

# 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 educares 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

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# 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, your 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).



Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

# Day 3: Tuesday March 13, 2012 Cape Town

Today you will embark on a **full-day of community service**. A light lunch will be provided at your volunteer location. Again, please note that your itinerary may differ from this, depending on your own experience and the number of volunteers being placed at the same time.

08:30am Collection (if being transferred) 12:30pm Lunch 04:30pm Pack up 05:00pm Depart

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

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



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Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	8 Hours

#### Day 4: Wednesday March 14, 2012 Cape Town

Today you will embark on another full-day of community service. A light lunch will be provided at your volunteer location. Again, please note that your itinerary may differ from this, depending on your own experience and the number of volunteers being placed at the same time.



08:30am Collection (if being transferred) 12:30pm Lunch 04:30pm Pack up 05:00pm Depart

Meals	Breakfast and Lunch	
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel	
Service Project	8 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 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.



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Meals	Breakfast and Lunch
Accommodation	Quayside Hotel
Service Project	5 Hours

# Day 6–8: Friday March 16–Sunday March 18, 2012 Cape Town to Johannesburg

This morning, you will be collected in the hotel lobby by your guide and transferred to **Cape Town International Airport**. You will be helped to check in for your domestic flight to **Johannesburg, South Africa**. This flight needs to be booked and is not included in the itinerary cost.

On arrival in Johannesburg, please proceed to the Arrivals Hall. Your Hills of Africa Travel guide will meet and transfer you to **Pilanesberg National Park** (approximately 2.5 hours).



Ivory Tree Game Lodge

Ivory Tree Game Lodge is situated in the north eastern region of the Pilanesberg National Park. Nestled in the basin of an ancient amphitheatre divided by riverine woodlands and elephant trails, lies an exclusive private game lodge.

Guests at Ivory Tree lodge are able to take part in open vehicle safaris which permit maximum all around visibility. The park is home to a wide variety of general game including the Big Five. In addition, both species of rhino occur, as well as cheetah and wild dog.

Meals	All Inclusive except drinks
Accommodation	lvory Tree Game Lodge Family of four (2 luxury chalets) for 3 nights including all meals, 2 daily game drives, teas, and snacks. Does not include drinks.
Service Project	None

Day 9: Monday March 19, 2012 Johannesburg to Home

Today you will be able to enjoy one more game drive before departing for Johannesburg. We hope you find lots of elephants along the way. You will transfer by road (about 2.5 hours) to **Johannesburg International Airport** where you will check in for your onward 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

**End of Services** 

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Vacations That Matter (714) 925–1769 www.vacationsthatmatter.com hello@vacationsthatmatter.com **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\$3,197

What's Included	What is NOT included	
<ul> <li>Accommodations         <ul> <li>5 Nights at Quayside Hotel, bed and breakfast basis</li> <li>3 Nights at Ivory Tree Game Lodge, full-board basis</li> </ul> </li> <li>Activities         <ul> <li>Cape Town - Community Volunteer Orientation</li> <li>Cape Town - Community Service Fees, includes light lunch each day</li> </ul> </li> <li>Meet and Greets         <ul> <li>Arrival Cape Town Airport (CPT)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Road Transfers         <ul> <li>Quayside Hotel to Cape Town Airport (CPT)</li> <li>Cape Town Airport (CPT) to Quayside Hotel</li> <li>Johannesburg to Pilanesberg</li> <li>Pilanesberg to Johannesburg Airport</li> </ul> </li> <li>Cape Town - Table Mountain         <ul> <li>Cape Town - Table Mountain Tour - Half Day</li> <li>Cape Town - Peninsula Tour - Half Day</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>International flights and domestic flights</li> <li>All meals not mentioned above</li> <li>All activities not mentioned above</li> <li>Travel insurance</li> <li>Gratuities</li> <li>Items of a personal nature</li> </ul>	