

#### NEWSLETTER

JULY 2021

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TIME OUT: **KLEINMOND REPORT** 



**SUTHERLAND** 16-18 July

> **SPRING FLOWERS** Aug-Sept)

**SHAYAMANZI** 31 Oct-03 Nov 2nd Trip

**NAMIBIA 2022** 



At beginning of June, we thought we had record numbers for our Kleinmond trip and excitement was looming for our visit to the **Dirk Ace Record shop** – a nostalgic step-back in time! Dirk Ace has a collection of vinyl records; cd's; old memorabilia; record players (& clothes) all of which we would be familiar with - music collections from the 60's, 70's and 80's! We started off with 24 on the list and happily carried on planning – then along came the Covid 3<sup>rd</sup> wave, with all its ramifications! We had many cancellations (mostly all Covid related) which we fully understand with the 3<sup>rd</sup> wave raring it's ugly head in Gauteng with tragic proportions. We did the coastal drive past Gordon's Bay; Rooi Els; Pringle Bay; Betty's Bay and arrived in Kleinmond at about 11h15. Dirk Ace had his selection ready waiting and even asked a friend to bring along a coffee machine, where for a donation you could enjoy a cup of coffee. Purchases were made and sadly not very many people lingered here to listen to the music (despite that we had hired seating for the group) - the shops around Harbour Road seemed more appealing. At about 12h30 many decided that lunch was needed more than shopping and on arrival at **Swing In Coffee Shop**, the group was greeted with a welcoming cocktail! After this a prawn and hake starter was enjoyed and then platters with a selection of different salty snacks (Meatballs; Chicken Wings; Calamari; Cheese Grillers; Crumbed mushrooms; Curried vetkoek; Ribs, Chicken strips and Mini pies! Dessert was a Nutella pancake with blueberry coulis – all in all a "different, delicious type meal", for most, but there were a few unhappy patrons! The meal was served very efficiently by only one waitress with over-thecounter help from one or two others! This meant that we could leave the restaurant (reluctantly) by 14h30, but this allowed more time to 'gather' at the favourite place along the N2, near Grabouw -Peregrines Farm Stall! Bags and bags of favourite snacks were bought to take home, "For dinner tomorrow night." Sadly, even though we left Peregrines just after 15h40, with the traffic snarl ups in Somerset West / Baden Powell (where we sat behind two trucks for many kms, (you could almost hear driver Kobus breathe a sigh of relief when they turned off the road to the right!!). We arrived in Constantia at just after 17h00 and Tableview at around 18h00, (with a beautiful full moon coming up and lighting our way home).



















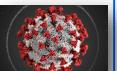






KLEINMOND in June





#### FROM OUR DESKS

In March 2020 when we heard that we were going into lockdown, who amongst us would ever have imagined that 15 months later we would be going into a more severe lockdown?

If you have followed the numbers in Gauteng, you won't be surprised! Covid with the new Delta variant has spiralled out-of-control and drastic steps had to be taken.

Being in Tourism as we are, we are not entirely happy with the restrictions, it is going to be detrimental to many sectors - not only tours but with restaurants & the staff affected, a very serious issue for many who were just 'recovering' from the previous 2 lockdowns!

What has been AMAZING is how people are rallying to help and we have seen posts of "people-helping-people" - only this morning I read of people out-of-work from wine estates offering to help restaurants in our area deliver take-aways! Several other businesses are also offering to do 'complimentary work' to re-print restaurant menus to show the public what they can offer!

If these lockdowns produce nothing else - they have helped us to open our eyes to our neighbours!

> **PLEASE** let us all stay **SAFE** in these very trying times.

One advantage we all have is being over 60! Most of us have already had our first vaccination with the second one following shortly—

> This will definitely stop the curve of infection in our age group.

> **Encourage family members over 50** to now register for vaccination.



#### TIME OUT IS 21



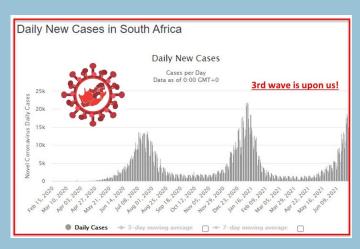
#### Sadly this is our first 'postponed' outing!

We made this decision even before President Ramaphoza made his speech on Sunday 27th June.

Most on the coach to Kleinmond on the 24th June 'welcomed' this move. It is merely a postponement until such a time that you all feel comfortable leaving the safety of your homes again.

#### **BITS OF THIS & THAT**

- The Time Out & Traveltime groups, as Brian and I know you all, are very caring people.
- All we can ask at this time in our lives, is that we all maintain contact with each other.
- A What's App on our phones will add brightness to an otherwise dull day (especially for those of you who live alone) KEEPING IN TOUCH is what will help us all.





