

VACATIONS THAT MATTER!

South Africa Voluntourism Program



Please note that this proposed itinerary is subject to availability.

Day 1: Sunday March 11, 2012 Cape Town

Welcome to South Africa. On arrival in Cape Town, your Hills of Africa Travel representative will meet and transfer you to **Simon's Town Quayside Hotel**. Look for your name on a sign as you enter the arrivals hall. This evening is at your leisure.



Quayside Hotel

Simon's Town Quayside Hotel is set on the water's edge of Simon's Town yacht basin with breathtaking views over False Bay and the majestic Simon's Kloof mountains. Situated at the heart of the Cape Point Route, this superior four-star hotel and conference center offers a unique accommodation, conferencing, shopping and dining experience for business and leisure travelers alike.

Each luxury bedroom has magnificent views of either False Bay and the Simon's Town yacht basin or the majestic Simon's Kloof mountains. Comfortably furnished for ultimate relaxation, all rooms have en-suite bathrooms with separate bath and shower. Enjoy a spectacular sunrise from the private balcony of your room and absorb the breathtaking views across the bay. All tastes are catered for in a variety of restaurants offering a selection of culinary delights several of which are situated within the Quayside Waterfront Center located on the water's edge with breathtaking sea and harbor views. Choose from a wide assortment of tasty steaks, fish or pizza accompanied by a bottle or two of award-winning South African wine.

You can also take a stroll along Simon's Town Historic Mile or an energetic walk in the surrounding Simon's Kloof Mountains. For the golf lovers, there is a variety of golf courses in close proximity of the hotel.

Meals	None
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel or Equivalent pricing for a family of four, 1 standard double and 1 standard twin room on a bed and breakfast basis for 8 nights.
Service Project	None

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Day 2: Monday March 12, 2012 Cape Town

After breakfast this morning, you will attend **volunteer orientation** for the community service portion of your trip. We have partnered with **African Impact**, the on-the-ground African specialist in volunteering. They were founded over 5 years ago in Zimbabwe and now support operations in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia. African Impact has enabled over 3,000 volunteers to make an amazing difference in the communities and conservation areas African Impact affects. Interact is bringing communities and tourism together to provide tourists, school groups, large corporate groups, backpackers, and families with the opportunity to make a high, sustainable impact on communities throughout Africa, through short term volunteering opportunities.

Volunteer highlights may include:

- Structured, responsive interaction
- Learning new cultures
- Assisting in the development of township educare and primary schools
- Working with disadvantaged and vulnerable children
- Involvement in light building, upkeep, and general maintenance of schools and homes
- Reading, crafts, games and playtime with children
- Painting and cleaning
- Bring a smile and come make a difference in just one day, leaving a legacy of hope for future generations



Volunteer locations include:

Masiphumelele Community: Masiphumelele is a Xhosa word meaning "we will succeed" and this township has in excess of 35,000 residents. Here amenities are overused -- an overcrowded school, no police station and an understaffed Day Care Clinic. Student projects include taking physical education classes at the local Primary School, conducting reading clubs at the community library, and assisting at the Edu-Care center through entertaining and tutoring young disadvantaged children. Some interaction opportunities include physical education classes, helping with the building and upkeep of the sports field, painting/maintenance, structured involvement with the children in afternoon activities, sports, and other community initiatives.

Red Hill Community: Within site of The Cape of Good Hope and Cape Point, the most south-western tip of the African Continent, Red Hill is about a 45-minute drive from the Cape Town City Center (15 minutes from Cape Lodge). This little community has been around for 20 years, since the days of the apartheid, and it is a colorful mix of Xhosa, Afrikaans, and many other African nationalities. There are approximately 2,500 people that live here among the trees and with a beautiful view of the Cape of Good Hope. Lives are simple here and resources are few, but the people are happy. Student projects include assisting in the two community preschools. Interaction possibilities include maintenance/painting/upkeep, gardening projects, structured involvement with the children in afternoon activities, and other community initiatives.

