



ETV ENDOWMENT TRAVELS

# Beyond Extraordinary

**SOUTH AFRICA &  
VICTORIA FALLS**

**March 17 - April 1, 2025**





## AT A GLANCE

**MARCH 17: Departure from US**

**MARCH 18-21: Johannesburg Melrose Arch Hotel**

Discover Johannesburg and Soweto!

**MARCH 21-23: Victoria Falls Ilala Lodge Hotel**

Discover Victoria Falls!

**MARCH 23-28: Cape Town Mount Nelson Hotel**

Discover Cape Town, Table Mountain, Cape Peninsula and Winelands!

**MARCH 28–31: Kruger National Park Ngala Safari Lodge**

On safari in style!

**MARCH 31: O. R. Tambo International Airport**

Transfer to Johannesburg for international departures and a fond farewell!

**APRIL 1: Arrival in US**





## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

**Join ETV Endowment and our seasoned tour leader, Alasdair Clayre, for our *beyond extraordinary* trip to Johannesburg, Victoria Falls, Cape Town and Ngala Private Game Reserve adjoining Kruger National Park. We have meticulously put together this outstanding program with our local partners, &BEYOND, an award-winning eco-tourism specialist in South Africa.**

Our adventure begins with three nights in Johannesburg, or The City of Gold, the commercial and legislative heart of South Africa, at the renowned African Pride Melrose Arch Hotel. Exploring the town, we uncover the history of Apartheid and how that regime was finally overthrown by decades of struggle. We will visit Soweto and the Apartheid Museum to learn about the roles played by Steven Biko, Nelson Mandela, Bishop Desmond Tutu and others in building the new South Africa, with plenty of opportunities to stroll the streets, shop and dine on local specialties.

Our adventure continues to Zimbabwe to the magnificent World Heritage Site, Victoria Falls, the biggest on the planet. With two nights at the beautifully-appointed Ilala Lodge, minutes from the falls, we will cruise the Zambezi River with its herds of hippos and approach the thundering cascade on foot through the rainforest to see baboons and spectacular views of the falls.

From Victoria Falls we fly south to Cape Town and stay five nights in the iconic and luxurious Mount Nelson Hotel, nestled under Table Mountain in the heart of the vibrant Gardens District. Join the roll call of illustrious guests who have stayed here from Churchill and Arthur Conan-Doyle to Queen Elizabeth II, John Lennon, Nelson Mandela and even the Dalai Lama. We will take the cable car up Table Mountain, drive down the coast to the Cape of Good Hope and visit its penguins (yes, penguins!). We'll spend a day in the famous vineyards to the north, first established by Huguenots fleeing France in the 17th century, with time to explore the quaint towns of Franschhoek and Stellenbosch, including antique stores, art galleries and cafes.

From Cape Town, we fly north for the grand finale of our *beyond extraordinary* adventure - three nights at our very own safari lodge and game reserve. Topping *Conde Nast's* and *Travel + Leisure's* lists of safari destinations in the whole of Africa, Ngala Private Game Reserve has exclusive traversing rights to 36,000 acres of wilderness and shares unfenced borders with the world-renowned Kruger National Park, nearly 4.9 million acres of unrivaled wildlife habitat, home to the Big Five and more species of large mammals than any other game reserve in Africa. Here we stay in the award-winning Ngala Safari Lodge, a luxurious retreat in the wilderness with fabulous food and its own spa, where even the local elephants come to admire the pool!

From Ngala, we take the short flight back to Johannesburg for our onward flights.

## Day 1: Tuesday, March 18 *Arrival Day in Johannesburg*



### **Welcome to South Africa and Johannesburg where our adventure begins!**

We will be met at the airport and transferred to the luxurious Melrose Arch Hotel, our home for three nights. Through innovative architecture and outstanding design, the African Pride Melrose Arch Hotel has become a destination in its own right, attracting those who take pleasure in modern elegance and sophistication. Located within the exclusive precinct of Melrose Arch, this chic hotel is surrounded by designer stores, gourmet restaurants and trendy eateries.

