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*Fill your life with adventures, not things. Have stories to tell not stuff to show*

BANKING DETAILS ON REQUEST

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2019

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# UPCOMING TOURS 2019

**BY STEAM TRAIN**



**ELGIN RAILWAY MARKET - by train**

APR—MAY '19

**ELGIN COOL WINE & COUNTRY FOOD**



27-28 APR 19

**THE DE HOOP NATURE RESERVE**



2-5 JUN 19

**CANOLA & ROUXWILL**



4-7 AUG 19

**SPRING FLOWERS**



2-6 SEPT 19

**2019 MSC CRUISES**



TO SUIT YOUR DATES

**BY ROAD**



**ELGIN RAILWAY MARKET - by road**

EVERY WEEK-END

**THE NEST HOTEL DRAKENSBERG**



5 weeks to departure!

5-9 MAY 19

**NAMIBIA**



Re-scheduled for 2020!

26 JUN-6 JUL '20

**WEST COAST PARK FLOWERS**



24 AUG 19

**HOGSBACK & BEDFORD**



BEDFORD GARDEN FESTIVAL  
OCTOBER 2019

15—20 OCT 19

**2019 TOUR PLANNING**



**NEW TOURS**

**ELGIN RAILWAY MARKET – on Saturdays only**  
**Departure dates—April through May '19**

***1. Travel by Ceres Rail steam train***

**By  
Train**



Depart Royal Cape  
Yacht Club



Departing at 08h00 from the Royal Cape Yacht Club in Cape Town, you will enjoy a 3 hour train journey to Elgin where you will leisurely spend 3.5 hours at the now fully established, Art Deco & Art Nouveau inspired, Elgin Railway Market. While enjoying live music, you can pander through the selection of tantalising food and beverage stalls as well as a wide selection of home grown wines for your enjoyment. Departing from Elgin at 14:30 you will embark on your relaxing train journey back to Cape Town with estimated arrival time being 17h30.

**ELGIN RAILWAY MARKET – on Sundays**  
**Departure dates—April through June**

***2. Travel by bus / kombi***

**By  
Bus**



Pick up points in  
Cape Town



Departing at 09h00 from Central Cape Town you will travel along the N2 through Somerset West and over Sir Lowry's Pass to Grabouw, the home of the Elgin Railway Market, which is the brainchild of businessman Roger Orpen, who converted an old apple warehouse into a bustling steampunk station market boasting local vendors, live music and a gateway to the beautiful Overberg town.

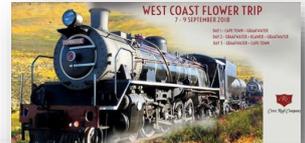
Traveling by bus gives you the flexibility of a cheaper, shorter trip both ways, more time at the market and the opportunity to visit selected Wine Estates in the area, time permitting.

**WEST COAST FLOWERS BY TRAIN**  
**Awaiting dates for September 2019**

***A trip not to be missed***



Operated by  
Ceres Rail



**VINTAGE TRAIN TO SIMON'S TOWN**

***Departs: twice monthly—Awaiting 2019 dates –Contact us.***

***Travel by steam train – Atlantic Rail***



Operated by  
Atlantic Rail



***Please request a priced Information brochure or contact us for additional details, departure dates etc***

***Traveltime accepts bookings for Ceres Rail & Atlantic Rail and can assist with your bookings on their scheduled departure dates, even if Traveltime doesn't have a group tour scheduled. (We have booked many passengers on the upcoming dates).***

**ELGIN COOL WINE & COUNTRY FOOD FESTIVAL**

27th & 28th April '19 (2 days)

*Travel by steam train or by road (bus),*



Traveltime will visit the Festival on both days.



Each of the participating wineries will offer a unique programme, allowing patrons to tailor-make their experience according to their own personal preferences, whilst enjoying a welcome alternative to the hustle and bustle of city life. Award winning wines, a delectable culinary experience, a plethora of outdoor activities, live entertainment and natural scenic wonders will ensure that visitors, young and old, enjoy a memorable time in this hospitable valley.

**Live Entertainment**

With popular artists such as Sam and Calla, Off-Line Dexterity and Kathryn Swain, a variety of genre's, including rock, blues and country, let down your hair, jiggle a jive and get the party started.

**Come Hungry**

Rumbling tummies and salivating taste buds will all be satisfied by the plethora of delicious foods to be served by the various wine farms.

From pop-up kitchens to food trucks, pulled pork rolls, tapas, sushi to delicious cheese platters, a la carte menu's and fillet on the grill – all appetites will be satisfied.

