

In this issue:

TOUR PLANNING 1

Tour Reports
Spring Flowers 2
Aug & USA
Group

UPCOMING:
TIME OUT: 3
Hermanus:
Lizettes Kitchen

UPCOMING
TRAVELTIME: 4
Sutherland
Star Gazing
(3 Days)

Karoo Art Hotel
Barrydale 4
(3 Days)

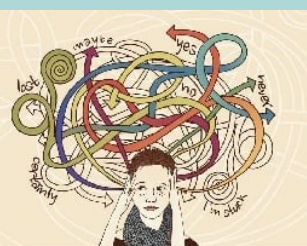
Elgin Open
Gardens 5
(1 Day)

Steam Train
Trips 6
(1 Day)

Old Year 22
(4 Days) 7

Planning Stage
Tours 8
* Time Out is 22
* Mystery Venue
* Namibia '23

YOUR THOUGHTS:



ISSUED: 14TH SEPT '22



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BANKING DETAILS ON REQUEST



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2022 Tour Planning UPCOMING TOURS

The following schedule is current as at 11th September. We will continue to provide updates & additional information in future newsletters, as planning progresses:

2022 (Tour dates in blue are confirmed / In black are Provisional)

TIME OUT

- **16th September: Darling Wildflower Show (1 Day):** **CANCELLED**
- **29th September: Hermanus-Lizettes Kitchen (1 Day):** **Page: 3**

TRAVELTIME

- **Tour Report: Spring Flower Tour (5 Days)** **Page: 2**
- **Tour Report: American Group Flower Tour (6 Days)** **Page: 2**
- **21st-23rd September: Sutherland-Star Gazing (3 Days):** **Page: 4**
- **4th-6th November: Karoo Art Hotel-Barrydale (3 Days):** **Page: 4**
- **6th November: Elgin Open Gardens (1 Day):** **Page: 5**
- **Various day trips: Steam Train: Elgin Railway Market / Ceres** **Page: 6**
- **30th Dec-'22—2nd Jan '23: Old Year Tour (4 Days):** **Page: 7**

'PLANNING STAGE'-TOURS:

- **24th November: Time out is 22:** **Page: 8**
- **29th January '23: Mystery Venue Tour (1 Day):** **Page: 8**
- **June '23: Namibia Highlights & Canyons & Deserts** **Page: 8**

MORE IN NEXT ISSUE OCTOBER '22

Planning for 2023 will begin shortly and we would welcome your input as to places you would like to see and things you would like to do.

Please let us have your thoughts / suggestions by the end of October.

TOUR REPORTS:

PAGE 2



17 eager flower seekers left Cape Town in the rain - all keen to search for the fabulous flower season that the West Coast has become famous for. We had 2 from KZN; 6 from Gauteng; 2 from George; 5 from CT; 1 from Somerset West; 1 from Tarkastad; **DESPITE THE FORECAST, "LIVE LIKE ITS SPRING"**—Lilly Pulitzer is so apt as 18 people started off not

knowing each other but when the tour was over, we all felt so close! Amazing what the 'power of nature' can do!



Highlights of the tour were: the West Coast National Park, Darling Orchids; Dinner at Kossie Sikelele; Hopefield Market on Saturday; Koekeloer and Koffiemoer in Aurora; and flowers, flowers everywhere. The weather was typically 'Spring' in Mid-August - some days overcast and cool but the flowers played along and everyone went home with photographs galore.

Please read our full report & photos on our website:

<https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/spring-flowers-2022-1>

TOUR REPORT—USA GROUP FLOWER TOUR (ABRIDGED)

28TH AUGUST - 2ND SEPTEMBER 2022

Excitement as Sunday 28th August dawned which meant the EWT (Explorers World Travel) tour was about to happen after many delays from 2020 – Covid/Ukraine War – but here we were with 12 eager Americans ready to travel and explore the Western Cape and Northern Cape looking for flowers and meeting the people of the area.

Our 'Safari Beast' which was a 24seater truck cum coach arrived at the V&A Hotel and shortly after 08h30 we were set to go on the R27 to the **West Coast National Park**. Sadly en route we encountered rain and the day was overcast and cloudy which are not good signs for flower viewing! Our usual coffee/tea break down at **Tsaarbank** in the Park, was welcome before we headed into the **Postberg Flower Reserve**. This park never fails to impress – fields and fields of flowers and this immediately puts everyone at ease. We found ourselves up at the Langebaan view site where we sat on camping chairs with the "Beast" shielding us from the wind.



