



And



Present

South African Gardens

*Featuring Capetown, the Garden Route, Pretoria, & Sabi Sabi Private Reserve
October 2-18, 2010*

Prepare for an experience of a lifetime to a destination unlike any other. South Africa is world-renowned as one of the finest countries to visit for garden and nature enthusiasts. This is the only African country that has been able to make botanical gardens a priority. The gardens are well maintained and magnificent and feature some of the most interesting and fascinating plant life on the continent. This specially designed tour for Garden members provides a behind-the-scenes look at many of these gardens, with specially arranged meetings with the directors and curators who have made them their life's work. In addition to these magnificent gardens are the fascinating and deeply stirring history of the country's political challenges, amazing cities, quaint villages and towns, delicious wine and food, and incredible southern coast. Last but certainly not least, is the commanding African wildlife.

Holbrook Travel Mission - *Holbrook Travel was founded on the mission of establishing a true connection between its travelers, the natural world and the people of destinations traveled. Through careful attention to the needs of travelers, Holbrook combines experienced, reliable travel support with a deep knowledge and network within its destinations to create experiences that last a lifetime.*



Philosophy – *On every trip you can expect to experience new realities - learning about the true nature of things and acquiring new perspectives on life. Holbrook invites you to leave your comfort zone. Enjoy the gifts of being placed in the middle of different cultures and in areas of incredible natural beauty. Let us introduce you to people whose lives are in some ways vastly different than yours and in other ways very similar. Let us show you incredible natural and cultural wonders that will leave you with abiding memories. At Holbrook Travel we all have the same goal: to help all of our travelers experience incredible journeys.*

Itinerary

October 2

Today you will start your South African tour from your US departure city of choice. (Please note that most flights from the US are via a stop in London. Also, International airfare is not included in the tour cost.)

October 3

En Route

October 4

Upon arrival at Cape Town International Airport you will be met and transferred to The Radisson Waterfront Hotel. The hotel is spectacularly situated on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, overlooking its own private marina. It is a first class international hotel, combining high levels of luxury with efficient service and the warmth of true South African hospitality. The business district and Cape Town's beautiful beaches are just a short drive away, while the world famous V&A Waterfront, the shopping and entertainment hub of the city, is within a few minutes' stroll.

This afternoon, you will be able to enjoy a cable car ride to the top of Table Mountain. One of southern Africa's most beautiful natural wonders, the mountain rises over 3,500 feet above Cape Town. Despite being surrounded by the city, Table Mountain has remarkably remained mostly an unspoiled wilderness. Stunning examples of Fynbos (fine bush), silver trees, and red and blue disas are just a few of the close to 2,200 species of flora found here. You may glimpse sight of a grysbok (small antelope) or certainly a hyrax (small animal which looks like a rodent but is actually related to the elephant).



Overnight at the Radisson Waterfront Hotel – Welcome Dinner Included

October 5

The day will be spent visiting sites of interest on the Cape Peninsula, including Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, world-renowned for the beauty and diversity of the Cape flora it displays, and for the magnificence of its setting against the eastern slopes of Table Mountain. Kirstenbosch grows only indigenous South African plants. The estate covers 528 hectares and supports a diverse fynbos flora and natural forest. The cultivated garden (36 hectares) displays collections of South African plants, particularly those from the winter rainfall region of the country.

Special features of the garden include:

The Botanical Society Conservatory - enables Kirstenbosch to display South African plants which cannot be grown in the outdoor gardens. Here, under one roof, you will find plants from high mountain peaks, shady forests and hot, dry deserts. The main house, dominated by a large baobab tree, features succulents from the arid regions of southern Africa. Special collections of bulbs, ferns and alpines are displayed in smaller corner houses.

Peninsula garden - displays some of the 2,500 plant species found on the Cape Peninsula.



Cycad garden – displays the many species of Encephalartos found in South Africa.

Water-wise garden - demonstrates how to create a garden which needs far less water and maintenance than a conventional garden.

Fragrance garden - features plants with interesting textures and scents.

