



**Traveltime**  
exclusive tours



**TimeOut**  
ladies club

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

PAGE 1

CONTENTS



**TIME OUT:  
REPORT ON  
TIME OUT IS 21**

\*



\*

**OLD YEAR  
2021 / 22**

\*

**ROAD TRIP  
APRIL (Knysna,  
Zuurberg near  
Addo, Plett)**

\*

**MOUNT  
CAMDEBOO  
MAY**

\*

**NAMIBIA 2022**

\*

**ON THE RADAR**

21

The day finally dawned to celebrate **TIME OUT is 21 & TRAVELTIME is 14.**

The day was postponed from July 2021 (the actual month) as Covid was rampant

at that time. Our Venue was chosen for its absolute

beauty and grandeur in the city of Cape Town – UTOPIA – Dining Elevated (on the 15<sup>th</sup> floor of a central city building overlooking the beauty of what is the finest city in the world) Their staff are very welcoming and efficient. A glass of Man Chenin Blanc or Orange Juice was served on their deck and many, many photos were taken!

At 11h00 everyone was summonsed to their tables and Mel warmly welcomed everyone. Brian then presented his awesome video which is always welcomed by all – memories are what makes 'this big world go around' – he thanked everyone for their participation, but particularly drew attention to both Heather and Ingrid Hestermann – (Heather 64% & Ingrid 59% of both Time Out and Traveltime trips) – **special thanks ladies.** Even though Utopia had pull-down blinds, the presentation was a 'bit' light but Brian rose to the occasion giving everyone a You Tube link so they could re-watch this in the comfort of their homes!

Carol then 'emotionally' thanked everyone for coming on the tours and recalled a few of her personal memories – after all memories are what make us what we are – the good and the bad (although truthfully the good outweighs the bad in our instance!)

Heather and Marie then presented Carol and Brian with a gift and a lovely card expressing thanks from the group. Much appreciated to everyone.....

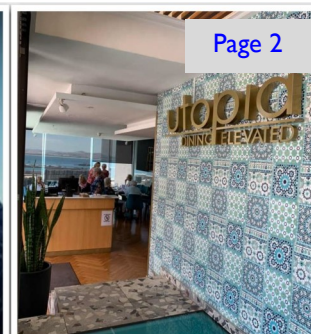
Our orders were then taken, and everyone had a chance to socialise a bit and take more photos before our starter was served

**Sauteed beef wasabi pepper sauce OR  
Asian-style salmon OR  
Mediterranean salad.**

**MAINS were Open-flame grilled Ribeye OR  
Grilled Line Fish OR  
Queen Prawns**

**All served with a choice of rustic cut chips or vegetables or mash**  
All too sadly, the day came to an end quicker than any of us could have wanted it to and the Hylton Ross coach was summonsed to take everyone back to Constantia and Tableview by 15h30.

14



TO IS 21 / TT IS 14

Page 2

Page 3



## REPORT: OLD YEAR TOUR

We headed out of the city, all meeting at the Cape Town International Airport, just before 09h00 on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> December. The route chosen for our trip to **Swartberg Country Manor** was via the N2 and, of course, as per usual, first stop is Peregrine, where coffees and cappuccinos were the order of the day! We left the N2 at **Swellendam** and took the fabulous road up the **Tredouw Pass to Barrydale**, where another stop was made to fetch Siptje and John who were joining us on tour. We spent a lovely lunch hour at **Diesel and Crème** who have a 'fabulous' system going – you place your order at an on site caravan and 'speedily' it is delivered to your table. Their coffee milk shakes are legendary.

We arrived at the Swartberg Country Manor just after 3.30pm – and from the very start one feels instantly at home when Leonie, Riaan (GM of the Hotel) and Dean our hostess for the period we were there, met us in the car park – their website says, "**THE PERFECT GET-AWAY TO RE-DISCOVER YOUR SOUL**" and this could not be truer! Food is sublime, served by their chef, Pierre and his assistant – Fresh fruit / yoghurts and home baked breads make sure you start the day off on the correct footing! We enjoyed all our evening meals which are quite honestly wholesome and hearty and ever so tasty.

On our first day we left at 09h00 to head to the **Swartberg Pass** – Chris our coach driver, is a mine of information and gave us interesting anecdotes the whole way up the pass. The summit of the Swartberg Pass is at 1583m with an altitude of 1568m. – (Higher by far than Table Mountain at 1068m!) When finally, after many stops, Chris suggested another short stop at the base of the pass where the road has a little stream running over it; this was most welcome – a great morning spent on the pass.