#### STAR GAZING IN SUTHERLAND

18th - 20th JULY



- The latest Covid restrictions have stopped restaurants from offering meals in house. Take-away meals are permissible but this won't work for us!
- SALT and the Planetarium have suspended guided tours until 11th July. This date may well be extended!
- We are discussing all these hurdles with service providers and will keep everyone updated as soon as we have clarity on the best way forward for everyone.



SALT: South African Large Telescope

One GOOD thing at present is that the Western Cape seems to have an 'old fashioned type' winter with our rains in plentiful supply.

GUESS WHAT THIS MEANS?
YES, the Spring Flowers will be plentiful.

Meaning: it's not too late for you to join us on our many Spring Flower Tours



#### 28th August 2021

Our ever popular One-Day trip
West Coast National Park (Postberg Flower Reserve)

Don't miss out on this trip! Two pick up points:

Constantia & Tableview

Contact Carol on <a href="mailto:carol@traveltime.co.za">carol@traveltime.co.za</a> to book!!

Or, visit our website:

https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/spring-flowers-west-coast-park

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## SPRING FLOWERS: 5 DATES IN 2021



Two 4-Day, tour dates:

2nd—5th August

&
16th—19th August

1st Tour 2nd Tour

#### WILD FLOWER ADVENTURE

Tour operator: Cullinan Guided Journeys (our preferred partner)

Tour starts and ends in Cape Town

You will visit the West Coast National Park; Nieuwoudtville; and even do wine tasting along the Olifantsrivier wine route; Clanwilliam and Ramskop; Citrusdal (overnight in Vredendal)



Visit our website for full details & pricing:

https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/wild-flower-adventure

Emails: carol@traveltime.co.za / brian@traveltime.co.za

#### **SPRING FLOWERS:**

5 Days & 3 Days

9th to 13th September (Bookings coming in well—Don't miss out)

Two nights in Darling, staying at the fabulous **Darling Lodge Guest House**, then

- Two nights at the **Blue Bay lodge** / Visiting:
- West Coast National Park: Duckitt Orchids; Tienie Versveld Park; Ormonde Wine Estate



#### 17th to 19th September

Covid has meant that the Wild Flower Show was cancelled in 2020 GOOD NEWS......IT IS TO

#### **BE RE-OPENED OVER THIS WEEKEND!!**

- Staying at the **Darling Lodge Guest House**
- Flowers, flowers and more flowers
- West Coast National Park; Ormonde Wine **Estate**; **Duckitt Orchids**; **Darling Sweets**.



## **SHAYAMANZI 2ND VISIT**

Most popular 2021 tour



Shayamanzi Houseboat cruise on Lake Jozini -4 hours north of King Shaka airport. Tiger fishing (only dam in SA that stocks these fish - on a catch & release basis). Borders on the Pongola Game Reserve & is the only houseboat where you can do game viewing

as well as enjoy great cuisine & chill at the same time



Request a priced information brochure or visit our website: www.traveltime.co.za



# NAMIBIA IN ITS GLORY

## NAMIBIA TOUR POSTPONED TO JUNE 2022



SOSSUSVLEI; WALVIS BAY; SWAKOPMUND; DAMARALAND & ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK Covid has made it difficult to travel overseas?

travel overseas?
VISIT OUR NEIGHBOURS
(Far cheaper & safer)

### **Tour Highlights:**

Windhoek, Namib Desert, Namib Naukluft National Park, Sossusvlei including Dune 45, Deadvlei, Sesriem Canyon, Swakopmund, Solitaire and the Wild Horses, Kuiseb Valley, Walvis Bay and Flamingos, Dolphin Cruise, (Optional quad bike desert tour), Brandberg mountain, Damaraland, Welwitschia mirabilis plant, and then into the world renowned Etosha National Park for 3 days of game viewing before returning to Windhoek.

Request a priced tour brochure or visit our website www.traveltime.co.za

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## We are an accredited agent for ROVOS RAIL

Speak to Brian, he can fulfil your bucket-list for a <u>trip of a lifetime</u> on this <u>unbelievable</u> <u>product of our proud country.</u>



What are your plans for the END of 2021?? (Thursday 30th '21 to Sunday 2nd January '22)

We have decided to do another Old Year tour, this time to Prince Albert

Our base will be the <u>Mont'D Or Hotel or Saxe Coburg Guest</u>
<u>House</u>, both in the Main Street of this
fabulous little town.

#### Highlights (to name a few):

Swartberg Pass / The Showroom Theatre (for an Old Year Extravaganza show) / Meiringspoort/ Klaarstroom / De Rust and more...

**Speak to Carol to add your name to the list** 

