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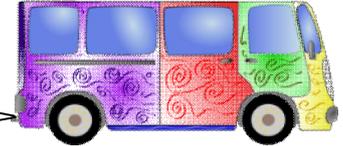
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BANKING DETAILS ON REQUEST

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2015

"It is good to have an end, to journey toward;  
but it is the journey that matters in the end!"  
- Ernest Hemingway



## 2015 / 16 Planning ★ New Additions ★ Update

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

The following schedule is an updated version of our February released Planning Schedule. We will provide updates & additional information in future newsletters, as planning progresses:

*(Tour dates in blue are confirmed).*

- 10th—15th May: Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve (Request a brochure),
- 18th-20th June: Sutherland in Winter (Request a brochure).
- 7th-17th July: Namibia, including Etosha National Park (Request a brochure)
- 25th July: Soetes en Sop (Planning stage). ★
- 9th August: Sunday Outing (Planning stage),
- 12th-16th August: Flower Tour: Nieuwoudville (Request a brochure)
- 29th August (Saturday): West Coast Park Flowers (Planning stage),
- 11th-13th September: Whale Watching – Hermanus (Request a brochure),
- 11th October: Sunday Outing (Planning stage),
- 17th—21st November: Exploring the Overberg (Planning stage), ★
- 6th December (Sunday): Mystery Venue (Planning stage),
- 25th—29th April 2016: MSC Sinfonia—Cruise: Cape Town—Walvis Bay. (Request details) ★
- **On the horizon planning: Train trip / Victoria Falls & Chobe / Lalibela Game Reserve**



**MOUNT CAMDEBOO PRIVATE GAME RESERVE**

10th—15th May 2015

*We are nearly on our way*



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

*We have 9 confirmed bookings.*



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 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**

**SOETES EN SOP**

25th July 2015



The Annual  
Breedekloof Festival



Come and get lost on the most scenic winery in the Cape Winelands and beat away the wintery blues at the annual Breedekloof Soetes & Soup 2015 festival, taking place on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th July. **(We will visit on Saturday 25th).** This fun-filled event hosted by wineries in the Rawsonville, Slanghoek, Goudini, and Breede River areas, combats the chills by serving complimentary cups of steaming homemade country soup accompanied by a glass of multiple award-winning soetes (dessert wines) including Hanepoot, Muscadel, Noble Late Harvest, Red Jerepigo and Port.

**Full details and pricing will be available once released by the Festival organizers**

**SPRING FLOWERS**  
12th—16th August 2015

*We have 4 confirmed bookings*



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. [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](#)**

**WHALE WATCHING in Walker Bay**  
11th-13th September 2015

*We have 7 confirmed bookings*



Accommodation  
has been booked

Hermanus, plays host to thousands of visitors (in 2014 they welcomed 130 000 visitors) who flock to the seaside resort to exhilarate in the unique natural environment and watch the whales. Whale Festival dates: 2nd – 4th October 2015.

Having personally visited Hermanus during this time, we have been faced with long queues of traffic and people wanting to either get sight of the whales or find a place to have a meal. With this in mind we have decided to visit the area “out of festival time”, to see the whales in peace and quiet.

Our base will be in Walker Bay, at selective Lodges / apartments on the seashore in De Kelders which is situated between Hermanus and Gansbaai, 160km from Cape Town. De Kelders is known as the best land-based whale watching destination in the world.

View the whales from the balcony of our accommodation or if you are adventurous join the boat based whale watching for an unforgettable journey amongst the whales in the Bay. See the shark cage divers in operation.

See our previous tour report / photos and video on our website: <http://www.traveltime.co.za/package/whale-watching-2015>

*Experience the Friendship & Fun*

**[For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure, or visit our website](#)**

**EXPLORING THE OVERBERG**  
17th—21st November 2015

*We have 8 provisional bookings*



Planning is  
underway

Within driving distance of one of South Africa's busiest cities, lies a region of contrasts and wonder. The Overberg has rugged mountain ranges, fynbos, rolling wheat and canola fields, and splendid coastal vistas. It is for you to reflect, discover and maybe even have the adventure of a lifetime.

The Overberg has always fascinated me.....as the years have gone by, more and more establishments are springing up and I feel it's time to 'get-going' again into this delightful area!

We are working on accommodation establishments (probably in Hermanus!) and as soon as this is finalized you will be the-first-to-hear!

**[Request a provisional brochure to whet your appetite](#)** & to let you know where we intend planning our 3 full days in the area.

**CRUISING WITH MSC & TRAVELTIME**

25th—29th April 2016

*We have 13 confirmed bookings.*Cabins have  
been booked!*Updated details**10th April 2015*

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 the vessel will be in Cape Town on 8th January 2016.

[This is a change from our initial Jazz Cruise leaving Cape Town. It was a 5 day cruise stopping in Walvis Bay & Luderitz.](#)

**4 night cruise: Cape Town to Walvis Bay / Cape Town  
leaving Cape Town Harbour on 25th April, 2016.**

[Consensus was that the vast difference in the two prices was worth the wait until April.](#)

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.

MSC 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. We have already done bookings for 5 single cabins & 4 double cabins.

For the April 2016 cruise they are offering the following prices:

- Double (2 pax sharing) R8260— Single accommodation R6722 in an outside cabin
- Double (2 pax sharing) R7980— Single accommodation R6350 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, or visit our website where the MSC Tour Brochure is also available](#)

**CHANGE IN CRUISE DATES:**

By majority consensus the originally selected cruise date (17th-22nd January 2016 Cape Town to Walvis Bay & Luderitz) has been changed to (25th—29th April 2016 Cape Town to Walvis Bay), due to cost implications.

**OTHER PLANS (ON THE HORIZON)  
FOR 2015 /16**Planning is  
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. **We will be suggesting proposed dates shortly. (Need to check the rainy season!)**
- 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.
- We will also be doing the annual day trip into the **West Coast Park** to see the **spring flowers** (Saturday 29th August)

*Experience the Friendship & Fun*

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

END