

# Mozambique & South Africa:

## *From Gorongosa to the Greater Kruger Region*

with Rich Pagen and Chris Stamper

and optional post-trip extension: Wildlife & Wildflowers of the Western Cape

Mozambique & South Africa | 13 Days | August 15 – 27, 2025

*Start and end in Johannesburg South Africa*



[TRAVEL@MIRUADVENTURES.COM](mailto:TRAVEL@MIRUADVENTURES.COM)



# Travel with Rich and Chris



## SAFARI LEADER

Chris has dedicated his life to exploring the untamed landscapes of Southern Africa. Following numerous years of adventurous expeditions with his family during his childhood, his passion for the wild has grown even stronger. At the age of 20, he embarked on an apprenticeship that marked the beginning of his incredible guiding journey. For over two decades, Chris has wholeheartedly committed himself to leading safaris and nurturing aspiring guides across Southern and East Africa. The thrill of embarking on adventures by immersing himself in pristine wilderness, all the while imparting his deep knowledge, passion, and enthusiasm to guests from various parts of the world, is what Chris loves most.

**CHRIS STAMPER**

## ORNITHOLOGIST & NATURALIST

Captivated by the natural world in his native New York's tide pools and forests, Rich's embarked on a career in nature education and conservation biology. This included teaching science to Los Angeles teenagers, exploring Alaska's remote wetlands via Zodiac for loon nest monitoring, surveying carnivores in California mountains, tracking bird migration in Canada, and studying army-ant-following birds in the Peruvian Amazon. Rich's love for the sea drew him to marine science and island ecology teaching on Catalina Island, California. He conducted shipboard surveys for marine life, tagged sea turtles and pelagic sharks, and began guiding nature tourism in 2004. Throughout his journey, the core of his passion has remained centered on exploring and imparting the wonders of nature to others.



**RICH PAGEN**

## Curated for the Curious

Uniquely curated expeditions, imagined by the very Field Leaders who will take you there.

### MOMENTS THAT MATTER

With Rich and Chris, you won't just visit a new place; you'll become part of it – and it a part of you.

### A LOVE FOR DETAIL

Be it a cultural festival, phase of the moon, or bearing witness to a mass migration, we time every detail of your adventure to give you the greatest experience possible.

### REMOTE DESTINATIONS

We make it our mission to take curious travelers to the most unexpected places anywhere on the planet. The more off the beaten track, the better.

# Mozambique & South Africa:

## *From Gorongosa to the Greater Kruger Region*

August 15 – 27, 2025

with Rich Pagen and Chris Stamper

Embark on an unforgettable journey through two remarkable safari destinations: Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique, a testament to wildlife restoration, and the tranquil wilderness of the Greater Kruger region in South Africa.

13 Days from \$17,490



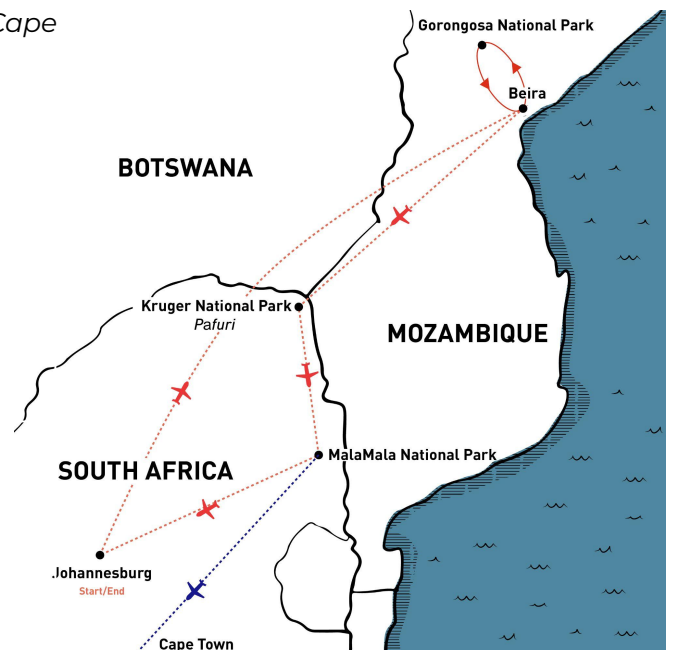
### Adventure Highlights

- Discover the abundant wildlife in Gorongosa National Park, one of the most ecologically diverse regions in the world.
- Search for the Big Five: elephants, lions, leopards, buffalo, and rhinos at Mala Mala, South Africa's largest and oldest private game reserve.
- Explore one of the most diverse regions of Kruger National Park, home to almost three quarters of the Park's bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, and tree species.
- Stay at exclusive camps to enjoy an intimate safari experience well away from the crowds.
- Travel with expert naturalists, who are at your side every step of the way, sharing their expansive knowledge of African flora and fauna.

