

# INTRODUCING! THE WESTERN CAPE OF SOUTH AFRICA

(Temperate Climate ; minimal Time Difference, so no Jet Lag; good UK£ to SA Rand Exchange Rate; Stunning Scenery; Excellent Cheerful Service; Fine Roads; Phenomenal Food!.....)

## A Sample Two-Week Itinerary (with ideas for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Week!)

**Day 1:** Fly to **Cape Town** direct on a Scheduled flight (best and most efficient deals sourced by 'Dial-a-Flight' (Tel: 07071-333-333) - about £500 Economy Return p/p.) Long-haul planes are designed for comfort (wherever you are in the plane!) so the 11 hours will pass pleasantly.

'Dial-a-Flight' will also organise Hotels and Car Hire. If you are arranging your own Car Hire, 'Tempest' are well worth approaching.

**Days 2-5:** Stay in **Cape Town** (we liked the mid-priced '**George Hotel**' in the City Centre) and start your adventure by taking the '**Topless Red Bus**' around the City (£8 p/p). The round trip takes about 2 hrs, but you can get on and off at will, so use this opportunity to:-

\*Catch the cable car to the top of **Table Mountain** (£5 p/p).

\*At the **V&A Waterfront** enjoy superb retail therapy, jazz, good food and more! Watch the seals, and take the boat to **Robbens Island** (Mandela's Prison) for a guided tour.

You will need one full day to take in the Peninsula, leading to **Cape Point**. We suggest heading straight for **Hout bay**, where the fishing and tourist industries combine, and the beaches are lovely. Then go to **Noerdhoek**, over the '**Chapmans Peak Drive**' (Toll £2) and on to **Cape Point** (the Cape of Good Hope). Take the funicular (£3 p/p return) or walk up to the top and look down to where (allegedly, but contested!) the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet.

Return to the City along the East Coast of the Peninsula, stopping at **Bolders** (just North of the Naval Port of **Simonstown**) to see the colony of South African Penguins. To the south of **Simonstown** look for the **Gem Factory** set back on the left, and scabble for semi-precious stones on the '**Scratchpan**.'

**Days 6-8:** Leave **Cape Town** on the N2 heading East along the famous '**Garden Route**'. Stop for a browse at the curios etc at '**Dassie Fountain**' (a café on the right hand side about an hour out of **Cape Town**.) About 1½ hrs from 'Dassie', you might enjoy a snack at '**The Blue Crane**', on the right hand side on the outskirts of **Heidelberg**. An hour from here you will arrive at **Albertinia**, where we hope you will have booked a night or two in your own Rondaaval (posh hut!) at '**The Garden Route Game Lodge**'. Full Board, 2 Game Drives each day, a walk with Cheetahs and a visit to the Reptile Park will cost £100 p/p/p/n ([www.grgamelodge.co.za](http://www.grgamelodge.co.za))

**Days 8-12:** Continue along the N2 for 3 hrs until you get to **Knysna** (by-passing **Mossell Bay** and **George**.) Hopefully you have arranged to stay at '**Karibu**' our fabulous water-side Apartment at the Quays! ([www.karibuapartment.com](http://www.karibuapartment.com)). There is so much to see and do in and around **Knysna** that we have a separate Guide for that!

Days 12 - 14: Back to **Cape Town** either down the **Garden Route** (N2) in reverse, or fly direct from **George** Airport (SAA or Kalula Airways) - 40 mins flight at about £40 p/p.

(.....If you have **three!** weeks, dovetail in Whale Watching in **Hermanus**; Wine and Gastronomy at **Franschoek**; **Ostrich Farms**, **Cango Caves**, **Meerkats**, **Spectacular Scenery** etc in the **Karoo**.)