

QANTAS WALLABIES

***THE BIG FIVE TOUR TO SOUTH AFRICA 2017***

WE LOVE  
RUGBY

Following our inaugural and highly successful Big Five Tour to South Africa in 2016, We Love Rugby invites you to join us as we return to the *Rainbow Nation* during the Rugby Championship in October 2017.

South Africa is regarded by those who have toured there as the best destination on the international rugby calendar courtesy of its spectacular scenery, diverse wildlife and rich cultural history.

Throughout 14 magical days you will be treated to an unforgettable African experience. Imagine intimate safaris led by experienced local guides, getting up close and personal with South Africa's wildlife in its natural habitat, exclusive Boma dinners under the stars savouring the region's finest wines and distinctive cuisine, standing alongside the raging Victoria Falls, witnessing rugby at its best with matches featuring South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, visiting the picturesque city of Cape Town - and the list goes on!

We are also offering a 5 day add on tour to extend our incredible South African adventure exploring the Garden Route which stretches 200km from Cape Town along the South Western coastline. We will tour through the Cape Town's winelands, Stellenbosch where we sample the various vineyards. Next stop is Knysna, the hub of the Garden Route, where we will base ourselves for the next three nights and enjoy an array of land & water activities discovering this vibrant area, it's nature and wildlife.

All itineraries have been carefully created in conjunction with our expert suppliers in South Africa and are led by experienced local tour guides together with our dedicated We Love Rugby tour reps.

As the exclusive official tour operator of the Australian Rugby Union you'll have access to the best available seating and be sitting amongst a group of like minded rugby fans as the Qantas Wallabies take on the Springboks in Bloemfontein. Our adventure also takes you into the wilds of Africa before the rugby odyssey concludes with the hosts taking on the might of New Zealand in Cape Town.

We hope you can join us for this unique and exciting tour!

Regards,  
The team at We Love Rugby

## EXCLUSIVE TOUR OPERATOR OF THE ARU

We Love Rugby has been running rugby tours for 15 years and have you covered annually from the start of the Super Rugby season in February right through to the Qantas Wallabies' season ending Spring Tour.

We Love Rugby is Australia's largest and most respected rugby tour operator. Rugby and travel are our passion and we leave nothing to chance with tickets provided by the Australian Rugby Union, and accommodation, travel and add-on options meticulously researched to provide the best possible value.

We put our heart and soul into providing great rugby touring options, domestically and around the world. Our passengers continue to travel with us because, quite simply, we are the best in the business. We are the exclusive tour operator of the ARU so there is no better time to enjoy a first class rugby experience.



## 'The Big Five' Tour to South Africa

**WE LOVE RUGBY**

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## HIGHLIGHTS & INCLUSIONS

- Qantas Wallabies v Springboks at Bloemfontein – Sat 30th Sept
- All Blacks v Springboks at Cape Town – Sat 7th Oct
- Three nights at Victoria Falls staying at David Livingstone Lodge
- Two night all-inclusive luxury safari at Madikwe Game Reserve (malaria-free game park)
- Five nights in spectacular Cape Town
- Sundowner Zambezi River Cruise
- Tour of Victoria Falls
- Safari game drives witnessing the *Big Five* (morning, afternoon & night drives)
- Authentic Boma & Bush starlit dinner
- Cape Peninsular & Stellenbosch Wine Region day tour
- Cape Town city tour & Table Mountain cable car
- Breakfast daily
- Selection of lunches & dinners throughout tour
- Welcome & farewell dinners
- Internal flights:
  - Johannesburg to Victoria Falls
  - Victoria Falls to Bloemfontein
  - Johannesburg to Cape Town
- Services of experienced local tour guides & We Love Rugby tour staff
- Souvenir tour merchandise

## OPTIONS

- Optional activities such as Botswana day tour, elephant safari, helicopter ride, shark diving, horseback safari, lion walk, white-water rafting, Robben Island etc
- Option to add on flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg to assist with your international flight back to Australia
- Option to purchase international group flights travelling with Qantas

## MADIKWE GAME RESERVE

Madikwe Game Reserve is South Africa's 5th largest game reserve and also one of its best kept secrets. This hidden-gem is regarded as one of the best conservation areas in Africa and offers over 75,000 hectares of pure African wilderness. The park hosts a number of luxurious lodges as well as community lodges.

Madikwe Game Reserve is situated in the malaria free North West Province, bordering Botswana. In addition to lion, leopard, elephant, rhino or buffalo, this *Big Five* reserve is renowned for its wild dog reintroduction as well as the unusual gemsbok, tsessebe and springbok. The lions in Madikwe originate from Etosha in Namibia and are known to hunt very large prey such as giraffe and eland.

In 1991 the area was declared a reserve and 10,000 mammals were relocated from other National Parks. The park is home to approximately 66 large mammals and roughly 300 bird species. You will find a range of flora and fauna in an area comprised of vast open grassland plains, woodlands, rocky outcrops and mountains. The area is bordered in the south by the Dwarsberg Mountains.

The park is roughly 4.5 hours drive from Johannesburg. Safari lodges are mostly located around the eastern and western fringes. The reserve is one-of-a-kind and is known for its involvement in the local communities. Community lodges are owned and run by the local people, creating a healthy economic environment.