Red Hill and Masiphumelele are in essence townships, but both are safe and peaceful with wonderful people. This is a dynamic and exciting project with plenty of opportunities to really make an impact in the people's lives and communities you come in contact with.

You will then embark on a half-day of community service. Please note that your itinerary may differ from below, depending on your level of experience and the number of volunteers being placed at the same time. A light lunch will be provided at your volunteer location. Each program is carefully structured to have a sustainable impact, making sure the community always comes first. Here is a sample of how your morning/afternoon may look:

07:30am Collection (if being transferred)

12:30pm Pack up

01:00pm Depart (if being transferred)

**Please note that volunteering is only available on weekdays from Monday to Friday.

Please understand that the projects are continuously evolving, being improved, and adapting to the needs of the local communities so involvement areas change from time to time. Rest assured your work will be necessary, rewarding and exciting. Your day will depend on the needs of the

community at the time of your placement. Activities will take into consideration your abilities, group size, etc. Thanks for being more than a tourist!



This afternoon you will enjoy a scheduled tour exploring the **gorgeous peninsula region of Cape Town**. This scenic coastal meander will introduce you to the extended suburbs of Cape Town.

Highlights of the day include:

- Passing through many of Cape Town's most beautiful villages: Camps Bay, Llundudno, Hout Bay, Simon's Town, and Kalk Bay.
- A visit to the famous Cape Point and Cape of Good Hope. Cape Point represents the success of Bartholomew Diaz who first discovered it while looking for a way to get to the East. He may not have made it all the way there, but finally the Portuguese knew that there was a turning point and as such there was hope that the route would be discovered. Nine years later the famous Vasco da Gama would pass the point and manage to get all the way through to the East. This opened up the Spice Routes for the Europeans and very soon there was shipping traffic passing the Cape on a regular basis.
- A visit to the penguin colony at Boulders. Penguins are only found in the Southern hemisphere, and as such it is a treat for those from the North to be able to see them outside of an aquarium. The African penguin's natural habitat is to live on islands off the Coast of South Africa. However, man has disturbed many of the penguins' natural habitats over the years. In the 1980's a couple of penguins decided to relocate to one of Cape Town's favorite beaches, Boulders beach, and they must have liked what they saw as they then got busy breeding. Today there are over 3,000 penguins living at Boulders. The beach is now only open to penguins and is closed to sun tanners! There are however viewing platforms that will allow you to get close to the penguins.



Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

Day 3: Tuesday March 13, 2012 Cape Town

Today you will embark on another **half-day of community service**. A light lunch will be provided at your volunteer location

A portion of your project fee, which is included in the itinerary cost, goes directly into the project that you are involved with through the charitable trust, The Happy Africa Foundation. This fee facilitates funding for items such as building materials, medical supplies, gardening tools, paint, building materials and equipment, etc



This afternoon, you will continue on with a visit to scenic **Table Mountain**.

No Cape Town tour would be complete without taking a trip to the top of Table Mountain. Discover the magic of Cape Town's iconic Table Mountain with experienced nature guides, who will interpret the wonders of the unique Cape Floral Kingdom and regale visitors of stories of local legends. At just over 1000m altitude, Table Mountain is a UNESCO World Heritage site and a remarkable geological and natural feature. Should you want a view from the top but do not want to climb this impressive mountain, don't worry one bit. Simply take a quick ride on the panoramic rotating cable car and you will arrive at the top of the mountain.

Enjoy spectacular views of Cape Town and the surroundings before descending on foot or, if legs are weary, in the revolving cableway (weather dependent).

After Table Mountain, you will enjoy visiting **Robben Island** which operates as a heritage site and living museum.



Robben Island, in addition to being a prison, was also a training and defense station in World War II (1939–1945) and a hospital for people with leprosy and mental/chronic illnesses (1846–1931). In the 1840s, Robben Island was chosen for a hospital because it was regarded as both secure (isolating dangerous cases) and healthy (providing a good environment for cure). During this time, political and common-law prisoners were still kept on the island. As there was no cure and little effective treatment available for leprosy, mental illness, and other chronic illnesses in the 1800s, Robben Island was a 'prison' for the hospital patients too.

