



# ROVOS RAIL ITINERARY

This panoramic sojourn winds its way from Pretoria to Cape Town and includes a golfing and non-golfing itinerary. After a game drive in Kruger Park\* guests travel through eSwatini to Hluhluwe for game viewing and along the coast to Durban\* for a city tour. Traverse the Valley of a Thousand Hills to Spionkop Lodge\*, the perfect base for exploring the mountains, bush, birds and battlefields of the region. Continue to Port Elizabeth\* for a game drive at Addo Elephant Park then on to the natural paradise of Knysna for an overnight stay at Fancourt\*. ~Transfer through the Outeniqua Mountains to the impressive Cango Caves and an ostrich farm for a visit. Traverse the Karoo and the spectacular winelands and Cape mountains before this magnificent expedition ends in Cape Town.



## AFRICAN COLLAGE: PRETORIA TO CAPE TOWN (12 Nights)

### LEISURE GUESTS

### GOLFERS

#### DAY 1: PRETORIA

Please check-in a minimum of one hour before departure. Should you wish to visit the museum or do a site tour at Rovos Rail Station, we suggest arriving two hours prior to departure.

18h00 Depart from Rovos Rail Station, Pretoria. The train travels on the eastern line towards the harsh eMalahleni coal-mining area and Middelburg, known as the “stainless steel capital of Africa”. The Dutch railway building company, NZASM, built the eastern line between Pretoria and Lourenço Marques (Maputo) from 1893 to 1895.

19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.

Dress: Formal

**Please ensure the Train Manager or Administration Deputy is in possession of your passport. It will be returned to you before the end of the trip.**

#### DAY 2: AT LEISURE ON BOARD

07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. The rolling hills of eMakhazeni, eNtokozweni and Dullstroom are a welcome sight and are renowned for the genteel yet skilful sport of trout fishing.

13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train descends the spectacular Drakensberg Mountain escarpment, first named by the Voortrekkers who thought the unbroken chain of heavily weathered peaks reminded them of the spines on a dragon’s back, hence the name ‘Dragon Mountain’ or Drakensberg in Afrikaans.

16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.

19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Malelane.

Dress: Formal

#### DAY 3: KRUGER PARK

05h30 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
06h30 Game drive in the Kruger National Park with tea, lunch and an opportunity for curio shopping.  
15h00 Return to train.

16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.

19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Mpaka. Dress: Formal

#### WHITE RIVER / MBOMBELA

*\*Leopard Creek*

05h30 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
Transfer to White River Country Club (±75 min) OR Mbombela(±60 min) for tee off and lunch.  
*\*If available, golf at Leopard Creek may be booked on request for your own account.*

16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.

19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Mpaka. Dress: Formal

#### DAY 4: ESWATINI

06h00 Breakfast is served. Border formalities take place.  
08h00 Transfer (±90 min) to Swazi Candles and Mantenga Cultural Village with lunch.

#### NKONYENI / ROYAL SWAZI

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
Transfer (±75 min) to Nkonyeni OR Royal Swazi for tee off and lunch.

14h00 Return to the train ( $\pm 75$  min).  
16h00 Depart for Golela for border formalities.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served en route to Hluhluwe.  
Dress: Formal

14h00 Return to the train.  
16h00 Depart for Golela for border formalities.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.  
Dress: Formal

#### DAY 5: HLUHLUWE-IMFOLOZI PARK

05h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
07h00 Transfer ( $\pm 30$  min) to Hluhluwe for a game drive. As the oldest proclaimed reserve in Africa, Hluhluwe encompasses 960km<sup>2</sup> of hilly topography in central Zululand and is known for its rich wildlife and conservation efforts. It is the only state-run park in KwaZulu-Natal with all the Big Five game animals and is also a prime birding destination.  
11h00 Return to the train.  
12h30 Lunch is served in the dining cars. Travel south along the Indian Ocean coastline.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.  
Dress: Formal

#### DAY 6: DURBAN

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
09h00 Enjoy a Durban city tour, a visit to the botanical gardens and lunch at Umhlanga's beachfront. Durban is the third largest city in South Africa and enjoys great importance due to its industry and very large port.  
15h00 The train traverses the Valley of a Thousand Hills.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served.  
Dress: "Africa" Theme or Smart Casual

