



**Richard Mullin**

*"The only man I envy is the man who has not yet been to Africa - for he has so much to look forward to."*

## **Chimhavira brings you our 16 day "Beautiful South Africa" safari**

We are thrilled to bring to you this truly 'off the beaten track' experience.

### Nature of the Tour:

With this itinerary you will visit the highlights of northern South Africa. We'll start off with the Kruger National Park, by day looking at the amazing wildlife, in the evening you will be sleeping in the wilds of Africa. We will also take you through Swaziland, a true 4x4 country. We will traverse mountain roads with breathtaking views through to Mkhuzi. At Mkhuzi you will find all kinds of wild animals, large and small. To finish off this amazing package we will drive back to Johannesburg through the impressive Drakensberg Mountains.

### Safari dates:

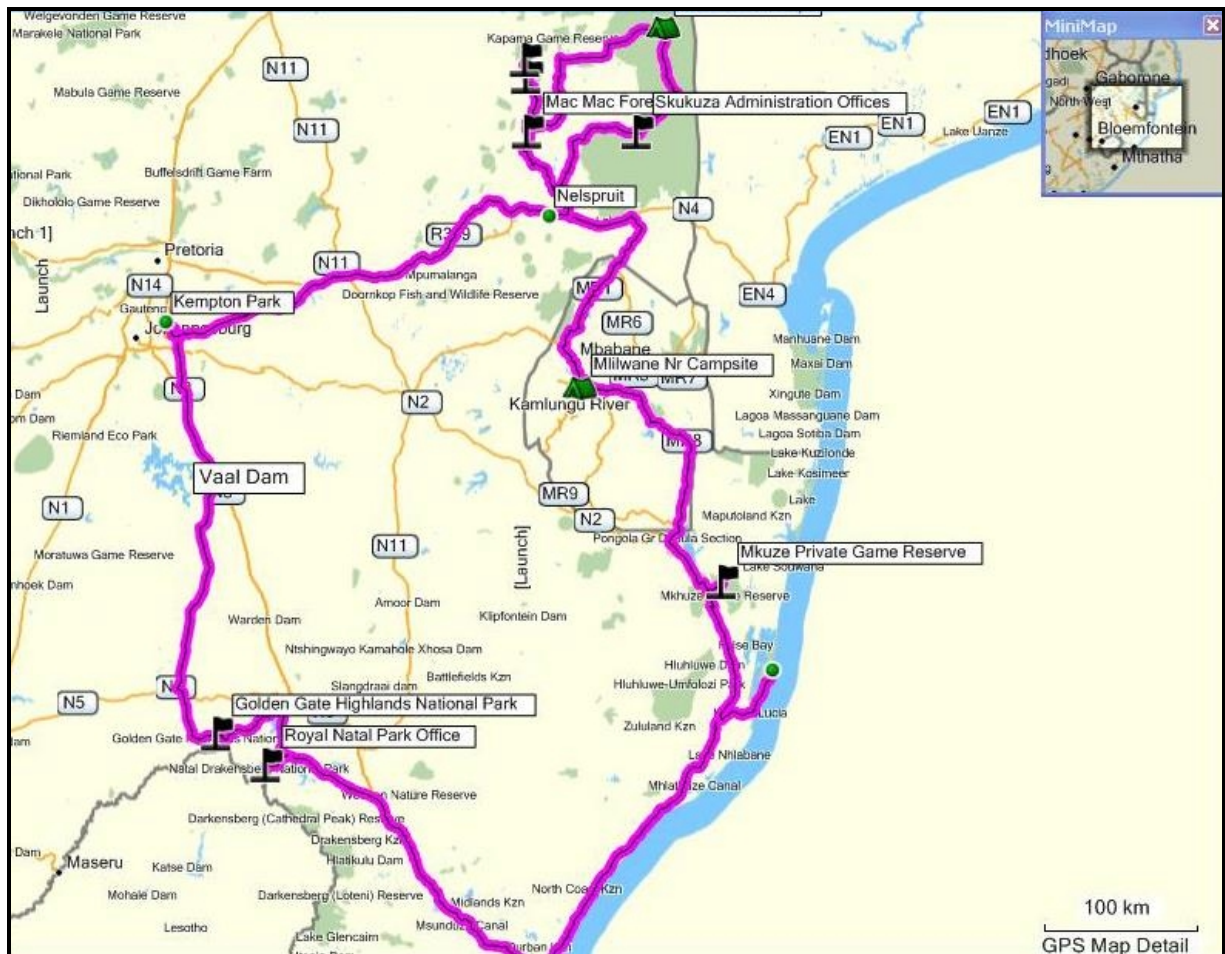
Johannesburg to Johannesburg

Arrival/Start – **Daily**  
Departure/End – **To be confirmed**

### Basic Itinerary:

Tour Departs 08:00H

Day 1	Johannesburg - Nelspruit
Day 2	Nelspruit and surrounding area
Day 3	Nelspruit - Kruger National Park (Skukuza Camp)
Day 4	Skukuza Camp – Satara Rest Camp
Day 5	Satara Rest Camp
Day 6	Satara Rest Camp - Blyde River Canyon
Day 7	Blyde River Canyon
Day 8	Blyde River Canyon – Mlilwane Campsite (Swaziland)
Day 9	Swaziland - Mkuze Game Reserve
Day 10	Mkuze Game Reserve - Cape Vidal, St Lucia
Day 11	Cape Vidal, St Lucia, Hluhluwe
Day 12	Cape Vidal - Drakensberg Royal Natal National Park
Day 13	Royal Natal National Park
Day 14	Royal Natal - Golden Gate National Park
Day 15	Golden Gate - Johannesburg
Day 16	Departure



Safari Cost:

Cost is based on a per person sharing rate, please email [info@chimhavira.com](mailto:info@chimhavira.com) with the dates that you would like to book this safari along with number of people sharing for a quotation.

Our prices include:

- Your fully customised Land Rover and all equipment including fully enclosed roof-top tents
- Support vehicle and team leader costs
- Route planning, itineraries, bookings and travel guidance
