

Inside this issue:

TIME MARCHES ON 1

2015 / 16 PLANNING 1

APHRODISIAC SHACK VILLIERSDORP 2

FOODIE TOUR TO KNYSNA & PLETT 2

MOUNT CAMDEBOO PRIVATE GAME RESERVE 3

SUTHERLAND Short Break Tour 3

NAMIBIA (Sossusvlei & Etosha) 3

SPRING FLOWERS 3

CRUISING 2016 4

OTHER TOURS ON THE HORIZON 4

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:



BP COOMBS cc T/A  
**TRAVELTIME**  
 P.O.Box 50371, West Beach, 7449  
 Phone: 021 557 0794 / Fax: 0866 855 562  
 email: carol@traveltime.co.za  
 Internet: www.traveltime.co.za  
 Cell Phone: 084 580 1469

BANKING DETAILS ON REQUEST

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2015



### *Time & Tide waits for no man!*

Here we are again preparing the next Newsletter. There are a few changes and one cancellation (28th February day tour to the Muratie Harvest festival was cancelled due to low numbers). Please continue reading and contact us for additional information you may want or if anything is unclear.

## 2015 / 16 Planning ★ New Additions ★ Changes

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

In our February newsletter we released some fixed and provisional tour dates.

The following schedule is an updated version of this and we will continue to provide additional information in future newsletters, as planning progresses: ***(Tour dates in blue are confirmed)***.

- 12th April: (Sunday): Aphrodisiac Shack—Villiersdorp (Request a brochure). ★
- 15th-18th April: Foodie tour to Knysna & Plettenberg Bay. (Request a brochure).
- 10th—15th May: Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve (Request a brochure),
- 14th June: Sunday Outing (Planning stage).
- 18th-20th June: Sutherland in Winter (Request a brochure). ★
- 7th-17th July: Namibia, including Etosha National Park (Request a brochure)
- ??th July: Soetes en Sop (Planning stage), to be confirmed. ★
- 9th August: Sunday Outing (Planning stage),
- 12th-16th August: Flower Tour I: 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),
- 17th -22nd January 2016: Cruise-Walvis Bay, Luderitz, Cape Town (Planning stage), ***(Request our “Early Planning Notification”)*** ★
- **On the horizon planning: Train trip / Victoria Falls & Chobe / Lalibela Game Reserve**



## ON THIS PAGE:



## COST OF THE DAY

- ▶ R455 per person for 2 course lunch & transport in a 15-seater coach. (12 PAX)
- ▶ R405 per person in a 44-seater coach. (30PAX). Refreshments are for your own account.

## BOOKINGS

by Monday 6th April &  
payments by Friday 10th April

## COACH DEPARTS:

Tableview Shopping Centre: 09h00  
Constantia Village Shopping Centre: 09h45

APHRODISIAC SHACK

## APHRODISIAC SHACK—VILLIERSDORP

Sunday 12th April 2015



Justin Bonello and his Braaimaster Team were hosted here in July 2014



The **Aphrodisiac Shack** is situated on the banks of the Theewaterskloof Dam. The smokehouse was built using the traditional method. After building our smoke chamber, we spent many hours testing it and experimenting with ways of using it, as each smoke chamber is unique and has its own nuances of heat.

Only once the smoke chamber is mastered and understood can you then begin to work together with the smoke chamber. When you buy one of our products, you are not only buying something we have mastered but you are also receiving the love we put into building the smoke chamber and the hours spent refining the process. If food is prepared with love, it is able to give love back to the person eating it.

In a nut shell – there is a lot more to making food that looks, smells and tastes great and the intent with which it is prepared is the key to perfection.

***“At Aphrodisiac Shack we use our psychic drive and energy to walk, talk and live the message of love. We express passion in everything we do. We are here to make a difference and, ultimately, to help others to make an even bigger difference, so that, collectively, we can change the world for the better. Spread Love through your Table!”***

**Aphrodisiac Shack is 96km from Cape Town. We will have lunch under the trees overlooking the Theewaterskloof Dam.**

## FOODIE TOUR TO KNYSNA & PLETTENBERG BAY

15th—18th April



Accommodation has been booked!



