



GARDENS OF SOUTH AFRICA

PLUS...BOTSWANA and VICTORIA FALLS

~ JC Raulston Arboretum ~

Enjoy vibrant Cape Town, historic Robben Island, Cape Winelands
and a Safari into the African Bush
August 27 - September 7, 2016



Join JC Raulston Arboretum host, Mark Weathington, and explore the Cape Floristic Region, one of the world's five hotspots. This area is home to the greatest non-tropical concentration of higher plant species in the world and the only hotspot that encompasses an entire floral kingdom. In addition, you'll visit both public and private gardens in the Cape region as well as the famed botanical gardens of Kirstenbosch. Discover the dramatic landscape of the Cape of Good Hope, visit Mandela's prison on Robben Island, sip velvety smooth wines in South Africa's premier wine region and stay in the Dutch colonial town of Stellenbosch. Your journey will culminate at the Bakubung Bush Lodge where you'll ride into the bush in an open 4X4 safari vehicle with Swazi trackers for an intimate viewing of South Africa's lions, rhinos, elephants and birds. A post-tour adventure to Botswana and Victoria Falls is also available. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to experience both the Cape Floristic Region and many other highlights of South Africa. Space is limited—so reserve now!



Earthbound Expeditions Inc.
POB 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA
T. 800 723 8454 / T. 206 842 9775 / F. 206 238 8480
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JOURNEY OVERVIEW

- 1 Overnight flight to Cape Town, South Africa
- 4 Nights historic Cape Town
- 2 Nights Stellenbosch, Wine Country
- 3 Nights Safari Lodge, Pilanesberg National Park
- 1 Overnight flight to the USA
- 3 Nights post-tour option to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
- 5 Night post-tour option to Victoria Falls *and* Chobe National Park, Botswana (home to the planet's largest elephant population)

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Cape of Good Hope Nature Preserve, one of the world's biodiversity hotspots
- Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens
- Multiple private garden visits
- Lunch with local gardeners
- Stunning views from the top of Table Mountain in Cape Town
- A tour of Nelson Mandela's prison at Robben Island with a former prisoner
- Spectacular vineyard-covered valleys and tastings with the wine producers
- Two nights at a winery near the colonial Dutch town of Stellenbosch
- A ferry ride to Robben Island and the District Six Museum in Cape Town
- Four game drives in open 4x4 safari vehicle with expert trackers
- Intimate viewings of lions, giraffes, hippos, rhinos, elephants and more
- Soweto tour, including the homes of Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela

IT'S INCLUDED

- With JC Raulston Arboretum host, Mark Weathington
- Guided by an Earthbound Expeditions leader
- Joined by knowledgeable local guides and garden experts
- Roundtrip international airfare from Raleigh on United/South African Airlines
- Roundtrip domestic flights while in South Africa (Cape Town to Johannesburg)
- All breakfasts and 12 additional meals (not including in-flight meals)
- Accommodation in superior four and five star hotels and lodges
- Transportation in luxury air-conditioned vehicles with qualified drivers
- Entrance fees as indicated
- Gratuities for drivers and guides for base trip (excluding park rangers & hotel staff)
- Country and city maps (provided on tour) and a video and reading list



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"Earthbound Expeditions' South African tour was the best trip we've ever taken. We had a ball! If you're on the fence about this trip, my advice is ~ just do it! Do the whole trip! You'll be happy you did."

WPR Traveler: Diane Sorensen



TRIP FACTS

12 Days/11 Nights (with air travel)

\$6,299 per person double occupancy (with included air from Raleigh)

\$949 Single Supplement

Trip departs the USA on Saturday, August 27, 2016

Trip returns to the USA on September 7

Post-tour to Victoria Falls returns to the USA on September 10

Post-tour to Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park returns on September 12

SAVE \$300

JC Raulston Arboretum alumni and members save \$100 * Reserve by April 1, and save \$100 * Pay your final balance by check and save \$100



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YOUR AFRICAN GARDEN ADVENTURE BEGINS!