### Itinerary at a Glance

*Optional post-extension: Wildlife & Wildflowers of the Western Cape*

<b>Day 1</b>	Johannesburg, South Africa
<b>Day 2</b>	Johannesburg / Beira / Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique
<b>Days 3, 4, 5</b>	Gorongosa National Park
<b>Day 6</b>	Gorongosa National Park / Beira / Kruger National Park (Pafuri), South Africa
<b>Days 7, 8</b>	Northern Kruger National Park (Pafuri)
<b>Day 9</b>	Kruger National Park / Mala Mala
<b>Day 10, 11, 12</b>	Mala Mala
<b>Day 13</b>	Mala Mala / Johannesburg / Depart



# Mozambique & South Africa:

## *From Gorongosa to the Greater Kruger Region*

13 Days | August 15 – 27, 2025

Explore two amazing safari destinations on one journey: Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique and the Greater Kruger region of South Africa. Considered to be one of Africa's greatest wildlife restoration stories, today Gorongosa is one of the most biodiverse places in the world. With few visitors compared to other parks, the vast wilderness of Gorongosa offers an intimate and authentic safari experience far from the crowds. Then, visit two distinct ecosystems in the Greater Kruger area, Makuleke Contractual Park in the far north, and Mala Mala Game Reserve, set between Kruger National Park and Sabi Sand Game Reserve. Each area offers a variety of unique and incredibly scenic habitats that host a diversity of African wildlife, both large and small. Embark on morning and afternoon safaris in the company of expert naturalists who will share their deep knowledge of the wonders you will witness.

## Itinerary

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### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 15 2025**

#### **Johannesburg, South Africa**

Arrive in Johannesburg and transfer to the InterContinental O.R. Tambo Airport Hotel. After a chance to freshen up, join your expeditions leaders and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at the hotel.

### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 16**

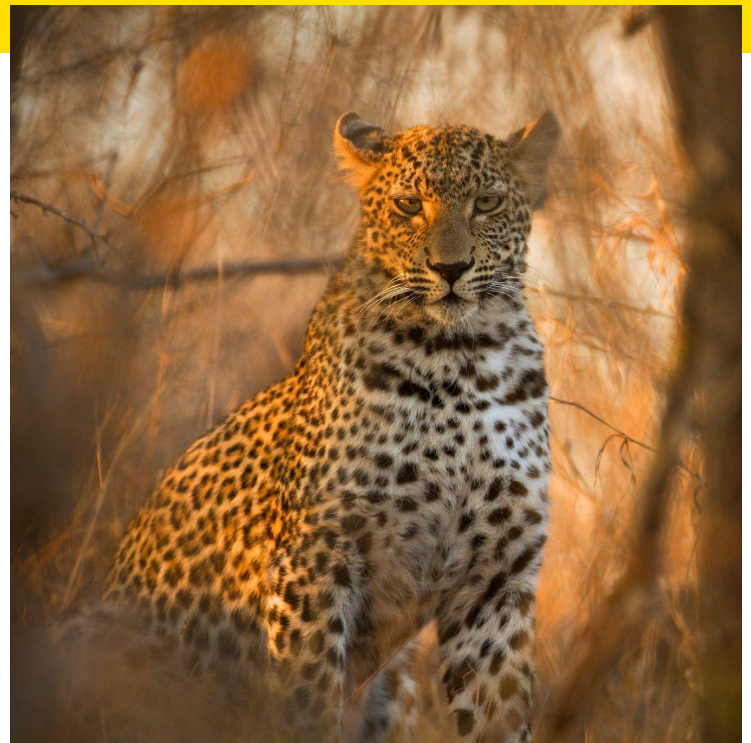
#### **Johannesburg / Beira / Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique**

After breakfast, board our flight to Mozambique. Upon arrival, depart overland to Gorongosa National Park, located at the southern end of the Great Rift Valley. With an eye toward sustainable tourism and minimal environmental impact, camps here are small, many with just a handful of tents. Our group will be split between Muzimu Tented Camp and Wild Camp, both of which provide airy tents set in the heart of the wilderness.