Accommodations:  
Melrose Arch Hotel

## Day 2: Wednesday, March 19 *Free Day, Welcome Dinner*

A sumptuous hotel breakfast is included daily throughout our trip.

Relax. Enjoy the luxurious Melrose Arch Hotel and this thriving neighborhood or explore Johannesburg, The City of Gold. Johannesburg is the seat of the Constitutional Court, the highest court in South Africa. Most major South African companies and banks have their headquarters here. The city is located within the mineral-rich Witwatersrand Hills, the epicenter of the international gold and diamond trade.

This evening we meet up for our Welcome Drinks and Dinner at a nearby restaurant.

Accommodations: Melrose Arch Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

## Day 3: Thursday, March 20

### *Soweto & Apartheid Museum Tour*

Today we visit Soweto to see where the uprisings took place. We visit Nelson Mandela's house on Vilakazi Street and the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum. Commemorating the role of students in the fight against the Apartheid in South Africa, the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum is dedicated to preserving the memory of the 1976 Soweto uprisings. We drive past Diepkloof, the up-market area in Soweto, Baragwanath Hospital, Elias Motsoaledi and Kliptown squatter camps and Bishop Desmond Tutu's and Winnie Mandela's houses.



After a simple lunch, we visit the Apartheid Museum. From its many photographs and videos, we learn more about the treason trial, Steven Biko, Nelson Mandela, Jan Smuts, Hendrik Verwoed, Sophiatown, the gold mines, Robben Island, Robert Sobukwe, the Sharpeville riots, June 16 uprisings and the 1994 elections.

This evening we are free for dinner.

Accommodations: Melrose Arch Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

## Day 4: Friday, March 21

### *Transfer to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe & Sundowner Cruise*



Today we fly to Victoria Falls on the Zimbabwe-Zambia border and the Ilala Lodge Hotel, a family-run hotel that offers luxury and comfort in the heart of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Nestled in attractive gardens, this well-appointed hotel is ideally located in the hustle and bustle of town, but a mere eight-minute walk from Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

We have a chance to relax in these beautiful surroundings before setting off for our sunset cruise on the Zambezi River. This is a unique way to explore the channels of the river and get close to the pristine wilderness and African game, especially hippos! Enjoy an array of canapés, a full bar and a charming crew who share their knowledge and stories of Victoria Falls, or Mosi-Oa-Tunya: The Smoke That Thunders, before we proceed to dinner.

Accommodations: Ilala Lodge Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

## Day 5: Saturday, March 22

### Private Tour of Victoria Falls



After breakfast, we head to the Victoria Falls Map Room where our guides explain the fascinating history, layout and geology of the falls. We continue on foot to the David Livingstone Statue and then through the flourishing rainforest to the beautiful viewpoints of Cataract View, Devils Cataract, the Main Falls and lastly to the Eastern Cataract. Along the way, our guides will tell us about the rich flora and fauna and local traditions associated with the falls. We can expect to see a range of wildlife from chacma baboons and velvet monkeys to banded mongooses, warthogs, trumpeter hornbills and innumerable insects and butterflies.

While it is neither the highest nor the widest waterfall in the world, Victoria Falls is the biggest based on its combined width of 5,604 ft and height of 354 ft, resulting in the world's largest sheet of falling water. Victoria Falls is twice the height of North America's Niagara Falls and well over twice its width. This is a stunning World Heritage Site, and a trip to Southern Africa isn't complete until you see them!

We will finish the morning with lunch at The Wild Horizons Lookout Café, an iconic restaurant with staggering views where casual dining is a decadent affair.

For the adventurous, there is always a visit to the Devil's Pool, perched atop the falls, white water rafting or a spectacular helicopter "Flight of the Angels"!