Medicinal garden - demonstrates the many medicinal uses of South African plants.

The Dell - the oldest part of the Garden, featuring Colonel Bird's Bath, tree ferns and a variety of shade-loving plants.

Protea garden - features members of the protea family (Proteaceae). This part of the Garden is most magnificent in winter and spring, when the proteas, cone bushes and serrurias are in flower. Pincushions provide a colorful display in early summer.

Restio garden - focuses on the incredible variety of texture and form found in the reed family (Restionaceae).

Van Riebeeck's Hedge - planted in 1660 to protect cattle of the Cape colonists.

You will enjoy a seafood lunch en route to the reserve.

This afternoon you will visit the Cape of Good Hope, described by Sir Francis Drake as "the fairest Cape in the whole circumference of the earth". One of the main attractions of the Cape is the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, at Cape Point, which is noted for its floral diversity and especially its wild flowers, which bloom in spring (Oct.-Dec.). The Reserve boasts a spectacular coastline, with Cape Point possessing the highest sea cliffs in South Africa (249 m), several animal species, and is host to about half of the 2700 species of indigenous plants contained in the Cape Peninsula.

Overnight at the Radisson Waterfront Hotel – Breakfast & Lunch Included

October 6

Proud Capetonian Sandy Ovenstone welcomes you into her private historic Cape Dutch home in Kenilworth for this special opportunity to see a private garden in Cape Town. Upon arrival you'll soon learn why this garden has gained a reputation as one of the loveliest in the Cape. Sandy will lead you on a tour of her spectacular garden, and you will then have the opportunity to take tea with her in her home.

This afternoon you will visit another private garden which incorporates only the indigenous vegetation of The Cape.

This evening, enjoy dinner at the "African Café". This is a unique concept in African dining, started in '92 by husband and wife team, Portia & Jason de Smidt. It took shape at a time when South Africa was standing on the brink of a new dawn of its political and cultural development. It helped to open the eyes of South Africans to the previously ignored and under-valued culinary diversity of the African continent. As you take your seats the menu is explained to each table. The Communal Feast is a feast of dishes from

all over Africa. Sixteen different dishes are served in individual bowls for each table. Once all the dishes have been tasted more food is offered, including dessert, coffee & tea. This has proved a highly successful concept and a great way to introduce the diversity of African Cuisine.

Overnight at the Radisson Waterfront Hotel – Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included

October 7

Today you will travel to the farm Waylands, home of the Duckitt family, near the town of Darling. This farm is well known for its bulb flora that can be spectacular in spring (Oct.-Dec.). After a walk at Waylands you will continue on to the West Coast National Park near Langebaan, which includes the Postberg Nature Reserve. Annual spring flowers abound in this reserve. Other delights include superb views over Langebaan lagoon, with its fascinating tidal salt-marshes, which attract many species of migrant and non-migrant water birds.

Following lunch, you will travel on to the town of Franschhoek, to Le Franschhoek Hotel, which captures the essence of four star luxury. The impeccably appointed Le Franschhoek offers unparalleled views of the spectacular Franschhoek Mountains.

Dinner and overnight Le Franschhoek Hotel – Breakfast & Picnic Lunch Included

October 8

After breakfast you will depart for Vergelegen, a working wine estate with an old homestead and much to interest the garden and tree enthusiast. The famous Octoganal Garden includes a collection of old-fashioned heritage roses, which flower once a year in the spring. Also featured are the herb and vegetable gardens, while ancient oaks line the avenues, and the three hundred year old camphor trees in front of the house are a national monument.

You will then travel to the historic town of Stellenbosch, where you will have lunch and a visit to the Botanical Gardens, South Africa's oldest university garden. These gardens contain indigenous and exotic plants, from Amazon water plants, orchids and lilies, to bonsai, herbs, and desert flora.

In the late afternoon, you will return to your hotel. This evening you will enjoy a meal at one of the superb local bistros.