- Field guides, maps and documents required for cross-border travel
- Complete introduction to the vehicle, equipment & basic 4x4 driver training where necessary
- Vehicle exchange when serious mechanical breakdown occurs
- Comprehensive vehicle insurance cover (full details available upon request)
- Free airport transfers to and from our Johannesburg offices
- Our individual service
- All fuel, toll road and border fees
- An emergency medical kit, and all guides are first aid trained
- Two full meals per day plus snacks
- Drinking water and cordial

Our prices exclude:

- International/regional and domestic airfares to and from collection/departure points
- The optional hire of a satellite phone and/or GPS for navigation
- Visas and personal travel insurance
- Alcoholic beverages, mixers and soft drinks
- All beverages and food out of camp
- Laundry services
- Clothing, toiletries and all other personal items e.g. cameras, sun block etc
- Fees for non-scheduled excursions, activities, entrance fees etc
- Gratuities
- Costs for any upgraded accommodation to that listed above and below.

Passport Visa Requirements:

We will be travelling in South Africa & Zimbabwe:

- South Africa – Visas are generally required at the port of entry. You will be given a three month visa which is free of charge.
- Swaziland – Visas are generally required at the port of entry. You will be given a three month visa which is free of charge.

*This information is correct as of today's date, please double check with the relevant embassy in your home country before you travel. Chimhavira cannot be held responsible to any changes to these requirements that are beyond our control.*

Items of interest:

Total driving Distance: Approx 3,150 km (1,950 miles)

Diesel consumption based on 2 vehicles: 788 litres (210 UK gallons)

Borders crossed:

Matsamo Border Post

Golela Border Post

Suggestions:

African kids love asking tourists for sweets and pens. If you have space in your suitcase bring a couple bags of both with you. The kids will smile and be happy; you will enjoy it for little cost. Old clothes are good for bargaining with adults for curios or local fruits etc.