## FACTS ABOUT MADIKWE

**Park Area:** ~75 000 hectares

**Currency:** South African Rand

**Language:** English widely spoken and Tswana, local language in Madikwe

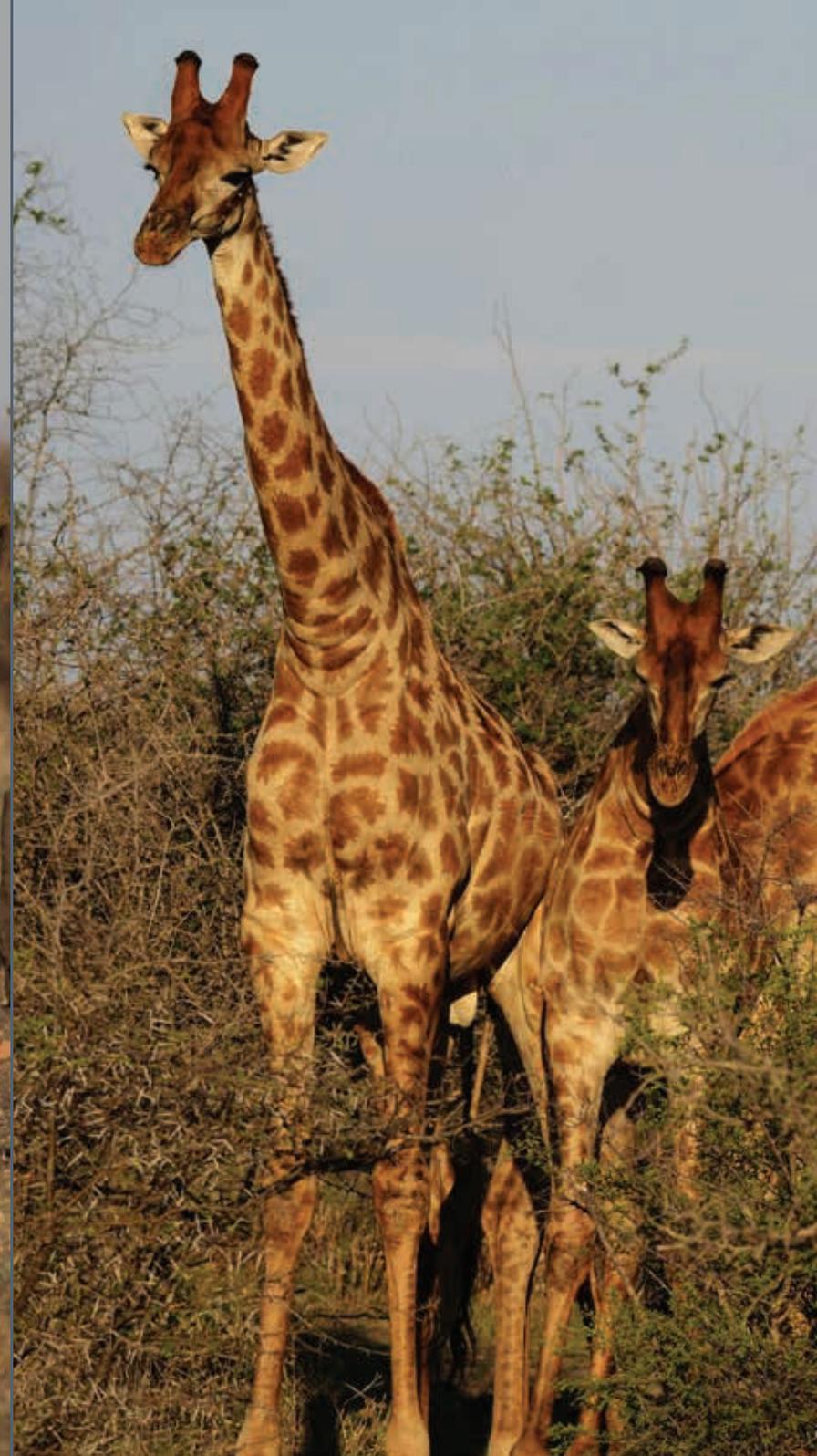
**Game viewing:** Good game viewing is available all year round as the park is a single unit conservation area

**Popular attractions:** Big 5, African Wild Dogs, family/ self-drive safari destination, romantic escapes, luxury lodges, honeymoon safaris

**Weather in early October:** Afternoon rains possible. Temperatures are around 13°C in the morning and 23 -30°C in the afternoon

**Malaria free zone:** Madikwe is located outside of the malaria zone. Malaria is only a concern if you visit Kruger or other destinations in the eastern part of the country

**Nearest cities:** Johannesburg, Pretoria, Rustenburg, Zeerust



## MADIKWE SAFARI LODGE

Located in the central eastern region of malaria free Madikwe Game Reserve in an area well known for its superior game viewing. Madikwe Safari Lodge consists of 3 separate private lodges (Lelapa, Dithaba and Kopano). The décor is elegant, fresh and contemporary, yet radiating the warmth and vibrant energy of the rich red soil on which it is built. Trees are as much a part of the Lodge's interiors as they are of the untouched bushveld.

All of the suites come with: a private plunge pool, air-conditioning and fans, a fireplace, outdoor and indoor shower, personal bar, and the use of a private 4WD safari vehicle.

You will be welcomed at the main lodge into an intimate and unique reception area. There is both an indoor and outdoor dining area for you to enjoy. Relax in the library lounge, indoor lounge with roaring fireplace, or take in some stargazing on the outdoor lounge area and boma.

Daily game drives give you the opportunity to view a wide variety of wildlife species, including the *Big Five*.



## IMPODIMO GAME LODGE

Impodimo Game Lodge is 5 star rated by the Tourism Grading Council and located in Madikwe Game Reserve which is malaria free.

