

Experience the Thrill of Travelling Through Rarely Seen Areas in South Africa

The Big Five Experience Tour #1 is brought to you exclusively by Bonsai Technologies

Day 1

I will meet you at your hotel and we depart for Marakele National Park. You will have the opportunity to buy your favourite snacks for lunches. We will stay in the Bontle Rest Camp in safari tents. The tent has a fan, two-plate stove, braai area, en-suite bathroom with shower, microwave, fridge and a kitchenette with utensils. It is no coincidence that bontle means "beautiful" in Setswana. This pleasant rest camp has unobstructed views of the unspoiled bush and mountain. I will prepare your meat on an open fire under the stars, called a "braai" locally. (300km)



Day 2



You will start your day by joining a professional guide for a sunrise drive in an open game drive vehicle. After a light breakfast, we will explore the park and drive up the mountain pass to the Lenong viewpoint for an incredible view in close proximity of the Cape vulture colony. Take along your favourite snacks for the day as there will be no formal stops for lunch. I will again prepare your meat on an open fire.

Day 3

After a light breakfast, we depart for Mapungubwe National Park where we will stay in wilderness cabins. By now you will be well rehearsed in preparing food in the spirit of the "bygone pioneers". (480km)

Day 4

As part of the heritage tour, you will be given the opportunity to visit the elite graveyard at the top of Mapungubwe Hill, view a natural amphitheatre and the entire spectrum of the region, traverse the territory once walked upon by the ancestral Mapungubwe People - now roamed by four of the big 5. The museum tour at the Centre which is built near the main gate of the Mapungubwe National Park won the building of the year competition in 2009 and is home to the famous Golden Rhino. Take along your favourite snacks for the day as there will be no formal stops for lunch. Food will once again be prepared on an open fire.



Experience the Thrill of Travelling Through Rarely Seen Areas in South Africa

The Big Five Experience Tour #1 is brought to you exclusively by Bonsai Technologies

Day 4 (continued)

The park is well known for the famous Baobab trees growing in the region. All Baobabs are deciduous trees ranging in height from 5 to 20 meters. The Baobab tree is a strange looking tree that grows in low-lying areas in Africa and Australia. It can grow to enormous sizes and carbon dating indicates that they may live to be 3 000 years old.



The African bushman has a legend that tells of the god Thora. He took a dislike to the Baobab growing in his garden, so he threw it out over the wall of Paradise on to Earth below, and although the tree landed upside-down it continued to grow. It is not surprising that such a strange looking tree should have superstitions linked to it. Some people believe that if you pick a flower from a Baobab tree you will be eaten by a lion, but if you drink water in which a Baobab's seeds have been soaked you will be safe from crocodile attack.

Day 5

After a sunrise drive and breakfast, we depart for Awelani Lodge. We will refuel at Mussina where it will be possible for you to buy lunch. We will camp at Awelani Lodge. Tonight we have dinner in the restaurant at Awelani Lodge. (130km)



Day 6

This morning we have breakfast in the restaurant at Awelani Lodge. Take along your favourite snack for our exploration of the Pafuri area. We then drive slowly from Pafuri to the Shingwedzi Rest Camp. As we are in the Kruger National Park, who knows what animals we will see along the way. We stay in Bungalows at the Shingwedzi Rest Camp. We say goodbye to the Baobab region and enter the Mopani region. We have dinner in the restaurant at the Shingwedzi Rest Camp. You are welcome to explore the area around the Shingwedzi Rest Camp on your own. You can brace yourself for many animal sightings. (150km)



Day 7

After our breakfast in the restaurant at Shingwedzi Rest Camp, we depart for Phalaborwa. We will visit the Mopani Rest Camp where you can buy lunch at the restaurant. Tonight will be a special treat. The Sable Sleepover Hide, situated approximately 10km from the Phalaborwa Gate, is a unique accommodation facility where guests can feel part of nature.



A bird hide by day, it transforms into a primitive overnight dwelling by night, where a select few can experience the Kruger National Park nightlife first hand. The hide overlooks the Sable Dam where an abundance of animals gather to drink. Hear the lion roar and the hippo grunt meters away from where you are sleeping and know this is a true African experience.



Experience the Thrill of Travelling Through Rarely Seen Areas in South Africa

The Big Five Experience Tour #1 is brought to you exclusively by Bonsai Technologies

Day 8

We depart early for the Tamboti Tented Camp. We will visit the Olifants Rest Camp for breakfast and the Satara Rest Camp where you can buy lunch at the restaurant. Tamboti Tented Camp is a small camp situated on the banks of the Timbavati River on the western boundary of the Kruger



National Park. Tonight is your last night in big five territory and you join a professional guide in an open game drive vehicle for a sunset drive.