### **SUNDAY – TUESDAY, AUGUST 17 – 19**

#### **Gorongosa National Park**

Embark on twice-daily safaris to search for the park's abundant wildlife. In addition to iconic species such as elephants, lions, hippos, and crocodiles, the park is also home to African wild dogs, and several species of antelope such as waterbuck, nyala, greater kudu, bushbuck, impala, oribi and sable antelope. With more than 300 recorded species, birds we may spy include African fish eagles, green headed orioles, gray



crowned cranes, Goliath herons, red-necked spurfowl, and flashy lilac-breasted rollers. After an exciting day in the bush, return to camp to recount our adventures around the campfire and enjoy dinner under the stars.

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20**

#### **Gorongosa National Park / Beira / Kruger National Park (Pafuri), South Africa**

Time permitting, embark on a morning safari before returning to Beira to catch our flight to South Africa. Transfer to Pafuri Tented Camp, set in Makuleke Contractual Park in the northernmost section of Kruger between the Limpopo and Luvuvhu rivers. Check in to your luxurious tent, set on a raised wooden platform, and perhaps take a rest on your own private veranda.



**THURSDAY & FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 & 22**

**Northern Kruger National Park (Pafuri)**

This area of the park is geologically unique and offers a multitude of habitats, resulting in a region of extraordinary scenic beauty and biodiversity. One of the most diverse within the whole of Kruger, this area is home to almost three quarters of the Park's bird, mammal, fish, amphibian, reptile, and tree species. It has also long been regarded a destination of choice for southern African birdwatchers. Makuleke has over 350 recorded species of birds and is internationally renowned for its diversity, including many seldom seen species such as Pel's fishing owl, wattle-eyed flycatcher, three-banded courser, African crowned eagles, and racket-tailed rollers. We'll embark on twice-daily game drives to explore a variety of habitats searching for species such as hippo, crocodile, eland, grysbok, and of course elephant. In the evening, go on a spotlighting drive to view nocturnal creatures such as lesser bush babies, genets, and civets. We'll also get up close to some of the region's smaller inhabitants on guided bush walks.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23**

**Kruger National Park / Mala Mala**

After breakfast and a morning game-viewing activity, board our charter flight to Mala Mala, one of the largest private Big Five game reserves in South Africa, strategically set between Kruger and Sabi Sand

Reserve. Check in to Mala Mala Camp, a haven of understated luxury overlooking the Sand River and surrounding bushveld. Take a dip in the infinity pool, grab a drink at the iconic Buffalo Bar, or enjoy some quiet time in the air-conditioned library, before your first game drive. Return for dinner by the fire in a traditional reed "boma," then retire to your large, well-appointed thatched hut, and perhaps indulge in some star gazing from your private veranda.