***Please request a priced Information brochure or  
Visit our website: <https://www.traveltime.co.za>***

**Please contact [carol@traveltime.co.za](mailto:carol@traveltime.co.za) with your "bucket list" requirements**

**The Nest Hotel-Drakensberg Mountains**

12th-16th May '19 (5 days) - ***date change due to elections conflict!***

*The Nest Hotel is a delightful family run country hotel*



**Drakensberg Boys Choir concert included!**



Go back over the years in your mind to when you were a teenager and stayed at hotels which were totally comfortable and where you enjoyed ALL your meals without having to leave the comfort of the hotel, searching for restaurants and pouring over menus on a daily basis!

Well, such hotels do still exist – **THE NEST HOTEL** near Winterton in the Drakensberg is such an old world hotel!

**The Nest Hotel** is a delightful family run country hotel situated in the Champagne Valley in the Central Drakensberg area of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Since opening their doors in 1933, they have built up a loyal following of guests who return year after year to this special place, steeped in history and adventure.

**"Come and stay with us and experience our delicious country style food, spectacular gardens, wonderful facilities, relaxing accommodation, friendly staff and exquisite views over the Ukhahlamba Drakensberg World Heritage Site"** .

**The area around the hotel is rich with things to keep you busy (if you wish).**

***Please request a priced Information brochure or  
Visit our website: <https://www.traveltime.co.za>***

**De Hoop Nature Reserve**  
**2nd-5th June'19 (4 days)**

*This reserve is one of Cape Nature's Flagship reserves.*



**Accommodation  
 has been reserved**



**Few other reserves offer as complete an outdoor experience as De Hoop** – sea, sand dunes, the vlei, a floral sensation of rare fynbos plants, diverse antelope and the Potberg Mountains. **Birders** observe wading birds on the shores of the vlei while the Potberg Mountains are home to a colony of endangered Cape vultures.

A visit pre-winter to the De Hoop Nature Reserve will leave you with your souls completely full! This reserve is one of Cape Nature's Flagship reserves. They have lovingly restored old fisherman cottages & Traveltime is privileged to offer you the De Hoop Village cottages. We are indeed privileged to have been offered accommodation in their prestigious suites! Take advantage of this 'winter' offer!

**In addition there will be time to explore the area.**

**(Lunch at the Arniston Spa being one of the added attractions!)**

**Please request a priced Information brochure or  
 Visit our website: <https://www.traveltime.co.za>**

**NAMIBIA-CANYONS & DESERTS**  
**26th June– 6th July 2020**

*Beauty of the deserts, dunes, canyons and historical cities*

**Rescheduled for next year—2020!**

**11 days including 1 day each  
 pre & post tour**



Our mid morning flight from Cape Town will see us arriving in **Windhoek** at midday. After checking into our hotel we are free to relax or embark on a pre-arranged city tour, before joining everyone for dinner in-house.

Next morning, we travel into the largest sand mass on earth, the **Kalahari desert** which is still home to a surprising large amount of specially adapted wildlife. Enjoy the opportunity to experience the red dunes, wildlife and plants, in this desert environment on an optional nature drive from the hotel.

We continue south on the second day through extensive rocky plains and visit a quiver tree forest. Our lodge is in the vicinity of the **Fish River Canyon**.

Day 3 lets us look into the canyon and stop to see the **wild horses** en route to **Luderitz** where we spend 2 nights..

Day 4: Visit to the deserted mining town **Kolmanskop**.

Day 5 takes us to the **Namib desert** in the proximity of **Sossusvlei, Dead Vlei & Sesriem Canyon**. We spend two nights in a local lodge.

Days 6 & 7: We visit **Sossusvlei** which has the highest sand dunes in the world and travel on to **Swakopmund**, where we spend 2 nights

We return to **Windhoek** on day 10, where we check into a local hotel for the night and return home on the following day.

**Please request a priced and fully detailed Itinerary.**



*Travel in style with Traveltime*

**CRUISE THE OVERBERG: 4th—7th AUGUST, 2019****In depth Canola tour visiting Greyton & surrounds and staying at Rouxil House near Theewaterskloof Dam****DETAILS NOW AVAILABLE****Request a Brochure****PAGE 5**

Many of you will remember our time spent at Rouxil Country House in August 2018.

O'Nel is a very gracious hostess.

Traveltime has reserved ALL their accommodation for 4th to 7th August.. They have 5 luxury suites, so our tour will need some of you to share rooms!