## 16 - Day Beautiful South Africa Safari itinerary

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**Meal Key: B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner**

### **Day 1: Johannesburg - Overnight in Nelspruit**

After arrival at Johannesburg airport, you have cleared immigration; pick up your luggage found your way through customs, your Safari leader will meet up with you. You will be taken to Chimhavira's South African Office, not far from the airport, have a chance to freshen up, pick up your Landrover, and check through the equipment. After all of the required formalities are finished, you'll be set for your 'great adventure!' Your Safari leader will ensure you stock up on supplies along the way; the first leg of your trip will take approximately 4 hours.

You'll drive over the N4 to your first overnight stay location near Nelspruit and Kruger Park. You'll stay in a tent here on full board basis so that you'll be able recoup after travelling.

If you arrive in Johannesburg in the evening, we'll make reservations for you to stay in a guest house near the airport.

**Approximate distance:** 350 km  
**Accommodation:** Nelspruit Camping  
**Meals:** L, D

### **Day 2: Nelspruit and surrounding area**

Today you'll be able to slowly acclimatize to your surroundings. Today there are a number of items on offer to you, you could, for instance, explore the Drakensberg Mountains, at the same time gathering 4x4 driving practice, or if you feel up to the test you could go horse riding, hiking or fishing, the rugged terrain makes this a perfect day for a horse ride.

**Approximate distance:** 200 km  
**Accommodation:** Nelspruit Camping  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 3: Nelspruit - Kruger National Park (Skukuza Camp)**

After a relaxing day its time for a hearty breakfast and then lets go find some wild animals! We will drive through to the Kruger National Park 'Numbi Entrance Gate' where we will have most of the day to go on a game drive. You will be fascinated at all kinds of different animals you spot during the drive. Along the way we will be making stops at a few of the many camps or rest stops along the way to stretch out for a bit. This evening we will set up camp in one of the small overnight camps. Your roof tent on top of your 4x4 is the idea place from which to listen to the night sounds of the animals, listen for the cry of the 'Fiery necked nightjar'.

**Approximate distance:** 150 km  
**Accommodation:** Skukuza Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

## **Day 4: Skukuza Camp – Satara Rest Camp**

Now it's time for some serious safari activities on your camping safari in South Africa. Wake up early today so that you will be able to go on your own private game drive on your way to Kruger's Orpen gate. You'll be driving over unpaved roads to your next accommodation which lies in lion territory. Provided we have not taken too long enjoying the sights along route we will arrive in time for lunch.

In the afternoon, just as the heat of the day is subsiding we will jump into our land rovers and head off for an afternoon / evening game drive, if you prefer why not go on a professionally guided walk. We should not have any problem spotting animals; this area is known for the large number of animals roaming the land freely since there are no gates to keep them away. Even lions venture into camp from time to time. On return to the camp, we will prepare a delicious dinner whilst sharing the days game drive stories, who knows we may even have other participants by the campfire.

**Approximate distance:** 100 km  
**Accommodation:** Satara Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

## **Day 5: Satara Rest Camp**

Today we'll go on another adventure, the bush is at its' most beautiful just after sunrise and this is also when you'll have the best chance of spotting wild animals (at times you can get extremely close). Lions, impalas, elephants, every day bring different experiences in the bush. Around mid morning we will arrive back at the lodge a lovely and have a hearty breakfast, afterwards you'll have some time to relax and cool off in the swimming pool. If you can't get enough of wild animals, well you are in luck! Have a seat under a shady tree, enjoy the scenery and why not read one of the books from our wildlife library.

In the afternoon you can go on another game walk or game drive and afterwards in the evening you can enjoy the campfire.

**Approximate distance:** 100 km  
**Accommodation:** Satara Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

## **Day 6: Satara Rest Camp - Blyde River Canyon**

After the morning game drive and a good breakfast, we'll leave the camp, around 10:00 is best, and head for the third largest canyon in the world, Blyde River Canyon. We'll head towards the Orpen Gate where we will leave the Kruger and make our way towards the town of Graskop. We will take a break along the way and have a pick nick at one of the many waterfalls when we feel like a break.

The Blyde River Canyon National Reserve is about 26,000 acres in size and the canyon itself is 30 km long with panorama view spread out over the entire area. Tonight we will spend the night at a spacious campsite with a swimming pool, bar/ restaurant and a supermarket.

