

NORTHERN CAPE – SOUTH AFRICA

AN EXTRAORDINARY SOUTH AFRICAN HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE!

Kayak on the Orange River, follow in the footsteps of dinosaurs in Frazerburg. Discover the dark skies sanctuary in Kgalagadi, be enchanted by the sky lore of the Khomani San – or be fascinated by glimmering constellations at Sutherland. This is the Northern Cape where you can experience *Real Culture, Real Nature* and *Real Adventure*. Create your own “Bucket list” experiences and make family memories to last a lifetime! Visit www.experiencenortherncape.com

Six “MUST DO” EXPERIENCES TO CHOOSE THE NORTHERN CAPE AS YOUR FAMILY HOLIDAY DESTINATION:

1. Rewarding CULTURAL ADVENTURES

The distinct cultural groups that make up the Northern Cape are as rich as the country's history. Unlock the secrets of the African bush in the company of the oldest human inhabitants of the region, the !Khomani San near the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park, our newest World Heritage Site. Swim in the hot pools of Riemvasmaak, discover the ancient wisdom of the Nama of the Richtersveld, a world heritage site. Explore living villages, shop at craft markets, indulge in regional authentic cuisine at local eateries and be transported to the world of our ancestors through campfire storytelling and dancing. It's the best way to experience the heartbeat of the province and to take some of the soul of the Northern Cape with you on your return journey home.

2. Adventure off the BEATEN TRACK

For the active, it's an ideal environment for exploration and adventure. We have an awe-inspiring setting for any enthusiast. Whether you are stargazing in Sutherland, hunting for fossils in the Karoo or searching for San rock art deep in the caves of the Diamond Fields, experiencing the world's richest floral offering in Namakwa, camping deep in the bush surrounded by wildlife and the famed black-maned lion of the Green Kalahari, or Kayaking down the mighty Orange River, the Northern Cape is more than an adventure, it's an enriching life experience.

3. Family ADVENTURE EXPERIENCES

The Northern Cape has always been a family-friendly destination. Its mix of culture, adventure, wildlife and wide accommodation choices, offers family fun that is both entertaining and educational. The province is home to six national parks and two of the country's largest rivers, which makes it perfect for fun activities the entire family can enjoy. These include game safaris, bird watching, dune surfing, leisure hikes and walks to winery tours, museum visits and archaeological discoveries.

4. Natural BEAUTY AND WILDLIFE ADVENTURES

The Northern Cape is arguably South Africa's most beautiful and naturally real province. Visitors are hard-pressed to choose between our two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, two Transfrontier Parks, the Kgalagadi and the !Ai-!Ais Richtersveld with its red and golden sand dunes or the Au-grabies Falls National Park with the mighty Au-grabies Falls thundering down an 18km abyss. Not to forget the Mokala National Park near Kimberley and Namaqua and Tankwa Karoo National Parks in the Namakwa region. Alternatively explore any one of the six Provincial Nature Reserves, Goegap, Witsand, Oorlogskloof or one of our many private game and nature reserves. Share the intimate bush knowledge of a Nama or San Bushmen guide/tracker. The Northern Cape's natural beauty is enhanced by its enigmatic wildlife. From the small five to the big five, watching wild animals at close range is something truly unforgettable. There are walking, horseback, 4x4, little five, glamping, and many more wildlife experiences to incorporate in your trip.

5. A FLORAL ADVENTURE

Each spring, the dormant and arid winter plains of the Northern Cape's Namakwa region are transformed into a kaleidoscope of color with the arrival of the flower season. The wild flowers of the Namakwa are definitely a natural phenomenon and best discovered on foot, which makes it ultimately appealing to hikers and outdoor enthusiasts. Best times to visit for the floral splendor is from end July to early October

This region has more to offer than only the annual floral display. It is only arid hotspot in the world and contains more than 6 000 plant species, 250 species of birds, 78 species of mammals, 132 species of reptiles and amphibians and an unknown number of insects, making it the world's most diverse, arid environment. This floral diversity has also made the Namakwa the richest bulb flora arid region in the world. Join one of the year-round guided tours and immerse yourself in this botanical rich landscape.