Saturday, August 27

Day 1: Group Departs for Sunny South Africa

Group flight departs the USA on Saturday, August 27, for Cape Town, South Africa.

Day 2: Arrive in Cape Town

On arrival at Johannesburg's airport, we'll collect our luggage and clear Customs and Immigration. We will be met and assisted to the Domestic Terminal for the flight to Cape Town.

Upon arrival in Cape Town this evening, an Earthbound Expeditions representative will meet the group and assist and transfer us by private coach to the hotel.

Sleep in Cape Town on the wharf at the Victoria and Alfred Hotel

Your home away from home:

It's not just about location at the well appointed 4-star Victoria and Alfred Hotel! The hotel is ideally located for guests wanting to be in the energetic heart of Cape Town's Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, with views of the working harbor and Table Mountain, and within a few minutes' walk to a wide variety of shops, restaurants and markets as well as the ferry to Robben Island.



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*“This cape is the most stately thing and the fairest cape
we saw in the whole circumference of the earth.”*

- From the journal of Sir Francis Drake, on seeing the Cape for the first time, 1580



Day 3: Table Mountain and the Cape

Peninsula: Today we'll discover the inspiring beauty of both Table Mountain and the Cape of Good Hope. The excursion starts early with a trip up Table Mountain in a cable car (weather permitting), which is famous for its spectacular views and unique flora and fauna.

After making our descent, we'll take a scenic drive along the coast to the Cape Peninsula. See for yourself how this spectacular southern tip of Africa became known as the 'Fairest Cape'.

We'll drive past the pristine beaches of Camps Bay, Clifton and Llandudno - currently the hottest real estate in the world - to Hout Bay, a functioning harbor and heart of the local crayfish industry. From the harbor of Hout Bay to the rocky coastline and Chapman's Peak, there are magnificent views of the sandy bays below. The combination of steep, almost thrilling rocky inclines, shimmering blue waters and expansive skies simply take the breath away.

After a stop for lunch at a local garden, it's on to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, where we have a funicular ride to the scenic viewing point of where the Indian and Atlantic Oceans' currents meet. The spectacular sea and mountain views are reason enough to make the 41 mile trip from Cape Town. Amid the rocky landscape - home to mountain zebra, eland and ostriches - blooms magnificent Cape flora.



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“I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.”

Nelson Mandela

Continuing along the coastline we arrive at beautiful Boulders Beach where one can sit among a colony of penguins. We return to the hotel in the late afternoon and enjoy dinner together. *Sleep in Cape Town at the Victoria and Alfred Hotel (B, L, D)*



Day 4: Infamous Robben Island

From our hotel it's a short walk to the jetty at the waterfront where we board the ferry for notorious Robben Island. For nearly 400 years, Robben Island, 12 kilometers from Cape Town, was a place of banishment, exile, isolation and imprisonment. It was here that rulers sent those they regarded as political troublemakers, social outcasts and the unwanted of society.

During the apartheid years, Robben Island became internationally known for its institutional brutality. The duty of those who ran the Island and its prison was to isolate opponents of apartheid and to crush their morale. Some freedom fighters spent more than a quarter of a century in prison for their beliefs. Those imprisoned on the Island succeeded on a psychological and political level in turning a prison 'hell-hole' into a symbol of freedom and personal liberation. Robben Island came to symbolize, not only for South Africa and the African continent, but also for the entire world, the triumph of the human spirit over enormous hardship and adversity. Today, we will be escorted around the island by an ex-political prisoner. *Sleep in Cape Town at the Victoria and Alfred Hotel (B, D)*

Day 5: Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and Durbanville Rose Garden

Our day begins with a visit to Africa's top botanical garden, Kirstenbosch. Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden lives up to its reputation as the most beautiful garden in Africa, and one of the great botanical gardens of the world. Few gardens can match the sheer grandeur of the setting of Kirstenbosch, against the eastern slopes of Cape Town's Table Mountain. Kirstenbosch was established in 1913 to promote, conserve and display the extraordinarily rich and diverse flora of southern Africa, and was the first botanic garden in the world to be devoted to a country's indigenous flora.