Clients comments: The Report was a delight to read, thank you! We just got home last night and it was a wonderful, perfectly concise, diary of what we did with you. Thank you, again, very much. One tiny note of contention: going to Lambert's Bay didn't achieve its goal, as you pointed out, but I can assure you that not a person on the trip would in retrospect do otherwise. **The further to go, the less known the road, the more an American will travel it!**

Please read our full report on our website: <https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/spring-flowers-usa-group-22>



Hermanus in September is **WHALE TIME** - and this is how this month's trip started—We had planned a 4 day trip for October, but this resulted in little interest, so we decided that we didn't want to miss out and planned this day trip.

Celebration of these great mammals returning to our shores year-in-and-year-out! Nothing finer than standing on the shore and observing these giants!

On arrival in Hermanus we will take the coach down to **Sievers Point** where the majestic whales are easy to observe close to the shore.

Our restaurant is close by - **LIZETTE'S KITCHEN & BAR** @ 20 on 8th Street, Voelklip Beach!

Owner, Lizette Crabtree, spent years as a head chef in the Franschhoek Valley, followed by a stint overseas as head chef at Caravelle in Saigon, which is where the Asian fusion-style influence comes from. We eat today in 'sharing' style—platter boards and plates with delectable food will be brought to table to 'share' - menu sounds fabulous!

Latest comments on Facebook about Walker Bay, are:

"Walker Bay looks like an aquatic show with mini fountains from all the Southern Right Whales exhaling—causing the moisture in their breath to condense and create a V Cloud"



The Hermanus Whale Festival runs for 3 days from 30th September to 2nd October and when visiting Hermanus we always select days before or after the festival.

Previous experience has shown banked up traffic, full restaurants, bad service and thousands of people on the waterfront jostling to see the whales. **Not for us!**

Cost for the day is R625 per person,
including transport and lunch.

Booking and payment deadline:
Friday 23rd September, 2022

COACH WILL LEAVE TABLEVIEW AT 08H30
(A little bit earlier because of distance to travel!)
& CONSTANTIA VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTRE AT 09H15



We visited the surface of Mars!



We have visited Sutherland 9 times over the past 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 our previous tour report with photos: https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/sutherland-2021](https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/sutherland-2021)

The period chosen to do this tour falls into the **NEW MOON** period and is an excellent time to view the stars. Spring 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, [please request a tour brochure](#)

OR Visit our website: www.traveltime.co.za

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The hotel has recently opened after a major renovation and redecoration.

In the words of owners Rick & Sue Melvill:

“One never really owns places like these, you’re really just the custodians for another generation”.

Here’s to a wonderful new chapter for the Karoo Art in the post Covid era

Tour Highlights:

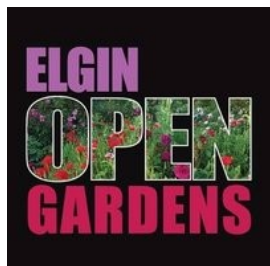
- # A private cinema to enjoy, one evening. /
- # Time spent in the kitchen with David learning the secrets of slow, delicious cooking.
- # Walking the Doris Day walk in town & also the Labyrinth.
- # Saturday morning market in town .

Price for this fully inclusive **3 day break**, including coach transport, accommodation, Breakfast and Dinner is

R7,860 per person sharing
(R8,420 Single)

[For full details & pricing, please request a tour brochure or visit our website: www.traveltime.co.za](#)

When planning this tour our first option was to visit the area for two days, spending a night away for one of the two periods (29-30 October or 5-6 November). Regrettably we found that accommodation is at a premium over these dates and we have now decided to only do a day trip into the area, with a set selection of gardens, to view **on Sunday 6th November**.