Since 1997, Robben Island has been a museum and a heritage site. The museum is a dynamic institution acting as a focal point of South African heritage. The museum offers educational youth and adult programs, facilitates tourism development, and conducts ongoing research related to the island. By managing its resources and activities, Robben Island Memorial strives to maintain the unique and universal symbolism of the island with the goal of becoming a national and international heritage and conservation institution.

After your Robben Island Tour, you will take the ferry back to the V & A Waterfront where you can choose from a variety of restaurants for dinner (dinner not included in the itinerary price).

After your dinner, you will be returned to **Quayside Hotel**

Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

Day 4: Wednesday March 14, 2012 Cape Town

Today you will embark on another **half-day of community service**.

You will then embark on an exciting and adrenaline filled **afternoon of sand boarding** on South Africa's well-known sand dunes.



For decades, people of all ages have been sliding down sand dunes on some kind of plank or other and through the years sand boarding has developed to what it is today. Sand boarding is the art of standing with two feet locked onto a board and carving arks down a dune. The beauty of it is that you can control the board and speed by turning, stopping and jumping with easy control of the board.

The best part about sand boarding is that it is easy to learn and accessible to the absolute beginner. Adrenaline is just a slide away. Sand boarding is very similar to snow boarding and expert boarders will show you just how easy it is! South African's have pioneered Sand boarding in Africa and uses the latest snowboard technology to ensure safety and ease of learning.

Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

Day 5: Thursday March 15, 2012 Cape Town

Today you will embark on another **half-day of community service**.

This afternoon you will enjoy a **boat trip from Hout Bay to Seal Island**. We will pass Chapman's Peak along the way.



Seal Island is found off the shores of the northern beaches of False Bay. Appropriately named, Seal Island is home to large numbers of the Cape Fur Seals; because seal harvesting no longer occurs, fortunately, the numbers of these seal species have been on the increase in the last 20 years promising a real treat especially for the children visiting the island. The seals are not the only attraction on the isle though; patrons can enjoy the likes of the African penguin as well as a fantastic number of aquatic birds namely the White-breasted Cormorant and the Bank Cormorant. Seal Island is also prominent because the waters surrounding it are known to be infested with the Great White Shark, which happens to be the biggest predator of the Cape Fur Seal.

Enjoying a cruise to Seal Island is a marvelous experience as it not only takes you to the island to view these incredible marine animals, but also allows you the chance of savoring the breathtaking and undulating natural beauty this part of the Cape is blessed with.

Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

Day 6: Friday March 16, 2012 Cape Town

Today you will embark on another **half-day of community service**

This afternoon is at your leisure.



Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

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Day 7: Saturday March 17, 2012 Winelands

Today you will be collected by your Hills of Africa guide for a private-guided day of wine tasting and exploring in the beautiful Cape Winelands.



On your first wine tour to the Cape, we introduce you to the Cape's oldest wine regions. The aim is to take a journey through this beautiful mountainous region and explore the history, wine, and architecture of the region. Stellenbosch is the second oldest town; it boasts oak tree lined streets and gorgeous white houses from both the Dutch and English periods. This region is renowned as the best red wine region in the country. Today we explore Stellenbosch and possibly Franschhoek and Paarl. Some of the experiences you enjoy could be: A visit to Vergelegen – one of the oldest estates, to explore their beautiful gardens and historical Cape Dutch Homestead; wine tasting at some of the Cape's best estates, and; a visit to Fairview Goat Farm.

During the day, you will have lunch at a restaurant in the wine region (not included in the price of your itinerary).

During today's visit to the Winelands you will also stop at **Spier Estate** for an inspiring tour with the beautiful and endangered **cheetahs**. Spier Estate has made land available for the **Cheetah Outreach program** in South Africa.

