



Tour 3 - Skybound Horizons

Embracing the Dance of Endless Waters

Duration	10 / 12 days (with option)
Total direct distance	2100nm
Approx. flying hours	24 hrs (incl. Scenic slights)
Difficulty level	Very technical Mountain and valley flying with bush strips
Experience required	Minimal with safety pilot Very experienced and preferably IF rated if self-guided
Best time of year	Best November to April - as the other winter months bring cold and wet conditions to the Cape. Best for turtle breeding between November and February and best for whales down the coast between August and November
Level of accommodation	Comfortable guest houses and lodges: 3 to 4 star
Suitability for partners	Very scenic and lots of ground activities, great for flying and non-flying partners
Price	On request

Embark on a remarkable journey traversing the diverse landscapes of South Africa, starting from the Big 5 wildlife in the Kruger area, navigating the scenic Wild Coast and Garden Route, and concluding in the captivating city of Cape Town. This expedition promises an immersive experience, showcasing the country's natural wonders both on land and at sea.

While the trip offers breathtaking scenery and abundant wildlife sightings, it also involves some challenging flying conditions, often influenced by unpredictable weather. To enhance safety, it is strongly advised to enlist the services of a skilled safety pilot, a cost comparable to self-guided travel. Upon concluding the aerial tour, the return flight from Cape Town to Pretoria spans around 6 hours, providing the option to conclude the flying segment and extend your stay in Cape Town, with convenient direct flights available.



Day 1 Kruger Park

Commencing from Wonderboom Airport in Pretoria, the journey encompasses various airstrips and dirt tracks for touch 'n go practices. Descending from the Highveld to the Lowveld over the Drakensberg Mountains, the route includes traversing the impressive Blyde River Canyon, the third largest canyon globally, after the Grand and Fish River Canyons. The day concludes with an overnight stay in a game lodge adjacent to Kruger Park, offering optional game drives.

Day 2 Nelspruit

Heading south, the route retraces through the Blyde Canyon, exploring intriguing hilltop airstrips. Flying over Kruger Park and adjacent Game Reserves, keep an eye out for aerial views of elephants, hippos, and other large animals. The Nelspruit area provides a plethora of technical landing strips. The overnight stay at Nelspruit with an option trip to Chimp Eden, part of the Jane Goodall Institute, allows encounters with misplaced chimpanzees.



Day 3 & 4 Kosi Bay

Crossing Swaziland necessitates filing a flight plan. Flying over the Swazi Mountains and Lebombo Mountain Range, the journey re-enters South Africa, landing at Kosi Bay for a two-night beach camp stay. Kosi Bay offers opportunities for snorkeling, scuba diving, and witnessing the nesting activities of Loggerhead and Leatherback Turtles between November and February.

Continue to page 2....



Day 5 & 6 Port St Johns

Heading southwest along the coastline, the flight at 500 feet provides glimpses of dolphins, and possibly whales and sharks. A stop at Durban Virginia's airstrip precedes the transition from developed to wild coastal landscapes of the Wild Coast. The Port St. Johns airfield, perched on Mount Thesiger, presents a challenging landing with a cliff face drop-off. This area offers a plethora of outdoor activities, including hiking, canoeing, and exploring lesser-known areas by 4x4 over a two-night stay, complemented by culinary delights.