The lodge is set along a rocky ridge commanding stunning vistas of the reserve. It is also located at the source of a natural spring, which provides the lodge with elevated views as well as riverine serenity.

The owner/manager team of Steve and Debbie are ideally suited to tailoring the most memorable safari experience. The team has gone to great lengths to ensure guests have as much choice as possible in enjoying their experience. For example, 7-seater Landrovers are used for game drives instead of the traditional 10 seater type.

Impodimo is the first lodge in Madikwe Game Reserve to have qualified Shangaan trackers as part of the team. This adds a different dimension to the safari experience ensuring consistent big game sightings. With fewer guests on the game drive vehicles the team encourages guests to maximise optimal game viewing times.

Daily game drives give you the opportunity to view a wide variety of wildlife species, including the *Big Five*.





## VICTORIA FALLS

Victoria Falls presents a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur on the Zambezi River, forming the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. It was described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 1800s as Mosi-oa-Tunya – The Smoke that Thunders. Victoria Falls were first sighted by Dr David Livingstone some 150 years ago and this legendary waterfall is known as the greatest curtain of falling water in the world.

Columns of spray can be seen from miles away as, at the height of the rainy season, more than five hundred million cubic metres of water per minute plummet over the edge, over a width of nearly two kilometres, into a gorge over one hundred metres below.

The wide, basalt cliff over which the falls thunder, transforms the Zambezi from a placid river into a ferocious torrent cutting through a series of dramatic gorges.

Facing the falls is another sheer wall of basalt, rising to the same height, and capped by mist-soaked rain forest. A path along the edge of the forest provides the visitor prepared to brave the tremendous spray, with an unparalleled series of views of the falls.

Victoria Falls is a World Heritage listed site where 1,000s of tourists flock each year to see the falls and thrill seekers swim in the Devil's Pool. Thanks to an underwater lip, the pool is on the border of the falls on the Zambia side and accessible during the dry season from August to January.

One special vantage point is across the Knife-edge Bridge, where visitors can have the finest view of the Eastern Cataract and the Main Falls as well as the Boiling Pot, where the river turns and heads down the Batoka Gorge. Other vantage points include the Falls Bridge, Devils Pool and the Lookout Tree, both of which command panoramic views across the Main Falls.

## DAVID LIVINGSTONE LODGE

Built overlooking the mighty Zambezi river, the five star David Livingstone Safari Lodge and Spa offers sumptuous colonial-styled rooms and is a short drive away from Victoria Falls.

Each of the rooms is luxuriously decorated with four-poster beds draped in mosquito nets. All rooms have a private bathroom and the suites contain a hot tub and lounge area and you can enjoy the sunset from your own private balcony. The lodge has a spa and health club and a private river-cruise boat where you can experience spectacular sunset cruise on the Zambezi or enjoy a host of alternate activities from Elephant rides to Lion walks.





# 14 DAYS 'The Big Five' Tour to South Africa 25 Sep - 8 Oct 2017

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## **MON 25 SEP: JOHANNESBURG**

Depart locally from your nearest Australian Capital city for your international flight to Johannesburg. On arrival you will be met by your We Love Rugby representative and transferred to your hotel.

You will have the opportunity to have a leisurely evening at our welcome function. It will be a great chance to meet your fellow tour members and Tour Leader ready for an adventurous 14 days of excitement and breath taking scenery.

*Overnight: Intercontinental Hotel O.R. Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg*

## **TUE 26 SEP: VICTORIA FALLS + ZAMBEZI CRUISE**

After breakfast, we depart on our flight to Livingstone, Zambia - the gateway to Victoria Falls. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to our accommodation in readiness for the breathtaking beauty of Victoria Falls.

The afternoon is yours to relax before we depart on our Sundowner Zambezi River boat cruise which includes drinks and snacks. Tonight, buffet dinner is included at the lodge.

*Overnight: David Livingstone Safari Lodge & Spa, Victoria Falls*

## **WED 27 SEP: VICTORIA FALLS + BOMA DINNER**

Today you have the opportunity to visit the spectacular and beautiful Victoria Falls. This morning we take a tour around the falls with the afternoon at leisure. Victoria Falls were first sighted by Dr David Livingstone some 150 years ago and this legendary waterfall is amongst the biggest and most awe-inspiring on the planet. The falls generate mist that can be spotted more than 20km away whilst the Zambezi River is more than 2km wide.

Victoria Falls, otherwise known as *Mosi-oa-Tunya*, means the smoke that thunders is a World Heritage listed site where thousands of tourists flock each year to see the falls and thrill seekers swim in the *Devil's Pool*. The pool is formed by an underwater lip that straddles the Zimbabwe/Zambia border and is accessible during the dry season from August to January.

Optional activities are available to purchase from the travel centre at the hotel including fishing or game viewing in the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park; adrenaline seekers can go abseiling, jet boating, white water rafting or bungee jumping.

The afternoon is at leisure before we meet for a special Boma dinner (included).

*Overnight: David Livingstone Safari Lodge & Spa, Victoria Falls*

## **THU 28 SEP: FREE DAY OR OPTIONAL TOUR TO CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA**

Today is a free day to do as little or as much as you like. It allows for further exploration and activities in and around Victoria Falls, or you may like to take the full day excursion to Chobe National Park in Botswana. For those wanting to enjoy their natural surrounds, spend the day lying by the infinity

pool on the edge of the Zambezi River, or treat yourself at the luxurious world-class spa the Lodge has to offer. The choice is yours!