The Cheetah Outreach Program was started by Annie Beckhelling in January 1997. The cheetah outreach program provides the visitors with a chance to learn more about cheetahs from a safe distance, or even to get up close and personal, by stepping into the cheetah enclosure.

All donations go to the Cheetah Conservation Fund to support their efforts in conservation across the world. Currently, at Spier, an amount of 650 000 people visit each year which generates quite a bit of money to support the cheetah outreach program.

After the cheetahs, dinner is at **Moyo Restaurant** -- quite a treat! Moyo is about creating a modern sophisticated Africa, creating a vision of a vibrant culture, of design, of food and entertainment so strong and enticing that it appeals to all the senses and seduces the sixth sense "I want more"

This adventure will take you through the Savannas of the South, along the Coasts of the East, across the Deserts of the North and into the Jungles of the West on a gastronomic journey of spices and exotically heady aromas. Your taste buds will be tempted with the sweet scent of coriander and fresh aroma of rose petals; cumin, paprika and saffron spice. Our diverse and eclectic a la carte menus and the abundance of the communal set menu will inspire you to explore the sophistication of African cuisine – your invitation to the feast.



Meals	Breakfast & Dinner
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	None

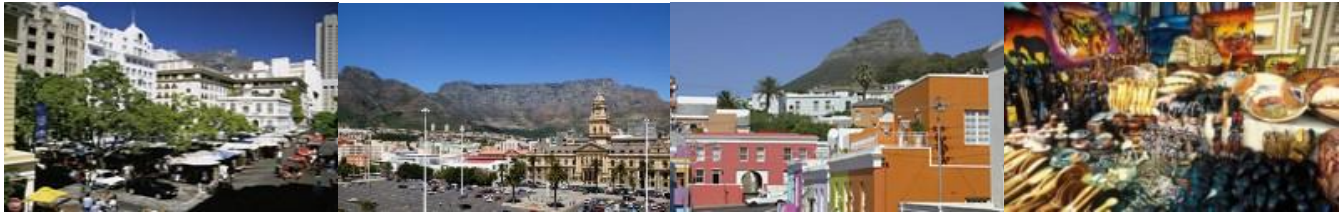
Day 8: Sunday March 18, 2012 Cape Town

This morning, you will be collected from your hotel to go on a **scheduled tour of the City of Cape Town**. Cape Town is the oldest city in South Africa and as such has acquired the name of the "Mother City". Today we take a walk through the history of the city; its people, its buildings and its business district.

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One of the highlights of the day will be a **visit to Greenmarket Square – one of Cape Town’s oldest markets**. The market is set on a cobbled square and where Capetonians have been buying their clothing, jewelry, sandals, crafts and knick-knacks for years.

After, you will enjoy interaction with the people of a project called **Streetwires**. This project employs artists to sculpt and craft works of art using wire, beads, tin cans and other recycled goods, which is a unique work of art to South Africa. Wire-masters support their families by selling their creations on street corners, and in markets and shops. Unemployment is a hurdle facing South Africa, leading to other social ills such as crime, poverty, and the hampering of community development. Streetwires aims to create sustainable, meaningful long-term employment for as many unemployed and needy as possible. By providing people with a workplace, permanent employment, a sense of purpose, and resources like personal development and skills training, the life of many formerly destitute is improved.



Meals	Breakfast
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	None

Day 9–11: Monday March 19–Wednesday March 21, 2012 Sabi Sands, Kruger National Park

This morning you will be transferred to Cape Town International Airport where you will be helped to check in for your domestic flight to **Kruger Mpumalanga Airport (MPQ)**. This flight needs to be booked and is not included in the itinerary price.

On arrival at Kruger Mpumalanga Airport, you will be met by your guide who will transfer you by road to **Notten’s Bush Camp in the Sabi Sands Reserve**.