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After our visit we continue on to Durbanville Rose Garden. This 3.5 hectare garden includes 500 varieties and 4,500 rose bushes. Enjoy the layout of hybrid teas along Drakenstein Street, beds of miniatures, a gazebo that includes the 'Fairest Cape' rose, a tea garden, beds of medal winners, antique roses planted around graves, floribundas near the parking and climbers and shrubs against the fence.

Our day concludes with a visit to an old colonial winery where we'll enjoy a tasting (or two). *Sleep in Cape Town at the Victoria and Alfred Hotel (B, D)*



Day 6: Stellenbosch Wine Country and Porter Botanical Gardens: Our day begins with a visit to the historic Vergelegen Estate, established by Governor Willem Adriaan van der Stel in the beginning of the 18th century. Beautifully restored, the estate consists of a well-preserved Dutch manor house, outbuildings with a famous octagonal garden, a rose garden, a white garden and a wonderful herb garden.

Vergelegen has been a gardener's paradise from the time the land was first farmed by Governor Willem Adriaan van der Stel in 1700. Willem Adriaan was also a botanist, forester and a horticulturist and wrote the *The African Gardeners' and Agriculturists' Calendar*. Much of which he wrote centuries ago is still relevant to this day. Evidence of his interests is still visible at Vergelegen: the five camphor trees he imported from the East (declared historical monuments) gracing the front of the Homestead, the oldest oak tree in South Africa and an ancient mulberry tree. Van der Stel recognized the terroir as suitable for vines and Vergelegen wines are now universally accepted as outstanding. To top off our visit we'll enjoy a wine tasting at the estate!



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Then we are off to the Harold Porter National Botanical Garden. This lovely garden is situated in the center of the coastal fynbos where the flora is at its richest. It encompasses mountain slopes with wind-clipped heathlands, deep gorges with forests, flats and marshes with restios, sedges and bulbs, as well as dunes adjacent to the beach with specialized salt-adapted plants. The Garden is renowned for its waterfalls and amber pools.

The main fynbos families (proteas, ericas and restios) are present as well as other important families such as irises, daisies and orchids. The Garden boasts red disa in its natural habitat as well as South Africa's national flower, the king protea.

After our visit we proceed to the historic Oude Werf Hotel conveniently situated in the center of colonial Stellenbosch. (B, L, D)



Day 7: The Splendid Cape Winelands and Gardens

Stellenbosch, known as the "village of the oaks", is the second oldest town in South Africa and is today a vibrant university town. Admire the charm and harmony of Cape Dutch, British and Edwardian architecture as you walk through the shady oak avenues bounded by the water furrows of the Mill Stream. Our morning walk will stop at Oom Samie se Winkel (Uncle Sam's Shop). Stocked with articles of yesteryear, it is reminiscent of a simpler lifestyle. We also visit the Village Museum, which

comprises four houses, each depicting a different period in the early history of the Cape. After a bit of time for shopping and a visit to a local café we set off to explore the vineyards and gardens surrounding Stellenbosch. Two wine tastings at two separate vineyards will be included this afternoon. *Sleep in Stellenbosch at the Oude Werf Hotel (B, L)*

Day 8: An Outing to Soweto and North to our Safari Lodge: This morning we say goodbye to our Cape guide and board a flight north for Johannesburg. Upon arrival at Johannesburg Airport we will be met by an Earthbound Expeditions guide and taken on a private tour of Soweto (SOUTH WESTERN TOWNSHIP), the largest black residential area in South Africa. In many ways, the story of Soweto is the story of South Africa; this is where the seeds of South African freedom took root. Our tour includes all the major points of interest, such as the Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Baragwanath taxi rank, Freedom Square, Hector Pietersen Memorial and Nelson Mandela's former home. This sprawling township was the scene of the tragic riots of 1976. Despite crowded, chaotic conditions, there is a tangible sense of community in these neighborhoods, which the ordered, walled suburbs lack. After our visit, we travel by coach for three hours to our lodge in the Pilanesberg National Park. A traditional lunch will be served in Soweto and dinner will be upon arrival at the lodge. *Sleep in Pilanesberg National Park at Bakubung Bush Lodge (B, L, D)*



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ABOUT BAKUBUNG BUSH LODGE

Tucked in the expanses of the malaria-free Pilanesberg National Park, Bakubung Lodge offers the best of both worlds when combining the peaceful bush environment with luxury and comfort. The lodge offers plush rooms, each with air-conditioning, DSTv, and en-suite bathrooms. The rooms are decorated to reflect the mood and ambience of the bush and are equipped with the necessary amenities to ensure supreme comfort.