**Approximate distance:** 170 km  
**Accommodation:** Mac Mac Retreat

**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 7: Blyde River Canyon**

Today we will have all day to see the well-known Panorama route. Rest out and relax a bit and then leave for a day trip through the surrounding area around mid-morning. A must-see during your day trip is Bourke's Luck Potholes.

The potholes can be found where the Blyde River and the Treur River meet. Currents and whirlpools at this spot in the riverbed have created round holes in the surrounding rock formations. If the weather permits, you may even want to get your feet wet in the potholes. You may also want to stop by the town of Sabie and the former mining town Pilgrim's Rest with its' charming small cafés and historic houses. At the end of the day we will return to our campsite at Graskop.

**Approximate distance:** 150 km  
**Accommodation:** Mac Mac Retreat  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 8: Blyde River Canyon – Mlilwane Campsite (Swaziland)**

Now we are on our way to Swaziland, we will head through Nelspruit and travel on to Barberton; an old gold mining village with beautiful houses in a mountainous subtropical area. Once you've left the village you'll slowly start to climb the 4x4 trail, the Bulembu route, towards Swaziland. At the Bulembu border crossing you will get your passport stamped and you are in Swaziland.

The beautiful mountain trail makes an enjoyable drive. Our route will take us to Piggs Peak and from there we will head towards the capital of Mbabane. Should you want to we can stop here for a visit to the local markets, we will need to stock up on supplies anyway. Tonight we will be spending the evening in the Ezulwini Valley and the Mlilwane National Park. The campsite has a bar should you want a drink, restaurant and a swimming pool. In the evening you can sit back and relax by the campfire.

Before the sun sets you could also have a look at the beehives, the traditional Swazi-huts or visit one of the Zulu villages in the area.

**Approximate distance:** 310 km  
**Accommodation:** Mlilwane Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 9: Swaziland - Mkuze Game Reserve**

If you are not too tired why not wake up early and go on a short horseback ride through the park; note reservations must be made the evening before. A horse ride through the park at sunrise is an unforgettable experience. If you're not much of a fan of horses, you can also choose to rent a mountain bike. The Mlilwane National Park is not as abundant with wildlife as what you saw in the Kruger but you can expect to see smaller game animals such as impalas, monkeys and gnus, there is always the 'hippo-pool' surprisingly enough you can find hippos and crocodiles here.

Today we will leave Swaziland destination South Africa! We continue in the direction of the town of Mkuze and the Mkuze Game Reserve, which lies at the border of St. Lucia Park. A place of great beauty and high contrasts, Mkuze is renowned as a mecca for bird lovers, with more than 420 bird species on record. In addition look out for elephants and rhinos. Once you've reached the park, sometime in the afternoon, you have the option of driving one of the fun 4x4 routes through the southern part of the park. You'll spend the night at the park campsite.

**Approximate distance:** 280 km  
**Accommodation:** Mkuze Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 10: Mkuze Game Reserve - Cape Vidal, St Lucia**

Today you'll be able to explore the park by 4x4 once again, in search of large or small wild animals. Around 11:00 we will be leaving the park and continuing on our way towards Cape Vidal, the coastline behind St. Lucia Park. The coastline is made up of (enormous) sand dunes that border on the Indian Ocean. It's a great location for swimming, and snorkelling.

Tonight we will be spending the evening and morning at the Cape Vidal campsite. Before we leave we will be stocking up on supplies at a supermarket in St Lucia. The supermarket has a broad selection of products and long opening hours.

**Approximate distance:** 210 km  
**Accommodation:** Cape Vidal Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 11: Cape Vidal, St Lucia**

The beaches at Cape Vidal are breathtaking and one could easily relax here all day. Unfortunately we still have so much more to see. We head towards the Greater St. Lucia Wetlands Park. St. Lucia Lake is home to an abundance of flora and fauna and features an amazing four different eco-systems within an area of 40 km: swampland, wetlands, bush lands and grasslands. You can expect to see things such as crocodiles, hippos, flamingos, pelicans and other fish-eating birds. If you are interested a flat-bottom boat leaves from St. Lucia twice a day for a two hour cruise over the lake.

