



South Africa -South Africa Safari Cycling (2025)

10 Days / 9 Nights

Group Guided



How about combining cycling with a safari experience? This tour departs from Gauteng and takes you through to the Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces in the North-Eastern part of South Africa. Visit the world-renowned Kruger National Park and discover the breath-taking Blyde River Canyon with the Three Rondavels and Bourke's Luck Potholes, to name only a few of the highlights. The tour is designed to offer you the opportunity to experience this diverse region, its culture, nature, activities, attractions, cuisine and the local population.

OK Cycle & Adventure Tours Inc. - 666 Kirkwood Ave - Suite B102 – Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1Z 5X9

www.okcycletours.com Toll Free 1-888-621-6818 Local 613-702-5350

TICO Ontario Registration No: 50022848



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Itinerary

Day 1 (Sun) Arrival at O.R. Tambo International Airport

Welcome to South Africa! Upon arrival you will notice that you are in a country filled with smiles. A guide will meet you at O.R. Tambo International Airport and accompany you to your overnight accommodation in Johannesburg. The rest of the day is your own free time where you can rest or explore some of Sandton's attractions. Please take a look at our recommendations below:

- Nelson Mandela Square (right across your hotel)
- Hop-on-hop-off Johannesburg (www.citysightseeing.co.za/destinations/joburg)
- Sandton City Mall
- Soweto (depending on your arrival time, we can add a cycling tour through Soweto. The tours start at 10 am or 1 pm and include lunch and a transfer from your hotel to Soweto and back; Price: 85 euro per person).

Includes: Transfer to accommodation



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Day 2 (Mon) African Bush

Your transfer will depart at 8:00 am from your hotel. Travel time from Johannesburg to our overnight accommodation is approximately 5 hours. Along the way, we will stop to visit an Open-Air Museum which demonstrates the daily life of the Bakone people who inhabited the Polokwane area 250 years ago. The next 2 evenings will be spent at a Private Game Lodge near Bandelierkop. After settling in, we will end our day with a bushwalk to get acquainted with the African bush and a cozy dinner in an African boma.

Includes: Breakfast, Lunch, Transfer to Lodge from Johannesburg, Visit to Museum, Bushwalk



Day 3 (Tue) Safari cycling (approx. 25 km) 180 m of elevation

Our first bike ride is an exploratory ride through the bushveld. Our aim with this safari cycle is to have personal encounters with some of the animals of the African Bush. The Lodge has a wide variety of non-dangerous animals including Giraffe, Impala, Zebra, Kudu and many bird species. Learn more about the lifestyle and habits of the different species as well as the tracking of animals. Join us for a Sunset game drive or alternatively enjoy a relaxed afternoon next to the swimming pool. Dinner will be a unique South African experience served in the boma.

Includes: Bike ride, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Game Drive

Day 4 (Wed) Kudu Valley and a Bapedi Village (approx. 55 km, 1160 m of elevation)

After breakfast we travel for 45 minutes to the start of our bike ride. Today is the "King of the Mountain stage". The first part of our route takes us through agricultural land and up through the Kudu River valley, a 790m gain in elevation. Along the route you will notice the drastic change in scenery as we travel through different biomes with the gain in elevation. At the top, we stop for a picnic lunch with a view over the valley. After our break, the route meanders through a Bapedi village where you will experience the daily rhythm of a rural African village. Our ride ends at a local shebeen (African bar) to enjoy a cold one. We then have a 40-minute drive per bus to our accommodation for the next two evenings. *Includes: Bike ride, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner*

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Day 5 (Thu) Wolkberg Mountains (approx. 9.5 – 28 mi/15 - 45 km, 1,400 – 2,150 ft./420 – 650 m of elevation)

The Wolkberg Mountains separate the highveld from the lowveld of Limpopo. It also contains some of the most intensive and well-established Avocado and Macadamia Nut farms in South Africa. Our bike route for the day is a circular one that passes through Pine and Eucalyptus plantations with splendid views of the surrounding mountains and farms. Lunch will take place at a local restaurant with picturesque views of the area. A relaxing afternoon awaits our guests with breath-taking views of the Wolkberg Mountains. *Includes: Bike ride, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner*

