

## NCKC – 9 DAY KAROO, KALAHARI & WEST COAST

### Activity Package – ZAR2,000

This is an optional payment that covers what we consider to be ‘essential activities’ on our tours. Ideally we would include all of these, but not everyone can afford this. This payment is 100% transparent and is listed below. The Activity Package can be pre-purchased prior to your arrival or through your guide on day 1 of your tour. **This dossier has been written with the inclusion of the Activity Package items.**

Activity	Price
Sutherland Observatory Night Tour	R65
Orange River Overnight Canoe Adventure	R1,200
Night Game Drive in Kgalagadi NP	R185
Wine Tasting	R50
Wagon / Tractor tour through Nieuwoudtville	R50
Open air seafood feast in Lamberts Bay	R210
Evita se Peron Lunch & Show	R240
	<b>R2,000</b>

### Countries visited

South Africa

### Vehicle

Adventure Truck

### Malaria

Malaria prophylactics are not required.

### Departure Point

8.00 am, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Leadership House, 40 Shortmarket Street, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town, South Africa.

Tel: +27 (0) 825782199. [www.nomadtours.co.za](http://www.nomadtours.co.za)

### End Point

1<sup>st</sup> Floor Leadership House, 40 Shortmarket Street, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town, South Africa.

Tel: +27 (0) 825782199. [www.nomadtours.co.za](http://www.nomadtours.co.za)

### What’s included

Meals as indicated on the itinerary (unless otherwise specified, all meals are prepared and served at the Nomad truck), accommodation, registered guides and transport. We also include some of the highlights. These highlights are listed below in the day-by-day descriptions as “included highlights”.

### What’s excluded

All items of a personal nature, alcohol, snacks, souvenirs, tips and optional activities (see list for an indication of prices).

### Health

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies or physical disability that you may have.

### Insurance

All clients require adequate Travel Insurance. Medical Insurance is not sufficient. Activity providers can refuse participation of activities, if the correct valid Travel Insurance is not provided. Travel insurance can be purchased via the Nomad website [http://www.nomadtours.co.za/travel\\_insurance.html](http://www.nomadtours.co.za/travel_insurance.html) (Nomad World travel insurance is in no way affiliated with Nomad Tours)

### Visas

Please note that these are your responsibility. See Pre Departure Booklet for more information.

### Climate

The African sun is very strong. Please use a factor 30 sunscreen and wear a hat. You should drink at least 3 litres of water per day to avoid dehydration. It can also get very cold during winter months on this route. Please see Pre Departure Booklet for detailed information.

### Currency and Banking

South African Rand is the only currency used on this route. Credit Cards cannot always be processed – especially in remote areas.

### Vaccinations

No vaccinations are prescribed by law by the country being visited on this tour. Please see the Pre Departure Information booklet for detailed information on vaccinations in Africa.

### Pre and Post Tour Accommodation

If you require accommodation before or after your tour we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers – contact your travel agent or Nomad to make these bookings.

### Arrival

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will avoid any unforeseen problems.

### Departure

Please book your flight to depart the day after the tour officially ends. This is to account for any delays that we may experience due to unpredictable road conditions.

**Note: All information is subject to change without prior notice. Travel times and campsites can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only. On our longer tours it is possible that your crew, truck and fellow travelers will change due to our unique tour linking system.**

### Did you receive your Pre Departure Information Booklet?

If not please contact us at [nomad@nomadtours.co.za](mailto:nomad@nomadtours.co.za) and we will e-mail you the document; alternatively visit us at 1st Floor, Leadership House, 40 Shortmarket St, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town to collect one. You can also download from our website at [www.nomadtours.co.za](http://www.nomadtours.co.za). **After hours contact number: +27 (0) 82 578 2199.**

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

COUNTRY	AREA	ACTIVITY	PRICE RANGE
South Africa	Kgalagadi NP	Morning Game Drive with SANParks	R185 to R200
South Africa	Kgalagadi NP	Sunset Game Drive with SANParks	R185 to R200
South Africa	Kgalagadi NP	Morning Game Walk with SANParks	R270 to R300
South Africa	Kgalagadi NP	Afternoon Game Walk with SANParks	R270 to R300
South Africa	Augrabies NP	Dassie Hiking Trail (5km)	Free to Free
South Africa	Augrabies NP	Night Game Drive with SANParks	R130 to R160

### Day 1 Cape Town - Matjiesfontein – Sutherland

We depart Cape Town for our first stop – the unusual town of Matjiesfontein. Trapped in time, this one horse town is a great stop for lunch. We continue onto the gateway to the universe, home to the largest telescope in the Southern Hemisphere and the clearest night skies in Africa.

