



# THE SOUTH AFRICAN TRAVEL CORPORATION



Dear Siviwe

2009 best wishes...

I can't believe we are almost at the end of another year. 2008 has been good to us at The South African Travel Corporation despite the downturn in the world economy. It is difficult to pinpoint all the factors that have kept us busy but I believe that more and more people are turning to businesses like ours which focus on the importance of personal communication and creating unforgettable WOW Experiences®. Sure, the internet is awesome and an incredibly vital means of communication, but it's becoming increasingly important to understand that you are dealing with real people behind that screen, each one with his or her own unique dreams and special needs. With us our guests really do feel like friends before they have even arrived here, and our personal touch keeps them coming back again and again. We aim to ensure that the WOW Experience® starts before you even leave home! Whatever the reasons, we are really grateful that business is good as we move into a new year with new challenges to meet and new goals to achieve.

This is the last message to our Travel Friends this year so let us close it with a BANG which means dropping any heavy load you may be carrying from 2008 and moving into 2009 with an incredible "lightness of being" .....resolve to make a difference in **your** world - plant a tree, build a house, teach a child, recycle, practice random acts of kindness - but above all feed your soul with an African dream.....resolve to make this the year you come home to Africa, breath Africa's air, touch Africa's soil, meet Africa's people, experience Africa's diversity and come alive.

In the meantime take a look at what we have got for you and your family not just for 2009, but also for 2010, or whenever you decide to visit the land of splendour and beauty that is South Africa.

Other than that "Happy New Year" from all of us at [The South African Travel Corporation](http://www.the-south-african-travel-corporation.com) and may the new year bring you more joy and the wisdom to make better decisions than the last....HAPPY 2009

[Siviwe](#)



## EVENTS & ACTIVITIES FOR 2009

January/February 2009  
[The Great Migration](#)  
One of the greatest spectacles on the planet takes place in the Masai Mara and the Serengeti as millions of wildebeest make their way to the grasslands of the south to give birth to their young.

This is also harvest time in the Cape Winelands so if you want to join in the harvesting here's your opportunity.  
March 2009  
[Cape Argus Pick n Pay Cycle Tour](#)

The largest cycling event in the world will be happening on Sunday March 8th - if you haven't made your travel plans yet, best get on your bicycle.  
April 2009  
[Cape Town Jazz Festival](#)

One of the hottest music events of the year takes place in Cape Town over the weekend 2-4 April. Don't waste time as the City is already getting pretty full - book now to ensure your space!  
June/July 2009  
[British & Irish Lions Rugby Tour](#)

## Cape to Cairo 2010.....

2010 is fast approaching and in South Africa there are only 3 words on everyone's lips - *Soccer World Cup* - but as not everybody is a soccer fanatic here's something special for 2010 for those of you who don't want to come for the soccer - a trip of a lifetime encapsulated in another 3 words, these redolent with romance and adventure - *Cape to Cairo*. This is the stuff dreams are made of as you join us on an epic journey of adventure through Africa, travelling in the decadent style of the African explorers of old on the most luxurious steam train in the world, a custom fitted vintage aircraft and a Nile cruiser.

The ultimate unforgettable honeymoon or anniversary trip, this is definitely something to include in your 2009 resolutions because if you don't book now, you'll have to wait until 2011 - you snooze, you lose!

Day 1 - Arrive in Cape Town and transfer to the [Cape Grace Hotel](#) situated at the V&A Waterfront. Welcome dinner and overnight.

Day 2 - Tour to [Groot Constantia](#) for wine tasting & visit Table Mountain (weather permitting). Lunch en route. Dinner own account. Overnight Cape Grace.

Day 3 - Full day Cape Peninsula Tour including Fish Hoek, Simonstown, [Cape Point](#), [Chapman's Peak Drive](#), Hout Bay and Kirstenbosch. Light lunch en route. Dinner own account. Overnight Cape Grace.

Day 4 - Transfer to Rovos Rail's private Lounge for your first leg to Pretoria in Deluxe Suite accommodation. Arrive at [Matjiesfontein](#) in time to explore the Victorian village before dinner. Overnight on the train.

Day 5 - Arrive Kimberley. Visit the [Big Hole](#) & Diamond Museum with an historic tram ride. Depart Kimberley. Dinner and overnight on the train.

Day 6 - Arrive at Rovos Rail's private station in [Pretoria](#). Tour the Rovos Rail depot before lunch. Afternoon Pretoria City tour. Dinner & overnight [Sheraton Hotel](#) in Pretoria.

Day 7 - Transfer to Rovos Rail's private station. Rovos Rail's Pride of Africa departs for Vic Falls. Dinner & overnight on the train.

Day 8 - Lunch, dinner & overnight on the train.

Day 9 - Arrive [Victoria Falls](#). Transfer to [Victoria Falls Hotel](#). Dinner & overnight at the hotel.

Day 10 - Day at leisure. Optional activities include a tour of the Falls, the Flight of the Angels over the Falls, river rafting, craft village, sunset cruise, elephant back safari and more

Day 11 - After breakfast transfer to the airport for a 3 hour flight to [Zanzibar Serena Hotel](#). Lunch at the hotel. [Stone Town](#) tour. Dinner & overnight at the hotel.

Day 12 - After breakfast enjoy the Island Spice Tour with lunch en route. Afternoon at leisure. Transfer to the airport for a 40 minute flight to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania. Transfer for 2½ hours via [Lake Manyara](#) to [Ngorongoro Farmhouse](#). Dinner & overnight at the Lodge.