We will visit 2 gardens in the morning; followed by lunch, with entertainment at the fabulous Elgin Railway Market:

Auldearn:

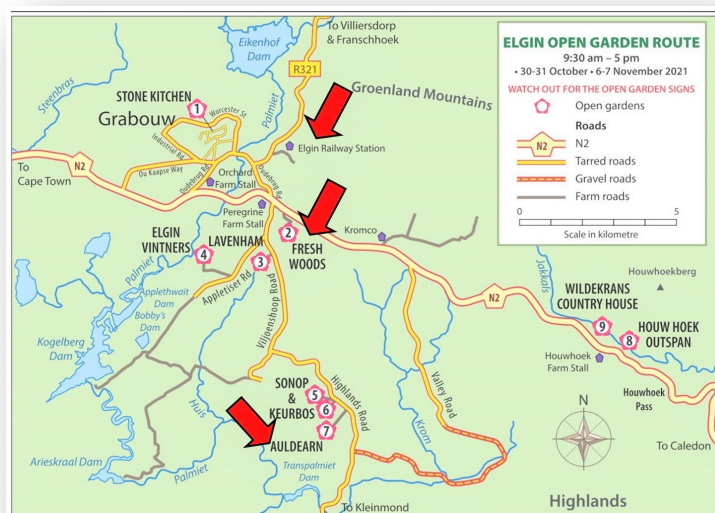
A plants-woman garden that skilfully mixes unusual indigenous and exotic plants, with a focus on colour combinations. Panoramic views are framed by informal mixed plantings dominated by flowering cherries & roses.

Fresh Woods:

Rambling, romantic plantsman garden with major collection of heritage and species roses; many rare trees and shrubs; unusual hydrangeas; & over 80 Japanese maple trees! **& plenty more—**

The Elgin Railway Market:

Separate stall holders with the focus on gardening & items of interest. In addition it will act as a lunch break stop where you can order a delectable lunch from one of their stall holders.



PRICE FOR THIS RELAXING DAY IN THE COUNTRY, IS:

R625 per person,

This includes:

**entrance to the two gardens & coach transport
(lunch at the Elgin Railway Market - own account)**

Pick up times at Constantia Village &

Tableview Library :

To follow

ELGIN RAILWAY MARKET



DEPARTURES

CAPE TOWN TO ELGIN

Operated by:



UPDATED
11 AUGUST
2022

MONTH	CODES:	TRAIN TRIP	FULL / COMPLETE	NO TRAIN
SEPTEMBER	SAT 3	SAT 17		
OCTOBER	SAT 1	SAT 8	SAT 22	SAT 29
NOVEMBER	SAT 5	SAT 12	SAT 26	
DECEMBER	SAT 3	SUN 4	SAT 10	SUN 11
DECEMBER	SAT 17	SUN 18		
JANUARY	SAT 7	SUN 8	SAT 14	SAT 21
FEBRUARY	SAT 4	SAT 18	SAT 25	

TICKET



SALES

brian@traveltime.co.za / 082 901 9165 / 084 580 1469

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

TRAVELTIME IS AN AUTHORISED TICKET VENDOR
FOR CERES RAIL TRAIN BOOKINGS

Join us on a 160 km round-trip **departing on Saturdays & some Sundays** at 07h45 from Cape Town. Our destination is the Art Deco "Elgin Railway Market". Journey departs from Harbour Bridge Platform (close to the Cape Town International Convention Centre), and meanders through Cape Town and its surrounds until reaching the majestic Sir Lowrys Pass. Arriving at the foot of the pass, the train embarks on an epic climb up one of the steepest railway lines in South Africa. Cresting the peak, the train snakes its way into the lush Elgin Valley before arriving at the Elgin Railway Market. Details / bookings: <https://www.traveltime.co.za/ceres-rail-elgin-railway-market>



DAY TRIP TO CERES

Next departure: 24th September (Heritage Day): Fully booked.

Join Ceres Rail Company on a steam-only, 250 km round-trip from Cape Town. Our destination is Ceres!

The journey departs from Harbour Bridge Platform (close to the Cape Town International Convention Centre). The journey takes passengers through Paarl, Wellington, the Nuwekloof Pass, Wolseley, Michells Pass, and finally into Ceres.

Onboard our train, guests can enjoy the wonderful scenery from various seating options whilst sipping on drinks from our fully licensed cash bar, or snacking in our dining car.

Passengers are welcome to bring their own picnic baskets (please buy your drinks onboard).

The service is suited to all ages and promises to be an experience to never forget. Kids under 2 travel free.

Pricing

- Day Sitter seating – R750 per seat
- Family Coupe (3 Adults, OR 2 adults and 2 children) – R1900 for the whole coupe
- Family Compartment (6 persons) – R3500 for the whole compartment
- Bar Lounge Seating (No under 18's) – R850 per seat
- Observation Car (Private Bar and the best seats in the house!) – R850 per seat.
- Pricing is for a return trip

Journey Timeline:: Request full travel details. (07h00—19h00)

The next scheduled trip to Ceres is on Heritage Day (24th September): FULLY BOOKED.