There was sufficient time to browse **Prince Albert** – After lunch we took the road past **Klaarstroom and Meiringspoort** – and ending up in **De Rust** for a short while. Riaan had suggested we take the gravel road from just outside De Rust eventually coming out very close to the **Cango Caves** – this ordinarily would have been a 'short cut' saving more than 50km – However, it turned out that recent rains had caused problems with the surface of the road, and we were on a windy, twisty road for over an hour – with many negative comments – they quickly turned 'positive' once we were back on terra-firma with the tar road!

A short rest and then everyone dressed in WHITE for the Old Year party gathered on the patio. They started dinner very early (19h45 and so dinner seemed to be over by just after 21h00) – However, this did not deter anyone as music was put on & the dancing began – resulting in our group being told '**that for our age we did better than guests half our age!**' What fun we had, and of course, the countdown to midnight came very quickly and the evening was **MOST ENJOYABLE** with everyone staying until well after midnight – a first for Old Year tours as often people fade earlier than midnight!

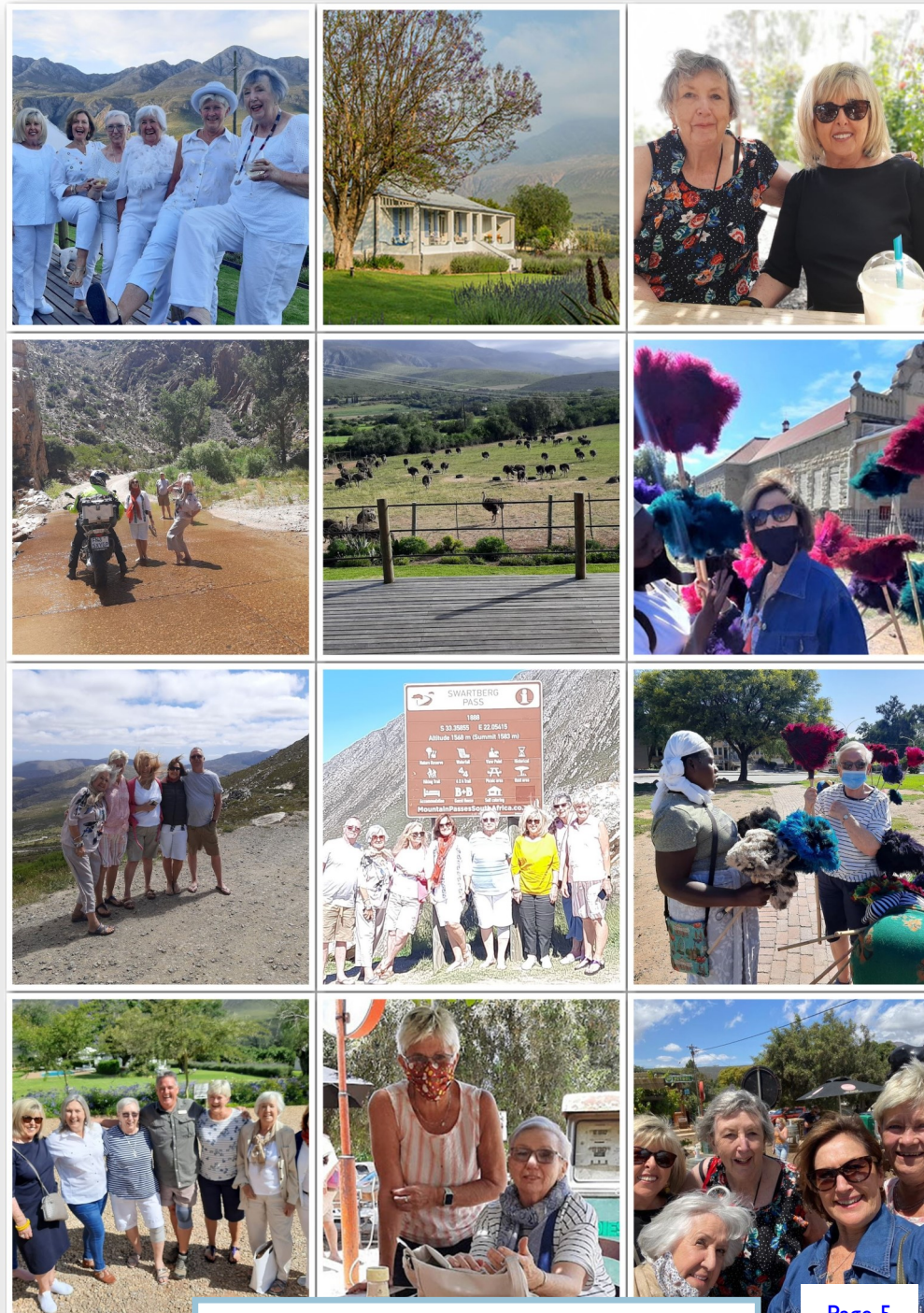
Next morning, we all had a LATE breakfast and then relaxed the morning away – some at the pool; some under their stunning trees; some on their patio horizontally. They served us a fabulous lunch of freshly baked breads and salad on their patio.