In the evening, we are free for dinner. Wander into town, or try the Ilala Lodge's own restaurant, The Cassia, famed for dishes like Grilled Ostrich Fillet and Springbok Shank.

Accommodations: Ilala Lodge Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



## Day 6: Sunday, March 23

### Transfer from Victoria Falls to Cape Town

After breakfast, we make the short drive for our flight to Cape Town where we will check in to the Mount Nelson Hotel, set in the vibrant heart of Cape Town. Painted pink in 1918 to commemorate peace and the end of World War I, the iconic Mount Nelson Hotel offers easy access to all that's happening in this dynamic city - the perfect combination of leafy tranquility and contemporary buzz.

Whether dining on exotic Cape cuisine, soaking up the sun or exploring the buzzing streets, your time here promises endless memories to cherish.

This evening we head out for dinner in the trendy Gardens District.

Accommodations: Mount Nelson Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



## **Day 7: Monday, March 24** ***Half Day City & Table Mountain Tour***

We begin our scenic tour of Cape Town by taking the cable car up iconic Table Mountain (weather permitting). On our descent, we will browse lively Greenmarket Square, one of the city's oldest markets, and walk through Company Gardens, established by Dutch settlers in 1652. Later we will drive past the Houses of Parliament and the historic Castle of Good Hope, as well as the Slave Lodge, which housed thousands of slaves belonging to the Dutch East India Company. Next, we will visit the traditional Malay Quarter in the predominantly Muslim Bo-Kaap, with its brightly-colored houses dating back as far as the 17th century. We'll pause to listen to the firing of the noonday gun from Signal Hill before we stop for lunch in a local restaurant.

The remainder of the day and evening are free.

Accommodations: Mount Nelson Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

## **Day 8: Tuesday, March 25** ***Cape Peninsula, Chapman's Peak & Penguins!***



Our full-day excursion takes in the scenic highlights of the Cape Peninsula, beginning at the spectacular coastal suburb of Hout Bay, a former fishing village with a long sandy beach framed by mountains. Explore the cafes, shops and markets of Mariner's Wharf, a harbor-front emporium with a distinct maritime ambiance. We continue along the breathtaking Chapman's Peak Drive before heading to the Cape of Good Hope to explore its nature reserve, see the Diaz Cross and indulge in lunch at a local restaurant. From here we drive to Simon's Town, famous for its naval military base, and then visit the charming penguin colony at Boulders Beach. Our day ends at the beautiful Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain.



This evening we are free to explore and try some of the many excellent local restaurants.

Accommodations: Mount Nelson Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



## Day 9: Wednesday, March 26 *Cape Winelands Tour, Franschhoek & Stellenbosch*

Today we enjoy a full day in the stunning Cape Winelands. We will travel through the region's major wine-producing areas, many of which, like the wine estates, still have French names. We will visit several wine estates to sample high quality vintages. We will also visit the towns of Franschhoek and Stellenbosch.

Nestled in a valley where the French Huguenots settled in 1688, Franschhoek ("French corner" in Afrikaans) was listed in 2022 by *Time* magazine as one of the top 50 "most extraordinary destinations to explore" in the world. This tiny town is a delight for antique lovers and gastronomes alike. The town boasts some world-famous eateries, and we will have lunch at The Werf Restaurant at Boschendal, which focuses on presenting contemporary soil-to-fork cuisine using only the best available local, seasonal and ethically-sourced ingredients.

First settled by the Dutch in 1679 and home to one of South Africa's oldest universities, South Africa's second-oldest town, Stellenbosch, provides another glimpse of classic 17th and 18th century Cape style. We will take time to browse quaint Dorp Street, visit the local museum and explore its many art galleries and boutique shops before heading back to Cape Town.

This evening is free to explore and dine in Cape Town.

Accommodations: Mount Nelson Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

## Day 10: Thursday, March 27 *Free Day in Cape Town*

By now we should have a good feel for this magnificent city and will be free to explore and shop along the waterfront or just relax in our magnificent hotel. Alternatively, take a trip to Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for 18 years or try cage-diving with Great White Sharks!