**Approximate distance:** 100 km  
**Accommodation:** Cape Vidal Campsite  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 12: Cape Vidal – Drakensburg Royal Natal National Park**

Today we will have a long drive to the Drakensburg Mountains and the well-known Royal Natal National Park. This park boasts some of the most splendid mountain scenery in Africa. The main feature is the world famous Amphitheatre, a rock wall approximately five km in length, and 500m high. You'll spend the night at the park's campsite. We will be sure to stock up on supplies before settling in for the evening since there aren't many stores in the area.

**Approximate distance:** 550 km  
**Accommodation:** White Mountain Resort

**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 13: Royal Natal National Park**

Today we will have all the time needed to explore this area. There are many spectacular views, the look-out points are clearly indicated for easy access. There are also various hiking trails in this area 2, 4 or more hours. Choose the duration of your hike and your walk will be sure to take you over narrow paths and trails and climb over boulders and through small trenches. Enjoy the outdoors and enjoy a vigorous hike.

**Approximate distance:** 80 km  
**Accommodation:** White Mountain Resort  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 14: Royal Natal – Golden Gate National Park**

Today we will drive north-west headed to the Golden Gate Highlands National Park. This 12,000 acre park is located at the base of the Maluti Mountains. The scenery is a mix of majestic sandstone cliffs, wooded valleys and open plains. We will be staying at the rest camp Glen Rheenen. The camp has a restaurant and pool, ideal for a cool dip after a warm day of trekking. In the afternoon you have an option of going on a short trek (1 - 5 hour hikes) or go on a game drive where you could spot zebra and bush buck from your own car. This park also has San and Bushman rock drawings, look out for them. There are also areas where you can play tennis or go on horseback rides if you don't feel like driving any longer.

**Approximate distance:** 130 km  
**Accommodation:** Golden Gate Camping  
**Meals:** B, L, D

### **Day 15: Golden Gate - Johannesburg**

This morning you'll have time for a relaxing breakfast pack away your camping equipment, when you are done you will take your roof tent down for last time and then we will drive the last leg of your itinerary to Johannesburg arriving early evening. Chimhavira will book you into a guest house for the evening, where you can rest up before the next part of your journey.

**Approximate distance:** 350 km  
**Accommodation:** Linga Longa Guest House  
**Meals:** B, L,

### **Day 16: Johannesburg**

You will be transferred to the airport where you say goodbye to the guides and the group...

**Meals:** B

**– End Of Services –**

### Arrival:

You will be met at the airport and transferred to your accommodation (where required).

### Departure:

If you require an airport transfer this will be arranged for you.

### Transport:

Chimhavira Overland Safaris cc use fully equipped 4x4 Land Rover Defender/Discovery vehicles.

### Accommodation:

Accommodation will be in your vehicle roof top tents. Should you want to upgrade please ask your guide to assist you. Where possible your guide will try to upgrade you as to your requirements but this will be dependant on availability. Please note upgrades are not included in your Chimhavira Overland Safari cc invoice and will therefore necessitate you paying for upgrades directly.

### Spending money:

Clients are advised to bring enough money to cover the purchase of curios and personal items.

### Meals:

All meals are organized by the guide and are prepared by our cook. Meals are nutritious and filling, drawing on fresh local produce where possible. We buy groceries along the way, so our clients have a say in what type of meals are eaten. Please advise us of any special dietary requirements before tour commencement.

### First Aid:

Our guides are trained in basic first aid, Chimhavira Overland Safari cc guides are trained to level III St John's or equivalent standard, our vehicles is equipped with a comprehensive medical aid kit. Preventative Malaria medication should be taken before the trip and throughout its duration, although it is advisable to consult a doctor prior to departure.

### Luggage:

Maximum baggage allowance: 20kg. Chimhavira Overland Safaris cc stipulates this luggage allowance, as an overloaded vehicle is a danger to both the clients and the guide. This does not include photographic equipment and a small daypack. Please bring a backpack or soft barrel bag, not a suitcase. Please adhere to the allowance specified as space for luggage is limited.

### Sleeping bags:

Chimhavira Overland Safaris cc can provide sleeping bags and pillows, please advise us if this is required at your time of booking. If you prefer to bring your own please feel free to do so.