#### DURBAN / BEACHWOOD

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
Transfer to Durban Country Club ( $\pm 15$  min) OR Beachwood ( $\pm 15$  min) for tee off and lunch. Durban is the third largest city in South Africa and enjoys great importance due to its industry and very large port.  
15h00 The train traverses the Valley of a Thousand Hills.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served.  
Dress: "Africa" Theme or Smart Casual

#### DAY 7: SPIONKOP

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
09h00 Transfer ( $\pm 30$  min) to Spionkop Lodge to hear the historic tale of the Battle of Spionkop and walk in the footsteps of Churchill and Gandhi. Enjoy lunch.  
14h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.  
Dress: Formal

#### CHAMPAGNE SPORTS RESORT

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until departure.  
Transfer ( $\pm 75$  min) to Champagne Sports Resort for tee off and lunch.  
15h30 Return ( $\pm 75$  min) to the train.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Harrismith.  
Dress: Formal

#### DAY 8: GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARK & CLARENS

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
08h00 Take a drive through the Golden Gate Highlands National Park. The park's most notable features are its golden ochre and orange-hued deeply eroded sandstone cliffs and outcrops, especially the Brandwag Rock.  
09h30 Visit the small and picturesque town of Clarens situated in the foothills of the Maluti Mountains. Enjoy an early lunch (own account).  
13h00 Transfer ( $\pm 60$ mins) to the Sandstone Heritage Trust, a large agricultural estate that houses an impressive collection of heritage trains, tractors, busses, cars and military vehicles.  
15h30 Transfer ( $\pm 60$ mins) to the train at Bethlehem and depart for Bloemfontein.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.  
Dress: Formal  
The observation car will be leading the train until Port Elizabeth – a different aspect that our rail enthusiasts enjoy.

#### DAY 9: BLOEMFONTEIN

06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until departure.  
08h00 Tour of Bloemfontein including the Women's Memorial and Anglo Boer War Museum.  
10h00 Depart for Coerney. Traverse the Karoo, a vast and beautiful semi-desert stretching across the great South African plateau inland from the Cape coast with scattered towns and villages. Cross the dry southeastern region with its variety of grasses, hardy shrubs, tumbleweeds and succulents and descend the Great Escarpment towards the coast.  
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.  
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.  
Dress: Formal

**DAY 10: ADDO ELEPHANT PARK**

- 06h30 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
 08h00 Game drive in Addo Elephant Park, South Africa's third largest national reserve stretching from the semi-arid Karoo, over the Zuurberg Mountains and down through the Sundays River valley to the coast. The park is home to one of the densest African Elephant populations on earth – roughly 600.  
 12h00 Depart for Port Elizabeth.  
 13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.  
 16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.  
 Dress: Formal

**HUMEWOOD**

- 06h30 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.  
 Transfer (±75 min) to Humewood Golf Course for tee off and lunch.  
 15h45 Return to the train (±15 min) in Port Elizabeth.  
 16h30 Tea in the lounge car and observation car, which is now at the rear of the train.  
 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Willowmore. Dress: Formal

**DAY11: KNYSNA**

*Please pack an overnight bag for your stay at Fancourt. Tog bags have been placed in your suites for your convenience.*

- 06h00 Breakfast is served until departure.  
 08h00 Transfer (±90 min) from Port Elizabeth Station to Oudebosch Farm Stall.  
 09h30 Enjoy a refreshment stop at Oudebosch.  
 10h00 Transfer (±90 min) to Knysna for a lagoon ferry ride with lunch.  
 16h30 Transfer (±60 min) to Fancourt and check-in.  
 19h00 Dinner and overnight at Fancourt.  
 Dress: Smart Casual

**PEZULA / SIMOLA**

*Please pack an overnight bag for your stay at Fancourt. Tog bags have been placed in your suites for your convenience.*

- 06h00 Breakfast is served until departure.  
 07h30 Transfer (±90 min) from Port Elizabeth Station to Oudebosch Farm Stall.  
 09h00 Enjoy a refreshment stop at Oudebosch.  
 09h30 Transfer (±90min) from Oudebosch Farm Stall to Pezula OR Simola for tee off and lunch.  
 Check-in at Fancourt Estate after golf.  
 19h00 Dinner and overnight at Fancourt.  
 Dress: Smart Casual