Days 9 and 10: Africa's Big Five

Not even two shots of espresso will wake you up like a 6:00am game drive into the African Bush. Accompanied by a park ranger, you'll travel in an open 4X4 jeep in pursuit of lions, giraffes, hippos, rhinos and more. Upon return to the lodge each day, enjoy a delicious breakfast. Four game drives, two per day, are included.



Grab a good book in the afternoons and lie by the pool or enjoy a siesta. Around 4:00pm, set off on another three-hour game drive in search of more wildlife. Following the evening safari, we'll enjoy a fabulous outdoor dinner on the terrace overlooking the park. *Sleep in Pilanesberg National Park at Bakubung Bush Lodge (B, D)*

ABOUT PILANESBERG NATIONAL PARK

The Pilanesberg National Park is malaria-free and borders the entertainment complex of Sun City. It is almost perfectly circular because it comprises the area of a 1200 million year old volcano crater with a small lake in the centre. The park exists within the transition zone between the dry Kalahari and wetter Lowveld vegetation, commonly referred to as "Bushveld." Unlike any other large park, unique overlaps of mammals, birds and vegetation occur because of this transition zone. Virtually all the animal species of southern Africa exist here, including healthy populations of lion, black and white rhino, elephant, buffalo and leopard - Africa's "Big Five." Bird watching is excellent with over 300 species recorded.



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Day 11: Depart South Africa for the USA or Continue Your Journey to Victoria Falls and Botswana: For those travelers returning to the US today, there is time this morning to enjoy an additional game drive. In the early afternoon you will be transferred by coach from the Lodge back to Johannesburg Airport. On arrival at Johannesburg's Oliver Tambo International Airport connect with your scheduled international South African Airways flight back to the USA. (B, L)

Note: For those travelers participating in the post-tour extensions, your flight to Victoria Falls will depart this morning.

Wednesday, September 7

Day 12: Arrive home with a lifetime of memories!



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VICTORIA FALLS EXTENSION ONLY

VICTORIA FALLS

3 NIGHTS/ 4 DAYS

Dates: Starting on September 6

Departing Victoria Falls on September 9

Arriving home on September 10

3 Nights Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

\$2,139 per person Double Occupancy

\$575 Single Supplement

INCLUDED IN POST-TOUR EXTENSION

- Regional round trip airfare Johannesburg-Victoria Falls
- Airport transfers to and from the hotel in air-conditioned vehicles
- All services as specified: breakfasts and dinners while at the Victoria Falls Hotel
- Accommodation in a five star hotel
- Zambezi evening river cruise and guided walking tour of the falls
- Sightseeing as per itinerary led by a qualified English speaking guide
- Entrance fees for sightseeing as indicated above
- Earthbound Expeditions representative
- Portage for one reasonable size bag per person

PACKAGE EXCLUDES

Gratuities for your post-tour guides and hotel staff * Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, etc. * Cost of obtaining passports or visa * Meals not mentioned * Alcoholic beverages * Travel insurance * Airline baggage fees



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ABOUT THE MIGHTY VICTORIA FALLS

Victoria Falls is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Statistically speaking, it is the largest waterfall in the world. This recognition comes from combining the height and width together to create the largest single sheet of flowing water.

Victoria Falls is located on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe, and we will view them from the vantage point of the Zimbabwe side. The falls are also close to the border of Botswana. The Zambezi River, which originates in northern Zambia, serves as the fall's water source. The name Victoria Falls was given by the Scottish explorer Dr. David Livingstone, named for the reigning British queen at the time. The locals called the falls Mosi-oa-Tunya meaning "smoke that thunders." Many people still refer to this nickname, which accurately defines the falls.