Accommodations: Mount Nelson Hotel  
Meals: Breakfast



**Day 11: Friday, March 28**

**Transfer to Ngala Safari Lodge, Night Safari**



Today we fly north to the edge of the Kruger National Park and our adventure's Grand Finale at Ngala Safari Lodge.

Topping *Conde Naste's* and *Travel + Leisure's* lists of safari destinations in Africa, Ngala Private Game Reserve has exclusive traversing rights on 36,000 acres of wilderness and shares unfenced borders with the world-renowned Kruger National Park, nearly 4.9 million acres of unrivalled wildlife land, home to the Big Five and more species of large mammals than any other game reserve in Africa. With exclusive access we can go off-road enabling us to get closer to wildlife, explore the reserve on foot - free from the constraints of roads and vehicles - and take night drives.

Nestled under a canopy of mopane and tamboti trees, Ngala Safari Lodge features 20 classic thatched cottages. Each ensuite cottage, with private veranda, exudes a romantic colonial ambience with nostalgic safari memorabilia throughout. The lodge's large sparkling swimming pool overlooks a natural riverine woodland and is even a popular drinking spot for the local elephants!

Throughout our stay, all meals, soft drinks, house wines, local brand spirits and beers, teas and coffees, refreshments on game drives, laundry, safari activities and nature walks accompanied by experienced, armed trackers are included. Each room is equipped with an illustrated wildlife journal, vegetation checklist, an area map with illustrated Star Birds checklist and Swarovski Optik binoculars.



This evening we set off on our first game drive in search of the Big Five: lions, leopards, rhinoceros, elephants and buffalo. Over the course of the next few days we might even spot the elusive white rhino and white lions. Ngala is home to two of the world's only three white lions currently living in the wild! These magnificent cats are endemic to South Africa's Timbavati region, which includes Ngala Private Game Reserve. Timbavati means "place where something sacred came down to earth" in the indigenous Tsonga language. According to local lore, there have been white lions in the area for centuries, though they were only "discovered" by Europeans in 1938.



Accommodations: Ngala Safari Lodge  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## Day 12: Saturday, March 29

### Safari Day

Our next two days are flexible, and we will tailor our programs with our butlers and guides to make the most of our visit to the exclusive Ngala Game Reserve.

A good safari day often starts early. Our guides and butlers wake us with steaming hot cups of coffee or tea and a light snack before we head out on our morning game drive. Each vehicle is limited to a maximum of six guests. Our guides are expertly trained on the intricacies of the reserve and its surrounds, offering insightful and entertaining anecdotes along the way, with snacks and refreshments, too.

We return to the lodge mid-morning and tuck into a hearty breakfast to exchange stories about the day so far.

After breakfast, we can set off on a guided nature walk or a local community visit.

We come together again for lunch and relax through the hotter part of the day. Stay by the pool, frequented by elephants, or indulge in a luxurious wellness treatment in the lodge's secluded massage spa.

A civilized afternoon High Tea is served daily.



Later in the afternoon we set out on our second game drive with sundowner cocktails and snacks at a strategic spot in the wilderness to listen to the sounds of the jungle coming alive!

Home again, we freshen up and then gather for drinks at the bar or on the outdoor deck before dinner.

Accommodations: Ngala Safari Lodge  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 13: Sunday, March 30

### Safari Day, Community Visit & Farewell Dinner

During our stay we will also visit the local villages. Undoubtedly a highlight on our trip to South Africa, this offers a wonderful opportunity to engage with the enchanting communities around Ngala Private Game Reserve. Hosted by The Africa Foundation, &Beyond's community development partner, which has been active within these rural communities for 25 years, we will gain first-hand knowledge of their projects to improve education, healthcare, water access and the development of local businesses in the area.