Meals:	Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Camp: Sterland Caravan Park: <a href="http://www.sutherlandinfo.co.za/sterlandcaravan.htm">www.sutherlandinfo.co.za/sterlandcaravan.htm</a>
Facilities:	Electricity, shared ablutions
Route:	Cape Town to Sutherland ±380 km
Travel time:	±5-6 hrs
Activity Package:	Night tour to the Sutherland Observatory

### Matjiesfontein

Matjiesfontein Village was officially opened in November 1889 in a grand manner. The guests were leading politicians and personages who had reached the Village by train from Cape Town. During the 1890s, a steady stream of celebrated figures visited Matjiesfontein, such as Randolph Churchill (father of Winston), the Duke of Hamilton and the Sultan of Zanzibar, amongst others. The double-storied Milner Hotel was built in 1899 by James Logan, in the early stages of the Anglo-Boer War. The hotel was used as a military hospital during the conflict by the British forces and the hotel turret was then used as a lookout post. Some 12 000 troops were camped around the Village. James Logan, founder of Matjiesfontein, died in 1920 and is buried in a little cemetery 10 kilometers from Matjiesfontein, where his tomb is located next to the grave of George Lohmann, one of the greatest English cricketers, who spent the last years of his life in the superb climatic environment of the Karoo. In the late 1960s, David Rawdon, a hotelier par excellence, whose claim to fame was the establishing of the well-known Lanzerac Hotel in Stellenbosch and the Marina Hotel in Hermanus, purchased Matjiesfontein Village.

### Sutherland

The town was established in 1855 with everything focused around the Dutch Reformed Church. In 1872 there were 19 houses, with a community of 138. Farms are usually very large - 5000 ha +. There are two large shops in town as well as a café, one service station, 2 butcheries, farmers Co-op, two schools and one bank. All basic products can be bought locally. The newspaper of the day is only available in the late afternoon due to the distance from the cities. The average minimum temperature is 3 degrees Celcius over the whole year and the average maximum is 20,5° C. All of the shops still follow the long practiced tradition of closing from 13h00 - 14h00 each day.

### Day 2 Brandvlei

We continue on our journey, through the Karoo en-route to the Brandvlei area, where we will experience a night of bush camping under the stars. As the Karoo is famous for its lamb meat, tonight we will enjoy a traditional South African braai.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Camp: Verneukpan <a href="http://www.verneukpan.co.za">www.verneukpan.co.za</a>
Facilities:	Basic long drop toilet

Route: Sutherland to Brandvlei ±470 km  
 Travel time: ± 6-7 hrs

### Brandvlei

Brandvlei is a small town in the Karoo region of the Northern Cape. This area was once sub-tropical, during the Miocene period. From 1910 the farmers used an irrigation method comparable to one used for thousands of years by the Egyptians. The surface is very flat, and water does not run away easily. This way the rainwater is spread over a larger area and is allowed to sink into the soil. This region contains very little vegetation, primarily very low shrubs and yellow grass among a rocky desert kind of landscape. Temperature above 40°C is not uncommon. In 1929, Verneukpan was used by Sir Malcolm Campbell, attempting to raise the land speed record in his Napier-Campbell Blue Bird. Unfortunately he failed to break the record. In 1996, Jan Jacobs tried again and the car used can be seen at the Verneukpan.

### Day 3/4 Kgalagadi National Park

Heading further north, we will spend the next two nights exploring the unique red sand dunes and the multitude of animals in the park including the world famous black-maned Kalahari Lions. *Optional activity: Morning game drive with SANParks*

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
 Accommodation: Camp: Kalahari National Park: [www.sanparks.org/parks/kgalagadi](http://www.sanparks.org/parks/kgalagadi)  
 Facilities: Shared ablutions, shop, restaurant, electricity  
 Route: Brandvlei to Kgalagadi ±553km – (day 3 long day)  
 Travel time: ±9-10 hrs  
 Activity package: Night game drive in Kgalagadi NP

### Kgalagadi National Park

The Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park lies in the large sand-filled basin in the west of the southern African subcontinent, known as the Kalahari. It covers almost one third of the area and forms what may be the largest sandveld area in the world. Red sand dunes, sparse vegetation and the dry riverbeds of the Nossob and Auob show antelope and predator species off to spectacular advantage and provide excellent photographic opportunities. Kgalagadi is also a haven for birders, especially those interested in birds of prey. Look out for gemsbok, meerkat, sociable weavers and pygmy falcons, the smallest falcon in Africa, often seen around sociable weaver colonies preying on the birds.