**SUNDAY – TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 – 26**

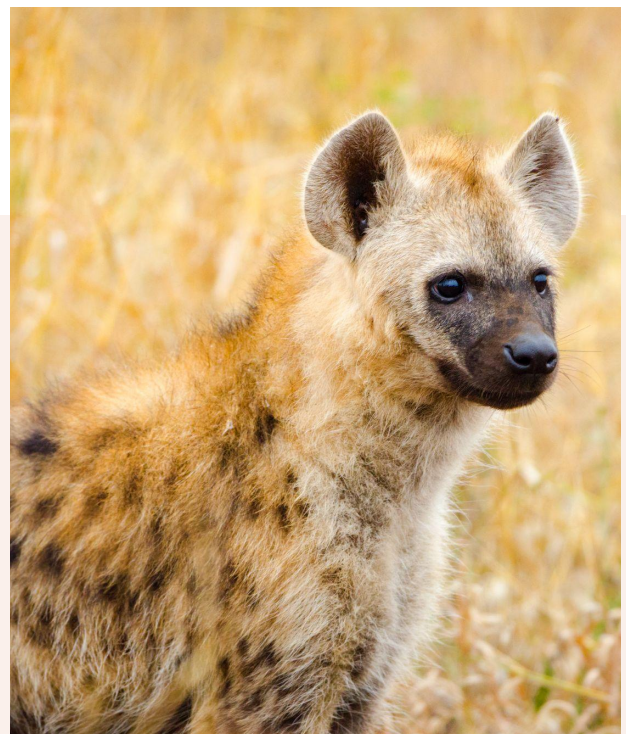
**Mala Mala**

Enjoy twice-daily game drives in open Land Rovers offering you unrivaled and unobstructed vistas of this famed landscape. Known for its high density of wildlife, including the Big Five—elephant, lion, leopard, buffalo, and rhino, the reserve's proximity to the Sand and Sabie Rivers also means that water-based wildlife is abundant, enhancing the diversity of sightings.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27**

**Mala Mala / Johannesburg / Depart**

Time permitting, enjoy one last game drive, then transfer to the air strip for our flight to Johannesburg and connect with your independent homeward flight. Or, continue your explorations on an optional post-extension to view annual Wildflower Bloom and go whale watching in De Hoop Reserve.

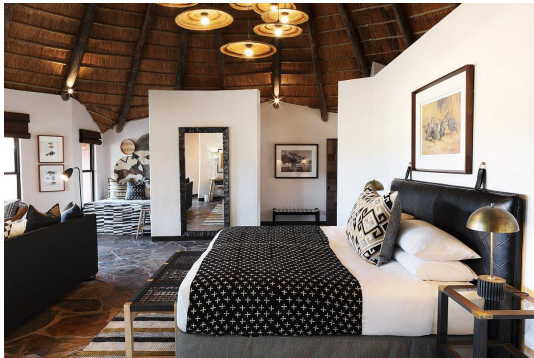




# Your accommodations



**Pafuri Tented Camp** – Nineteen tented suites sit along the banks of the Luvuvhu river, all connected by raised wooden walkways. Each welcoming suite boasts a private viewing deck, en-suite bathrooms complete with both indoor and outdoor showers, and comfortable beds with crisp linens. A bush bar invites you to unwind, while a generously sized swimming pool awaits. And there's plenty of space to relax beneath the towering Jackalberry canopy.



**MalaMala Camp** – MalaMala, the pioneering camp of MalaMala Game Reserve, has been artfully rejuvenated, retaining its authentic African character while embracing a modern flair. This haven of subtle opulence offers unmatched comfort, impeccable service, and sweeping views of Sand River and the bushveld. Situated amidst the untamed wilderness, the camp proudly exists as an unfenced oasis, providing a tranquil haven within the heart of the wilderness.

## Muzimu Lodge Gorongosa

This beautiful and exclusive canvas lodge is nestled along the serene banks of the Mussicadzi River within the Gorongosa National Park. Positioned at the southernmost tip of Africa's Great Rift Valley, the park presents an array of ecosystems and landscapes for you to explore. The lodge boasts six meticulously designed canvas chalets, each thoughtfully equipped with its own deck and en-suite bathroom, ensuring an unparalleled first-class safari experience.



