



Info Sheet – SOUTH AFRICA TOUR – December 2019

Experience the less travelled routes of the Western Cape of South Africa. It includes the most beautiful, less explored backroads and mountain passes of the Karoo and Cederberg. Some stages a bit more challenging than the standard jeep track. The route is designed to explore most of the exciting and breath taking dirt road passes, together with interesting accommodation places, the Cape has on offer.

We start the trip off by riding through the famous Cape Winelands of the Western Cape and then make our way north, along the backroads of the Cederberg Mountain, then east into the semi-desert areas of the Tankwa Karoo, where the real beauty of this trip lies... the single lane dirt roads, carving through the valleys, mountain passes and open plains.

We travel over the Swartberg and spend some time in the Overberg, before making our way to Cape Town, along the famous Gordon's bay coastal road.

RIDING ABILITIES

You don't need to be a hard-core off-road/rally expert to join our tour. You'll need some experience with travelling in foreign countries and with riding on gravel. The days can be long, depending on many factors, so you have to be comfortable in most situations in order not to suffer fatigue too quickly. The pace is relaxed; it's not a competition. We are traveling and will take a break frequently. There will be time enough to take pictures, movies, rest etc. We do want to emphasize that for our off-road tours that you need to be healthy and in a good physical condition. The riding, in combination with the weather, can make it challenging and strenuous.

WHAT TO BRING

DOCUMENTS

- Passport: valid for 6 months upon arrival. Please check Visa requirements for your country of origin, prior to travel.
- Driver's License: (Must be in English with a photo). Alternatively, an accompanying International Driver's License.
- Medical and Travel Insurance: Bring the contact info and policy number of your insurance.
- Credit Card: there are ATM's in most towns. Payment with card almost everywhere (Visa/Master)
- Cash: You can withdraw cash already at the airport.

GEAR/CLOTHES

- Protective gear: (suit, helmet, gloves, etc). The temperature can fluctuate between 20 - 40 C° . Prepare for hot weather. Dress in layers.

- Boots: Bring hard (enduro) boots with ankle protection. It will save your leg/ankle!
- Functional wear: Climate control underwear to keep you dry and cool.
- Light rain gear/jacket: We travel through areas with different climates. The Western Cape has dry summers, but the Eastern Cape has rainy summers. There is a small chance of having some drizzle as we get closer to the east.
- Casual wear: Including a warm fleece for the cooler evenings.
- Camelbaks/Hydration back-pack. Highly recommended to prevent dehydration.
- Electronics: Power packs, cameras, charging cables.
- Swim wear: Most places have a pool, dam or river where you can cool down.
- Other: Cameras, charging cables, power packs, sun glasses, sunscreen.
- Your spirit of Adventure!

Other than that, don't pack too much, it is a motorcycle tour, not a runway fashion show :) . It is best to put your motorcycle gear in soft luggage. That way we can flatten it during tour and save space in the back-up vehicle. And it can stay in the back-up vehicle for the entire tour, avoiding many pieces of luggage to collect and deliver to your accommodation.

ROAD TRAVEL WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa has an extensive road infrastructure including national highways and secondary roads. Most roads are in good condition, but there are a few exceptions, with some great gravel roads for the all road experiences – yeahhh!

Distances between towns can be quite long, especially along major roads crossing the interior of the country.

All speed limits in South Africa are in kilometers per hour. Generally, the speed limit for

urban areas is 60km/h (37 miles/h), on secondary roads it's 100km/h (62 miles/h) and on national highways it's 120km/h (75 miles/h). Keep an eye out for the designated speed limit as these may vary depending on road conditions and law enforcement does take place next to the road. In South Africa, we drive on the left side of the road.

Driver's license: You may use a valid driver's license issued in your own country as long as it has a photograph, the signature of the holder and is in English. Alternatively, you may carry an official translation of your license or obtain an international driving license before you leave home. You should always have your driver's license with you when you are driving as you will be asked to produce it if you are pulled over.

Fuel: Unleaded fuel is marked in green. At the fuel station, a petrol attendant will fill your bike.. It's customary to give a small tip of around R5 to the fuel attendant. Fuel is included in this tour. When we get to fuel stations, we line up at 2-4 pumps, fill up all bikes and pay one invoice. This way things get done much quicker.

USEFUL INFORMATION

OUR SPOT ON THE GLOBE

Area: 1 219 602 km² , 25th largest country in the world.

Co-ordinates: 22 - 35 °S and 17 - 33 °E

Standard Time Meridian: GMT +2

Neighbouring countries: Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland and Lesotho.

South Africa is surrounded by the ocean on three sides. Along the east coast we have the Indian Ocean with the Agulhas/Mozambique current bringing warmer water from the equator. Along the west coast we have the Atlantic Ocean with the Benguela Current bringing colder temperatures from the poles.