### Day 5 Augrabies National Park

After a final game drive in the Kgalagadi NP, we head to Augrabies NP. The sight and sound of the power of the 56 meter high waterfall will not be easily forgotten.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
 Accommodation: Camp: Augrabies National Park: [www.sanparks.org/parks/augrabies](http://www.sanparks.org/parks/augrabies)  
 Facilities: Shared ablutions, electricity, shop  
 Route: Kgalagadi NP to Augrabies NP ±350 km  
 Travel time: ±5-6 hrs  
 Activity Package: Wine Tasting

### Augrabies Falls

Few sights are as awesome or a sound as deafening as water thundering down the 56m Augrabies Waterfall when the Orange River is in full flood. The Khoi people called it 'Aukoerebis', or place of Great Noise, as this powerful flow of water is unleashed from rocky surroundings characterised by the 18km abyss of the Orange River Gorge. The area is inhabited by the Nama People who over the centuries have managed to adapt to the harsh conditions of the area.

The traditional domed huts known as 'matjieshuise' (and a direct translation would be 'mat houses'), are extremely well suited for the hot climate in this area. During the summer, the stems and culms from which the mats are mad up of shrink, allowing gaps to appear. This results in a breeze being able to flow through and cool the hut down. In winter the stems expand keeping out the cold winds and rain.

### Day 6 Orange River

Today we overnight on the banks of the Orange River. Look out for more than 142 different bird species, including the Black Eagle and African Fish Eagle. The evening will be spent alongside the river around the fire.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation:	Camp: Khamkirri <a href="http://www.khamkirri.co.za">www.khamkirri.co.za</a>
Facilities:	Bush camping on the banks of the Orange River
Route:	Augrabies NP to Orange River ±50 km
Travel time:	±2-3 hrs
Activity Package:	Overnight Orange River Excursion

## The Orange River

The Orange River (Afrikaans/Dutch: Oranjerivier), Gariep River, Groote River or Senqu River is the longest river in South Africa. It rises in the Drakensberg mountains in Lesotho, flowing westwards through South Africa to the Atlantic Ocean. The river forms part of the international borders between South Africa and Namibia and between South Africa and Lesotho, as well as several provincial borders within South Africa. Although the river does not pass through any major cities, it plays an important role in the South African economy by providing water for irrigation, as well as hydroelectric power. The river was named by Robert Jacob Gordon after the Dutch Royal House.

## Day 7 Nieuwoudtville

Nieuwoudtville, famous for its Spring flowers, is where we find our journey taking us today. We will explore the town in the afternoon on a tractor / wagon tour.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Camp: Olive Caravan Park (No website available)
Facilities:	Shared ablutions, electricity
Route:	Orange River to Nieuwoudtville ±465 km
Travel time:	±6-7 hrs
Activity Package:	Tractor / Wagon town tour

## Nieuwoudtville

The town came into being in the late 1800s. On the Bokveld escarpment, Nieuwoudtville is known for its unique vegetation, with the biggest variety of indigenous bulbous plants in the world, and the 100m high Nieuwoudtville Falls on the Doring River. Nieuwoudtville is extremely popular during the wild flower season, and indeed, because of its unique placement in the Karoo plain known as the Bokkeveld, where the Hantam Karoo meets Cape Fynbo, it has a reputation as the bulb capital of the world. Just outside of town you will find the Nieuwoudtville waterfall, decidedly underrated despite its being one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the country. This makes it more of a wonder for the impact it has.