Day 13 - After breakfast take a game drive excursion with picnic lunch. Dinner & overnight at the Lodge.

Day 14 - After breakfast, transfer to Serengeti Mobile



There is great excitement as the start of the historic British Lions Tour approaches - there are rumblings that this could be the last time the Lions play as a team, so be sure not to miss it.

It's also the second migration period in East Africa as the animals make their way back north - so if you were too late to book for January, now's your chance. Do remember though that the migrations depend on the rainfall patterns and may be earlier or later in any given year. Even without the migration, the sheer splendour of East Africa's game reserves and wildlife herds makes any time of year a great experience.

*From June to October in the Cape you are also spoiled for choice as all of the wine regions celebrate their bounty with fabulous festivals of wine, cheese and olives. If you are a wine lover come and celebrate with us.*

*This is also the best time to come game viewing in South Africa's northern provinces including Kruger.*

September 2009 [Whale Celebration Wine Festival](#) in Hermanus. Join us on the 24th September when Hermanus welcomes the whales with wine. Check here to see what 2008 was all about November/December 2009 South Africa hosts the world's top golfers.....

November see the popular Nedbank Challenge taking place again at world renowned Fancourt and in December the Million Dollar Challenge at Sun City - so if you want to rub shoulders with the best, plan your golf tour now.

December 2009/January 2010 - For cricket fans, what better way to spend Christmas and New Year than watching England and South Africa battle it out on South Africa's legendary cricket grounds. Tours will be announced shortly.

In the meantime if you wish to register to ensure you are kept updated on itineraries and costs please [contact us...](#)

Make a difference



You can make a difference even while you are enjoying everything South Africa has to offer - join us on a [house build](#) for a day - we are always looking for volunteers - even better raise enough money and people to come out and spend a week [building together](#) with the family you are assisting.

Help us supply much needed food, clothing, toys and school

tented camp in Ndutu area. Dinner & overnight at the camp.

Day 15 - Breakfast in camp. Morning & afternoon game drives in the Serengeti. Lunch, dinner & overnight at the camp.

Day 16 - Transfer to airstrip for domestic flight to Kilimanjaro airport. After emigration & formalities take a one hour flight to Entebe, Uganda. On arrival guests will be split into 2 groups: group 1 visits the chimpanzees on [Ngamba Island](#) & group 2 takes an excursion to Jinja, source of the Nile. Dinner & overnight Imperial Resort Beach Hotel.

Day 17 - The 2 groups exchange activities. Dinner & overnight at the hotel.

Day 18 - After breakfast, transfer to Entebe airport for a 2½ hour flight to Khartoum, Sudan. Transfer to the [Burj Al Fateh Hotel](#) for lunch. Afternoon visit to Omdurman Old Quarter & market place. Dinner & overnight at hotel.

Day 19 - After breakfast enjoy a day tour to Moroe with lunch en route. Dinner & overnight at hotel.

Day 20 - Transfer to Khartoum airport for a 1 hour 10 minutes flight to [Abu Simbel](#), Egypt. Board Kasr Ibrim for your Lake Nassar cruise. Lunch on board with visit to Abu Simbel Temples. Dinner & overnight on board.

Day 21 - Breakfast on the way to Kasr Ibrim. Tour conducted on the deck of the cruise (entrance to the site is not permitted). Lunch while sailing to [Amada](#). Visit the temples of Amada and Derr as well as the tomb of Panout. Afternoon sail to Wadi El Seboua. Dinner & overnight on board.

Day 22 - Visit to Wadi El Saboua, the temples of Dakka and Maharakka. Lunch on board. Sail to Aswan while dinning, overnight on board.

Day 23 - Visit [Kalabsha temple](#), Beit El Wali and the Kiosk of Kertassi. Disembark after breakfast and transfer by road to Luxor with lunch en route. Dinner & overnight at the [Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa](#).

Day 24 - Full day in Luxor with visits to the East Bank of Luxor: Karnak Temple and Luxor Temple; West Bank of Luxor including [Valley of Kings](#), Valley of Queens, the Temple of Hatshepsute and a photo stop at [Colossi of Memnon](#). Dinner & overnight at hotel.

Day 25 - After breakfast transfer to Luxor airport for 1 hour flight to Cairo. Arrive Cairo, transfer to [Four Seasons First Residence Hotel](#) with views of both the Nile and the Great Pyramids. Lunch at the Hotel. Dinner own account. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 26 - Full day to [Giza Pyramids](#), Sphinx and Egyptian Museum of Antiques. Dinner at Mena House. Overnight at the Hotel.

Day 27 - Tour of [Saqqara](#) and [Memphis](#). Afternoon at leisure. Farewell dinner and overnight at hotel.

Day 28 - Transfer to Cairo airport for your flight home. 8 January - 4 February 2010

If you wish, you can start in Cairo and join the Pride of Africa on her return journey to Cape Town on 26 Jan 2010

[Contact us for more information.....](#)



stationery for vulnerable children and orphans cared for by Mama Maphosela in Nyanga

One of our most generous contributors was Supreme Esteem from Miami who raised a fabulous \$10,000 towards the



building of a new home for the children who Mama is caring for in a shack. Their new house will become a reality in

2009.

Even just supporting the Township tour operators you leave so much that is positive behind in those communities when you go - it's not just about the money it's about communication, building self esteem, developing pride and growing understanding that will help bring people closer together.



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The South African Travel Corporation - Office 1 Milnerton Mall, Milnerton, Cape Town, 7441, South Africa