



## A Visit to the Lowveld, Mpumalanga, South Africa

### 2019 IUFRO Post-Conference Field trip Departure: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019

#### Cost

- USD695 (R10300) per person – Single Rate

Please enquire with the service provider for a sharing rate

#### Summary

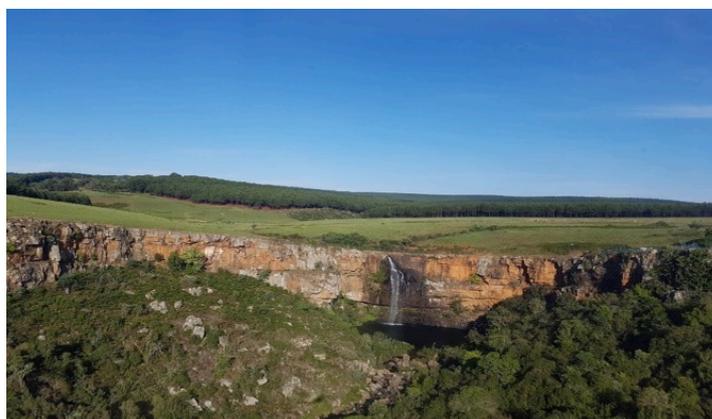
- 4 days, 3 nights

- **Included:** transfers, accommodation, all meals (except lunch at Kruger), 1 x 1hour game drive at Kruger, selected local drinks at lunch and dinners included in hotel rate per night (soft drinks, house wines and local spirits), gratuities

- **Excluded:** Kruger Entry fee (USD25 pp for international, R93 for South Africans), lunch at Skukuza camp at Kruger Park (USD10 pp) on Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Nov, any extra drinks between meals, optional morning game drive (USD25) or morning walk (USD48) on day of departure.

#### Logistics:

- A transfer will collect you on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019 from your conference venue Future Africa. This transfer will route you to all three overnight stops and return you to Future Africa on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019.



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Depart 11am : Pretoria**

**Arrival 1.30pm: Scientific Tour**

*Say goodbye to Pretoria, and depart from Future Africa conference venue via coach to the Mpumalanga Highveld where you will stop for a guided scientific tour of forest insect pests in the area and their management. You will be supplied with a packed lunch to go. Your trip will take approximately 2hrs to your destination.*



**Depart 4pm: Scientific Tour**

**Arrival: 5.30pm: Waterval Onder**

*Depart Carolina around 4pm and take a scenic drive to your stop for the first night at the Malaga Hotel in Waterval Onder, approx. arrival is 5.30pm. The Malaga is set on the banks of the Elands River at the foot of the Drakensberg Mountains. Check into your room and refresh yourself before having a relaxed dinner in the hotel's restaurant.*



**Saturday 9th November 2019**

**Depart 8.30am: Malaga Hotel**

**Arrive 11.00am: Sabie**

*Have an early breakfast in the hotel dining area, and prepare to depart from the Malaga Hotel at 8.30am. Follow the Panaroma route to a small town called Sabie. Sabie is a forestry town situated on the banks of the Sabie River in Mpumalanga, South Africa. The name Sabie is derived from the Tsonga word "Ulusaba" which means "fearful river" because the river was once teeming with dangerous Nile crocodile. Here you will be stop for a guided scientific tour of forest insect pests in the area and their management*



**Depart 1pm: Sabie**  
**Arrive 1.45pm: Graskop Gorge**

After our stop in Sabie, we head to another local town on the Panorama route called Graskop. Previously a mining town in the 1800's it is now a forestry town and a wonderful quirky stop for tourists. We will be having lunch at the Graskop Gorge, which is a new addition to the Lowveld. Ride this elevator into the heart of a pristine indigenous forest. The Graskop Gorge Lift is the latest and most innovative tourism development in South Africa and the only one of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Your journey begins as you drop off the grassy cliff top in a custom-designed 26-passenger viewing elevator. It travels 51m down the cliff face into the cool mountain forest below. An extensive network of elevated walkways, suspension bridges and interactive exhibits lead you along the 500m forest trails and across the streams. The site's towering cliffs have been cut back over time by the Motitsi River, with the Panorama Gorge waterfall which plummets 70m into the gorge below. The ride down with the elevator only takes a few minutes, but you can spend some time exploring the indigenous forest below



Have lunch at the top of the gorge at the restaurant, and feel free to take the elevator ride at your leisure.

**Depart 4.30pm: Graskop Gorge**  
**Arrive 5.30pm: aha Casa do Sol Hotel, Hazyview**

We take a short distance trip to our hotel for our second night, at the aha Casa do Sol in Hazyview. Freshen up in your room and then join together for another Africa dinner at the hotel restaurant.



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Depart 10am: Hazyview**

**Arrive 12.00pm: Skukuza Camp**

*Enjoy a leisurely breakfast in the dining hall and then meet at reception to depart for our safari part of the trip: Skukuza Camp, Kruger National Park. On arrival at the Paul Kruger Gate entrance, we will need to each present our ID / passports and pay our own entry fee into the park. A local South African will pay R93 entrance, and an international delegate will pay USD25. Then it's back onto the bus for a lovely game viewing experience as we make our way to the main camp, Skukuza. On arrival you will have some time to explore the main camp and purchase a lunch for yourself (for your own account).*

*Check in time is 2pm. We will be on site to help you check in, and find your bungalow. You have the afternoon to either rest yourself, explore further, visit the museum, visit the curio shop, sit on the sun deck facing the river or swim. We will meet up again in the late afternoon for a one hour sunset game drive where we are hoping to find many of the Big 5, or Little 5. Experience a safari in Africa under the open sky. There is nothing like it! End the evening with an African traditional meal of a braai with pap and sous.*

*Retire to your bungalow for the night after a memorable safari adventure.*



**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Depart 9am: Skukuza**

**Arrive 12.30pm: Scientific Tour**

*Up with the birds! For those early early risers, a sunrise game drive can be booked at an additional charge of USD25 per person. It starts at 4am and arrives back at camp 3 hours later. (Enough time to pack and shower and have a quick bite to eat). There are also morning walks at a cost of USD48 dollars per person (weather and min numbers dependant). Enjoy your last most important meal of the day at the Skukuza Restaurant. After a sumptuous buffet, check out and board the coach.*

*Stop for a brief scientific tour on the way back to Pretoria. Lunch packs will be provided after the tour to nibble on as you enter the final stretch back to Pretoria.*

**Anticipated Arrival 5.30pm: Pretoria / Future Africa**



### What to bring

- A good hat for the sun (the 4x4's do not have a cover so you do get a lot of sun)
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Bathing costume
- A comfy pair of shoes and neutral coloured
- Insect repellent and long trousers in the evenings
- Warm clothing for your game drive.
- Camera
- Binoculars

### Notes

- Wifi will be found at the main hotels and restaurants.
- Wifi at Skukuza is available but a very slow connection.

### Gratuities

- Gratuities are included for all your inclusive meals and the game drives. But please feel free to tip anyone that made your trip extra special or memorable.

***Thank you for taking this journey with us, yours hosts, FABI and Via Africa Conferencing***



For further information on the field trip, contact:

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