This evening, a buffet dinner is included at the lodge as you get to relax and reflect on the day's activities.

*Overnight: David Livingstone Safari Lodge & Spa, Victoria Falls*

## **FRI 29 SEP: BLOEMFONTEIN**

This morning you will be transferred to Victoria Falls airport for your flight to Bloemfontein. Upon arrival you will be transferred by coach to your hotel with the evening at leisure.

*Overnight: Protea Hotel Willowlake, Bloemfontein*

## **SAT 30 SEP: QANTAS WALLABIES VS SPRINGBOKS, FREE STATE RUGBY STADIUM, BLOEMFONTEIN**

Today is a free day before getting ready for the excitement of the rugby. So gear up in your proud colours and get ready to cheer on our men in Gold! Kick off is 5pm.

*Overnight: Protea Hotel Willowlake, Bloemfontein*

## **SUN 1 OCT: MADIKWE GAME RESERVE + DUSK GAME DRIVE**

This morning we depart for Madikwe Game Reserve where we will be spending the next 2 nights at Madikwe's luxury lodges. Madikwe Game Reserve is the 5th largest game reserve and is also one of South Africa's best kept secrets. This hidden-gem is regarded as one of the best conservation areas in Africa and offers the Big Five in a 680km<sup>2</sup> park.

It is situated against the Botswana border close to the Kalahari Desert. It is roughly 7 hours by road from Bloemfontein. The game lodges we will be staying in are 5 star rated by the Tourism Grading Council and located in Madikwe Game Reserve which is malaria free.

The *Big Five* is represented in the park and you are likely to spot lion, leopard, elephant, rhino or buffalo during your stay. If you're lucky, you may have the rare privilege of possibly spotting the highly endangered African Wild Dog.







*Photo courtesy of Rose Brazel*



*Photo courtesy of Rose Brazel*

On arrival, you will be treated to lunch before we take a sunset game drive through the park and witness the changing face of its residents as the nocturnal species emerge from their daily slumber.

*Overnight: Madikwe Game Reserve - Madikwe Safari Lodge or Impodimo Safari Lodge*

### **MON 2 OCT: SAFARI GAME DRIVES + BOMA DINNER**

Rise in the morning to an African dawn and enjoy an early game drive with your dedicated professional ranger in the search for Africa's *Big Five*. Relax as your ranger guides you through the bush on a custom made open Landrover, searching out the plethora of unique native species including giraffe, warthog, kudu, hippo, crocodile, springbok, zebra and wildebeest.

At the conclusion of the drive, we will experience a traditional *Bush Boma* dinner under the stars of the panoramic African sky. The traditional African Boma is nestled within the surrounding bush and is an experience of sheer indulgence as we enjoy a hearty, scrumptious and deliciously different meal under the stars.

*Overnight: Madikwe Game Reserve - Madikwe Safari Lodge or Impodimo Safari Lodge*

### **TUE 3 OCT: MORNING GAME DRIVE + TRANSFER TO CAPE TOWN**

This morning is your chance to either have a lie in, or take in another early morning game drive ready to observe the African animals in their natural habitat.

At the conclusion of the drive, we will return to the lodge for breakfast before departing to Johannesburg for our flight to Cape Town.

Spend your evening in Cape Town at leisure preparing for a big day of sightseeing tomorrow. If you would like to upgrade your hotel to stay at the luxury 5\* Table Bay Hotel, located at the famous Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, we have secured rooms which can be added throughout the booking process. We advise to do this as soon as possible as availability is limited due to South African school holidays and the popularity of the hotels at the V&A Waterfront.

*Overnight: Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel (or option to upgrade to Table Bay Hotel V&A Waterfront), Cape Town or similar*



### **WED 4 OCT: CAPE TOWN TOUR + TABLE MOUNTAIN CABLE CAR**

Following breakfast, we will depart on Cape Town's famous red *Hop On & Hop Off* bus, where you will be able to get your bearings of this beautiful city and explore at your own leisure. There is the obvious drawcard of the V&A Waterfront with all of its shops, bars and restaurants circled by beautiful waters and vast array of boats, but you also have the opportunity to venture a little further and see the stunning coastal suburbs of Camps Bay, Clifton, Sea Point and Green Point.

You may also like to take the cable car to the summit of the famous Table Mountain, which overlooks this incredible city. The floor of the cable car rotates to ensure you get a 360 degree view on the way up and once on top, there are over 2km of pathways that lead to majestic views over Cape Town, Table Bay, Robben Island, Cape Flats, Cape Peninsula and Cape Point National Park. Other sites to visit include the Castle of Good Hope, St George's Cathedral and the District Museum.

*Overnight: Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel (or option to upgrade to Table Bay Hotel V&A Waterfront), Cape Town or similar*

### **THU 5 OCT: CAPE PENINSULAR TOUR + STELLENBOSCH WINERY TOUR**

Today we embark on a spectacular journey around the Cape Peninsula taking in all the highlights and breathtaking beauty of this world-renowned region. Travel through historic suburbs, charming fishing villages and awesome viewpoints on your way to Cape Point, where it is said that the mighty Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet in harmony.

A fish & chips lunch is included in Simonstown, before exploring Cape Point.

Following Cape Point, we visit the famous Stellenbosch wine region. The Cape Winelands is renowned for its crisp white and classic French-style red wines, fantastic cheeses and olives; plus it also has a stunning wealth of natural rustic beauty with vast estates shaded from the African sunshine by giant oak trees and towering mountains overlooking lush valleys. Look forward to an afternoon filled with fine wines, great food and spectacular scenery. Here we will indulge in a 3 course dinner and wine tastings at two of Cape Town's best known wine estates.

