

SHORT STAYS

Our Short Stays are designed to complement a broader Cape Town or South Africa travel itinerary, offering an opportunity for a deeper exploration of the Cape Town icons of Table Mountain and the Cape of Good Hope or a breakaway to the often-overlooked West Coast and the Cederberg Wilderness Area.

OVERNIGHT IN THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

A day and a half of hiking in the stunning Cape Point Nature Reserve, including an unforgettable night in a remote beach cottage in the reserve.

Notes for the Consultant:

Highlights of this experience include stunning coastal scenery and indigenous flora while hiking the trails; visits to the iconic Cape Point Lighthouse and the Cape of Good Hope; a night in a remote beach cottage located right on the beach; possible wildlife sightings of Chacma Baboon, Cape Mountain Zebra, Eland, Bontebok, Red Hartebeest, Ostrich, Cape Clawless Otter and Southern Right Whale (July to November) and a visit to an endangered colony of African Penguins.

The trip is intended to appeal to guests who enjoy and are familiar with hiking in nature – while the trails are not technical, there is no vehicle support once on the trail to assist guests who no longer wish to partake.

All personal and group equipment is portered to the beach cottage by our team – guests need only hike with a light day pack.

The Olifantsbos Cottage is a South African National Parks facility. It is a simple and rustic beach cottage, pleasantly appointed with individual rooms featuring comfortable beds and linen, gas-heated hot showers, flushing toilets and a stylish living area both indoors and out. The cottage can accommodate 12 people including the guide, although due to the configuration of the rooms and facilities, this experience is best suited for a maximum of 6 guests. The cottage is booked for private use – guests will not be sharing the facility with other guests. Please note that there is no Wi-Fi or mobile phone connection in this location.

Most dietary requirements can be catered for provided ample advance notice is given, although please note that strict Kosher or Halaal diets may be limited and attract a surcharge.

Please note that while this tour can be offered any day of the week, cottage availability over weekends, public holidays and during the festive season can be at a premium and we advise booking well in advance to avoid any disappointment.

Duration:

- 1 night / 2 days

Grade:

- Day 1: Moderate to Hard. Expect mostly undulating trails on both rocky paths and sandy shorelines, with the occasional short but steep ascent or descent on route. 4 to 5hrs, 9km.
- Day 2: Moderate. Sandy beach and softly undulating trails, with a short ascent and descent over rocky trails towards the end of the hike. 3 to 4hrs, 7km

Itinerary:

- Day 1 – Following an early pick up from Cape Town, we make our way for a short visit with the endangered colony of African Penguins at Boulders Beach in Simonstown before enjoying the scenic drive along the coastline to the entrance gate of the Cape Point Nature Reserve. From here we explore on foot, following the trail through pristine indigenous coastal flora and taking

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in beautiful mountain and coastal scenery, making our way ultimately to historic Cape Point. After a restaurant lunch and the obligatory visit to the Cape Point Lighthouse, we continue our hike down the boardwalks leading us to the Cape of Good Hope, the south-western most point of the African continent. We transfer from here to Olifantsbos in the remote northern section of the reserve, taking a short beach walk to arrive at the hidden splendour of Olifantsbos Beach Cottage, with its own private beach. Toast the sunset from the deck before enjoying a traditional South African BBQ prepared by your guide.

- Day 2 – after an early rise with coffee on the deck to hopefully see the resident Cape Clawless Otters and followed by a leisurely breakfast, we head out onto the beach to explore the nearby shipwrecks. Heading inland from the beach, we pass through a surreal landscape crafted by the notorious Cape South East winds in search of the plains game such as Bontebok, Mountain Zebra, Eland and Red Hartebeest, finishing our hike back at the entrance to the reserve. Back in the van, we make our way to the sleepy village of Scarborough for a café lunch before continuing our way along the fabulous cape coastline taking in the scenery around the village of Kommetjie, a little shopping for local crafts or great home-made ice-cream or pastries in Noordhoek and the views from the stunning Chapmans Peak Drive before returning the guests to their hotel in Cape Town.

Price Includes:

- VAT
- Private transfers
- Porterage of personal and group equipment
- Mineral water, trail snacks and refreshments during hiking activities
- 1 x Breakfast, 2 x Lunches & 1 x Dinner, including mineral water and hot beverages
- Limited wine and malt at dinner and sundowner cocktails
- Entrance fees to Boulders Beach Penguin Colony
- Entrance fees to Cape Point Nature Reserve
- Access to Active Africa personal hiking equipment – cold weather gear, trekking poles, back packs, water bottles.

Price Excludes:

- Flying Dutchman Funicular tickets at Cape Point
- Personal purchases
- Any additional alcoholic beverages
- Guide Gratuities

Booking Terms & Conditions

- Active Africa booking terms and conditions apply.
- Please note that SA National Parks levies a surcharge on accommodation in the park between Dec 8th and Jan 17th.