Overnight at Le Franschhoek Hotel – Breakfast & Lunch Included

October 9

After breakfast you will have the opportunity to visit the Karoo National Gardens on the outskirts of Worcester, on the western edge of the Little Karoo. The Karoo Desert National Botanical Garden is totally unique in that it is the only truly succulent garden in the southern hemisphere and on the African continent. One of the floral highlights of the year is spring, when thousands of annuals and brightly colored vygies come into flower. A must for succulent lovers, falling within the succulent karoo biome, which includes the Namaqualand flora so famous for its spring flowers, the Garden boasts some 400 naturally occurring species. The garden is also a haven for rare and endangered plants, with over 300 species being protected and propagated. Almost 70 species of birds have been recorded in the Garden, as well as a wide range of small mammals, such as the Cape grey duiker.

Overnight at Le Franschhoek Hotel – Breakfast & Lunch Included

October 10

Today you will depart from Swellendam, travel via Suurbraak to Tradouws Pass on the Langeberg, and proceed via Barrydale to Warmwaterberg and along Agter Warmwaterberg Road to see Karroid Broken Veld vegetation and the succulent flora of quartz pavements.

From Warmwaterberg you will travel via the Little Karoo, Ladismith and through Huisrivier Pass to Oudtshoorn, capital of the Ostrich Farming Industry.

Upon arrival, you will be welcomed to De Opstal Country Lodge, in the picturesque Schoemanshoek Valley. De Opstal is just 12 km from Oudtshoorn on the main road (R328) to the world famous Cango Caves. The Lodge consists of a group of typical Little Karoo farm buildings, beautifully restored and fitted with modern conveniences, set in lush, tranquil garden surroundings. The complex has a swimming pool and a rustic restaurant where traditional breakfasts and hearty farm-style dinners are served.



Overnight at De Opstal Country Lodge – Breakfast & Lunch Included

October 11

This morning you will depart from Oudtshoorn after breakfast and head south over the Outeniqua Pass to George. You will then travel to Knysna and have the opportunity to enjoy a boat trip on Knysna Lagoon with a visit to the Featherbed Nature Reserve.

The Featherbed Nature Reserve provides scenic views of Knysna and The Heads from the opposite shore of the lagoon. On arrival at the reserve, you will be taken by 4x4 vehicles to the top of the Western Head. A wonderful foot trail leads through 2 km of coastal forest and along the water's edge back to the Featherbed tavern, where a delicious lunch of grilled, fresh line-fish may be enjoyed.

This afternoon you will visit the Pledge Nature Reserve, a community project situated within the confines of a developed urban and central commercial area of Knysna. It is 10 ha in extent and easily accessible by car or on foot. Its nearest entry point is within 500 meters of the town's busy Main Street. The Reserve offers 3.5 km of pathways through scrub forest and hillside Fynbos with fine views over the lagoon. The site was once an abandoned brickfield heavily infested with exotic invader species and was also an indiscriminate dumping ground for man's household discards. After only ten years of restoration there is no longer any evidence of this former degradation. Today Pledge Nature Reserve is a sanctuary for more than one hundred bird species and a place where the local fynbos diversity is well represented.

Overnight at Knysna Hallow – Breakfast & Lunch Included

October 12

This morning enjoy a special whale and dolphin encounter, giving you the opportunity of a lifetime. On this ecological and educational boat tour you will have the added bonus of listening to these wonderful mammals and their amazing songs underwater using a hydrophone. Experienced, friendly and enthusiastic guides are an absolute mine of information - knowledgeable not only about whales and dolphins, but also the fascinating geological surroundings and the historical happenings of this ancient bay. They also are quite educated about seals, sharks, fish, and the varied pelagic seabird life. Your boat trip will travel down the coast to pull onto land at a pristine beach for a champagne brunch. Here you can explore the area, look for Fish Eagles, swim, snorkel, or simply bask in the sun before heading out to the open ocean and continuing the tour.

This afternoon you will visit the Robberg Peninsula, which has a choice of 3 circular trails. One can enjoy the large variety of coastal dune fynbos and rich marine life. Your informative guide will describe the geological evolution of the Robberg.