*Overnight: Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel (or option to upgrade to Table Bay Hotel V&A Waterfront), Cape Town or similar*



### **FRI 6 OCT: FREE DAY OR OPTIONAL ROBBER ISLAND + SHARK DIVING TOURS**

Today is a day of leisure. You will have the opportunity to join the Robben Island tour this morning where we board a ferry at the V&A Waterfront and cross the bay to Robben Island. It was here that Nelson Mandela spent the majority of his 27 year incarceration. Now a museum, you will be taken on a fascinating guided tour of the complex by a former political prisoner in what is probably the best demonstration of reconciliation you will see in South Africa.

For those of you slightly more adventurous, why not purchase the Shark Diving Experience where you will have the opportunity to swim with Cape Town's local Great White Sharks - an adrenalin rushing experience you won't forget!

*Overnight: Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel (or option to upgrade to Table Bay Hotel V&A Waterfront), Cape Town or similar*

### **SAT 7 OCT: ALL BLACKS VS SPRINGBOKS, CAPE TOWN (STADIUM TBC)**

Following a leisurely morning, today is your opportunity to spend time shopping through Cape Town. Whether you're looking for handcrafted jewelry, unique arts and crafts, or everyday items, there are plenty of places to shop in Cape Town.

**Victoria & Alfred Waterfront:** A place to buy almost anything you can think of, the Waterfront in Cape Town has become one of South Africa's most visited destinations. The Waterfront is safe, filled with both unique gift shops and malls with mainstream stores. You can also grab something to eat and watch the boats on the water.

**Informal Markets and Stalls:** Handmade gifts from local vendors can be great mementos of your trip. Greenmarket Square is one popular place to find small shops with inexpensive and artistic wares. People from South Africa and

neighbouring countries gather at Greenmarket Square and sell everything from hand-painted masks to ostrich eggs to woodcarvings. You can also find pockets of colorful informal markets throughout Cape Town.

When you need a break from shopping, stroll around, listen to the music, and sample some local food.

Soak up the atmosphere at the array of bars and pubs through the V&A Waterfront ready for this afternoon's big match. The Springboks have not taken on the All Blacks in Cape Town since 2008, so the town will be in full gear ready for an exciting night. There will be no love lost as two of rugby's fiercest rivals go into battle in what is sure to be an entertaining match. Kick off is 5pm.

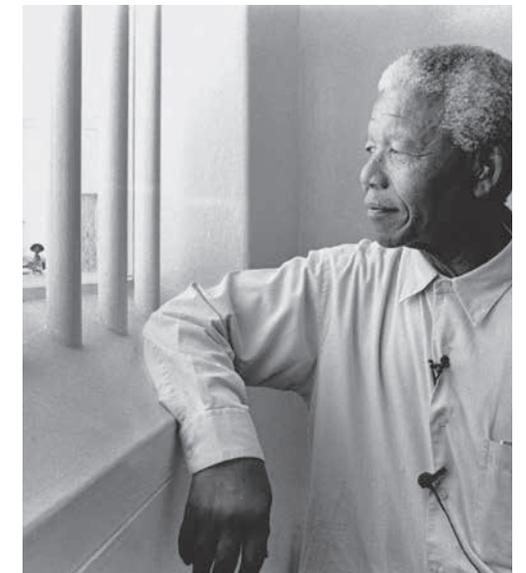
*Overnight: Southern Sun Cullinan Hotel (or option to upgrade to Table Bay Hotel V&A Waterfront), Cape Town or similar*

### **SUN 8 OCT: TOUR CONCLUDES + GARDEN ROUTE POST TOUR ADD-ON (8-12 OCT)**

All good things must come to an end as we bid farewell to our new found friends and to the beauty of South Africa as our *Big Five* Tour concludes. If you purchased flights through us, you will be transferred to Cape Town airport for your return international flight to Australia (arriving home the next day).

For those looking at extending their South African adventures, we have an optional 5 day/4 night add-on exploring South Africa's scenic Garden Route between Cape Town - Stellenbosch - Kynsna - George. Alternatively, we can provide you with extra night's accommodation if you wish to extend your stay.

Thanks for travelling with us and we look forward to having you on tour again soon.







#### **SUN 8 OCT: STELLENBOSCH**

This morning we check out and travel to the Cape Winelands which are renowned for its crisp white and classic French-style red wines, fantastic cheeses and olives; but it also has a stunning wealth of natural rustic beauty with vast estates shaded from the African sunshine by giant oak trees and towering mountains overlooking lush valleys. Look forward to an afternoon filled with fine wines, great food and spectacular scenery. Here we will indulge in a 3 course dinner and wine tastings among some of Cape Town's best known wine estates.

*Overnight: Lanzerac, Stellenbosch or similar*

#### **SUN 9 OCT: KNYSNA**

After a leisurely morning, we depart and continue along the Garden Route. The Garden Route is a 200km stretch of natural beauty landscape starting from Mossel Bay in the west to Storms River in the east. Consisting of fantastic beaches, picturesque lagoons and lakes, rolling hills and rugged mountain ranges, this area is a must visit for all travellers.

We make the 60km trip from George to our accommodation in Knysna which is probably the most well-known town along the Garden Route and here you have the chance to explore everything it has to offer.