We may visit Bilton High School, for example. Previously, children from the area had to travel long distances and stay with relatives to get an education. The Africa Foundation supported the construction of the school, including classrooms, an admin block, EnviroLoos, kitchen and fencing. We will stop at the Bohlabela Craft Market, which was officially opened in April 2009. Built by The Africa Foundation, this market brings together 25 women and one gentleman who used to sell their goods at solitary stalls by the side of the road.

There are, of course, two game drives and other activities included for this day as well.

Tonight we gather for our Farewell Dinner, an African feast around the blazing boma fire.

Accommodations: Ngala Safari Lodge  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



## Day 14: Monday, March 31

### Departure Day

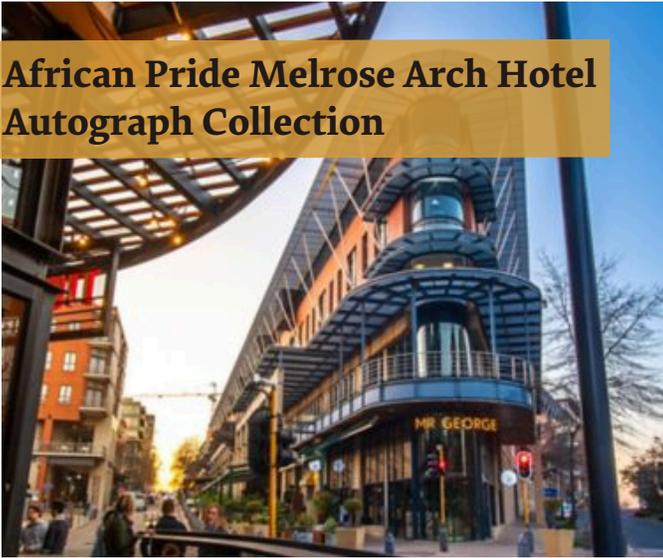
After breakfast, we enjoy a leisurely start today before we head to the airstrip for our short flight back to Johannesburg, where it all began. Certainly, we will share a few cocktails and reflections on our *beyond extraordinary* trip before our onward flights!

*SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

Some details or the order of events may change, but we will never compromise on quality!

# ACCOMMODATIONS

## African Pride Melrose Arch Hotel Autograph Collection



**March 18-20, 2025**  
**Johannesburg, South Africa**

Through innovative architecture and outstanding design, the African Pride Melrose Arch Hotel has become a destination in its own right, attracting those who take pleasure in modern elegance and sophistication. Located within the exclusive precinct of Melrose Arch, the chic Melrose Arch Hotel is surrounded by designer stores, gourmet restaurants and trendy eateries. The hotel's modern, comfortable rooms include ensuite bathrooms, satellite television, DVD surround-sound systems, air conditioning and personal bars. Guests can indulge in fine whiskies by the fire at the sumptuous Library Bar or watch the hustle and bustle of Melrose Arch's precinct from the colonial veranda. The renowned Pool Bar offers lighter snacks and tantalizing cocktails at one of the tables immersed in the shallows of the sparkling water. Meals are served at the elegant March Restaurant, offering guests the perfect balance of wholesome, natural ingredients with innovative, complementary flavors with an African twist. The spectacular 55-seater cinema offers guests the best in audio-visual entertainment and provides a wonderful way to wind the evening down after a busy day exploring Johannesburg.

## Ilala Lodge Hotel



**March 21-22, 2025**  
**Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**

Ilala Lodge Hotel is a family-run hotel that offers luxury and comfort in the heart of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Nestled in attractive gardens, this well-appointed hotel is a mere eight-minute walk from Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

The hotel is ideally located in the hustle and bustle of town, within walking distance of all historical sites, restaurants and activities in Victoria Falls. Offering warm and welcoming true African hospitality, the friendly and attentive staff will ensure that your visit is perfect in every way.