I will again prepare your meat on an open fire. (170km)

Day 9

After a light breakfast, we depart for the Blyde Canyon Resort at the top of the Blyde River Canyon. We will stay in chalets and we have dinner in the restaurant at the Blyde Canyon Resort.

The Blyde River Canyon is the third largest canyon in the world 26 946 ha, after the Grand Canyon in the United States and the Fish River Canyon in Namibia. It is the largest "green canyon" due to its lush subtropical foliage, with the deepest precipitous cliffs of any canyon on the planet.



One of the most-visited attractions in South Africa, the Blyde River Canyon is 26 kilometres in length and is, on average, around 800m deep. The dam itself, when full, is at an altitude of 665m (2182 feet).

We will visit various view points to experience this incredible canyon. (190km)

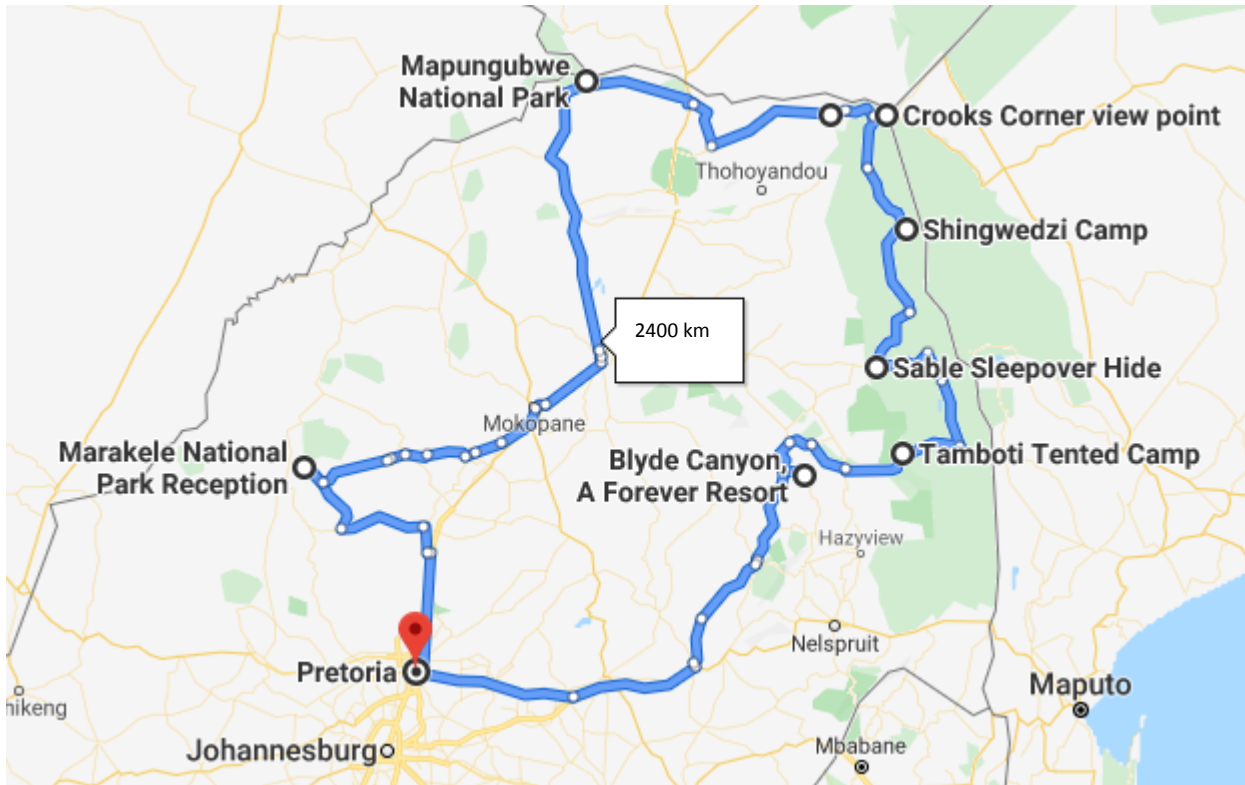
Day 10


This morning we have breakfast in the restaurant at the restaurant at the Blyde Canyon Resort. We drive back to Pretoria where I will say goodbye to my new found friends. You say goodbye to South Africa and head home with many memories and a love for the South African outdoors. (400km)



Experience the Thrill of Travelling Through Rarely Seen Areas in South Africa

The Big Five Experience Tour #1 is brought to you exclusively by Bonsai Technologies



	Johan du Plooy johan@bonsai-sa.co.za +27 82 852 2395
--	--