In the early afternoon we drove up to **Jan Se Gat** and must say did enjoy the view from this restaurant 5km from Swartberg Country Manor – but not much else! The restaurant lacks atmosphere, but this didn't stop the group of ladies idly chatting away.

Sadly, our last day had come – and it was time to leave. Their chef had very kindly baked us all breads to take home and on leaving Swartberg Country Manor there was a wheelbarrow full of marrows waiting for us to take back to Cape Town with us! Country Hospitality at its finest – and it was 'emotional' saying goodbye to Leonie and Riaan.

**We will return – an art course in winter is the carrot dangling at present and sounds fabulous.**

**"LET YOUR DREAMS TAKE FLIGHT THIS COMING YEAR OF 2022"**







## MYSTERY VENUE TOUR

SUNDAY 23RD JANUARY '22



We have selected a venue for our 11th Mystery Venue tour and all we can say that it is a comfortable distance from Cape Town, with a comfort break at a local market, en route.

**Traveltime Mystery Venue Tours  
always have an aura of mystique!**

(As with previous tours we will be running a competition—full details on our website - [www.traveltime.co.za](http://www.traveltime.co.za)). You can then submit your answers by 12th January. Winner of competition winner on 13th January 2022

Cost of the day which includes  
Transport & Sunday buffet:

- ♦ Selection of freshly prepared salads / Line fish with Tartare Sauce ;
- ♦ Two meats on the carvery; Two vegetables in season and roast potatoes,
- ♦ plus Dessert buffet and selection of tea and coffee.

R 595 per person

Please book early as we will only be taking 38 passengers.

**Booking & Payment deadline: Friday 14th January**

Coach will leave **TABLEVIEW** at 08:45  
and **CONSTANTIA VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTRE** at 09:30  
There will be a comfort break en route.



## ROAD TRIP

CT / PLETT / ADDO / KNYSNA / CT

**3RD TO 8TH APRIL 2022**

Our April road trip takes in the magnificent Garden Route including one night in Knysna ; 3 nights at the fabulous Zuurberg Mountain Reserve (with a morning game drive into Addo) ; and one night in Plett on the way back to Cape Town (we will show you local highlights of this area).



**We already have 5 people booked for this tour - come with us in the BEST TIME to tour the Garden Route—April!  
Don't miss out on this relaxing 6 day tour.**

PRICE for this fully inclusive 6 day tour including coach transport, transfers, accommodation, meals and excursions, as specified, is:

**R 14,080 per person sharing & R16,002 Single**

♦  
**Request a detailed Itinerary, or visit our website:  
<https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/addo-road-trip-2022>**



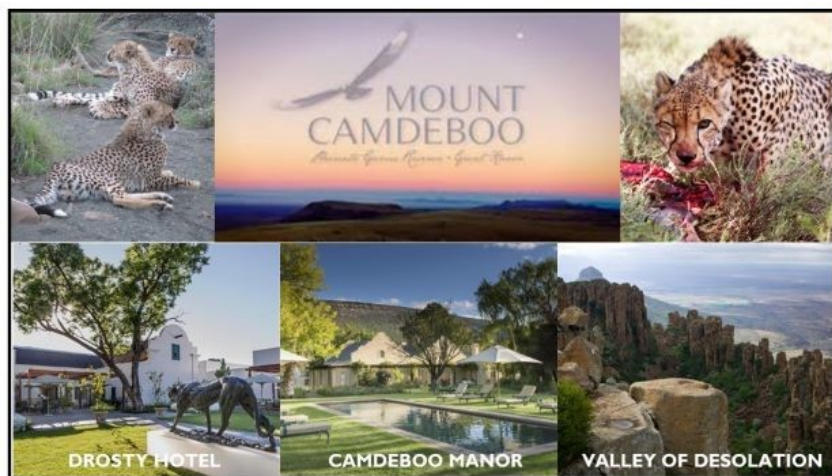
## THE GREAT KAROO

### Graaff Reinet / Mount Camdeboo

**Sunday 8th to Thursday 12th May '22**

We fly into Gqeberha airport (Port Elizabeth) instead of travelling by road from Cape Town (900km) / Overnight at **5\* Drostdy Hotel** and visit the **Valley of Desolation**.