**DAY 12: OUDTSHOORN**

*You may call Reception to collect your bag or take it to check-out on departure.*

- 06h30 Breakfast is served until 09:30. Check out.  
 10h00 Transfer (±60 min) to an ostrich farm for a visit followed by lunch.  
 13h30 Transfer (±30 min) to the Cango Caves for a visit.  
 15h00 Transfer (±150min) to Prince Albert Rd Station.  
 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Matjiesfontein.  
 Dress: "1920s" Theme or Smart Casual

**FANCOURT MONTAGU/OUTENIQUA**

*You may call Reception to collect your bag or take it to check-out before tee off.*

- 06h30 Breakfast is served until tee off at Fancourt.  
 13h30 After lunch, transfer (±180 min) to Prince Albert Rd Station to rejoin the train. Enjoy a refreshment stop en route.  
 16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.  
 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Matjiesfontein.  
 Dress: "1920s" Theme or Smart Casual

**DAY 13: CAPE TOWN**

*Please ensure luggage is ready for collection 15 minutes before arrival and that you have your passport.*

- 07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Trundle through the spectacular mountain ranges and scenic winelands of the Western Cape towards the coast.  
 13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.  
 18h00 Arrive at journey's end at Cape Town Station.



## PREDEPARTURE INFORMATION

**Amenities:** Rovos Rail provides a complete amenity bag with the following South African biodegradable and/or recyclable products: soap (50g), tissues, shampoo (50ml), hand and body wash (50ml), hand and body lotion (50ml), lip balm (7g), insect repellent gel (10ml), reusable bamboo rounds, bamboo ear buds and a shower cap. Plug-in hairdryers – in addition to your bathroom unit (if applicable) – are available on board as well as sun cream, shoe mits, nail files, sewing kits and ear plugs.

**Children:** We do accommodate children but we kindly ask parents to be sensitive to the adult nature and atmosphere of the train by keeping them respectful and quiet. Long journeys are not recommended for under 13s. Children between 0-2 years old are not permitted to travel. There are no child-minding facilities or activities available for children on board. See Child Policy on rovos.com.

### Currency:

- South Africa – Rands only. We accept all major credit cards on the train.
- Outside of South Africa – Rands are accepted in Namibia and eSwatini. US Dollars are accepted in Zimbabwe, Tanzania (Dar es Salaam only), DRC and Angola. Cash is highly recommended. Hotels and major dealers accept credit cards.
- US Dollars printed before year 2013 or that look worn will not be accepted. Low denominations recommended for shopping/gratuities. Larger denominations recommended for exchanging money to local currency (especially in Tanzania) as you get a better rate.

**Dietaries:** We cater for food allergies provided a detailed request has been made at that time of your reservation. If a special request has not been made, the chefs will endeavour to prepare suitable meals with the ingredients available on board. We regret we are unable to prepare meals requiring strict religious observance in the preparation.

**Dining:** Meals on board are served in one sitting only in the dining cars and are complemented by a selection of fine South African wines. Breakfast: 07:00-10:00 • Lunch: 13:00 • Tea: 16:30 • Formal Dinner: 19:30. Bar service is from 07:00-±01:00. All meals are served at these times unless otherwise stated in the timetable. A gong heralds lunch and dinner.

### Dress:

- Days on board are smart casual: Neat, conventional yet relatively informal in style combining casual and formal clothing pieces.
- Evening attire is more formal: For gentlemen a jacket and tie is a minimum requirement while for ladies we suggest cocktail/evening dresses or suits. On long journeys we enjoy themed evenings where guests can dress up accordingly or opt for smart casual:
  - Golf Safari, African Collage, Dar es Salaam and Lobito Journeys: 1 x “AFRICA” evening and 1 x “1920s” evening. See itineraries.
  - Namibia Safari: 1 x “AFRICA” evening. See itineraries.
- Off-train excursions: We recommend comfortable walking shoes, sun lotion and hats. If required, blankets and rain capes are available.
- Game drives are on open vehicles so please dress accordingly: mornings can be cool then warm up considerably; afternoons can be warm then cool down considerably. Please see average temperatures as a guide.

**Dressing Gowns:** We provide a comfortable one-size-fits-all gown plus slippers for each guest for use on board the train. If you wish to take one home, they are available to purchase from the Gift Shop.

