

Inside this issue:

<b>2017/18 PLANNING</b>	<b>1 &amp; 2</b>
<b>EMPHASIS ON OUR NOVEMBER TOUR:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>ARNISTON &amp; SURROUNDS</b>	
<b>MYSTERY VENUE TOUR</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>OLD YEAR 2017</b>	<b>3 &amp; 4</b>
<b>KARROO THEATRICAL HOTEL</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>MOUNT CAMDEBOO PRIVATE GAME RESERVE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>KRUGER PARK MPUMALANGA</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>NAMIBIA CLASSIC KALEIDOSCOPE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>HAND PICKED 3RD PARTY TOURS:</b>	<b>6</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MSC Sinfonia</li> <li>• Highlights of Scandinavia</li> <li>• Highlights of Vietnam / Cambodia</li> </ul>	
• <b>OTHER</b>	<b>7</b>

*More in next issue...*

1st October '17



BP COOMBS cc T/A  
**TRAVELTIME**  
 P.O.Box 50371, West Beach, 7449  
 Phone: 021 554 5796 / Fax: 0866 855562  
 email: carol@traveltime.co.za  
 Internet: www.traveltime.co.za  
 Cell Phone: 084 580 1469



BANKING DETAILS ON REQUEST

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2017

PAGE 1

## EMPHASIS (Again) ON OUR NOVEMBER TOUR



### ARNISTON & SURROUNDS

## 2017 Planning



New Addition



Update



Change

## UPCOMING TOURS

The following schedule is current as at 1st October 2017. We will continue to provide updates & additional information in future newsletters, as planning progresses:

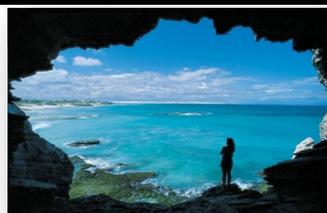
### 2017 Tours organized & run by Traveltime November—December 2017

- 12-16 November: Arniston & Surrounds (5 Days) ★
- 10 December: Mystery Venue Tour (1 Day) ★
- 30 December '17 - 1 January '18 : Old Year—Short break (3 Days) ★

*Experience Friendship & Fun with Traveltime*

## 2018 Planning has started

- 15-19 February: Karroo Theatrical Hotel (5 Days) ★
- 5-10 May: Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve (6 Days) ★
- 17-22 June: Kruger National Park-Mpumalanga (6 Days) ★
- 5-13 July: Namibia: Classic Kaleidoscope (9 Days) ★



ARNISTON NOV '17

PAGE 2

**2018 Planning** *Continued*


New Addition



Update



Change

Hand Picked 3rd Party Tours

*This month's selection*

- 19-23 March: MSC –Portuguese Islands & Pomene (5 Days)
- May: Highlights of Vietnam with Cambodia (14 Days)
- May: Highlights of Scandinavia (12 Days)

Hand Picked 3rd Party Tours: *more to follow*

- |                             |                                  |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • MSC Cruises               | • Namibia Scheduled & Self Drive |
| • Garden Route (4 or 5 Day) | • Bushmans Kloof Resort          |
| • European River Cruises    | • Cunard / P&O Cruises           |
| • Select Game Reserves      | • Full range of Trafalgar tours  |

*Offering the Best of the Best*
**TRAVELTIME TOURS - DETAILED INFORMATION ON 2017 OFFERINGS**
*November through December*
**ARNISTON & SURROUNDS**

12th-16th November 2017 (5 days).

*Stay in Arniston, visit local attractions*

**The Overberg Region includes L'Agulhas, Arniston, Struisbaai, De Hoop Nature Reserve & Bontebok National Parks**

For over 200 years the tiny town of **Arniston** on the Western Cape's Indian Ocean seaboard was a fully functioning fishing village. Today, depleted fish stocks have changed its emphasis toward tourism. Arniston is now a national monument but still home to a small yet lively community. The village is named after one of many shipwrecks off the coast, the British ship Arniston, which ran into rocks offshore in 1815. Stroll among the whitewashed thatch cottages that line the shore, have a chat to the cheerful locals and dine out on fresh seafood.

It is whale season, so be on the look-out for the Southern Right whales. **Meet Derick an ex 'local parks board ranger' at the L'Agulhas lighthouse, learn about the Meishu Maru, the fish traps, the kelp and coastal fynbos.**

We have reserved 12 rooms at the **Arniston Spa Hotel**.