Day 11: Transfer to Victoria Falls

Today you will be transferred to Johannesburg airport for your flight to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Upon arrival at Victoria Falls airport you will be met by an outstanding Earthbound local guide and transferred directly to your hotel at the falls for a welcome drink and brief orientation. Relax by the pool this afternoon or wander the beautiful grounds of the hotel. Enjoy an included dinner this evening. *Sleep at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge (B, D)*

Days 12 and 13: Two Full Days in Victoria Falls

After breakfast you'll have a tour of Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. The Falls are 1690 meters wide and have a maximum drop of 103 meters (the average drop is 92m). This immense curtain of water is broken up by small islands, which stand on the lip of the falls, one of which is called Livingstone Island. This is where the explorer, David Livingstone, first viewed the falls. These islands effectively break the falls into smaller falls, which are known as (from the Zambian side to Zimbabwe side) the Eastern Cataract, The Rainbow Falls, the Horseshoe Falls and the Main Falls. "Rainforests" on either side of the river are sustained entirely by the spray of the falls. There is a paved path, which leads onto the Knife Edge Bridge for a spectacular view up the main gorge and the Eastern Cataract, and numerous other paths which give different views of the falls and the bridge.

On day 13: You'll enjoy a morning free and in the late afternoon, take a Sundowner Cruise along the mighty Zambezi River above the falls. Enjoy a drink while cruising slowly on the river and viewing the wildlife from a unique vantage point. You're sure to see hippos and elephants, and a variety of other wildlife and birds. Your guides will be on hand to describe the flora and fauna. *Sleep at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge (B, D)*



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Day 14: Victoria Falls to the USA via Johannesburg

This morning you will be transferred by road back to Victoria Falls Airport where you will take your return flight to Johannesburg.

Please Note: Have your Multiple Entry Visa ready for the Zimbabwe border and USD \$25 cash per person for the Airport Departure Tax upon leaving Zimbabwe. (Departure taxes are subject to change without notice). Upon arrival in Johannesburg proceed to the International terminal for your flight back home. (B)

Saturday, September 10

Day 15: Arrive home With Lifetime of Memories!

CHOBE PARK & VICTORIA FALLS EXTENSION

CHOBE AND VICTORIA FALLS 5 NIGHTS/ 6 DAYS

Starting September 6

Departing Kasane, Botswana on September 11

Arriving home on September 12

3 Nights Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

2 Nights Chobe National Park Safari Lodge, Botswana

\$3,375 per person Double Occupancy

\$875 Single Supplement

INCLUDED IN POST-TOUR EXTENSION

- Regional round trip airfare Johannesburg-Victoria Falls
- All meals as specified: breakfasts, lunch and dinner in Chobe; breakfast and dinners in Victoria Falls
- Accommodation in four and five star hotels and lodges
- Two evening river cruises and three morning drives
- Transportation in air-conditioned vehicles, including qualified drivers
- Sightseeing as per itinerary led by qualified English speaking guide
- Entrance fees for sightseeing as indicated above
- Earthbound Expeditions representative
- Portage for one reasonable size bag per person



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POST-TOUR EXTENSION HIGHLIGHTS - BOTSWANA AND VICTORIA FALLS

Zambezi River cruise * Victoria Falls and surrounding rainforest * Early morning safaris and sunset evening cruises in Chobe National Park in Botswana, home to 450 species of birds and the largest concentration of elephants in Africa

PACKAGE EXCLUDES

Gratuities for your post-tour guides, trackers and hotel staff * Items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, etc. * Cost of obtaining passports or visas * Meals not mentioned * Alcoholic beverages * Travel insurance * Airline baggage fees



ABOUT CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA

Chobe is your gateway to a truly unique African wildlife experience. The park is ideally situated for exploration of the surrounding areas. It is only 50 miles from Victoria Falls and is the second largest national park in Botswana and covers 10,566 square kilometers. The park has one of the greatest concentrations of game found on the African

continent. Its uniqueness in the abundance of wildlife and the true African nature of the region offers a safari experience of a lifetime. A major feature of Chobe National Park is its elephant population. The Chobe elephant comprises part of what is probably the largest surviving continuous elephant population. This population covers most of northern Botswana plus northwestern Zimbabwe. Botswana's elephant population is currently estimated at around 120,000.