WEATHER

South Africa's summers (November to March) are generally warm with average temperatures around 25 C. Winters (June to August) can get quite cold especially at night with temperatures averaging around 10 C. In the Western Cape area most of the rainfall comes in the winters whereas in the north (Johannesburg and Kruger Park) and east (Durban) rainfall is heaviest in the summer months. Durban has an almost tropical climate and enjoys warm days even in winter.

CURRENCY

South Africa's currency is the rand, which offers visitors great value for money. The rand comes in a range of coins (R1 = 100 cents) and note denominations of R10, R20, R50, R100 and R200.

WATER

In urban areas tap water is usually of high quality and safe to drink. It's quite safe to have ice in drinks and to eat salads. However, when traveling to remote rural areas and the bush you should take your own drinking water along or buy bottled water.

ELECTRICITY

The South African electricity supply is 220/230 volts AC 50 HZ. With a few exceptions (in deep rural areas), electricity is available almost everywhere. Be sure to bring the correct adaptor plug, as South Africa has a unique 3 point power outlet.

COMMUNICATIONS

South Africa has a well-developed communications infrastructure. A number of mobile phone network providers offer national coverage and there are well-established landline phone networks. Internet and Wi-Fi are easily accessible in most urban areas.

LANGUAGES

Divided into 9 provinces, it also has 11 official languages: Afrikaans, English, Ndebele, Northern Sotho, Southern Sotho, Swazi, Tsonga, Tswana, Venda, Xhosa and Zulu.

Most South Africans speak English which is accepted as the business language. French, German and Italian are also spoken in most of the larger hotels.

MALARIA

Most of South Africa is malaria-free, although precaution should be taken when visiting the Kruger National Park or low-lying parts of northern KwaZulu-Natal. The areas we travel through are completely malaria free.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Our guides are qualified First Aiders. The backup vehicle (Mercedes Sprinter 4x4) with the luggage, tools, water etc, will be behind the group, following the same route most of the time. Except for small areas in the Cederberg, Tankwa Karoo, we have mobile reception to contact emergency services. In addition to that, we make use of a GPS emergency tracking service, called SPOT, which is connected to a network of emergency services via satellite.

MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE EXCESS.

You will be responsible for R20,000 to R25,000 excess, depending which bike you will be riding. This means, any damage up to this amount, will be taken from your card. You will receive an online link from the rental company, a few days before the tour, where you complete all details, authorising them to put a hold on your card, until return of the motorcycle.

Some participants make use of an insurance to cover the excess amount in case of damages. You are more than welcome to take out this insurance, it comes to about 6euro a day. www.hansemerkur.de It is quick and painless to get this insurance

ON ARRIVAL

You will be collected from Cape Town International airport, either by one of us, or by an airport transfer service. This will be communicated to you in person, depending on your arrival day and time.

The tour officially starts on Saturday, 30 November, @ 17h00, at the pool lapa of:

Wedgeview Country House, Stellenbosch

info@wedgeview.co.za

+27 21 881 3525

We will have a tour briefing, bike check out, and, since we are in the wine country off South Africa, we will start the tour of with a wine tasting.

INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE

- 8x Accommodation nights and all meals.
- 7 days BMW motorcycle rental with unlimited mileage and motorcycle insurance.
- Fuel
- 4x4 Back-up vehicle, carrying: luggage, first aid, tools & spares, drinking water.
- One night stay at a Private Game Reserve, including a safari drive.
- Airport transfers.

EXCLUDED

- Return Airfare, Travel and Medical Insurance, Visas.
- Alcohol and other refreshments other than water, any personal expenses.
- Helmet and protective gear. (Please bring your own gear.)
- Motorcycle luggage (Tankbags, panniers, etc can be rented.)

ITINERARY AND MAP

Day	Date	Day of Week	Hotel	KM Gravel	KM tarmac
Day 1 - Arrival	30.11.2019	Saturday	Wedgeview Stellenbosch	na	na
Day 2	01.12.2019	Sunday	Eselbank camp Cederberg	155	160
Day 3	02.12.2019	Monday	Papkuilsfontein Nieuwoudtville	150	0
Day 4	03.12.2019	Tuesday	Tankwa Tented Camp Tankwa Karoo	160	0
Day 5	04.12.2019	Wednesday	Boschluyskloof Seweweekspoort	180	170
Day 6	05.12.2019	Thursday	Botlierskop Mosselbay	115	215
Day 7	06.12.2019	Friday	Breede River House Malgas	200	50
Day 8	07.12.2019	Saturday	Portswood Hotel Cape Town	100	250
Day 9 - Departure	08.12.2019	Sunday	na	na	na