Please confirm your interest in future trips (brian@traveltime.co.za).

We will confirm new scheduled dates..





On a recent 'educational' trip in the Cederberg we travelled along route 303 from Citrusdal to Ceres and came across a 'Little gem' in a small town, **Op-Die-Berg** in the Koue Bokkeveld area, 49km from Ceres. Experience a breath of fresh air!

Whet your appetite!

- **Our route** to our base in Tulbagh will pass through the Huguenot tunnel.
- **Gin tasting** in the Breede Valley and then a light lunch at Rietdakkie Padstal (Own account).
- ♦ **Accommodation** (3 nights) reserved at the 4* Tulbagh Boutique Heritage Hotel.
- ♦ **Things to do:** Tuk Tuk tour / Oakhurst Olives / Saronsberg wines / Kole en Deeg / Fynbos Café / Hillbilly Farmstall / Made in Tulbagh / Adene Flowers
- ♦ **Old Year 31st December '22:** Dinner at Readers Restaurant.
- ♦ **New Year 1st January '23:** Travel through Ceres over Mitchells Pass / Prince Alfred Hamlet / stop at Source Handmade Foods (if open) / over Gydo Pass to **Op die Berg Horse & Carriage Rides**, where we will spend some time enjoying the countryside & partaking in a carriage ride and sharing a locally supplied picnic.

Bookings have been brisk. 10 confirmed: If you want to join this tour please confirm asap. Request a tour brochure or visit: www.traveltime.co.za



TOURS IN THE PLANNING STAGE:



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FUTURE TOUR: TIME OUT IS 22 24th November '22



TimeOut
ladies club



Planning is underway for our anniversary celebration (Time Out is 22 / Traveltime is 15). In the past this was always scheduled for July, but since we had to delay this due to Covid in 2020 & 2021, we have decided to hold this in November, as we did in 2021 when we had our special day at **Utopia** in central Cape Town; **a really happy place with spectacular views.**

See the tour report and photos: <https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/time-out-is-21>

We will provide full details of this function once the venue is confirmed.

visit our website: www.traveltime.co.za



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FUTURE TOUR: MYSTERY VENUE 29th January '23



Our last tour was held at Houwhoek Inn in their new function venue. Great day with good food, but sweltering heat.

See report: <https://www.traveltime.co.za/portfolio/mystery-venue-2021>

Planning is underway and we will provide details once the venue is confirmed.

visit our website: www.traveltime.co.za



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FUTURE TOUR: NAMIBIA 16th-26th June 2023 (11 Days)



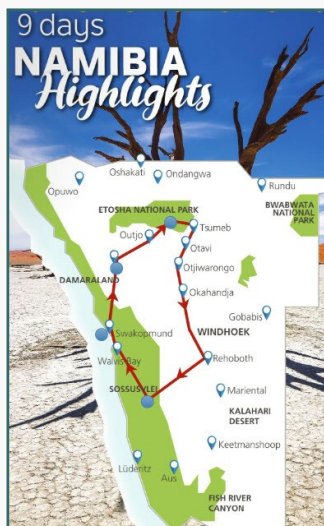
**FULL DETAILS:
19th September**

This tour was originally planned to take place in 2020 and was postponed to 2021 & 2022 due to Covid restrictions. In April 2022 it was again postponed, to 2023 due to low numbers.

We are currently updating the original tour details & costing and are also evaluating the route which includes the Kolmanskop Ghost Town as an option to the original itinerary.

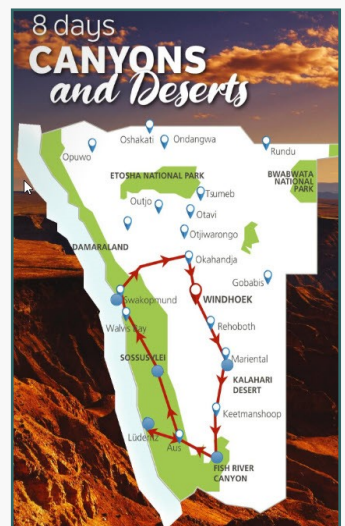
ORIGINAL

Tour = 9 days + 1 day each pre and post tour = 11



OPTION

Tour = 8 days + 1 day each pre and post tour = 10



We will release full details & pricing on Monday 19th September.

END