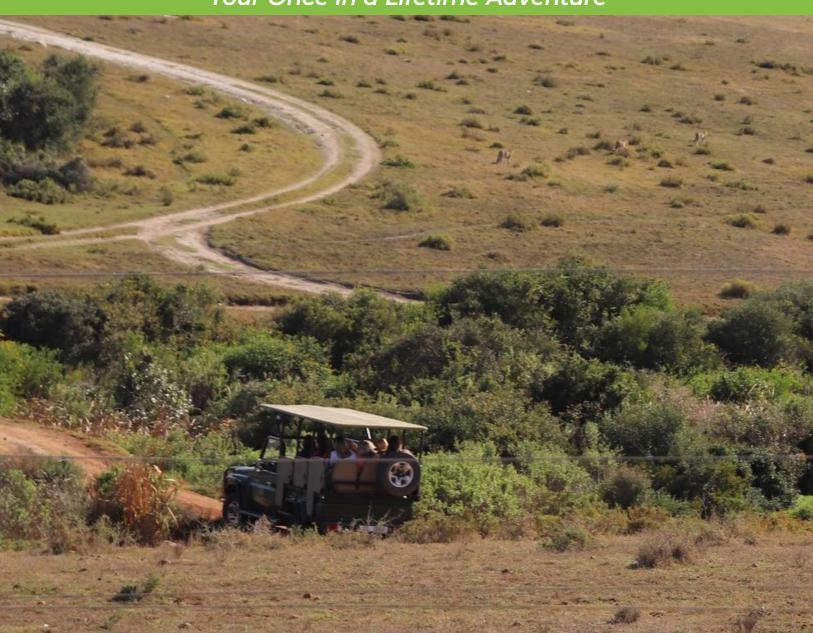


# Garden Route Guide

Your Once in a Lifetime Adventure



### Overview

Check out the iconic adventure package option to take DIRECT and LEAD Cape Town to the next level. This add-on offers the chance to leave the city of Cape Town and travel to the southernmost tip of the African continent to walk with elephants, experience a safari game drive to see Africa's Big 5 up close and go looking for Great White sharks in the Indian Ocean.

Due to capacity and program lengths, students on different Cape Town programs and sessions will need to select from the following options for attending the Garden Route:

**LEAD Cape Town** students will go on the 4-Day Garden Route and it will take place during your program. It is included in your program fee.

**DIRECT Cape Town Session 1** students may either select the 4-Day Garden Route add-on after your program ends OR 3-Day Garden Route add-on during your program weekend.

**DIRECT Cape Town Session 2** may only select the 4-Day Garden Route add-on which will begin immediately following your program.

\*Note that depending on a number of factors, this itinerary could be run in reverse and days could be swapped around.

| Details   | 4-Day                    | 3-Day<br>(DIRECT Cape Town Session 1 only) |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| Price   | \$1,250                  | \$1,150                                    |
| Days  | 4                        | 3  |
| Nights  | 3                        | 2  |
| Meals   | 3x breakfast + 3x dinner | 2x breakfast + 2x dinner                   |
| Accomodations   | Housing Included         | Housing Included                           |
| Guided Tour experience with qualified SA Tourist guide(s) | Included                 | Included                                   |
| Shark Cage Diving   | Included                 | Included                                   |
| Safari Game Drive in open 4x4 vehicle                     | Included                 | Included                                   |
| Elephants Sanctuary - Bush Walk                           | Included                 | Included                                   |
| Cango Caves guided Heritage Tour                          | Included                 | Not included                               |
| Giraffe Visit   | Included                 | Not included                               |
| Bungee Jump and/or Bridge Walk at Bloukrans               | Optional                 | Optional                                   |





### Day 1

#### **Game Drive Safari**

We leave the mother city behind and head east along the N2 past Swellendam, the third oldest town in South Africa to a Private Game Reserve on the edge of the Garden Route. Here we go on an open 4x4 vehicle safari where you have the opportunity to see and learn about lion, buffalo, elephant, rhino, cheetah and giraffe and more, in their natural habitat.