Notten’s Bush Camp

Notten’s Bush Camp is a jewel within the heart of the Sabi Sand Game Reserve in Mpumalanga, which means “the land of the rising sun” in the locally spoken language, Shangaan. Notten’s is an exclusive and private safari lodge personally run by the Notten family. This beautiful, intimate safari lodge is situated within one of South Africa’s finest natural sanctuaries the Sabi Sand Reserve and Greater Kruger National Park. It is a destination that will truly touch your heart and soul.

Each private suite is elegantly styled, spacious and cooled by ceiling fans. A magical atmosphere is created with the purposeful absence of electric lighting; the ambient candlelight and lanterns capturing an enchanting spirit of romance. With splendid panoramic views, this private game lodge is the perfect place for peace and relaxation while watching animals meander past.

The Sabi Sand Game Reserve is a remarkable natural sanctuary known for its exceptionally high concentration of animal and bird life. Safaris are led by experienced rangers in open-top land rovers, offering an adventurous discovery of the region’s prolific wildlife, including Big 5 game viewing. Unique walking safaris are offered daily giving guest the opportunity of discovering the hidden treasures of the region. This can be followed by lazy hours spent in the sparkling pool or having a massage at the Nature Spa.

Find sanctity within the natural rhythms of Mother Nature. Enjoy candlelit baths, massages, mesmerizing nights around blazing fires and close encounters with Africa’s Big 5 Game at this world class private safari lodge in South Africa, located in the Sabi Sand game reserve within the Greater Kruger National Park.

Boundless hospitality is the hallmark of Notten's Bush Camp, to which satisfied visitors return time and again. A fine combination of peace, romance and a touch of decadence all in untamed Africa. Recently winning runner up for best Safari lodge in Africa in the Good Safari Guide Awards 2008.

Meals	All Inclusive
Accommodations	Notten's Bush Camp pricing for a family of four on an all-inclusive basis for 3 nights
Service Project	None

Day 12: Thursday March 22, 2012 Via Johannesburg to Home

Today you will be driven to Kruger International Airport (MQP) you will need to fly from here to Johannesburg (ticket can be booked with SAA).

On arrival at Johannesburg Airport, you will need to check in for your international flights home.

Thank you for travelling with Vacations That Matter & Hills Of Africa Travel, safe travels and we hope you have experienced the true **magic of Africa!**

Meals	Breakfast
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End of Services

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: US Citizens do not require holiday visas to enter South Africa **BUT** you must have at least two blank pages in a valid passport per country you are visiting.

TOUR COST

The tour cost is based on the above suggested hotel/room categories. Rates may fluctuate based on availability and group size. Itinerary pricing will change for smaller or larger groups. Single supplements will apply if necessary.

Tour Cost	4 persons
Price per person (no airfare)	FROM US\$4,996

What's Included	What is NOT included
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 Nights at Quayside Hotel, bed and breakfast basis ○ 3 Nights at Notten's Bush Camp, all-inclusive basis • Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cape Town – Community Volunteer Orientation ○ Cape Town – Community Service Fees, includes light lunch each day • Dinings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cape Town – Moyo Restaurant • Meet and Greets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Arrival – Cape Town Airport (CPT) • Miscellaneous <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cable Car Ticket – Table Mountain • Road Transfers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cape Town Airport (CPT) to Quayside Hotel ○ Quayside Hotel to Cape Town Airport (CPT) ○ Kruger Mpumalanga Airport (MPQ) to Sabi Sands ○ Notten's Bush Camp to Kruger Mpumalanga Airport (MQP) • Tours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cape Town – Peninsula Tour – Half Day ○ Cape Town – Table Mountain Tour ○ Cape Town – Robben Island ○ Cape Town – Sand Boarding ○ Cape Town – Seal Island Boat Trip ○ Cape Town – Cape Winelands Tour – Full Day ○ Cape Town – Cheetah Tour Spier Estate ○ Cape Town – City Tour – Half Day <p>Cape Town – Greenmarket Square and Streetwires</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International flights and domestic flights • All meals not mentioned above • All activities not mentioned above • Travel insurance • Gratuities • Items of a personal nature