**(We now have 7 confirmed bookings).**

You will get to see the **Waenhuiskrans cave, Willeens Meals, Arts & Crafts**, the only eatery in **Kassiesbaai historical village, the southernmost tip of Africa, Agulhas lighthouse, the wreck of the Arniston** (A British East Indiaman, which, broke up in 1815 in a storm near a southern Cape village called Waenhuiskrans (Afrikaans for "wagon house cliff"). This fishing village community changed its name in honour of the wreck and to remember those who died that fateful night).

"Blessed with an abundance of sea life the hotel promises delicious oysters from nearby shores and the freshest fish from the local fishing boats. The sophisticated menu blends traditional South African cuisine with modern innovations from renowned chefs. Your culinary treat is complemented by an award-winning list of wines, many of which are from the local wine routes. We offer a breakfast buffet that is a delicious spread of traditional and healthy foods".

**And that is just the hotel we are talking about.**

Please request an information brochure

**MYSTERY VENUE TOUR**

10th December (1 day).

*Our annual "must attend" celebration*

 1st clue being released in this newsletter!



**Planning is underway for this popular year end function.**

We have run with the same tour "template" since 2011. Yes, for 6 years now, and have come to the conclusion that we need a change. There has been a lot of fun and laughter, with good food, good attendance and generally good venues (80%+).

We can still have this, but with a different theme.

Planning is underway and we have considered a few options, which will be finalised with the release of the normal competition on 1st October. The prize will also be a "mystery", awarded to the first name drawn from those who have responded correctly to our competition questions.



Persons who have previously attended this day will confirm that this has become a very popular event with the number of attendees approaching 50. **Make an early booking to avoid disappointment.**

**To enable you to try and guess the name of our venue, we will be issuing 5 clues in total, starting on 1st October (in this issue of the newsletter) and will continue by email, every 2 weeks, with the final clue being issued on 1st December**

*In the meanwhile, sharpen your pencils and put on your "thinking caps" in preparation.*



**MYSTERY VENUE TOUR-COMPETITION, CLUE NO.1**

We have planned a day out in the country, so casual clothes are a must. Country livin' teaches slow-cookin'. A **smokehouse** (North American) or **smokery** (British) is a building where meat or fish is cured with smoke. The finished product might be stored in the building, sometimes for a year or more. Even when smoke is not used, such a building—typically a subsidiary building—is sometimes referred to as a "smoke house."



Take a stroll to the shed and check out the pit master doing his thing with vast, purpose-built smoking pits. This is where the magic happens.

Plating is simple: a board with brown paper does the trick, and the idea is just to get stuck in.

The above information provides some insight into the type of meal we have selected and the day you can expect.

Additional clues will be directed at the area and finally the name of the venue. *Happy hunting*

Read the 2016 Tour Report and view the photos: <https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/mystery-venue-2016>

**OLD YEAR 2017**

30 December '17 — 1st January '18 (3 days).

*Last year in Montagu was a great success*



**OPEN FOR BOOKINGS**



**Limited Accommodation!**



Our 2016 tour was conducted over 3 days and when we started planning for the 2017 tour we believed that everyone would prefer a few extra days and decided on a 5 day tour.

Early in June we received one booking and in July another. Then, provisional bookings made in the "Booking file" during previous Time Out outings were removed and when we questioned this, we established that the 5 day tour proved to be too expensive, given that it took place directly after Christmas. We have taken note of this and have redone the exercise and are now offering a 3 day tour .....**Full details on page 4.**

## OLD YEAR 2017

30 December '17 — 1st January '18 (3 days).

*Last year in Montagu was a great success*



**TOUR DURATION  
NOW 3 DAYS**



**Accommodation  
almost sold out!**

PAGE 4



On 11th December 2016 Traveltime spent a day at Blue Bay Lodge. It proved a huge success and due to popular demand, we are now revising our originally planned 5 day tour to a 3 day tour, over Old / New Year! **We now have 14 passengers booked**

We leave Cape Town on Saturday 30th December and return on Monday 1st January. A full program is being put together to give you a relaxing time and (if you wish), time to explore the surrounding areas! **Request an information brochure!**

**Blue Bay Lodge is planning an Old Year dinner/dance, with local entertainment.**

**A great way to see in 2018**



**Please request a new priced Information brochure or**

**Visit our website: <https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/old-year-2017>**

## TRAVELTIME TOURS - DETAILED INFORMATION ON 2018 OFFERINGS

*January through July*

### KAROO THEATRICAL HOTEL

15-19 February '18 (5 days).

*The Steytlerville Follies*



**Only 16 rooms  
available**



**Why travel 666 km to a well appointed hotel in the middle of nowhere?**

Because it is an oasis of style and authentic karoo cuisine, renowned for its friendly hosts and homely atmosphere. Welcome to the home of Jacques and Mark where glitz and burlesque meet over a grand piano. Situated on a farm outside of town – you have escaped to calm and privacy. An unpretentious welcome by our entourage of furry four legged friends assures that you are made to feel completely at home.