Overnight at Knysna Hallow – Breakfast & Lunch Included

October 13

This morning you will travel back to the city of George for your onward flight (the cost of this flight is not included in your tour cost). Upon arrival at Johannesburg International Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The Grace in Rosebank is ideal for guests seeking a sophisticated city hotel with the highest levels of service and luxury, as well as that personal charm found only in small establishments.

Set in the heart of stylish Rosebank, you will be in a secure, leafy suburb that is cosmopolitan and rich in eclectic restaurants, shopping, cinemas and culture. The Grace has easy access to Johannesburg's most prominent businesses and the International airport.

Overnight at The Grace in Rosebank – Breakfast Included

October 14

Today you will have the opportunity to visit the Pretoria Botanical Garden, situated 8 km from the center of Pretoria. It accommodates both subtropical and temperate plants, giving the visitor a glimpse of the beautiful and varied flora of the subcontinent. This Garden is also home to the National Herbarium, Mary Gunn Library and Bookshop, all housed in the "Building on the Hill". The Garden's features include over half of the country's tree species as well as cycads, aloes and other striking collections. Paved nature trails give access to the fascinating natural vegetation of the rocky ridge above the Garden. Seasonal features include the spectacular display of spring flowers (Namaqualand daisies and mesems) and the tree wisteria avenue.

Enjoy lunch en route.

This afternoon you will visit the Witwatersrand Botanical Garden, against the backdrop of the magnificent Witpoortjie waterfall. This Garden covers almost 300 hectares and consists of both landscaped and natural veld areas. The history of the Garden shows that it was founded in 1982, but has been a popular venue for outings since the 1800's. The natural vegetation of the area is known as the "Rocky Highveld Grassland" and consists of a mosaic of grassland and savanna, with dense bush in kloofs and along streams. The variety of habitats accommodates over 600 naturally occurring plant species.

A breeding pair of majestic Black Eagles nest on the cliffs alongside the waterfall. The Garden is home to an abundance of wildlife. Together with the other 230 bird species, there are also a number of reptile and small mammals, including small antelope and jackal, which occur naturally in the Nature Reserve.

The JCI Geological Trail has recently been developed and gives visitors the opportunity to not only walk along the Roodekrans Ridge and in the Nature Reserve portion of the Garden, but also to learn something about the fascinating geology of the area.

Later this afternoon you will head for Lesedi Cultural Village, nestling in the pristine bushveld at the foot of the Magaliesberg Mountains just north of Johannesburg.

Families from the Zulu warrior nation, the proud Xhosa, the warm-hearted Pedi and the mountain dwelling Basotho live in their traditional homesteads. Lesedi awaits those willing to participate in an adventure that reveals the mystical cultures of these ancient peoples, steeped in tribal folklore and ancestral traditions. Whoever walks here amongst these cultures at Lesedi can also see the light. After a tour of the village, enjoy dinner with your hosts.

Overnight at The Grace in Rosebank – Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner Included

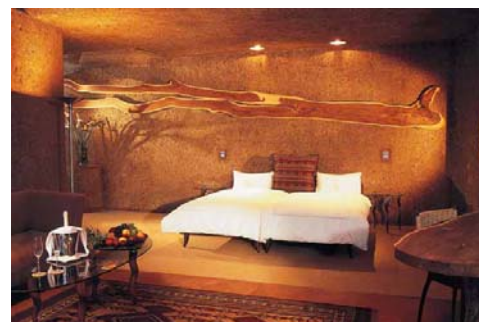
October 15

This morning you will be transferred to the Johannesburg International Airport in time for your flight to Skukusa. On arrival at Skukusa Airport you will be met by a lodge representative and transferred to Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve and the **Sabi Sabi Earth Lodge** (www.sabisabi.com/lodges/earthlodge). Enjoy a delicious lunch, spend the afternoon at leisure to explore your surroundings, and then your first evening game drive has been planned, including a “sundowner” en route.