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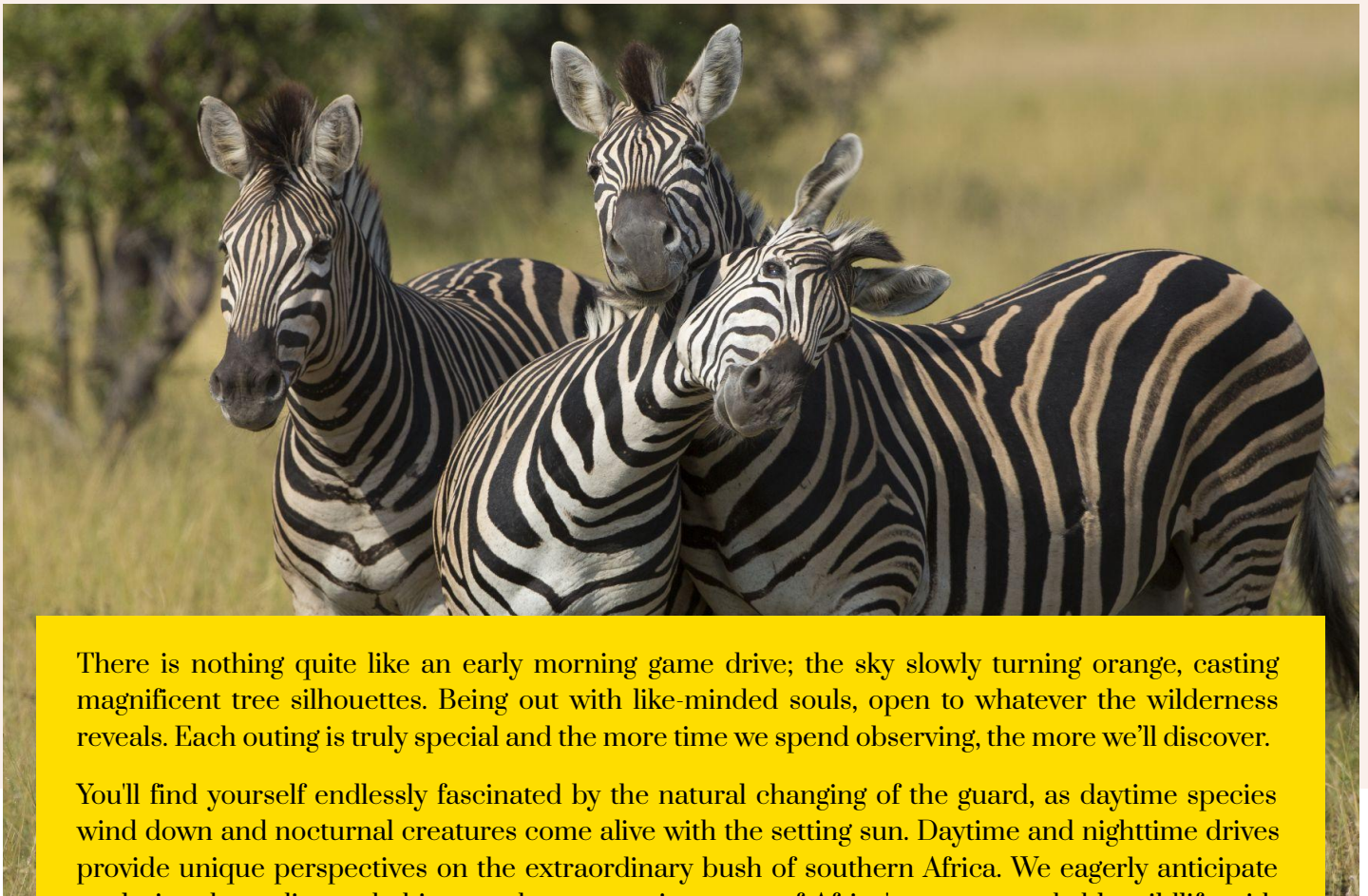
## Wild Camp Gorongosa

Immerse yourself in an authentic bush adventure with a stay at Wild Camp Gorongosa in Gorongosa National Park. These Wild Camps are strategically located in various untouched wilderness areas, providing you with an unparalleled experience of nature's pristine beauty. Nestled within the heart of the park, Gorongosa's Wild Camp offers a seasonal retreat that blends resort-style comfort with minimal environmental impact. Thoughtfully furnished tents come with essential amenities, ensuring a comfortable and memorable stay.



During your stay in Gorongosa, you can choose between Muzimu Lodge and Wild Camp, both featured in the images here. Wild Camp offers comfortable and basic accommodations, while Muzimu Lodge provides a luxurious tenting experience. For rates, please refer to the final page of the brochure.

# Why we love this trip...



There is nothing quite like an early morning game drive; the sky slowly turning orange, casting magnificent tree silhouettes. Being out with like-minded souls, open to whatever the wilderness reveals. Each outing is truly special and the more time we spend observing, the more we'll discover.

You'll find yourself endlessly fascinated by the natural changing of the guard, as daytime species wind down and nocturnal creatures come alive with the setting sun. Daytime and nighttime drives provide unique perspectives on the extraordinary bush of southern Africa. We eagerly anticipate exploring these diverse habitats and encountering some of Africa's most remarkable wildlife with you on this unique Mozambique and South Africa adventure.