**Electricity:** 220V AC 50Hz 3-point round-pronged wall plugs and 110V/220V 2-pin plugs for shavers and chargers. USB ports are in each suite. International adaptors available. A generator supplies power. Please be aware that certain breaks in power are necessary when servicing is required.

**Gift Shop/Administration:** There is a small gift shop on the train and at Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria. Due to the varying exchange rates, credit cards are preferred. The Administration Deputy on duty has a basic First Aid Kit and personal essentials (toothbrushes, razors, earplugs etc.). He/she will also fulfil any administrative requirements and check your onward arrangements.

**Gratuities:** Gratuities for the staff are at your discretion. If you wish to show your appreciation in this manner, there will be a suitably marked envelope in your suite that you can hand directly to the Train Manager who will distribute any amounts on a pro-rata basis (share) among the staff on board. An amount between ZAR100-300 (± US\$10-20) per person per night is suggested, depending on the length of your journey. At the game lodges, it is customary to tip guides and lodge staff an estimated ZAR150 (± US\$10) per guest per day.

**Languages:** The staff on board mainly speak English and local languages. For most of the long journeys and dependent on the language, translated itineraries and on-board information will be provided.

**Laundry:** There is a LIMITED laundry service (10 items/day) on board comprising household washers, dryers and steam irons. The turnaround is 48 hours so we are unable to handle a week's worth of laundry. There are no dry-cleaning facilities en route or on board. Please note that while this a complimentary service we cannot be held responsible for items that may be damaged or lost in the process.

**Locomotion:** Use of steam has become increasingly difficult over the years as more and more water and coaling facilities have been scrapped. Diesel or electric locomotives are used while steam is used in and around the area of Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria only.

**Luggage:** It is possible to store luggage in your suite under the bed or above the door on a luggage rack, which provides ample space for storage. There are no luggage restrictions on board although we do not recommend more than two large suitcases. On selected long journeys, guests are provided with a Rovos Rail tog bag that can be used for overnight trips or hand luggage on aircraft. A soft bag is preferable on plane transfers with a luggage weight restriction of 15kg.

**Magazines, Maps & Games:** There are board games, cards, a card table (dependent), books and magazines available for your use in the lounge and observation cars while on board. In your suite is a map, itinerary and the Journeys magazine featuring articles of interest related to your route. If the map supplied is not comprehensive enough you may purchase a more detailed map from the Gift Shop.

### Medical:

- All guests are solely responsible for ensuring they are capable of undertaking the tours and activities.
- Please inform us at the time of your reservation if you have any medical conditions, physical disabilities or allergies.
- We have a doctor on board on the 15-day Dar es Salaam and Lobito journeys. - Anti-malarial precautions are recommended. Malaria areas: eSwatini, Kruger Park, Northern Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Etosha, Tanzania, DRC and Angola.
- Recommended immunisations (not required): Hepatitis A + B, Polio, Tetanus, Cholera (low risk).
- Ebola is confined to the northeast of DRC. We traverse the very southern tip of the country thousands of miles away on the Lobito journeys.
- A Yellow Fever/Medical Exemption Certificate is essential if travelling to/from DRC and Angola. Although all countries travelled through don't require this, countries guests return to after the trip often require them.
- Please consult your clinic or doctor. TRAVEL DOCTOR AFRICA local 0861 300 911 or international +27 (0) 11 214 9030. UPDATED 20 MAY 2022

**Medical Emergencies:** Each train is equipped with a standard medical kit, oxygen, automated external defibrillator and a wheelchair. For emergencies there are private healthcare hospitals available. Outside of South Africa, private hospitals are not guaranteed. We can organise evacuation either by road or air to a medical facility should this be required (own account). All our Train Managers have completed First Aid up to Level 3 and are trained in emergency situations. We do, however, strongly recommend that you explain your concerns to your travel insurance company so they can provide you with the necessary cover to meet and exceed such an eventuality.

**Mobile Devices & Internet:** In maintaining the spirit of train travel there are no radios or television sets on board. The use of mobile phones, laptops and essentially anything that has the ability to disturb other guests is confined to the privacy of your suites only. The reception is poor while the train is moving. It is advised to contact your service provider to ensure the correct settings for network services are activated. Wi-Fi is available at our lounges in Cape Town and Pretoria and at most off-train accommodation (although not always guaranteed).

