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*Our first
Newsletter
of 2015*

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TOURS

Full details and
reports are available
on our website:
www.traveltime.co.za



TRAVELTIME

TOURS

Offers

FRIENDSHIP;

FUN;

GOOD COMPANY

&

EXCITING TIMES

**IN ASSOCIATION
WITH:**

TIME OUT

Ladies Club



BP COOMBS & T/A
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BANKING DETAILS ON REQUEST

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2015



**2014 Tour Report
Mystery Venue**

"The venue was spectacular , the food excellent , the company even better"

As the year draws to an end one realizes how very fortunate we all have been in 2014. The year has given us all the opportunity to travel. In fact Time Out Ladies club and Traveltime have organized 18 coach trips (512 passengers & 45 days away), over the past 12 months. We have also had many new people joining the trips.

Sunday 7th December dawned with the promise of a hot day, temperatures peaking in the early 30's. As our coach left Tableview we noticed the mist gathering over the sea, a sure sign of a hot day ahead.

On the collection of the Constantia passengers it was very evident that everyone was in the mood for a good party to celebrate the coming of the Christmas holidays.

Our destination was "ELL at Spookfontein Restaurant" in the Hemel en Aarde valley.

EAT – We all love to eat well

LOVE, LIFE – Everyone on board decided this very appropriate as we all Love Life!!

The Hemel en Aarde Valley is indeed such a very beautiful (almost rural) part of the Western Cape. It is becoming a haven for some excellent restaurants – and none other than ELL where Ethical Eating is practiced.

The 46 guests settled into the restaurant – some did a bit of wine tasting – some just sat and caught up with friends – some stood on the verandah in awe of the wonderful views!

There was some added fun to the day when little badges with cute quotes were handed out to certain of the guests, which resulted in much laughter. *The quotes were selected with the recipient in mind. "Aged to perfection – Out of Control – Out of my mind, back in 15 minutes – Addicted to shopping!"* Homemade Christmas crackers were handed out – and laughter was heard from all tables – "Laughter is the Best Medicine" said none other than Charlie Chaplain.....and at the end of the day proof was that we all traveled back to the city with such a good feeling in our hearts.

There was also a numbered prize draw which resulted in small gifts being distributed to about half the guests.

Roll on 2015 and the good, fun times that come with being with friends!



More photos on the last page.



MENU

Choice of Mains:

Free range chicken ballotine with a creamy wine & basil reduction, rosemary mash and salad or vegetables

OR

Fresh Nuwejaarsrivier Trout with Fries and Salad OR Wild Mushroom Risotto served with Garden Herbs.

Choice of Desserts

Berry Pavlova

OR

A fridge cheesecake with a coulis of fruit in season and a homemade trio of ice cream.

And now for 2015

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TRAVELTIME

ON THIS PAGE:



MOUNT CAMDEBOO



Details and pricing will be updated as they are confirmed and new items of interest will be added as they become available.

We will soon be *"On the Road Again!"*

TRAVELTIME



Exclusive Tours

What is Planned for 2015?

Our planning is ongoing and we will provide full tour details once planning is completed

We have done some "brain-storming" during our December break and are excited to release the following details of our 2015 offering for consideration and will provide additional information as planning progresses: ***(Tour dates in blue are confirmed)***.

- **28th February (Saturday): Harvest Festival / Muratie / Stellenbosch** (*Planning*).
- **15th-18th April: Foodie tour to Knysna & Plettenberg Bay** (*Planning stage*),
- **10th—15th May: Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve** (*Request a brochure*),
- **14th June: Sunday Outing** (*Planning stage*),
- **7th-17th July: Namibia, including Etosha National Park** (*Request a brochure*)
- **9th August: Sunday Outing** (*Planning stage*),
- **12th-16th August: Flower Tour 1: Nieuwoudville** (*Request a brochure*)
- **29th August (Saturday): West Coast Park Flowers** (*Planning stage*),
- **11th-13th September: Whale Watching – Hermanus** (*Planning stage*),
- **11th October: Sunday Outing** (*Planning stage*),
- **6th December (Sunday): Mystery Venue** (*Planning stage*),

HARVEST FESTIVAL @ MURATIE Saturday 28th February 2015



Full details in February Newsletter!

The Melck family will once again be hosting their annual harvest festival at Muratie Estate in Stellenbosch. The festival which takes place under the ancient oaks that guard this historic wine estate, is a celebratory family event featuring good food, fine wine, great company, live music and lots of fun stomping the newly harvested grapes.