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 macaroons 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 Sedgefield 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 or visit our website***

***Please be aware that this tour is not only for “Foodies” as the coach driver is available to do site seeing during the day for those who don't want to be involved in cooking.***

***Foodies or not you are welcome to join this tour. Contact Carol for details.***



**Traveltime**  
exclusive tours

Full details and reports are available on our website: [www.traveltime.co.za](http://www.traveltime.co.za)

**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, or visit our website***

**SUTHERLAND**

18th—20th June 2015



Accommodation  
has been booked



We have visited Sutherland 4 times over the past 8 years and have spent various periods from 1 to 3 nights in the coldest town in South Africa. Our planned tour this year will see us staying two nights, with the tour duration being 3 days. The main purpose of our visit is of course to see Matjiesfontein, the SALT telescope and to experience star gazing in the Karoo with Jurg Wagener and his computerized telescopes.

[Read previous tour reports on our old website: \(1\) http://traveltime.co.za/old\\_site/traveltime/previous/sutherland\\_09.htm](http://traveltime.co.za/old_site/traveltime/previous/sutherland_09.htm) and (2) [http://traveltime.co.za/old\\_site/traveltime/previous/Sutherland131.htm](http://traveltime.co.za/old_site/traveltime/previous/Sutherland131.htm).

The period chosen to do this tour falls into the **NEW MOON** period and is an excellent time to view the stars. Winter is also the very best time to be in Sutherland as the winter skies are at their clearest and offer the best time for viewing! You will certainly enjoy your evening with Jurg, the local Astronomy expert. A number of **computerized telescopes** allow you to get first hand information (and viewings) of some stars and planets!

Be pre-warned that the temperatures can plummet in Sutherland at night, so make sure you **bring along warm jackets, beanies, scarves and gloves.**

***For full details and pricing on the current tour, 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](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, please request a tour brochure, or visit our website***

**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, Pappkuilsfontein and Hantam Botanical Garden are planned. [Read the 2014 tour report, with photos, on our website: http://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/spring-flowers-2014](http://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/spring-flowers-2014)

***For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure***

## CRUISING WITH MSC & TRAVELTIME

17th—22nd January 2016



Accommodation  
has been booked!



We have had many requests to do a cruise on a luxury liner and have done extensive research. With our 'weak' South African Rand we have looked at cruising in South African waters.

**MSC cruise ships** have just released their summer 2015 / 2016 Southern Africa offerings.

The **MSC SINFONIA** will reveal itself as a **revamped, extended liner** including stunning NEW additions which include **new entertainment options, technological advancements, shops and up to nearly 200 new cabins!** This vessel arrives in South African waters in November and starts cruises from Durban on the 19th November 2015 and **from Cape Town on 8th January 2016.**

The cherry-on-the-top will be a cruise from Cape Town in early 2016 and we believe this would be the **cruise to choose!** (*Poets and we don't know it*)

### 5 night cruise: Cape Town to Walvis Bay / Luderitz/ Cape Town leaving Cape Town Harbour on 17th January, 2016. (Scheduled to be a JAZZ CRUISE)

MSC Cruises work on a very different system of booking - (called a dynamic booking system - several of our larger hotel groups also use this system). Prices are based on demand. Bookings are done on-line and we need commitments BEFORE we can finalise the booking. At present MSC are offering up to 50% discount for early-bird bookings and the nett final price is only available once we do the booking.

For the January 2016 cruise they are offering the following list prices: (undiscounted prices)

- Double (2 pax sharing) R12560— Single accommodation R10840 in an outside cabin
- Double (2 pax sharing) R11360— Single accommodation R9760 in an inside cabin
- To this we need to add standard port insurance/service charge of R950 per person & shuttle costs (transport to & from the ship).

**For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure**

## OTHER PLANS (ON THE HORIZON) FOR 2015 / 2016



Planning  
underway



- 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 for 2016. **Best time is between February & May, after the rainy season!**
- What about a **train** this year? We will be investigating these as well. (Possibly Nov / Dec 2015)
- 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.
- In 2014 we planned to do a few **Sunday lunches** in the country but never managed to do these. In 2015 these will definitely take place.

*Experience the Friendship & Fun*

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



**TRAVELTIME**

*Offers*

**FRIENDSHIP;**

**FUN;**

**GOOD COMPANY**

**&**

**EXCITING TIMES**