Put your feet up and relax on one of the deep comfort couches on our stoep. Be entranced by the tranquillity. Cleanse your lungs inhaling the purest karoo air. Embrace the space and magnificent views of wide open plains and surrounding mountains. Enjoy our garden, manicured lawns and the sparkling pool, or take a sunset stroll to our dam where you can observe the abundance of bird life.

Every Saturday night “Grimaldi’s Theatre Hall” is abuzz with excitement as guests are treated to a delectable three course, candle lit “boerekos” dinner together with a sleek and glitzy show. “The Steytlerville Follies” is presented by Freddy Ferrari and stars the legendary Karoovian diva, Dame Leyla Lamborgini.



**Please request a priced Information brochure or visit our website:**

**<https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/karoo-theatrical-hotel>**

PAGE 5

**MOUNT CAMDEBOO PRIVATE GAME RESERVE**

5-10 May '18 (6 days)

*This will be our 4th visit*



Accommodation has been reserved



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 2015 group are talking about!

Guests are accommodated in Cape Dutch houses that lie cupped in the palm of the Sneeu Berg Mountain range. Once homes to generations of settlers, these magnificent homesteads have been sensitively converted into **havens of five star luxury**.

Accommodation has been reserved in **Camdeboo Manor**, **Courtyard Manor**, & **Hillside Manor**. Mount Camdeboo provides wholesome traditional meals, a team of friendly and professional hosts and superior hospitality in a relaxed homely environment. Our booking includes all meals, local beverages, house wines & ales plus 2 daily game drives. We will spend three nights here. There will also arrange visits outside of the Reserve.



**KRUGER NATIONAL PARK-MPUMALANGA**

17-22 June '18 (6 days)

*Elephant Whisper Encounter included*



Accommodation in Hazyview



Panorama Route PLUS more



“Our Airlink flight leaves the Cape Town International Airport at 10h00 and arrives at 12h35 at Nelspruit (KMIA – Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport). Hylton Ross operates out of Hazyview and will be at the airport to collect us and transport us the 65km to Hazyview, where we will check in to Perry’s Bridge Boutique Hotel (or Hippo Hollow Hotel), which is set in beautiful grounds, in a colonial-style Lifestyle Centre – Perry’s Bridge Trading Post. Just minutes from Kruger National Park and close to the Panorama Route, a dramatically scenic region and home to highlights such as Blyde River Canyon, God’s Window and Bourke’s Luck Potholes, makes this a convenient base from which to explore South Africa’s Kruger Lowveld region. Settle in, relax and enjoy dinner at The Pioneer’s Butcher & Grill.

The tour includes a full day, as well as a morning game drive in an open vehicle, a guided tour of the Panorama Route, Blyde River Canyon, Gods Window, Bourkes Luck Potholes, The Three Rondawels, Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre, Swadini for a boat cruise and an Elephant Whisper encounter in Hazyview, amongst others.



***Please request a priced Information brochure***

**NAMIBIA-CLASSIC KALEIDOSCOPE**

5-13 July '18 (9 days)

*Beauty of the desert, Damaraland and Etosha National Park*



Scheduled tour organized by Traveltime



“We travel to Swakopmund and upon our arrival in the early afternoon we check into our hotel, after which we have the rest of the day to our own disposal. With palm-lined streets and seaside promenades, Swakopmund is a very popular holiday destination in Namibia. Its pleasant summer climate and long stretched beaches attract anglers and surfers from all over Southern Africa. For the international guest, Swakopmund is a bohemian mix of German correctness and African time, laid back attitude with adrenalin activities, misty mornings and desert heat. It is colourful, it is vibrant, but most of all, it is fun”. We head to Etosha National Park for 3 days of game viewing before returning to Windhoek. This 9 day tour includes 1 day each pre and post tour in Windhoek to accommodate flights.

***Please request a priced tour brochure (Detailed Itinerary).***

*Offering the Best of the Best*

Over the past 2 years we have had people visiting our website seeking tours for “over 50’s and seniors”. Whilst many of these people booked on tours planned and run by Traveltime, they also wanted Garden Route Tours, scheduled & Self Drive Tours into Namibia and other destinations, as well as Game Reserves, Cruises and other specialist tours not available from Traveltime at the time. Through these enquiries we have been able to offer tours and accommodation offered by our various Principals. Many of these enquiries have been recurring and we have decided to add these to our offering as “Hand Picked 3rd Party Tours”. We will continue to add others as and when we have fully investigated them. This month we look at **MSC cruises & Trafalgar tours**

**MSC SINFONIA - Cape & Durban Cruise Departures**

**19-23 March 2018: Durban, Portuguese Island, Pomene**

**Fewer Cape Town Departures**



Fewer Cape Town cruises indicate that MSC are concerned about the “Cape of Storms” and their experiences in 2016 when our cruise in April (with 23 passengers) was cancelled due to bad weather.