***What warms most women's hearts better than a flower arrangement ?***

***Come with TRAVELTIME to make memories and have your heart warmed beyond expectation by Nature's Bounty – Fields and fields of Canola!***

***Make an enquiry without delay with [carol@traveltime.co.za](mailto:carol@traveltime.co.za)***

**[Request a priced information brochure / carol@traveltime.co.za / 021 554 5796](#)**

**SPRING FLOWERS IN THE WEST COAST PARK**

Saturday 24th August 2019 (1 day)

*The annual flower show in the Postberg Reserve*

**Date changed**

The Annual Flower  
"Spectacular"



Every year in August and September the West Coast National Park opens the **Postberg Flower Reserve**. Here the colours of Spring burst forth and you are assured of seeing an awesome display of spring flowers. In addition to the Spring Flowers the Park borders on the Langebaan Lagoon and it is a photographer's delight. The views of the waves crashing on the rocks coupled with fields of beautiful yellow/blue and white flowers can paint an awesome canvas for you!

On arrival in the Park the coach will go directly to the Postberg Flower Reserve.

Read the previous tour report on our website:

<https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/west-coast-park-flowers-2018>



We will have lunch at the Geelbek Restaurant in the West Coast Park.  
(or bring your own picnic).

For full details and pricing, please request a tour brochure or see our website

**SPRING FLOWERS—FLOWERS UP THE WEST COAST**

2nd-6th September 2019 (5 days).

*Flower and bull spectacular*

Accommodation  
has been booked

Only 5 places  
now available



August and September is Flower Season in the "Western Cape", with fields of flowers appearing each year when Nature waves her magic wand. No two years are ever the same and the spectacle is dependent on the fields receiving sufficient rain beforehand.

Our tour this year is 5 days! We will spend 2 nights in Darling (Darling Lodge Guest House) and 2 nights in Saldanha Bay (Blue Bay Lodge).

First day will see us travelling up the West Coast, stopping at Postberg—world renowned Flower Reserve in the West Coast National Park, for our first viewing of the mass flower displays.

Highlights of this 5 day tour will include (Provisional):

- The Postberg Flower Reserve in the West Coast National Park;
- Tienie Versveld Reserve; visit to Darling Sweets & Darling Brew and Evita se Perron;
- Elandsbaai and their patches of flowers; Bokkom Laan in Velddrif;
- Visit to Hopefield where they have a magnificent display of Wild Flowers; Also included is a visit to Simply Bee; West Coast Fossil Park; and on our last day,
- A visit to Mykonos where you will enjoy a trip on one of the luxury catamarans at Elite Charters.

For full details & pricing, please request a tour brochure



**HOGSBACK & BEDFORD FLOWER FESTIVALS**

15-20 October 2019 (6 days).

*"The most beautiful Mountain Village in South Africa"*

**Accommodation has been booked**



Hogsback is a magical world of mountains and forests. It is situated high up on the Amathole mountains of the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, and is surrounded by centuries-old indigenous Afro-montane forests. Traveltime has visited Hogsback in 2017 & 2018!

Spring, of course, is **'the'** time when Hogsback puts on its prettiest clothes and it will astound you with flowers and beauty. Lilies, azaleas and rhodendrums grow everywhere and all their gardens are a paradise of colours.



Once again, in 2019 **Traveltime will be going to Hogsback** and will be returning to the Arminel Hotel. This time again we have booked the more modern on site self catering cottages. We will also be combining our tour to **Hogsback** with the annual **Bedford Garden Festival!** (18th, 19th and 20th October)



We fly into Port Elizabeth where we will collect our coach and then travel by road to Hogsback, a more acceptable 260kM. (Rather than the **LONG** road trip **Cape Town to Hogsback 958km**).

Of course, the **Bedford Garden Festival** is equally well-known for the natural beauty of the gardens (predominately large farm gardens). We have reserved accommodation at **Angler and Antelope in Somerset East**.



**"Come to Bedford for more open gardens, plant nurseries, two market hubs, lots of shopping, live music, warm hospitality and the scrumptious food for which we are known"**

**Tour highlights include:** Spring Festival / Spectacular Views / The Edge Hotel / The Arboretum / Applegarth Gardens / Eco Shrine / Forest Walks / Magnificent Gardens / Labyrinth / Arts & Crafts Trail / The Arminel Hotel / Camelot & Fairy Realm, beautiful waterfalls amongst others.

**For full details & pricing please request a tour brochure or visit our website:**

<https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/hogsback-bedford-2019>

**IMPORTANT NOTE :**

Festival accommodation is at a premium and **we need commitment without delay, if you wish to join this tour!**

*We already have four people interested*

**Experience the Beauty of the Eastern Cape**

**OLD YEAR 2019 (Provisional)  
30 Dec '19 —02 Jan '20 (4 days).**

*"The exquisite Montagu Country Hotel"*

**Accommodation has been booked**

**Watch this space for details**

We have set the wheels in motion to revisit this quaint, art décor furnished hotel after a superb group stay in 2016. We have stopped in at various times over the past 2 years and have always been impressed by their friendliness, attention to detail and the "at home feeling" you get when you walk into the reception area, sit at the pool, in the restaurant or relax in one of their rooms.

