

SOUTH AFRICA • FEBRUARY 18–MARCH 1, 2018

# CONNECT WITH NATURE ADVENTURES

## ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA: Panoramas of Nature and Humanity

### Experiences

Starting in Johannesburg and ending in Cape Town, 34 degrees south of the Equator, this 11-day Adventure journeys through four dramatic regions. The learning experience blends the geology and scenery of spectacular inland and coastal scenery, several wildlife ecosystems up close, and immersion in the often influential history of this storied country. Accommodations are upscale, the cuisines are marvelous, and the variety of experiences extraordinary.

**Part 1** begins in South Africa's economic hub with its fusion of historic and modern influences. Visiting Nelson Mandela's house and family museum, we then discover Soweto where political campaigns to overthrow apartheid began in 1976, then onto the Cradle of Humankind, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and underground into caves ranked among the world's key archeological sites.

**Part 2** is Pilanesberg National Park, a game reserve in an ancient volcanic crater which is in a biological transition zone between the dry Kalahari and wet Lowveld. It is home to an incredible variety of wildlife and plants to be viewed through a conservation lens with local guides. Our lodge features cultural singing and dancing.

**Part 3**, from Pretoria to Cape Town, has us aboard one of the world's great train journeys: 1,000 miles of luxury with Rovos Rail through mountains and across grasslands in pullman cabins, with great dining, and with stops at the Kimberley gold mine in the world's largest human excavation and at a colonial village.

**Part 4** in the Cape Town region with an array of experiences from our base at the waterfront Table Bay Hotel including a coastal drive to the Cape Peninsula rich with wildlife and where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet, a cable car ride up Table Mountain, a walk with residents through Langa Township, and a finale featuring the Kirstenbosch Gardens and Cape Winelands.

### Guides

Your guides are Mike Bruton, PhD, a South African whose career began in marine biology, then science museum development and leadership, and now includes the conservation of biodiversity and psychology of learning, with his longtime colleague Emlyn Koster, PhD, a geologist and Director of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences.

Our organizational partner is US-based Maxim Tours.

### Weather and Clothing

The climate of South Africa ranges from semi-arid to tropical. In Johannesburg, situated on an almost 6,000-foot-high plateau, February's average high/low are 77°/57°F. In coastal Cape Town, February's average high/low are 73°/61°F. Dress in layers with sturdy footwear for daytimes and casual for receptions and dinners. Evening dinners on Rovos Rail require jackets/ties and dresses/suits.





### Cost and Reservations:

This Adventure is open to Members only. To become a Member, please contact Catherine Starek, Coordinator of Membership for the Friends of the Museum, [catherine.starek@naturalsciences.org](mailto:catherine.starek@naturalsciences.org) or 919-707-9296.

The total per person cost is \$9,950 for double room occupancy (\$3,200 extra for single occupancy). This includes all ground transportation and tour guides, all accommodations, meals, fees, receptions, and speakers. This cost does not include airfare. A passport valid for at least three more months is required for travel. Personal travel/health insurance is highly recommended.

To indicate your interest, visit [naturalsciences.org/adventures](http://naturalsciences.org/adventures). You will be notified as soon as registration becomes available. Once registration is open, spaces will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis until the maximum number of 26 registrants is reached. A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required upon reservation to hold a place on this trip.

Registration will end on June 23, 2017 and full payment is due no later than October 26, 2017. Reservations will be acknowledged in their order of receipt until the maximum is reached, after which a wait list will be used in the event of any cancellations.

We reserve the right to cancel any trip because of inadequate enrollment that makes the trip economically unfeasible. In this event, we will refund your deposit paid. However, we are unable to refund any deposits following trip cancellation that results from factors outside our control including but not limited to terrorism, natural disaster, or other major global events and therefore we recommend that you purchase travel insurance. We are not responsible for costs incurred by a participant in preparing for a program that is altered or canceled.

*For any questions about this Adventure, including cancellation policy and liability coverage details, please contact Jerry Reynolds, Head of Outreach at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, at [jerry.reynolds@naturalsciences.org](mailto:jerry.reynolds@naturalsciences.org) or 919-707-9884.*