After lunch at the Game Reserve we continue on to Sedgefield, passing through the majestic Wilderness regions, where we will enjoy dinner before spending the night.

<u>Click here</u> for a quick compilation of what you'll see on the safari.









Included Meals: Dinner

Accomodation: Backpacker Dorm: Sedgefield

Travel Time: 5 hours

Included Highlight: Game Drive Safari

### Day 2

#### **Cango Caves**

After breakfast we make our way over the magnificent Outeniqua Mountains into the semi-arid Little Karoo, driving to the town of Oudtshoorn, known as the ostrich capital of the world.

We visit the spectacular Cango Caves where we will embark on a guided tour of the cave system to view its massive caverns and a wonderland of stalactite and stalagmite formations, millions of years old. Cango Caves is a world heritage site and one of the great wonders of the natural world.







#### Giraffe

After lunch we have a quick stop to visit two rescued giraffes, Shorty and Shiela. You are able to touch, feed and take photos with them. We then head over the Outeniqua Mountains again back to Sedgefield where we spend the night again.

Meals:

Breakfast & Dinner

Accomodation:

Backpacker Dorm: Sedgefield

Travel Time:

3 hours

**Included Highlight:** 

Cango Caves, Giraffes Visit, Outenigua Pass, Little Karoo

### Day 3

# **Elephant Sanctuary & Bush Walk**

After breakfast we drive east towards The Crags, a particularly spectacular region of the Garden Route, to visit a sanctuary for orphaned African elephants where you have the opportunity to learn about these gentle giants.

You will be guided on foot through the sanctuary where the guides will provide in-depth information and insight into African elephants, and you will be introduced to the elephants in the forest area. You will see the special relationship that the guides share with the elephants and become a part of it. Walk trunk-in-hand with the elephants. See the Elephant Night Shelter where the elephants sleep.

<u>Click here</u> to watch what it's like to walk with the elephants.







#### **Bloukrans Bungee**

Our next stop is always one of the highlights of the tour . . . the Bloukrans River Bridge, home to the world's highest commercial Bungy Jump at 216 meters (709 feet)!

The view from Africa's highest bridge captures all the majesty and tranquility of the Bloukrans River valley. Recognized as the 'highest bungy from a bridge' in the world, Bloukrans Bungy uses pendulum bungee technology to ensure the smoothest, most comfortable bungee jump possible. Jumpers are secured in a full-body harness combined with an ankle connection.

<u>Click here</u> to get a feel of what it's like to be up there! <u>Click here</u> for a day in the life!

Included Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Accomodation: Backpacker Dorm: Sedgefield

Travel Time: 3 hours

Included Highlight: Elephant Sanctuary & Bush Walk

Optional Activities: Bloukrans Bungee

### Day 4

#### **Shark Cage Diving**

On our journey back to Cape Town, our final adventure awaits in the waters of Gansbaai.

Approximately 12 km offshore from Gansbaai we find two islands situated next to each other.

Due to a number of geographical reasons, one being

Included Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Travel Time: 7 hours

Included Highlight: Shark Cage Diving

the shallow and narrow channel that runs between these two islands, Dyer Island has become known as one of only two unique areas in the world where the chances to view the great white shark are exceptionally high. Other shark species that may be seen include the beautiful Bronze Whaler shark.

Once anchored in the channel, we make use of a securely designed 5-man steel cage, which floats on the surface, with divers no more than 1m below the surface. You will take multiple turns in the cage so as to try and maximize your opportunities to see sharks up close. After the dive and lunch we head back the rest of the way to Cape Town.

Click here for an in-the-cage point of view.

\* If the weather conditions do not allow for shark cage diving, we will head to Cango Wildlife Ranch for a guided tour, lunch and students will have the opportunity for an up close encounter with either cheetahs or lemurs.