## Day 8 Lamberts Bay

Lamberts Bay – the seafood hotspot of the West Coast! Famous for its long stretches of uninterrupted white beaches and abundant marine life. We will be treated to a seafood feast at the open-air restaurant, Muisboskerm. Our camp this evening is right next to the beach; fall asleep to the sounds of the crashing waves.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Camp: Lamberts Bay Caravan Park (No website available)
Facilities:	Shared ablutions, electricity
Route:	Nieuwoudtville to Lamberts Bay ±140 km
Travel time:	±3-4 hrs
Activity Package:	Open air restaurant, seafood feast

## Lamberts Bay

This gem of a seaside village owes its origin to humble beginnings as a fishing village, like most of the surrounding South African coast villages, but it has become one of the major tourist attractions on the West Coast due to its moderate all year climate. The Sandveld Museum and nearby local farms like Wadrift, will open your mind to the cultural history of this unique place. Lamberts Bay is also jam-packed with plentiful birdlife. Some of the more popular species on the list include gannets and Cormorants. Dolphins, whales and the ever entertaining seals at the internationally acclaimed Bird Island attract tourists from all over. Heavyside dolphins are frequently spotted from the beach. Lamberts Bay is also a great place to view the lush stretches of wild field flowers that are most beautiful during spring.

## Day 9 Darling

On our final day, we make our way to Darling to enjoy a theatre production performed by the famous “Tannie” of South Africa, Evita Bezuidenhout. The play is accompanied by traditional South African cuisine. Thereafter we make for Cape Town where we end the tour at Signal Hill where we enjoy sundowners overlooking the ocean.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch
Route:	Lamberts Bay to Cape Town (via Darling) ±250 km
Travel time:	±4-5 hrs
Activity Package:	Evita se Person, lunch & theatre show

### Tour Ends

The tour ends at 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Leadership House, 40 Shortmarket Street, Greenmarket Square, Cape Town, South Africa. We suggest you book accommodation in Cape Town for this evening.

### TIPPING ON TOUR

Southern Africa: In general tipping in restaurants is generally expected and is around 10% for good service, more if you have received exceptional service, and, feel free not to tip at all if you received poor service. Tipping taxi drivers etc is really at your own discretion and not always expected. If in doubt please ask your guides. Our guides do work hard, but they are also paid at (and often above) industry levels for this work. Our Crew can be tipped if you feel that they have done a good job and/or gone above and beyond the call of duty. The best way to arrange tips is to elect one person in the group to collect the money. We recommend USD1 (or about R5) per day per person, per guide as a fair tip. So if you have 3-crew on a tour, we would recommend that 3 envelopes are used and each crew member's name written on one. Place what you feel is fair in to each envelope and the elected person can give these to the crew at the end of the tour. If you do not feel that the crew deserve a tip, please, do not tip them. You must remember that tipping is only for exceptional service and is not at all compulsory or expected.

### THE NOMAD AFRICAN TRUST [www.nomadafricantrust.co.za](http://www.nomadafricantrust.co.za)

At Nomad we are passionate about the people, places and wildlife of Africa that make our tours so special. In order to give back we have set up the Nomad African Trust. By the end of your tour you may have left-over local currency that you will not be able to change outside of its country of origin. Any assistance you could provide to the trust by donating this left over currency will be appreciated. Thank you for your help and please join our newsletter at the website above to receive regular updates on what we are doing to support our beneficiaries.



### GREEN SEATS - TRAVEL RESPONSIBLY IN AFRICA

Nomad gives you the opportunity to offset your carbon foot print by purchasing a "Green Seat". If you would like to help Nomad making Africa Greener, simply choose the tick box on your booking form and we will take care of the rest. The Nomad African Trust will plant trees that are ecologically viable and that have very high carbon absorption. Green Seats can be purchased at departure or on tour with your guide. For more information on our "Green Seats", please visit [www.nomadtours.co.za/nomad\\_greenseats.html](http://www.nomadtours.co.za/nomad_greenseats.html)



### THANK YOU FOR TRAVELLING WITH NOMAD

At the end of your tour you will be provided with feedback forms. These forms are confidential and should be given to your crew in a sealed envelope. If you are not sure of the confidentiality of the feedback form please feel free to email us as well on [ops@nomadtours.co.za](mailto:ops@nomadtours.co.za). Please make sure to also complete the feedback form as we use the answers on these forms to improve and maintain our service levels.

*Accommodation providers are subject to change without notice, the accommodation listed in this dossier is our preferred supplier, but sometimes due to availability, we are unable to make use of the property listed in this dossier. If we cannot use the accommodation provider as listed we will substitute another property of similar standards.*