Continuing from the Victoria Falls Extension



Day 14: Transfer to Chobe Safari Lodge, Botswana

Today you will be transferred by private coach to your lodge in Kasane, Botswana. Upon arrival you'll enjoy a safari cruise on the Chobe River. There you'll spot countless elephants, baboons, exotic birds, giant crocs and more! *Sleep at Chobe Safari Lodge (B, D)*



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Days 15: Into the African Bush

Enjoy an early morning game drive and return to the lodge for brunch. Spend the afternoon relaxing at the pool, enjoying the gardens and views of the river or exploring the local town. In the evenings, bring your camera! You will witness the vast herds and abundant wildlife as you enjoy a game drive from the lodge into the national park in open safari vehicles. The game drives follow the routes along the Chobe riverfront, which supports the greatest abundance of wildlife in the game park. This evening you will enjoy a relaxing late afternoon cruise for a completely different perspective on the wildlife you have been viewing on land. *Sleep at Chobe Safari Lodge (B, D)*



Day 16: Kasane to the USA via Johannesburg

Time permitting you'll enjoy one last game drive before packing up and heading to the Kasane airport for your flight back to the South Africa and the USA.

Monday, September 12

Day 17: Arrive home with a lifetime of memories!

- Itinerary Details Subject to Change -

"I have twice led groups of gardeners to South Africa in partnership with Earthbound Expeditions. Both times, the group was awestruck by the magnificent flora and fauna of the country. From the lively culture of Cape Town to the incredible experience of elephants and lions walking past your Jeep, this is a trip no one can ever forget."

Walter Reeves
The Georgia Gardener: Host of the Lawn & Garden Show- Atlanta



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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Passports: U.S. passport holders will receive a visa upon arrival into South Africa. All Non-South African passport holders are required to have at least TWO, entirely blank (unstamped) visa pages (i.e. one side of such a page not front and back thereof) in their passport, each time entry is sought into South Africa. These pages are in addition to the endorsement/amendment pages at the back of the passport. South African government regulations prohibit airlines from boarding passengers without the required blank visa pages. Passports must be valid for a minimum of 6 months after intended date of departure. There is a Multiple Entry Visa charge to enter Zimbabwe of USD\$45 CASH per person for USA passport holders. (Visa fees are subject to change without notice.)

Packing: We suggest that you pack light and utilize wheeled luggage. Porters are available at the hotels, but you may need to carry your luggage short distances.

Physical requirements: In order to make the most of your trip, you should be able to walk independently for one to two miles, often over uneven cobblestones and be able to stand for a period of time during walking or museum tours or visits to other sights. You must also be able to maneuver your own luggage when necessary.

Reservations: A \$500 dollar reservation fee is required to reserve your space on this very special South Africa trip with JC Raulston Arboretum. **Call 800 723 8454** or visit: www.EarthboundExpeditions.com

Cancellations Land: All cancellations must be made in writing and are effective upon receipt in our office. Deposits are fully refundable for 60 days from the processing date or 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. Deposits made 90 days prior to a trip departing are not refundable. A \$75 per person processing fee applies to all cancellations. No refunds are made for cancellations after the non-refundable deposit date. It is for this reason we strongly encourage the purchase of travel insurance at the same time you reserve your journey with us. Please refer to your specific journey details, especially private and hosted journeys, as policies may differ.

Travel Insurance: Earthbound Expeditions strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance coverage. We include information on trip insurance in your deposit information. It is important to check with your medical insurance provider to understand your medical benefits and coverage while traveling abroad. Please read our cancellation policy carefully in order to avoid incurring a costly penalty.

Hosted Journeys: If a host or special guest is unable to attend as planned, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to find another host who has similar interests, talents and expertise. The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.



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