The day will begin at 11h30. Entrance is free of charge and visitors will receive a complimentary glass of Muratie wine on arrival. Food, wine and cold drinks will be on sale. Festival-goers will be able to sample Muratie's delicious Farm Kitchen summer menu. Hamburgers and cheese platters will also be on sale and Muratie's full range of wines will be available by the glass or by the bottle. All drinks must be purchased on the farm. Cellar and vineyard tours will be on offer as well as a vertical wine tasting for 20x people at 12h00 at R100 per head. (when you taste several vintages of a single bottling—or, at least, a single winery's bottling). And, to add to the fun, there will be loads of freshly-harvested grapes to stomp. After lunch, guests will be able to relax and enjoy a memorable afternoon of live music performed by the popular Kitchen Jammin Blues Band.

This is the current information available from the Estate. We are awaiting program confirmation, so full details & cost will be available in our February newsletter.

Make a provisional booking to allow us to gauge potential interest.



FOODIE TOUR TO KNYSNA & PLETTENBERG BAY
15th—18th April



Provisional
Planning!

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When we did our Grahamstown tour in 2014 a lot of you met **Ritchie Rich** who prepared our Friday night dinner for us in-house at **Christiana Lodge**.

This is where the seed was sown for the cookery courses. Ritchie Rich will be offering us cookery mornings – nothing too hectic – just easy mornings having fun watching and interacting with Ritchie in the kitchen of Christiana Lodge (and even getting your hand in – Ritchie might ask you to help him do the preparation).

During our two mornings with Ritchie he will cover

“Let me to sharpen your knife skills!” / “Do you want to know how to make your own pasta?” / “Learn how to make authentic French macarons and other international delicacies!” Or (at our discretion) Ritchie will prepare “what we wish to learn.”

It won't be “all cooking” as we will also visit local attractions such as **Kilzers Kitchen** & the **Montessori night market** for dinner as well as a visit to the ever popular Sedgfield Morning Market.

Our accommodation will be at **Christiana Lodge** in Plettenberg Bay, an architect-designed space of light-filled interiors.

For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure

[Make a provisional booking to allow us to gauge potential interest.](#)



MOUNT CAMDEBOO PRIVATE GAME RESERVE
10th—15th May 2015

We already have 9 confirmed bookings



Accommodation
has been booked!



Repeated by
popular demand



Join us on a road trip through **Prince Albert and Graaff Reinet** to this spectacular **5 star private game reserve** in the mountains. Enjoy an early morning game drive followed by brunch, high tea, afternoon game drive and dinner in the comfortable Camdeboo Manor or in the boma.

Experience sunsets & sun-downers in the bush under the guidance of professional guides.

Get to see what our 2014 group are talking about! [Read the 2014 tour report, with photos, on our website: http://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/mount-camdeboo-private-game-reserve](http://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/mount-camdeboo-private-game-reserve)

For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure

NAMIBIA
7th—17th July 2015

We already have 10 confirmed bookings



Accommodation &
Flights are booked



We fly into Windhoek and spend 1 night pre and post tour, 2 nights in Sossusvlei (highest dunes in the world), 2 nights in Swakopmund / Walvis Bay before driving through Damaraland (1 night) into Etosha National Park (3 nights). We then return to Windhoek. Total 11 days 10 nights. [Read previous tour reports on our old website: \(1\) http://traveltime.co.za/old_site/traveltime/previous/Namibia09.htm and \(2\) http://traveltime.co.za/old_site/traveltime/previous/Namibia09.htm](http://traveltime.co.za/old_site/traveltime/previous/Namibia09.htm)

For full details and pricing on the current tour, please request a tour brochure

SPRING FLOWERS
12th—16th August 2015



Accommodation
has been booked!



The first day will be spent in the West Coast National Park (Postberg Reserve) with an overnight stop in Paternoster. We then head up to Clanwilliam before checking into our guest house in Nieuwoudtville where we will stay for the next 3 nights. Visits to Matjiesfontein, Papkuilsfontein and Hantam Botanical Garden are planned.

For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure

**OTHER PLANS (ON THE HORIZON)
FOR 2015**



→ Planning
underway

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- We have previously put together a tour to **Victoria Falls (Zambia), including Chobe National Park** in Botswana, but this was cancelled due to low passenger numbers. It is time to re-look at this again.
- What about a **train or boat trip** this year? We will be investigating these as well.
- In October 2010 Carol took a group to **Lalibella Game Reserve** near Grahamstown. Passengers still talk about the special time they had on this tour. Brian never had the chance to travel with them, so perhaps it is time to visit Lalibella again. They normally have winter specials.
- We will also be doing the annual day trip into the **West Coast Park** to see the **spring flowers** (Saturday 29th August)
- In 2014 we planned to do a few **Sunday lunches** in the country but never managed to do these. In 2015 this will definitely take place.

Make a provisional booking to allow us to gauge potential interest.

- Carol is launching Time Out into Sea Point / Bantry Bay / Camps Bay as well as Durbanville and Bellville. This means that prospective members will also be able to join our Traveltime tours.

Experience the Friendship & Fun

**MYSTERY VENUE DECEMBER 2014
Some More Photos**



ELL Restaurant
Hemel en Aarde