Earth Lodge is a sanctuary symbolizing a new era in luxury South African safari lodges. Sculpted into a slope of the earth, almost invisible in the landscape, the lodge uses texture, light and space to present a lodge like no other. Taking its cue from the surrounding environment, it has been described as the most environmentally sensitive lodge in Africa.

Earth Lodge reveals itself in a series of sensory revelations. On arrival a hidden corridor leads you down on a journey to a unique and unforgettable experience. The unexpected entrance opens to a panorama of uninterrupted bushveld. As in nature everything at Earth Lodge exists in harmony and you are immediately aware of a sense of calm and a restoring spirit. Home to 13 ultra-luxurious suites including the Amber Presidential Suite, the lodge breaks with traditional bush lodge style to create a masterpiece of artistry and innovation. Each of the suites at this luxury lodge features individually designed furniture, private plunge pool, en-suite glass fronted bathroom, indoor and outdoor shower and butler services. The natural wooden sculptures by renowned South African artist Geoffrey Armstrong add a powerful magic.



Overnight at Sabi Sabi Earth Lodge – Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included

October 16

This morning, enjoy an early morning game viewing, followed by brunch and then a visit to the Lowveld National Botanical Garden, which occupies an outstandingly beautiful site in the heart of Mpumalanga. The Garden sits astride the Crocodile River where it has cut down into the granite bedrock to form a narrow gorge. It is joined from the opposite bank by the Nels River and both rivers tumble over spectacular waterfalls within the Garden, forming a dramatic setting for the developed portion of the Garden. In addition to the approximately 600 plant species occurring naturally, more than 2,000 additional species are found. Over 650 species of South Africa's 1,000 tree species are cultivated in the developed part of the Garden.

Features of the garden include:

Tropical African rain forest - A unique collection of plants which represents the rapidly disappearing tropical forests of Central and West Africa. A complete ecosystem has been re-created here, from the high forest canopy, to the thick layer of herbaceous plants on the moist forest floor.

South African forest - A cooler forest type that is representative of the forests along the eastern

mountains and coastal belt, from Cape Town to the Limpopo River in the extreme north of the country. The collection of South African ferns in this forest is the best in the country.

Cycads - The Garden has the largest collection of African cycads to be found anywhere in the world.

Return to the lodge in time for lunch, an afternoon at leisure, and your evening game drive.

Overnight at Sabi Sabi Earth Lodge – Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner Included



October 17

This morning you will be transferred to the Skukusa Airport in time for your return flight to Johannesburg. An airport hotel will be available for you to relax and prepare for your flight to the US later in the afternoon or evening.

Day Room at Hotel Airport Grand, Breakfast Included

October 18

Welcome home!

Tour Price: \$7,048 (*Double Occupancy*) / \$1,798.00 (*Single Supplement*)

For additional information or reservations, contact Sandy Schmidt at Holbrook Travel at **1-877-907-5360**, or email **Schmidt@Holbrooktravel.com**.

Tour price includes accommodations as listed, including taxes/meals as indicated, private transportation/specialist guide service/activities as indicated, internal flights from Johannesburg to Skukusa to Johannesburg and contribution to Desert Botanical Garden (\$250 p/p)

Tour price does not include personal expenditures, gratuities to drivers and guides, International Airfare or Flight from George to Johannesburg, optional tours and activities, and departure taxes.

Reservation Form and additional Information on Following Pages



HOLBROOK
TRAVEL

Reservation Form

Operated by

Holbrook Travel

Enriching Lives Through Travel Since 1974

3540 N.W. 13th Street • Gainesville, FL 32609-2196

Phone: (800) 451-7111 • Fax (352) 371-3710

Ask for Sandy Schmidt, or call direct at (877) 907-5360 or email: schmidt@holbrooktravel.com

Name: *(as it appears on your passport)* _____

I am: Female Male

Date and Country of Birth: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Work: _____

Fax: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Passport #: _____ Country of Issuance: _____

Passport Expiration Date: _____

*(We **highly** suggest that you renew your passport if your expiration date is within 6 months of your international travel departure date – countries vary in their entry requirements of passport validity.)*

Please assign roommate: Yes No

If no – would you like single accommodations? Yes No

Or - I will be rooming with: _____

In case of emergency, please notify: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

PLEASE COMPLETE FOR ALL PAYMENTS DUE

I hereby authorize charges for the following:

- Non-Refundable Deposit (\$500.00 per person)
- Land & Air Balance (due July 10, 2010)

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

We are able to provide group international and internal airfares (subject to availability) in conjunction with your tour from Phoenix. Should you wish for Holbrook Travel to handle your air arrangements, please indicate your seating preference.