Then, three **nights in the luxurious Mount Camdeboo Private Game Reserve** - **THEY NOW HAVE THE BIG 5 at this awesome reserve!**



We already have 4 bookings for this tour.

**PRICE** for this fully inclusive 5-day tour including airfares & transfers (with a minimum of 10 passengers), accommodation, meals and excursions, as detailed, is:

**Land Arrangements: R18,908 per person / Airfare: (R1,852 pp), subject to adjustment until paid in full. There is no single supplement.**

**Total price per person R20,760**

◆  
**Request a detailed Itinerary, or visit our website:**

**<https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/mount-camdeboo-2022>**



**Traveltime**  
exclusive tours



**Itinerary**  
**Namibia Highlights-2022 NH**  
**16<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June '22**  
**Windhoek / Sossusvlei /**  
**Swakopmund / Damaraland,**  
**Etosha National Park / Windhoek**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June DAY 1 Cape Town - Windhoek Air Namibia



We are provisionally booked on the Airlink flight to Windhoek (to be confirmed), where a vehicle awaits to transfer us to our overnight accommodation, **The Avani Windhoek Hotel & Casino**. You drive through mountainous terrain to Windhoek, the capital city of Namibia. With inhabitants totaling nearly 350,000, Windhoek constitutes the largest city in the country and is situated in a lush and scenically appealing valley of **Awas Mountains**, Namibia's second highest mountain range.

Tonight we will enjoy a welcome drink before dinner.

**The Avani Hotel (D.B)** Stay in the heart of Namibia's capital city with access to all the action, culture and wildlife; perfect for business or pleasure. Dinner could be in house or at a local restaurant.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June DAY 2 Namib Desert 330km



Departing Windhoek, we travel to our lodge in the Namib Desert. This is the gateway to **Sesriem Canyon and Sossusvlei**, where some of the highest sand dunes on Earth stand towering over the white desert plains. The afternoon can be spent relaxing at the pool, or taking part in optional activities offered at the lodge.

**Meals will be served at Sossusvlei Lodge restaurant.**



**Sossusvlei Desert Camp (D.B)** Situated just 5km from the entrance to the beautiful Sossusvlei region.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June DAY 3 Namib Desert 200km



This morning demands an early start. Entering the Namib Naukluft National Park with sunrise, the first rays of sunlight paint the mountains of sand into a variety of apricot, red and orange, contrasted against a crisp blue skyline, enchanting our senses, and providing an opportunity to capture this awesome landscape on film. You will be captivated by the surreal **Deadvlei** surrounded by some of the highest dunes on earth and **Sossusvlei**, where the dry **Tsauchab River** ends abruptly amongst dunes. Take the opportunity to walk up one of these majestic dunes to admire the desert landscape beneath. After that, we visit the **Sesriem Canyon**, a life-sustaining natural phenomenon in the heart of the Namib Desert.

**Sossusvlei Desert Camp (D.B)**



B.P.Coombes cc (CK9906179/23) / P.O. Box 50371, West Beach, 7449

Phones: +27(0)82 901 9165 / +27(0)84 580 1469 / Fax: 0866 324078

email: [brian@traveltime.co.za](mailto:brian@traveltime.co.za) / web: [www.traveltime.co.za](http://www.traveltime.co.za)

Page 9

For a fully priced & detailed Itinerary, please visit our website:  
<https://www.traveltime.co.za/package/namibia-2022>



After many months CERES RAIL is, once again, starting their steam train trips to the Elgin Railway Market.

**Date of launch is Sunday 28th November**  
(Bookings opened on 1st November 2021)

**Trips are currently scheduled on week ends only.**



**We are planning a group trip for Sunday 27th March**, so if you want to join us, please indicate your interest to allow us to secure the best price / seating.  
Email: [brian@traveltime.co.za](mailto:brian@traveltime.co.za) or a day of FUN & LAUGHTER



**PRICES ARE LOWER THAN IN 2019—2020!**

Visit our website:  
<https://www.traveltime.co.za/ceres-rail-elgin-railway-market>

## A FEW MEMORIES OF OUR GROUP TRAIN TRIP APRIL 2018 - LET'S DO IT AGAIN IN 2022!

**B.P.Coombes cc (CK9906179/23) / P.O. Box 50371, West Beach, 7449**

Phones: +27(0)82 901 9165 / +27(0)84 580 1469 / Fax: 0866 324078

email: [brian@traveltime.co.za](mailto:brian@traveltime.co.za) / web: [www.traveltime.co.za](http://www.traveltime.co.za)



*The End*