Day 7 & 8 Baviaanskloof

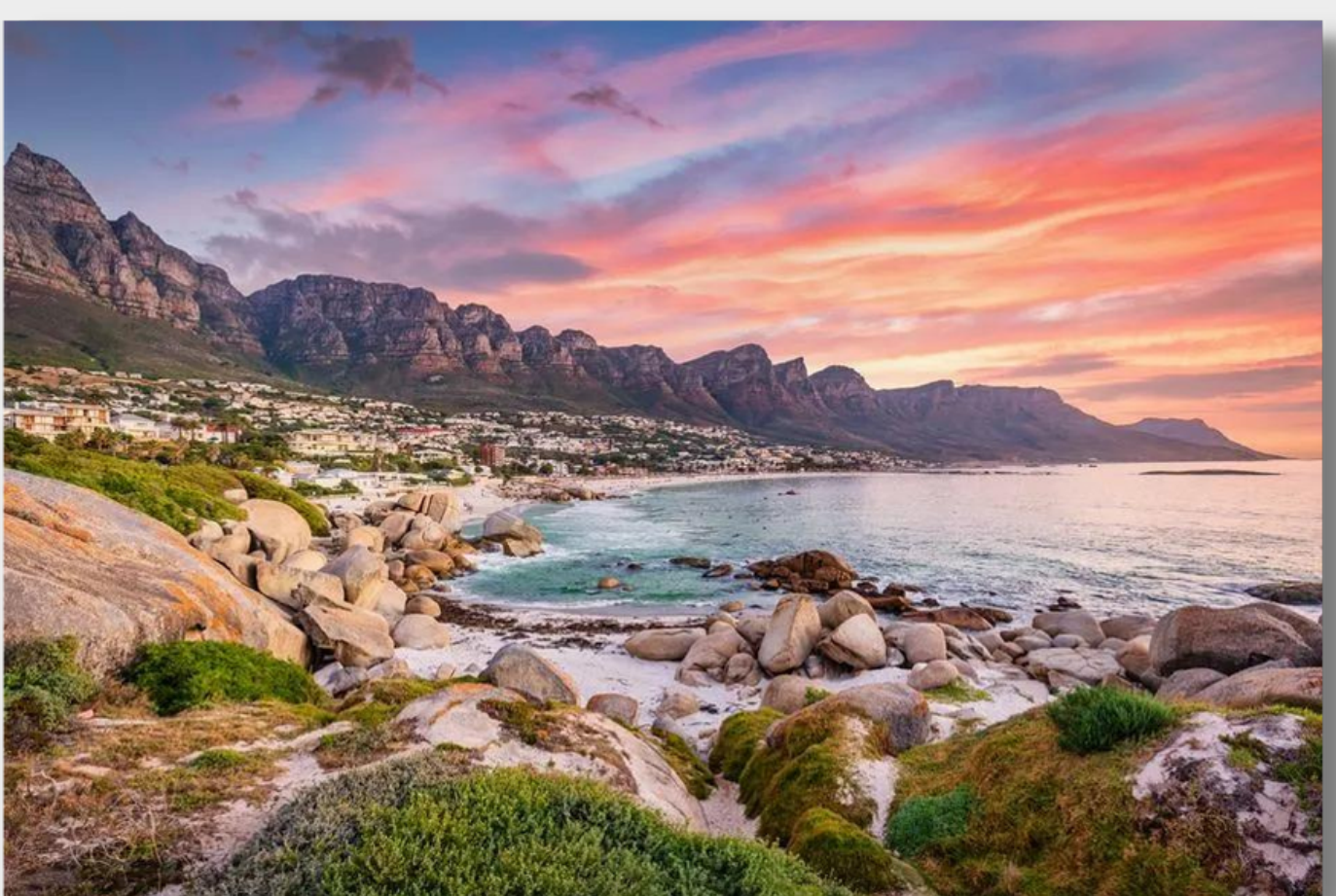
Continuing our journey south along the Wild Coast, the terrain gradually transforms into undulating hills. We encounter a couple of excellent landing strips for touch 'n go maneuvers amid seemingly endless stretches of deserted white sand beaches and turquoise seas. Our communication with Port Elizabeth precedes a landing in this notably windy city, offering the challenge of an intriguing crosswind cross-controlled landing. Post-refueling, both for the aircraft and its occupants, our route takes us into the Baviaanskloof Valley. Look out for large herds of Buffalo and Eland as we soar over the game reserve. The airfield, nestled at the valley's base, provides minimal space for descent and maneuvering in the circuit, demanding precision on this strip. Baviaanskloof, a hidden and remote gem accessible only by 4x4 (an exception for us), unveils its spectacular scenery and relics of ancient cultures hidden within vast mountain ranges. We spend two nights at a local farmhouse, exploring the region by both car and foot.



Day 9 Stellenbosch

Crossing over the mountains, we return to the coast near Plettenberg Bay, following the Garden Route past Knysna and Wilderness to Mossel Bay for a brief stop. Heading further south, we reach Cape Agulhas, the southernmost tip of Africa. This stretch offers an excellent opportunity for whale sightings, particularly during their breeding season in September/October, with hundreds of these majestic mammals visible from the air. Stellenbosch, a charming student town surrounded by renowned South African wine lands, boasts what many consider to be the country's most beautiful flying club. A night on a local wine farm allows for exploration of the area, wine tasting, or even a wine tour, with numerous other activities available.

Optional Day 10, 11 & 12



Given the lengthy and less captivating flight from Cape Town back to Pretoria, many choose to conclude their flying tour here and extend their stay in the Cape, opting for direct overseas flights. If this suits your preference, a morning flight takes you on a scenic 1-hour journey, encompassing Cape Point, Chapman's Peak Drive, Table Mountain, the Mother City, Robben Island, and back to Stellenbosch. Alternatively, for those heading back to Pretoria, we drive through to Cape Town for two nights in this splendid city, rich with attractions. On the 12th day, we return to Stellenbosch for the flight over the Karoo and Orange Free State, with a refueling stop in Kimberley, culminating in our arrival in Pretoria.