



# Midlands Meander

a good place.

**MIDLANDS MEANDER** Sunday 11th to Friday 16th April 2010

## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April

### Day one - Travel Cape Town/Hotel Accommodation

Early flights will leave Cape Town to allow us to arrive before lunch in Durban. **Megacoach** will be waiting to transport us to our hotel (**Granny Mouse**) in the Centre of the Midlands Meander, near Howick / Nottingham Road. This will be our base for the next 4 nights.



From Hilton in the South to Mooi River in the north. This Zululand-Natal Midlands offers a cornucopia of *quaint shops, fine-art crafts aplenty!* With a map of this area in your hand you will be able to navigate (albeit landlocked) about to embark on the greatest

the Meander Route. The area and their reputation is the 'best in the area'. Tonight we will dine at the Lion's River Tavern in the Nottingham Road area, a good way to get started on the tour.

## Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April

### Day two – explore the Howick area.

You cannot visit this area without paying a visit to the Howick Falls. It was after weeks of rain and the falls were overflowing!

There are several crafters in this area:

**Hangaboutz Hammocks'** exquisite range of unique handwoven chairs,

cushions, bags and classy arts and crafts will appeal.

**Buchanan Interiors** – this is a century old cottage full of glassware; glass pendants and beads; mosaics and table linens.

**The Weaver's Hut** – a delight of colour and design awaits you. Woven woolen rugs, and carry quality handmade items such as placemats, clothing, throws, baskets.....

**Lunch at the Nutmeg Bistro** – this little bistro in an old Agricultural Hall in Howick within walking distance to the Falls. A relaxed atmosphere on the verandah or under the magnificent oak tree. **(Remember, all lunches are for your account.)**

**Dinner tonight will be at St Ives** – This superb restaurant overlooks a large dam filled with trout and bass. A perfectly relaxing restaurant with delicious food.



## Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April

### Day three – explore the Nottingham Road area.

**Lion's River Trading Post** - This used to be a water-driven turbine sawmill and has been transformed into an 'antiques and collectables' shop on the Lions River.

**Rosewood embroidery Shoppe** – They have an exquisite collection of linen, soft furnishings & ladies nightwear. Here we will be able to watch the local ladies (who do hand embroidery) at work.

**Lunch at Piggly Wiggly Farmstall** - a superb farm stall / restaurant coupled with a wine tasting and several other very interesting shops.

**Culamoya Chimes** – Unbelievable – well worth the stop. Experience – hear –feel the sounds of Big Ben, St Pauls, Wedding Bells and the largest and smallest chimes ever seen!

**Dinner tonight will be at YellowWood Café** – this restaurant is one kilometer on the Karkloof Road; is in a wonderful heritage site with awesome views of the Howick Falls.

It is run and managed by Sandra who is the GM of the Midlands Meander Board.

## Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April

### Day four – Visit the Drakensberg Mountains.

This day has been set aside to travel to the Drakensberg.

It is approximately 1½ hours from Granny Mouse. We will attend a performance of the famous Drakensberg Boys Choir.

Lunch will be in the Drakensberg area.

Dinner will be at Granny Mouse on our return.



## Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April

### Day five – Back to the Nottingham Road area.

**Ardmore Ceramic art**- Here you can see the artists creating their latest works and experience the cultural and historical collections.

**Born in Africa & Tsonga**- They offer hand stitched leather shoes and sandals.

**The Candle Dipping shop**- Located in The Junction – a collection of interesting shops.

**Lunch at The Junction**– The restaurant serves country style meals, light snacks and pizzas.

**Dinner tonight will be at Caversham Mill Restaurant** - This charming restaurant is located alongside the magnificent Lion's River waterfall.

This is a perfect setting for our last meal together.



## Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April

### Day six – Explore the Lions River area

**The Lavender Company** – A place of unsurpassed beauty and heavenly fragrance. Their shop is filled with exquisite handcrafted body products, essential oils, lotions, scrubs & scented salts. They also extract Tea Tree Oil from local trees and their young owner, Lynnette van der Merwe will make herself available to chat to you about this production of oil, and the healing properties.

Our flights home will be early afternoon. Hylton Ross will be waiting at the airport to shuttle us to our homes, **"Filled with memories and love of the area"**

**PRICE for this fully inclusive 6 day trip, including return flights, coach transport in Natal, accommodation and meals as specified, is R9,915 per person. The air transport portion included in this price is R1,850 and is subject to variation until the deposit is paid and the booking can be confirmed with the airline**