*Overnight: Oubaai Golf Resort & Spa, Herolds Bay or similar*

#### **MON 10 OCT: GARDEN ROUTE SIGHTSEEING**

Today we embark on a full day sightseeing based in Knysna's Featherbed Nature Reserve. Upon arrival at the lagoon we will board a ferry for a cruise to the Western Head, then after disembarking we will drive up the headland in 4x4

vehicles stopping off along the way for great photo opportunities. All along our specialist guide will feed us information on the history of the area, flora and fauna. We will stop for a magnificent buffet lunch and have the chance to do an optional 2.2km walk through coastal forest and fynbos into ancient sea caves. At the conclusion of the tour, we will be transferred back to our accommodation.

*Overnight: Oubaai Golf Resort & Spa, Herolds Bay or similar*

#### **MON 11 OCT: OPTIONAL GARDEN ROUTE ACTIVITY OR FREE DAY**

Today you have the opportunity to explore the remainder of the Knysna area at leisure and take advantage of the multitude of activities on offer. These will be available as an added option and able to be pre booked. Tours include adventure tours including Abseiling, Canyoning, Hiking & Sky Diving. Water activities include Diving, Surfing, Stand Up Paddle Boarding, Shark Cage Diving, Sailing, Deep Sea Fishing & Ocean Cruiser. Wildlife activities include Elephant Back Safari, Whale Watching, Cheetah Walk & Horseback Safari. As you can see, plenty to do and something for everyone!

*Overnight: Oubaai Golf Resort & Spa, Herolds Bay or similar*

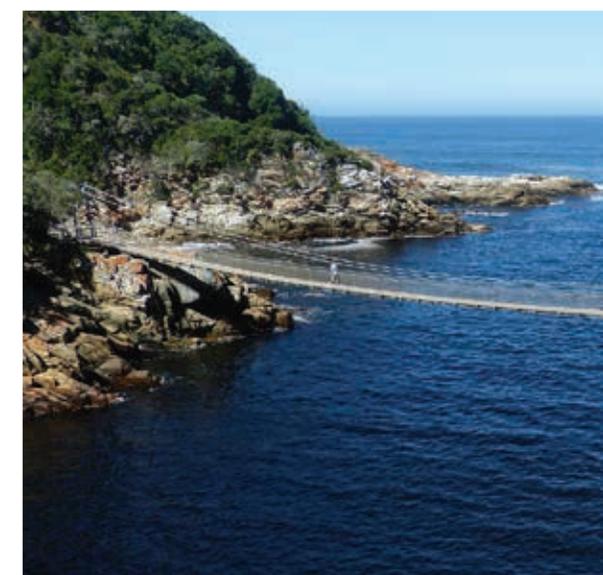
#### **TUE 12 OCT: TOUR CONCLUDES**

All good things must come to an end. Today we say our farewells where you will be transferred to George Airport, and take the flight from George to Johannesburg to connect with your international flight back to Australia. Please note, the airport transfer and domestic flight from George to Johannesburg is included in the cost of your tour package, but not your international flights to & from Australia.

5 DAYS  
Garden Route  
Post Tour Add-On  
8 - 12 October 2017

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## HIGHLIGHTS & INCLUSIONS

- One night accommodation at the 5 star Lanzerac Hotel, Stellenbosch
- Three nights accommodation at the 5 star Oubaai Hotel & Spa, George
- Coach travel throughout
- Departure airport transfer from hotel to George Airport (on tour dates only)
- Breakfast daily
- Porterage
- Option to purchase sightseeing activities whilst on the Garden Route - Winelands touring, Garden Route National Park, Sailing, Whale watching etc

## OPTIONS

- Option to purchase sightseeing activities whilst on the Garden Route - Winelands touring, Garden Route National Park, Sailing, Whale watching etc





## GARDEN ROUTE

The Garden Route is a popular and scenic stretch of the south-eastern coast of South Africa. It stretches from Mossel Bay in the Western Cape to the Storms River in the extreme western reach of the neighbouring Eastern Cape.

The name comes from the vibrant and diverse vegetation encountered here and the numerous lagoons and lakes dotted along the coast. The Garden Route includes towns such as Mossel Bay, Knysna, Oudtshoorn, Plettenberg Bay, Nature's Valley and George, the Garden Route's largest city.

It has an oceanic climate, with mild to warm summers, and mild to cool winters. It has the mildest climate in South Africa and the second mildest climate in the world. Temperatures rarely fall below 10°C in winter and rarely climb beyond 28°C in summer.

The Route is sandwiched between the Outeniqua and Tsitsikamma mountains and the Indian Ocean. The surrounding indigenous forests offer hiking trails and eco-tourism activities. Nearly 300 species of bird life are to be found in a variety of habitats ranging from fynbos to forest to wetlands.

Ten nature reserves embrace the varied ecosystems of the area as well as unique marine reserves, home to soft coral reefs, dolphins, seals and a host of other marine life. Various bays along the Garden Route are nurseries to the endangered Southern Right Whale which go there to calve in the winter and spring (July to December).

Embracing an exquisitely beautiful lagoon and surrounded by ancient forests, Knysna (pronounced *ny-znah*) is probably the most famous town on the Garden Route. It's also home to the country's largest indigenous forest.