- Rich and Chris

## PRICE

### **Wild Camp Gorongosa:**

\$17,490 per person  
(add \$4,790 for a single tent)

### **Muzimu Lodge Gorongosa:**

\$20,480 per person  
*no single tents available*

## DEPOSIT

\$2,000

## INCLUSIONS

- 12 nights accommodations
- Laundry services
- All meals including non alcoholic drinks, and sundowners while on safari
- All excursions, transportation, and local guides
- Taxes and permits
- Gratuities
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Internal airfare:  
*Johannesburg/Beira/Pafuri/Mala Mala/Johannesburg*

Please note the price difference reflecting our two camps in Gorongosa. Wild Camp offers comfortable and basic accommodations, while Muzimu Lodge provides a luxurious tenting experience.

**Group size: 11 tents**



## BOOK NOW

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[miruadventures.com](http://miruadventures.com)



# Wildlife & Wildflowers of the Western Cape

## post-trip itinerary

7 Nights | August 29–Sept 3, 2025

This well-timed post-extension captures the beauty of spring fynbos bloom in Namaqua National Park and the southern right whale migration near De Hoop Nature Reserve. Wander through fields of unique and colorful wildflowers, exclusive to this region. Enjoy a stay at the luxurious Babylonstoren Wine Estate in Franschhoek, known as South Africa's food and wine capital. Continue your journey to the vast De Hoop Nature Reserve, a sanctuary for breeding southern right whales, Bryde's and humpback whales, dolphins, and a variety of birds, including the endangered Cape vulture.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2023

#### Mala Mala / Cape Town

Time permitting, enjoy one last game drive, then transfer to the Kruger Mpumalanga Airport and board our flight to Cape Town. Check in to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

#### Cape Town / Namaqua National Park

After breakfast, depart overland for Namaqua National Park, with a stop for lunch en route. Check in to Namaqua Nature Camp. Located right on the beach, all tents have a captivating sea view and plenty of comfy spots for sundowners.

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 29

#### Namaqua National Park

In August and September, Namaqualand transforms into a colorful wonderland, carpeted with wildflowers like daisies, lilies, aloes, vygies, and herbs. This biodiversity hotspot is home to over 3,500 plant species, with 1,000 being unique to the area, and boasts the world's largest concentration of succulent plants. Explore viewpoints by car and hike through vast fields to see the blooms up close. If fortunate, we may spot the Namaqua speckled padloper, the world's tiniest tortoise.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

#### Namaqua National Park / Wine Region

This morning, leave for South Africa's renowned Wine Region, stopping for lunch on the way. Check in at Babylonstoren Wine Estate, a historic Cape Dutch farm nestled at the base of Simonsberg Peak in Franschhoek wine valley. Tonight's dinner includes freshly-baked bread, garden-fresh produce, and locally-sourced proteins paired with carefully chosen wines.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

#### Wine Region / De Hoop Nature Reserve

After breakfast, take a guided walking tour of the estate's gardens to see unique cultivated plants. Savor a farm-fresh lunch before heading to the 84,000-acre De Hoop National Park, renowned as the "jewel of the Western Cape." Relax at Lekkerwater Beach Lodge in bright, airy cabins with floor-to-ceiling windows and private decks, offering breathtaking ocean views.



### MONDAY & TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 & 2

#### De Hoop Nature Reserve

Explore the remarkable De Hoop coastal reserve for two days, renowned for world-class land-based whale watching from July to November. This Marine Protected Area since 1985 teems with sea life, including dolphins, seals, and over 260 bird species, boasting the Western Cape's sole breeding colony of endangered Cape vultures.

Enjoy a De Vlei Wetlands cruise, spotting eland, bontebok, Cape Mountain zebra, gray rhebuck, duiker, and the endangered African oystercatcher. During low tide, discover captivating tide pools and the diverse coastal fynbos.

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

#### De Hoop Nature Reserve / Cape Town / Depart

Return to Cape Town for your independent homeward flight.

#### PRICE

*Coming Soon*

#### INCLUSIONS

- 7 nights accommodations
- Meals and non-alcoholic drinks
- All excursions, transportation and local guides
- Taxes and permits
- Gratuities
- Internal air from Mala Mala to Cape Town