**Mobility:** We are able to accommodate guests with walking difficulties although we recommend an able-bodied passenger accompany them. We regret that the train is not suitable for wheelchair-bound passengers. Should you have mobility impairments/restrictions or special requirements, we urge you to inform your travel agent or Rovos Rail at the time of booking. See Mobility Info on rovos.com.

**Pets:** We do not allow any pets or emotional-support animals on board.

**Postage:** Stamps are available for sale from the Gift Shop. Postcards may be handed to the Administration Deputy for posting.

**Security:** An electronic safe is provided in the cupboard in each suite. When on board we encourage guests to close shutters or preferably shutters and windows when not in your suites. Please be particularly mindful when passing through stations. The train doors in the passages are all locked from the inside. Your suite door can also lock from the inside.

**Service:** A dedicated host/ess is available 24 hours a day. They can be called from the telephone in your suite. Your suite is cleaned daily and there is a nightly turndown service. The Train Manager and Deputy Train Manager are on hand throughout the journey to help with any queries. The Administration Deputy is available for administrative requirements and is based at the Gift Shop.

**Smoking:** On board the train, smoking is allowed in the smoking Club Lounge only. HOWEVER, please be mindful of other guests who do not smoke, that the train is generally made up of wood and DO NOT throw flammable items such as cigarette or cigar butts off the train. Bush fires in Africa are a constant and dangerous hazard. Please note at the time of your reservation if you are smoking or non-smoking so that the appropriate room might be requested at the hotels/lodges.

**Special Occasions:** Please note at the time of your reservation if you are celebrating an occasion as we'd like to share it with you.

**Suites & Coaches:** Measurements in centimetres (cm) = Length x Width Each train has accommodation carriages, dining cars, a lounge car ( $\pm 26$  seats), small gift shop, smoking lounge ( $\pm 11$  seats) and observation car ( $\pm 32$  seats) with open-air balcony. The suites are elegant and spacious offering passengers privacy and comfort with double or twin beds and fittings and facilities that are of the highest standard. All have en-suites with shower, toilet, basin and bath (Royal only), tea facilities, safes, air conditioning, linen and amenities and are serviced daily. There is adequate storage and small cupboards with hangers and shelves.

1. Royal Suites ( $\pm 16\text{m}^2$  /  $\pm 172\text{ft}^2$ ) each take up half a carriage and are spacious and elegant. Each has its own private lounge area and en-suite bathroom with Victorian bath, separate shower, toilet and basin. BEDS: Double 200x189 • Split Twin 200x75.
2. Deluxe Suites ( $\pm 10\text{m}^2$  /  $\pm 108\text{ft}^2$ ) have a lounge area and en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. BEDS: Lengthways Double 189x189 • Crosswise Double 189x160 • Split Twin 189x75.
3. Pullman Suites ( $\pm 7\text{m}^2$  /  $\pm 76\text{ft}^2$ ) on SHORT journeys only have an en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. During the day the suite is setup with a comfortable couch that can be converted into a few sleeping options. BEDS: Crosswise Double 189x150 • Side-by-side Twin 189x75 – this is achieved by making up the side-by-side twin mattresses with single-bed linen • Single Lower Bunk 189x94 • Single Upper Bunk 189x60.
4. Pullman Gold Suites ( $\pm 7\text{m}^2$  /  $\pm 76\text{ft}^2$ ) on LONG journeys only have an en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. During the day the suite is setup with split twin beds configured as couches. BEDS: Double 189x189 • Split Twin 189x75.

**The Track:** The track over which we travel is inconsistently maintained. If you wake at night imagining the train is travelling at high speed, be assured it is the state of the track below creating that impression. We restrict the train to 60km/h (37mph) and over bad sections reduce speed to as little as 20km/h (12mph). If you find it noisy, earplugs are available in your amenities bag and at the Gift Shop.

**Water:** The water used on the train is carried in tanks under each coach. These tanks are filled every day but they cannot be topped up while the train is travelling. Please assist us by using water responsibly. Water inside the suites has been filtered and chlorinated; it is safe for bathing and brushing teeth only. Please use the bottled water provided for drinking.

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RSA Co Reg: 2007/049324/23