6. Explore THE BATTLEFIELDS ROUTE

The Battlefields Route allows visitors to relive the war between Great Britain and the Boer Republics of Transvaal and the Orange Free State from 1899 to 1902. The Northern Cape played a decisive role in the war with the famous Kimberley siege and you can relive the siege, its victories and setbacks suffered at the Magersfontein and McGregor Museums.

Travelling a short distance to Hopetown one can visit the Hopetown Concentration Camp Cemetery situated on the farm Doornbult. It was voted as one of the best Anglo War memorial sites within South Africa. Other Anglo Boer War historical and archaeological sites such as Orange River Station, British Military Camps, and a well-preserved Block House can be found in close proximity of the farm.

EXPLORE THE ROUTES OF THE NORTHERN CAPE

The eight Northern Cape Routes are specifically packaged to give YOU the visitor an easy do-it-yourself option to explore the province. Incredible year-round experiences coupled with warm hospitality, the peace and tranquillity offered by the off-the-beaten track small dorps, villages and townships as well as our vast uninterrupted landscapes allow visitors to recharge and reconnect with loved ones.

The Cape Namibia Route

The route meanders away from Cape Town along the N7 and include small towns, each with its own local flavour and a story to tell. The N7 highway stretches from Cape Town all the way through the Northern Cape before heading into neighboring country Namibia. Crossing from the Western Cape into the Northern Cape, visitors will encounter towns which capture the Nama heritage of the province. Slow down and appreciate the unique stories of the people of Garies, Kamieskroon, Springbok, Okiep, Steinkopf and Vioolsdrift. During spring time, this route takes visitors into the core of the floral kaleidoscope that is the Namakwa floral season

Don't Miss: River-rafting along the mighty Orange River is a bucket-list experience: drifting along in the golden African sunshine and watch the scenery unfolds along the banks.

Namaqua Coastal Route

The route includes hidden gems like Garies, Kamieskroon, Hondeklip Bay, Koiingnaas and Kleinsee. Dozens of adventure and leisure options are available, Namaqua National Park, nature reserves, some of the most remote hiking and 4x4 trails imaginable. Go succulent sleuthing with a botanical guide, hike the Springbok Klipkoppie for a dose of Anglo-Boer War history, explore the countless shipwrecks along the coast line. Breath-taking scenes of the Atlantic Ocean with sightings of dolphins and whales combined with great vistas of mountains and veld with endemic wildlife makes travelling in this area remarkable.

Don't Miss: Slow-packing through the Namaqua National Park early Spring September when the usually dusty plains are transformed into a kaleidoscopic flower carpets of colour

Richtersveld Route

The Richtersveld is South Africa's only mountain desert and the route travels along rugged gravel roads to quaint towns such as Eksteensfontein, Sendelingsdrift, Lekkersing, Kuboes and Sandrift. The Orange River presents a more leisurely pace with river rafting and the best wilderness fly-fishing in South Africa, while the entire Richtersveld is a mountain biker's dream.

Don't Miss: A cultural experience with traditional goat herder and learn about the lives of the nomads, be transported to years gone by through dancing and storytelling.

Quiver Tree Route

Named after the indigenous quiver tree, the Quiver Tree Food & Wine Route stretches along the mighty Orange River. It features quaint towns of Upington, Kakamas, Keimoes, Augrabies, Marchand, Kanoneiland, Kenhardt and Riemvasmaak. The route will appeal greatly to families, adventure and adrenaline seekers., Riemvasmaak hot springs, river rafting, fly

fishing, kayaking, river cruises, 4x4, hiking and MTB trails and excellent bird watching. With the longest wine producing area in the Southern Hemisphere there are many opportunities for world class wine and brandy tasting along the route.