We have the full Southern Africa cruise calendar and it doesn’t make good reading when we compare current departures to those of 2016. Of the 30 departure dates between 6th January and 15th April, only 4 are ex Cape Town. Could be the 2015 disaster (weather-wise) around the Cape coast has changed MSC thinking.

Durban departures are essentially to Portuguese Island, 3 nights and Portuguese Island, Pomene —4 nights. These departures require flights to Durban.

We will be focusing on the April cruise ie 4 Days,

**19-23 March 2018: Durban, Portuguese Island, Pomene**

(Pomene is a newly added destination)

[For full details, scheduled departure dates & pricing.](#)

[please contact us for details](#)

Selected and Booked by:



**Highlights of Scandinavia (12 Days)**

**May 2018 Departure**

*Norway / Denmark & Sweden*

**TRAFALGAR**  
*Simply the best*

**Highlights of Vietnam with Cambodia (14 Days)**

**May / June 2018 Departure**

*Hanoi / Halong Bay / Mekong Delta Plus...*



Hanoi / Halong Bay / Hoi AN / Ho Chi Minh City / Mekong Delta.

Accommodation: Jasmine Cruise / Melia Hanoi / Royal Hoi An / Imperial / Sofitel Saigon Plaza

**HIGHLIGHTS OF SCANDINAVIA (12 DAYS)**

The land of the Vikings, deep fjords and the Northern Lights - Norway, Denmark and Sweden - are explored on this fascinating journey of discovery. Visit Copenhagen's Nyhaven, drive around the Hardangerfjord and spend the night on the shores of Lake Vänern.

11 nights, /16 meals / Sightseeing Highlights : Bergen / Copenhagen / Oslo / Stockholm .

[Request a priced Itinerary](#)

**HIGHLIGHTS OF VIETNAM WITH CAMBODIA (14 DAYS)**

Float on the sparkling emerald waters of Halong Bay on a traditional Vietnamese Junk. Glide past hidden islets, giant limestone karsts and colourful fishing villages, stopping only to gain insight into the lives of the local fishermen at Cua Van and to practice T'ai Chi in exquisite surroundings. Sightseeing Highlights: City Tour of Hanoi, Hoi An, Hue and Ho Chi Minh City / See Red Beach in Danang / Witness the revival of traditional Khmer craftsmanship at the Artisans D'Angkor training school Visit Ho Chi Minh's house. / 13 nights / 22 meals.

[Request a priced Itinerary](#)

Selected and Booked by:





...Continued...



## GARDEN ROUTE TOURS (Cape Town to Cape Town)

- 4 Day tours leave Cape Town every Tuesday
  - 5 Day tours leave Cape Town, twice per month on a Tuesday
- For full details & pricing, please request a tour brochure*

Selected and Booked by:



Operated by:



Operated by:



*Offering the Best of the Best*

## TOURING IN NAMIBIA

- **Self drive Tours:**  
Our Principals in Windhoek have got a comprehensive database of B&B's, Self catering, Lodges and Hotels throughout Namibia and can quote against your proposed itinerary and dates. We have put together a number of these tours for clients from Pretoria and Johannesburg for periods ranging from 7 days to 21 days. No enquiry is too big or too small.
- **Scheduled Tours**  
We have a comprehensive range of Itineraries for Scheduled tours leaving on various dates throughout the year and for various destinations throughout Namibia, for varying periods, ranging from 3 Days to 15 Days. A number of these tours are advertised on our website (Namibia Scheduled Tours) with each providing full details and departure dates. Pricing is available on request.

## CRUISING:

We are registered with a number of cruise lines, able to provide information and make bookings with:

- **MSC / Cunard & P&O (Whitestar) / European River Cruises**  
We would be happy to provide information and availability against your requirements.
- We are currently studying the Whitestar range of river cruises and will shortly release details of our suggestions for 2018.



## TRAFALGAR TOURS

We have narrowed down our choice of tours from which we will select our first tour for Spring 2018 in Europe. Details of 2 tours are being released on line and in this (October) newsletter. See page 6.



## BUSHMANS KLOOF RESORT & SELECT GAME RESERVES

We will be providing details shortly about the Bushmans Kloof Resort as well as a number of Private Game Reserves we have been dealing with.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you have regarding any of the above.

**END**