



Spectacular South Africa

18 days from only £3,295 per person

It's not surprising South Africa has become one of the world's most exciting and popular touring destinations. The country offers vibrant and colourful cities, stunning and diverse landscapes, interesting heritage, an unparalleled abundance of wildlife and a sunny climate. What's more, with no jet-lag, the holiday begins as soon as you land.

Our leisurely 18 day tour covers all the country's major attractions with a perfect blend of included sightseeing tours and Freedom Days to spend as you please. Furthermore, you have the flexibility to choose a traditional two night safari in Ubizane Nature Reserve, or join luxurious Rovos Rail for an all-inclusive Durban Safari.

With superb accommodation, all breakfasts and many other meals included, the Spectacular South Africa tour really does offer exceptional value for money.

Your holiday includes

Flights with award-winning scheduled airlines

- ◆ Return economy class flights with South African Airways from London Heathrow
- ◆ Add connecting flights from Aberdeen, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds Bradford, Manchester or Newcastle at no extra cost
- ◆ Alternatively, fly direct with British Airways from London Heathrow. Supplement from £195 per person
- ◆ All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- ◆ UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- ◆ Superior hotels in great locations
- ◆ All hotel portorage
- ◆ Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- ◆ Daily breakfast, worth £229 per person
- ◆ Four lunches
- ◆ Two dinners

Unforgettable experiences

- ◆ Sightseeing tours in Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria
- ◆ Visit Cape Point and Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens
- ◆ Tour along South Africa's world renowned Garden Route

Choosing Ubizane Nature Reserve

- ◆ Safari experience in Ubizane Wildlife Reserve
- ◆ Two safaris in Hluhluwe-Umfolozi Reserve
- ◆ Cruise the World Heritage iSimangaliso Wetland Park

Choosing Rovos Rail 'Durban Safari'

- ◆ Choice of a safari in Spionkop Game Reserve or tour of the Spionkop battlefields
- ◆ Safari experience in Nambiti Private Reserve
- ◆ All meals on board
- ◆ Selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, on board

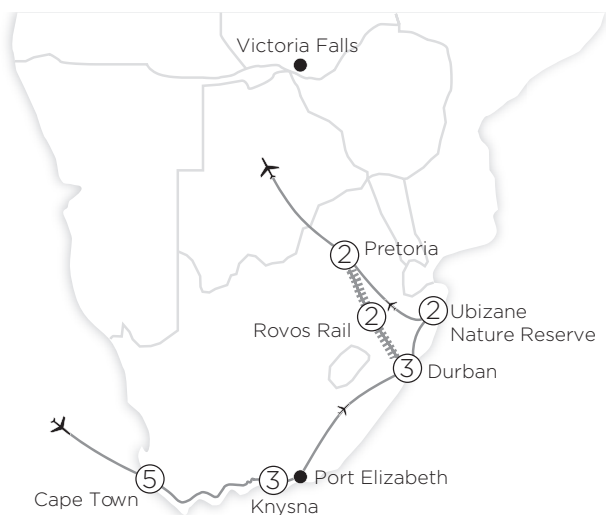
On the ground

- ◆ Services of an experienced Tour Manager and driver
- ◆ All overseas transfers
- ◆ Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

100% confidence

- ◆ Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise*
- ◆ Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise, please see our booking conditions on pages 36-39.



② = Number of nights



Spectacular South Africa

Days 1 to 4: UK - Cape Town

Day 1: Depart UK

Your South African Airways flight departs London Heathrow for Cape Town via Johannesburg. Connecting UK regional flights are with British Airways to London Heathrow are available from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Newcastle, Manchester or Leeds Bradford at no extra cost. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

If you prefer, you can fly direct from London Heathrow to Cape Town with British Airways. Prices from £195pp.

Day 2: Cape Town, 5 nights

We land in magnificent Cape Town, where our waiting coach will take us to the Southern Sun Waterfront Hotel, ideally situated close to Cape Town's fashionable Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. The rest of our day is at leisure until the early evening, when we shall gather for drinks so we may all become acquainted for our forthcoming travels together. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 3: Cape Town and Kirstenbosch

A tour of South Africa's Mother City takes us around Cape Town's most important buildings and monuments. Experience first-hand the vibrant cultures and history and enjoy the city's wonderful scenery. Weather conditions permitting, we shall take a cable car ride to enjoy spectacular views from the top of Table Mountain, followed by a walk through the colourful Malay Quarter of Bo Kaap. We drive through Green Market Square and District Six before continuing via Company Gardens and the Houses of Parliament, City Hall, the Castle of Good Hope and Slave Lodge. This afternoon we visit the superb Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. These gardens were founded in 1913 to preserve the country's unique flora, and they are world-renowned not only for their beauty and diversity, but also for their magnificent setting against the eastern slopes of Table Mountain.

Breakfast included

Day 4: Cape Point

Today, we venture out of the city to explore the spectacular landscapes surrounding Cape Town. Our day begins with a scenic drive through the pretty seaside suburbs of Sea Point and Camps Bay. We continue via Hout Bay, a charming fishing harbour with magnificent mountain views, before driving along Chapman's Peak, one of the world's most breath-taking coastal drives. We reach the Good Hope Nature Reserve and Cape Point, where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans were once said to meet. We continue to Boulders Beach, home to a colony of endangered African Penguins. Visit to Simon's Town prior to our return to Cape Town later in the afternoon.