**Depending on the time of year, we may visit an avocado/ macadamia nut packhouse.*

Day 6 (Fri) Blyde Dam and the Kruger National Park (approx. 23 mi./ 37 km, 1,350 ft./410 m of elevation)

Our bike ride follows the Blyde River through the canyon to a spectacular viewpoint of the Blyde Dam. The Blyde River rises on the western slopes of the Drakensberg near Sabie in Mpumalanga and flows northwards past the town of Pilgrim's Rest for more than 62.5 mi./100 km, through a region of extraordinary beauty along the eastern escarpment and into the Blyde Dam which was completed in 1974. Along the way be on the lookout for kudu and baboons. Explore the Blyde Dam with a boat cruise and spot hippo's and crocodiles as well as the amazing Three Rondavels from below. After lunch we will depart for the Kruger National Park. Enjoy your first evening in Kruger with a "braai".

Includes: Bike ride, Blyde Dam Boat Cruise, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

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Day 7 (Sat) Kruger National Park (Full day)

Today is your big Kruger Safari day. Although Kruger is renowned for the Big 5 (African elephant, Black rhinoceros, Cape buffalo, African lion, African leopard), it has so much more to offer. Get your cameras ready to capture the special moments in one of Africa's largest national parks covering an area of 19,485 square kilometres. This wildlife sanctuary is like no other, its atmosphere so unique which will allow you to experience the true heartbeat of Africa. After our day in the Kruger National Park, we will be treated with a delicious dinner. Take time to share stories and photos of your special day in the African bush.

Includes: Full day safari in open vehicle, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner



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Day 8 (Sun) Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve (approx. 25 mi./40 km, 2,040 ft./620 m of elevation)

Welcome to the Blyde River Canyon, the third largest and greenest canyon in the world. Our bike ride starts at the Pinnacle Rock where we will prepare the bikes, whilst you savour the magnificent view. The route follows the escarpment to Wonder View, which is said, on a clear day it is possible to see all the way to Mozambique. Visit a spectacular waterfall, before travelling to the Bourke's Luck potholes. The potholes were formed over centuries of water flowing from the Treur and Blyde River. From here it is a short drive to the famous Three Rondavels lookout point and onto our overnight stay overlooking this escarpment.

Includes: Bike ride, Entrance to Lisbon Falls and Bourke's Luck Potholes, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner



Day 9 (Mon) Echo Caves and Big 5 Nature Reserve (approx. 17 mi./27 km, 1,090 ft./330 m of elevation)

Take in a last look at the striking panorama of the Three Rondavels before we get onto our bicycles. Our route, which is mostly downhill, is surrounded by citrus farms. The Echo Caves marks the end of our cycling. This underground wonderland was stumbled upon by a local farmer in 1923, whilst looking for his lost cow. We will visit the cave before driving along the Abel Erasmus Pass and entering the Lowveld for our last evening. The adventure begins with a late afternoon game drive in a big 5 area in an open game viewer with an experienced guide. Dinner will be served in a boma around a fire with sounds of the African night in the background.

Includes: Bike ride, Entrance to Echo Caves, Game Drive, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner



Day 10 (Tue) Departure

Your final day starts with a bushwalk accompanied by an experienced game ranger through Big 5 territory. After the bushwalk, enjoy a leisurely breakfast whilst saying farewell to your cycling companions. This will be the end of our time together. Return to your home country via the Eastgate Airport in Hoedspruit or a Private Transfer to Johannesburg.

Includes: Bush walk, Breakfast

Optional Extension Tours- Contact us for additional details and prices

1. **Relax with wildlife** 3-Day Post-Extension Tour in Hoedspruit at Buffelshoek/ Ndzhaka Camp or the Sausage Tree Safari Camp
2. **Discover Johannesburg** 1 Day Pre-Extension Take the time to extend your holiday and add an additional evening (Saturday) in Johannesburg with a 4 hour cycling tour in Soweto.
3. **Cycle the Cape Peninsula and Winelands** 2-5 Day Cape Town Cycling Tours Extend your cycling holiday tour around Cape Town There are many possibilities and we adjust the extension depending on what you would like, how many days, and which areas you would like to visit. For example, add a bike trip and an evening or two in the Winelands.

