>
Route	East London to Coffee Bay
Included Highlight	Hole in the Wall and dive briefing

Day 6/7/8/9/10 – Sardine Run

The annual Great Sardine Run is a natural phenomenon that usually occurs during the months of June and July, when massive schools of sardines migrate from the colder waters around the Cape to the warmer waters of Kwa-Zulu Natal to give birth to their offspring. Once they've laid their eggs, they return to the Cape, closely followed by thousands of dolphins, birds, fish of prey, whales and sharks. The ocean awakes and the thrill is simply indescribable.

After an early breakfast, you will be transferred to Mapusi, the most spectacular, idyllic river mouth from where we launch our boat. On the banks of this river, divers get ready for the launch. The 4 x 4 drives the boat down into the river. Divers and the crew have to push the boat further until there is enough water under the keel and all rocks are cleared. Once it is safe, the skipper gets on the boat and starts the motors. When he has enough water under the keel, he calls all guests on. With speed the boat drives over the sandbank and into the waiting basin. Once all waves have passed, the skipper chooses the safest moment to launch out to sea.

In the meantime our plane has taken off and done a good fly over in search of animal activity. The skipper and the pilot are in constant radio contact whereby the boat gets directed to the best action on hand. Sardine Run Action consists not only of silver fish but more so of activities such as whales, dolphins, sharks and gannets. Wherever there is something happening the boat will go.

The highly experienced and skillful crew will approach anything interesting with great care and only when it is safe will the divers be allowed to enter the water. More often than not this will be done on mask and snorkel. There is a constant off-the-boat and on-the-boat which requires stamina and certain fitness. Obviously it is always the client's choice if he wants to remain on the boat or jump into the water. To make a long day out at sea as pleasant as possible we offer sandwiches, fresh fruit, chocolates, cookies, fruit juice and water on the boat.

Each day we will launch (weather permitting) and spend a full day out at sea to give you the best chance of action. We return by early to late afternoon each day when you will get a chance to rest, relax, hike the area and charge those all important cameras. Each evening we have a sumptuous buffet and bar for tales of the day just past.

Accommodation:	Ocean View Hotel, Coffee Bay www.oceanview.co.za
Facilities:	Two per room with shared bathroom <i>Please visit the website of the accommodation provider for a full list of the facilities offered.</i>
Included Highlights:	6 full days of Sardine Run action (weather permitting)
Dive Centre:	African Dive Adventures

THE SARDINE RUN BAIT BALL

The sharks and dolphins round up a large number of sardines and form what is known as a bait ball. Once the bait ball is formed, the sharks and dolphins swim through that ball until not one sardine is left. They are often joined by gannets, which dive from a dizzy height and use their wings to actually swim further down in pursuit of a sardine.

Then comes a Brydes Whale from the depth and like a Front End Loader scoops thousands of sardines into its gullet. As divers, we first approach the situation carefully and watch from the boat what is going on. Then we slide into the water and watch the incredible scene from a depth of approximately 5-7m. Such a Bait Ball can last from a few minutes, to half an hour, or even longer. When it is over it's back on the boat and off to the next group of sardines. This can go on for hours or even the whole day with a short lunch break in between.

Day 11 Coffee Bay to East London

Today we will retrace our steps from Coffee Bay back to the town of East London, where your tour comes to an end upon arrival at the East London airport. Please ensure you book your flights for as late as possible in the afternoon.

Accommodation:	Own arrangements (please ask Nomad for assistance if required)
Route:	Coffee Bay to East London

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