## OUBAAI GOLF RESORT & SPA

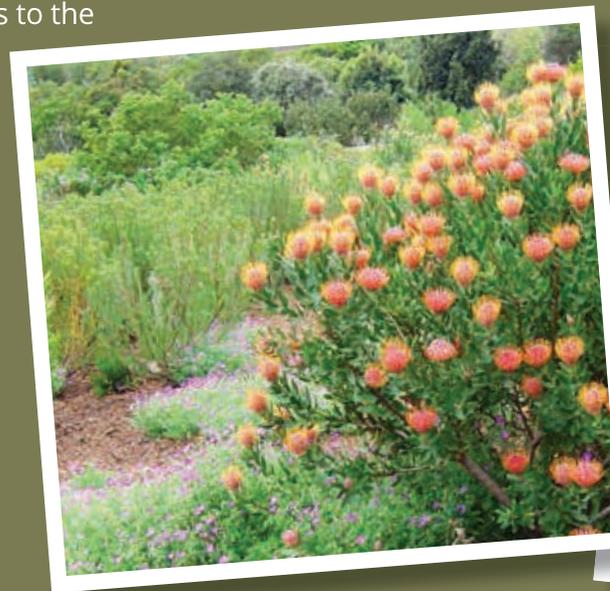
Overlooking Herolds Bay, this upscale golf and spa resort with views of the Outeniqua Mountains is 20km from Gwaing Beach.

Deluxe rooms offer mountain or ocean views from private balconies.

Dining options include a grill eatery with ocean views, a Japanese restaurant and a lounge bar with a fireplace.

Other amenities include 3 bars, a spa, a gym and an outdoor pool, plus an 18-hole golf course.

Oubai Golf Course is proud to be the first Ernie Els Signature course in South Africa. The course is a traditional Links layout ideally situated between the Indian Ocean and the Outeniqua Mountains.



# Useful Information



## TOUR PRICE

The cost of the *Big Five* Tour to South Africa is \$7,995 per person.

The price does not include international return flights and is based on twin/double share.

Single supplement is \$2,400.

These prices are correct at the time of printing.

Accommodations listed in brochure subject to change. See website for updates.

## INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION DETAILS

The tour is exclusive of international flights to South Africa, however we do have them available to purchase through the booking process. Our group flights on offer are as follows:

**25 Sep: QF63** - Sydney to Johannesburg - Depart 10:50am, Arrive 5:10pm

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**8 Oct: SA336** - Cape Town to Johannesburg - Depart 2:10pm, Arrive 4:05pm

**8 Oct: QF64** - Johannesburg to Sydney - Depart 7:10pm, Arrive 4:00pm +1 (9th October)

Fare: **\$2,250 per person** including airline taxes (price is subject to change).

If you require flights from another capital city or would like to extend your trip, please contact our office on 1300 200 900 and we can obtain a quote for you.

If you book your international flights independently, we ask you to advise your flight details to our office. Please email your flight details to [rugby@weloverugby.com](mailto:rugby@weloverugby.com)

## VISA INFORMATION

A visa is required for arrival into Zambia (Victoria Falls), along with any entrances to Zimbabwe on optional activities. A visa is required for anyone travelling on an Australian or New Zealand passport.

A visa for both Zimbabwe and Zambia must be applied for online:

**Zimbabwe** - [www.victoriafalls-guide.net/zimbabwe-visa.html](http://www.victoriafalls-guide.net/zimbabwe-visa.html)

**Zambia** - [evisa.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm](http://evisa.zambiaimmigration.gov.zm)

More information will be provided to you in the coming weeks with regards to visa applications.

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

There are a wide variety of amazing and unique optional activities on offer for this tour including Helicopter Flight of Victoria Falls, Lion Walks, Elephant Back Safari, White Water Rafting, Shark Diving and the list goes on. These will be available to purchase in May 2017 with more information coming soon.

## PHOTOGRAPHS

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank the fabulous Rose Brazel, who toured with us in 2016, for giving us permission to use her stunning images capturing the beauty of South Africa. You will see these used extensively throughout this brochure.

## DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

All payments are non-refundable. The following deposit and payment schedule applies to the Big Five Tour:

**Initial deposit** at the time of booking: \$2,000 per person

**Note:** if international flights are added to your invoice, 50% of the airfare must be paid within two business days from the time of booking. Failure to pay this will see the international flight cancelled and fare increases charged if you rebook the international flight.

**6th April 2017:** A 2nd deposit of \$2,000 per person

**9th June 2017:** A 3rd deposit of \$3,000 per person

**28th July 2017:** The final remaining balance of total tour cost

If a booking is taken after the 4th August 2017, full payment is required at the time of booking.

## MATCH PACKAGES

Full payment is required at the time of booking.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance is not included in our travel packages or tours, however it is highly recommended as all payments made are non-refundable. To make the most of your travel insurance, you should consider buying your policy when you pay your first deposit as cancellation coverage starts as soon as you have your policy number.