Changes to the itinerary Changes to the order of the itinerary can occur due to the availability of accommodation. A bicycle tour can be affected by changing weather conditions and therefore the itinerary of a tour may change. But don't worry, we always have a B-plan and we will find the best solutions to offer you an equally exciting tour.

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Additional Activities Extra activities are included in the tour price for example: a visit to citrus/avocado packhouse, bush walks, game drives, a visit to the Echo Caves, a visit to the Bourke's Luck Potholes and a visit to Kaross.

Meals This tour offers full board and we make sure to provide local dishes. If you are a vegetarian or vegan or if you have any special requests regarding your diet, for example a food intolerance, let us know in advance so that we can best cater for you.

Accommodation Our tour offers a variety of accommodation throughout the trip. The 3-and 4-star accommodation ranges from lodges, small hotels to chalets. All of which have been chosen to offer you the uttermost comfort after each bike ride.

Bike rides / Safaris in South Africa

Our tours are accompanied by 2 guides - a cycling guide and a nature guide with a support vehicle. Whether by foot or game viewer, when we are exposed to wildlife we are accompanied by trained guides. We are always kept at the right distance from the wild animals in order to enable us to appreciate them but to avoid any danger.

Please note we do **not cycle within the Kruger National Park.*

Best travelling time

South Africa is a large and diverse country with climate that varies from region to region. The Limpopo and Mpumalanga Provinces experience a summer rainfall with heavy thundershowers from December to February and a dry winter period from May to October. The best time to visit these areas depends on what you would like to see and which climate you prefer. In summer, the African bush is at its greenest and birdlife is abundant. In winter, wildlife is easier to spot because there is less vegetation and animals gather around rivers and waterholes.

Additional Information - Seasons in South Africa:

Spring - September and October

Summer - November to March

Autumn - April to May

Winter - June to August

Malaria in South Africa

Malaria is evident in the Kruger National Park and other areas we travel to during this tour. Please contact your doctor about taking Malaria Prophylactics.

There are certain precautions you can take between dawn and dusk:

- apply insect repellent to exposed skin
- close windows and doors at night unless they are screened

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- spray an aerosol insecticide inside the sleeping area
- wear long-sleeved clothing, trousers and socks if outdoors during this time

Luggage

Please note, space is limited since we transport bicycles, luggage and passengers. We ask that each guest brings no more than 1 x 23 kg bag and 1 x hand luggage.

Route





Cycling Fitness Requirements (Level: Moderate)

We recommend our tours to everyone who has an acquired basic stamina either through using their bike as an everyday vehicle or as a leisure activity. Since we travel through such a variety of areas during this tour, the bike rides vary from day to day. We pace our tours leisurely so that there is no rush even if you push your bicycle uphill. Remember, you are on holiday and should enjoy every moment of it as well as capture the memories. So don't feel rushed and take as many photos as you like.

The bicycle tours take place on gravel and paved roads. The paved roads that we cycle on are less travelled and safe for cycling. Our tours are accompanied by a guide with a support vehicle.

2025 Tour Dates (Sunday - Tuesday)

9 March

6 April

11 May

8 June

10 August

5 October

(Additional dates can be offered upon request)

Price in Euros per person

Double occupancy €2690

Single room surcharge €280

E-bike rental €250

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Included

- 10 days/9 nights tour
- 9 evenings in 3-star accommodation
- Meals: Full board (9 x Breakfast, 8 x Lunch, 8 x Dinner)
- 6 days cycling with vehicle support (combination of paved and gravel roads)
- Entrance into Kruger National Park
- Activities as per itinerary
- Transfer from O.R. Tambo International Airport Johannesburg (JNB) to first night's accommodation Transfer from last night's accommodation to Hoedspruit Eastgate Airport (HDS)
- High quality bicycle rental
- Drinking water for the cycling stages

Additional optional services (on request)

- E-Bike rental 250 euro per tour (please note that there are limited numbers of E-Bikes per tour)
- Single room, surcharge 280 euro
- Spa treatments (when available)
- Extension programs

Not included in tour price

- Travel to O.R. Tambo International Airport Johannesburg (JNB)
- Departure from Eastgate Airport in Hoedspruit (HDS)
- Beverages and Gratuities

This is a partner tour please contact us for bookings

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