Don't Miss: A visit to the Augrabies National Park and **the** world's six largest waterfall, the Augrabies Falls Augrabies waterfall

Kalahari Red Dune Route

Discover the essence of the province in the heart of the Kalahari. Golden dunes, wide-open skies and flat-topped acacia trees epitomize the Kalahari Red Dune Route. Stretching from Upington right to the Namibian border, visitors traverse the villages of Ashkam, Groot and Klein Mier and Rietfontein. Adventure-loving families and adrenaline seekers can enjoy dune hikes at dawn, eagle-owl encounters, sand duning and surfing in the red sand, close encounters with meerkats. Explore South Africa's newest world heritage site – The Khomani San Cultural Landscape and join a guided walk with the San Khomani to rediscover the ancient wisdom, customs and folklore of this ancient tribe.

Don't Miss: A visit to the world famed Kgalagadi Trans frontier Park is a must. Encounter magnificent oryx hold sway on the sandy swathes and discover the mighty Kalahari male lion high on the dune silhouetted against the sky. The largest conservation area within Africa it is also one of only two Dark skies sanctuary in Africa and 10 worldwide

Go Ghaap Route

The Northern Cape has a fascinating new heritage route which offers a confluence of cultures and experiences. Explore famous archaeological sites, historic towns, amazing architecture, and a selection of nature and game reserves. Visitors can trace the early geological history (from 3 billion years ago) which created vast mineral wealth like iron, manganese, diamonds and limestone.

Follow in the footsteps of the early explorers and missionaries such as David Livingston, Henry Stanley and Richard Moffat. Relive the Anglo Tswana and Anglo-Boer Wars, explore the Wonderwerk Caves between Kuruman and Danielskuil. Rediscover the Khoisan history in Wildebeest Kuil near Barkly West

Don't Miss: Kuruman Eye in Kuruman is a natural spring delivering about 20-million litres of clean, clear water daily to Kuruman, a visit Hotel Kgalagadi and view their impressive collection of vintage cars and Workshop **Ko** Kasi for a modern-day Township Experience near Mothibistad.

Karoo Oasis Route

The route traverse through the towns of Warrenton, Kimberley, Hopetown, Britstown, Victoria West along the N12, and It is the perfect stopover for travellers between Johannesburg and Cape Town.

Stop along the route to trace the rich mining history of the Diamond Fields region before stopping at one of the myriad national game and nature reserves and enjoy fly-fishing kayaking, mountain biking, trail running, game drives and world class birding. Anglo Boer War enthusiasts can relive the skirmishes and tribulations of the war at the McGregor and Magersfontein Museums and at Hopetown. Beautiful arts and crafts are for sale throughout the route and opportunity to meet the local artists.

Don't Miss: Should your route take you to the Eastern Cape you will pass through the small town of Hanover and encounter South Africa's largest privately owned Karoo nature reserve. Karoo Gariiep Nature Reserve

Karoo Highlands Route

This route features the small Karoo towns of Nieuwoudtville, Calvinia, Williston, Sutherland, Fraserburg, Carnarvon, Loxton and Victoria West - the heart of the Great Karoo. Enjoy the peace and tranquillity of the Karoo with its wide- open plains. The area was named by the Khoi and San people, who left their legacy as art on the rocks. Explore many unique experiences such as dinosaur hunting in Richmond, the SKA radio telescopes in Carnarvon, Karoo architecture and corbelled houses, Anglo-Boer War sites, rock art, ancient Palaeo Surfaces, farm stays and great Karoo cuisine and hospitality. The small town of Nieuwoudtville is your last stop before crossing the majestic Van Rhyns Pass and you find yourself once again en-route to Cape Town.

Don't Miss. A mere 3 hours away from Cape Town Sutherland is a small Karoo town, famous for snowy winters, excellent stargazing and dramatic landscapes. Home to the South African Large Telescope, the largest single optical telescope in the Southern Hemisphere make Sutherland a popular destination

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