The award-winning Cassia Restaurant at Ilala Lodge Hotel is famous for its delicious gourmet cuisine and attracts guests worldwide. Diners can see the spray and hear the sounds of Victoria Falls, locally known as "The Smoke That Thunders", while they enjoy al-fresco dining under starry African skies. Wild animals, such as warthog and impala, often graze on the hotel lawns and entertain guests during mealtimes.



## Mount Nelson Hotel

**March 23-27, 2025**  
**Cape Town, South Africa**

Accolades for the Mount Nelson Hotel are too numerous to mention. Suffice it to say, Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her 21st birthday here!

This is just a little of what *Forbes* magazine has to say:

“Painted pink in 1918 to commemorate peace and the end of World War I, Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel, Cape Town is one of Cape Town’s most talked-about landmarks. An icon in its own right, the hotel has welcomed many famous guests over the years, including Queen Elizabeth II, John Lennon, Nelson Mandela and even the Dalai Lama. Glamour and elegance of a bygone era make this blush-hued beauty a fetching retreat. The hotel’s city-center setting belies the tranquility that awaits inside, with its plush interiors, warm hospitality and magical garden.

The grand entrance hall is inviting and abuzz with activity, and the mouth-watering aromas of freshly baked treats lure you further in. In the distance, you can catch a glimpse of the pristinely-kept nine-acre garden and the fragrance of sweet roses wafting through the terrace doors.”



## Ngala Safari Lodge



**March 28-31, 2025**  
**Cape Town, South Africa**

Nestled under a canopy of mopane and tamboti trees, Ngala Safari Lodge at &Beyond Ngala Private Game Reserve features 20 classic thatched cottages. Each ensuite cottage, with private veranda, exudes a romantic colonial ambience with nostalgic safari memorabilia throughout.

The lodge’s large sparkling swimming pool overlooks a natural riverine woodland. Hearty breakfasts and delicious lunches are served in the dappled shade of an enormous weeping boer bean tree. Upon their return from exhilarating evening game drives, guests are welcomed by Ngala’s warm, hospitable staff to a banquet in the elegant candlelit courtyard or to an African feast around the blazing boma fire. The lodge’s thatched dining, bar and sitting areas are open to the warm breezes of the inviting African bushveld.



## PRICING & TRIP DETAILS

### TOUR PRICE PER PERSON:

Double Occupancy: \$13,509

Single Supplement: \$3,933

*A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to secure your place on this trip.*

#### Price Includes:

- \$1,000 tax-deductible donation to the ETV Endowment
- Expert guidance of Alasdair Clayre and local guides
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- Flight from Johannesburg to Victoria Falls
- Flight from Victoria Falls to Cape Town
- Flight from Cape Town to Ngala Safari Lodge
- Flight from Ngala Safari Lodge to Johannesburg
- 13 nights hotel accommodations
- Breakfast daily, 8 lunches and 6 dinners
- Entry and related fees to all museums, safaris and tours listed
- Laundry at Ngala Safari Lodge
- Emergency medical evacuation (if needed)
- Roundtrip airport transfers
- All gratuities for meals, bus drivers, local guides and tour director
- Baggage handling for two pieces per person
- Two ETV Endowment luggage tags
- Visa for Zimbabwe

#### Not Included:

- Airfare to/from the US
- Services, meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
- Laundry (except at Ngala Safari Lodge), telephone calls and expenditures of a personal nature
- Travel insurance

**PLEASE NOTE:** Itinerary is subject to change. You should plan to arrive at and depart from the Johannesburg O.R. Tambo International Airport (JNB).  
**Do not book airfare until instructed to do so by the ETV Endowment.**

### IMPORTANT NOTE:

Ngala Safari Lodge is one of the most sought after and luxurious safari destinations in all of Africa. ETV Endowment and Alasdair have negotiated a special deal with &Beyond, but we can only hold rooms here for a limited time and are currently only able to offer seven single rooms. We may be able to offer more single rooms later, but we urge everyone, and especially those who wish to travel without a roommate, to book early to avoid disappointment!