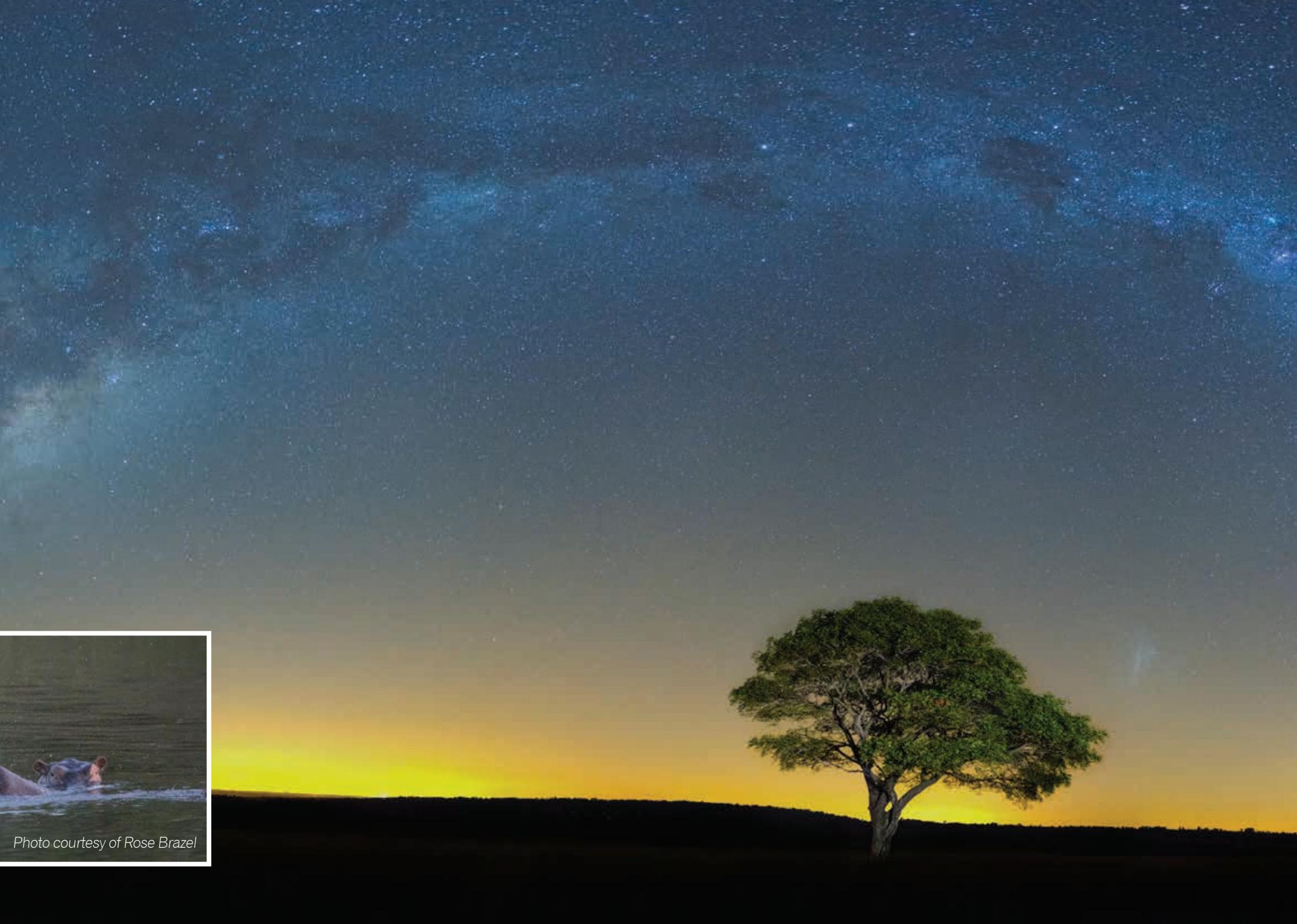
We have a long standing relationship with SureSave Insurance and will be able to organise this for you. We will also be offering all tour members a 25% discount on all policies.

Please contact our office and one of our staff members will be happy to assist you with a quote. It is important to note you will need to make SureSave aware of any pre-existing medical conditions you may have.

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*Photo courtesy of Rose Brazel*

# Testimonials

**WE LOVE  
RUGBY**

weloverugby.com

Brilliantly organised tour with a mix of sport and sightseeing. Superbly managed by a nicely balanced team of tour leaders and the accompanying local rep. The tour leaders went out of their way to include people, get to know them and handled a number of exceptional challenges brilliantly.

- Cecily & John, 2016 South Africa Tour

The tour was great in every aspect but it was the professionalism and expertise of the We Love Rugby tour leaders that made it a 10/10 for us.

This is our third tour with We Love Rugby and we intend to go again. Can't wait for the next time!

- Allen & Trudy, 2016 South Africa Tour

We cannot praise Ryan, Renee and Carin highly enough. They have been professional, efficient and caring. Just fabulous.

- Bob & Shelley, 2016 South Africa Tour

We were extremely satisfied with the helpfulness & availability of all staff members & their cheerful disposition!

- Michael, 2016 South Africa Tour

Great tour, good company, fantastic tour leaders. Thoroughly recommend it!

- David, 2016 South Africa Tour

I believe this tour to be a highly valued experience, culturally, historically and sporting wise.

Hannah provided valuable advice/assistance on a number of occasions. Her communication/responses were very efficient. This was extremely helpful being a first time traveller

- Ross Higgin

South Africa (in particular a test match at Newlands) has been on my bucket list for 25 years... the experience far exceeded my expectations. The bucket overflowed!

An investment in life.

- Don Fry

We have always found touring with We Love Rugby to be perfect. Eg Tour guides, local guides, choices and information

- Tony & Janice, 2016 South Africa Tour

Would highly recommend our We Love Rugby Tour to anyone, well planned, organised, easy and thoroughly enjoyable, thank you.

- Sally & Robin, 2016 South Africa Tour

The 2016 South Africa Tour was excellent and very professionally lead. The tour was a good combination of rugby, interesting site seeing, optional extras and free time. Thank you WLR.

- Michael & Valerie, 2016 South Africa Tour







# WE LOVE RUGBY

Guarantee your place on our rugby tour by  
visiting our website or contacting our office:

**1300 200 900**  
**[www.weloverugby.com](http://www.weloverugby.com)**