Please specify preferences: Window Aisle

HEALTH INFORMATION

This information is confidential and provided on a voluntary basis.

I am in good general physical health Yes No

I have the following medical or physical conditions that may limit my activities: _____

I am on the following prescription medications: _____

I have allergies Yes No If yes, please list source of allergies: _____

Please list dietary or other personal needs: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

To assist in your preparation, please be aware of the following important information. Holbrook's international trips may involve a great deal of walking in variable weather, climbing stairs, getting on and off transportation conveyances, and occasionally carrying your own baggage. Some trips involve crossing hilly, uneven terrain. Sleeping accommodations, dining halls, etc., differ from site to site. Meals included in Holbrook's international programs commonly consist of local foods prepared according to local tastes; we cannot guarantee that special dietary needs/requests can be accommodated.

International trips take place far from your usual health care facilities. If you become ill or are injured, your local guide, supported by the Tour Operator staff will make every reasonable effort to find medical help. Therefore, it is important that you advise them of any problem when it first arises. Should you become seriously ill or unable to participate in the program for any reason, arrangements will be made to return you home as safely as circumstances allow. Individuals with disabilities are asked to declare and describe in advance their specific conditions or circumstances that require special accommodations or arrangements.

Holbrook strongly recommends that you purchase trip cancellation insurance within 14 days after placing your deposit so that you can include pre-existing conditions. Therefore, we suggest you go the following page on our web site and buy your insurance on line, although we will be sending you a travel insurance brochure with your initial documents.

<http://www.holbrooktravel.com/pages/natureTours/travelerresources.aspx>

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Deposit and payment: A \$500.00 per person deposit is required to confirm your reservations. This deposit will be applied to the cost of your trip. **All final payments are due no later than July 10, 2010.**

Cancellations and Refunds: Deposits are non-refundable. Following July 10, 2010, when the balance is due, all monies are non-refundable. We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance within 14 days after placing your deposit so that you can include pre-existing conditions.

Refunds for missed days: We are unable to grant refunds for any missed portions of your tour because of missed or delayed flights. Additionally, no refund is guaranteed for any feature of the tour not used as a result of weather, personal health, or social disturbance.

STATEMENT OF DISCLOSURE

Holbrook Travel, Inc. and/or its agents assume no responsibility or liability in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motor or other conveyance which may be used wholly or in part, in the performance of their duty to the passengers; neither will they be responsible for any act, error, or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through neglect or default of any company or person engaged in conveying

the passenger; or for any hotel proprietor, or for any other person, engaged in carrying out the purpose for which tickets or coupons are issued. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operators. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. No special considerations are made for medical condition or physical handicaps. The passenger accepts full responsibility for evaluating his/her fitness for this expedition, and shall bear any additional expense should he/she be physically unable to participate in any or all portions. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline, to accept or retain any passenger as a member of the tour. In such instances, full or equitable amount will be refunded, but this amount shall not exceed the amount paid by the passengers. No refund can be made for any feature of the program not used by the passenger during operation of the tour. The sole responsibility of any airline used in these tours is limited to that set out in the passenger contract evidenced by the ticket. Airlines and other carriers are not responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. Similar responsibility as noted above applies to all types of carriers, including car rental companies. The services of any IATA and ATC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The passenger understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline. All contracts for services provided by Holbrook Travel, Inc., and its affiliates are entered into in the State of Florida and all parties to such contracts submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Florida.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE NOTE: Your signature denotes acceptance of the conditions and terms as set forth in this document.