Breakfast and lunch included





Spectacular South Africa

Days 5 to 12: Cape Town - Garden Route - Knysna - Durban

Day 5: Cape Town Freedom Day

This is our first Freedom Day, where we can choose to relax or explore as we please. Our Distant Journeys Tour Manager will be on hand to help with advice on things to do, where to eat, make any arrangements and book excursions for you to further explore the area. Perhaps take a journey to discover the winelands of the Western Cape. The tour will take us through the valleys and vineyards of the Cape Winelands and includes a cellar tour and wine-tasting in one of the region's fabulous wineries. The scenery as we drive across the Hellshoogte Pass to Stellenbosch is spectacular, and in Stellenbosch we will have plenty of time to discover the second oldest settlement in South Africa. We continue to Franschhoek where the town's oak tree-lined streets and white-washed Cape Dutch-style buildings make this a delight for exploration on foot. Enjoy a stroll as well as a spot of lunch whilst watching the world go by. We return to the hotel later in the afternoon.

Breakfast included

We recommend

Western Cape winelands

A full day excursion including a cellar tour, wine tasting, quaint towns and stunning scenery.



Day 6: Cape Town Freedom Day

A further Freedom Day where you may choose to relax by the pool or possibly take an optional trip to Robben Island. Once reserved for high profile prisoners of the apartheid regime, today Robben Island is a monument recognising the iconic struggle of heroes such as Nelson Mandela and Walter Sisulu. The island was brought to the world's attention when Nelson Mandela was released from prison in the early 1990s after serving more than two decades for the crime of speaking out against the apartheid government. Today, Robben Island is a World Heritage Site – acting as a museum as well as a reminder of the price Nelson Mandela and so many others paid for the freedom of democracy. **Breakfast included**

Day 7: The Garden Route & Knysna, 3 nights

We say goodbye to Cape Town today, as we make a start on the first stage of our Garden Route tour. Our journey takes us over the breathtaking Du Toit's Kloof Pass as we climb 820 metres above sea level. We make our way to Worcester in the Hex River Valley and continue through Robertson and Bonnievale to Swellendam, a one-time rebel republic's capital. We continue eastward through undulating countryside and peaceful villages to Mossel Bay, where we visit the Post Office Tree - a place 16th and 17th century sailors left their letters for returning ships to carry to Europe. From Mossel Bay we continue to the pearl of the Garden Route, Knysna, and spend our next three nights at the Premier Resort The Moorings. **Breakfast included**

Day 8: Featherbed cruise or guided forest walk

This morning, we have a choice of two included activities. Our first option is to join the John Benn cruise which sails to Knysna Heads and explores the beautiful scenery of Knysna Lagoon. Alternatively, we have the option to explore the fascinating history from KhoiSan to woodcutters, and gold hunters to eccentric naturalists, during a guided walking tour of local forests. Our afternoon has been left free to relax or take a stroll around Knysna's pretty waterfront. **Breakfast included**



Day 9: Knysna Freedom Day

On our Freedom Day, we will have the opportunity to join an optional tour to the Cango Caves and Oudtshoorn, South Africa's ostrich capital. The day begins with a drive over the visually stunning Outeniqua Pass as we make our way to the beauty of the semi-arid Klein Karoo. Enjoy a tour of the Cango Caves, a vast series of magnificently colourful limestone caverns which to this day have only been partially explored. This is followed by a guided tour of an ostrich farm, tracing the ostrich from egg to adulthood. Finally, drive via the laid-back country town of Oudtshoorn, with its pretty Victorian buildings. Later in the day we return to Knysna. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Oudtshoorn & the Cango Caves

Featuring spectacular mountain landscapes, majestic caves and a tour of a working ostrich farm, this is a tour not to be missed.



Day 10: Durban, 3 nights

This morning, our journey continues along the Garden Route, via Plettenburg Bay, stopping en-route to enjoy some fantastic photographic opportunities. After lunch we continue to Port Elizabeth in time for our flight to Durban. Upon arrival we transfer to the Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel, ideally situated on Durban's esplanade. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 11: Durban

After breakfast, we enjoy a tour of Durban. Visits include Victoria Embankment and City Hall. We also explore the impressive Durban Botanical Gardens, founded in 1849 and home to a fine array of African, Asian and American trees and shrubs. Your afternoon is free to relax at the hotel or to further explore Durban. **Breakfast included**

Day 12: Durban Freedom Day

A day at leisure to spend as you please. Why not take a full day optional excursion to explore the 19th century Anglo-Zulu battlefields of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift? Learn about the fascinating history of the battles that took place in January 1879 and then see the landscape on which the fighting occurred. Alternatively embark on an immersive day trip to the tiny country of Lesotho. Set off from Durban in a 4x4 vehicle in order to cross Africa's highest pass: the 9,435-foot-high (2,876 metres) Sani Pass, to enter this intriguing land-locked kingdom. Once inside, pay a visit to a Sotho village to experience how the locals live. **Breakfast included**



Spectacular South Africa

Days 13 to 15: Durban - Ubizane Nature Reserve - Pretoria

Day 13: Ubizane Nature Reserve, 2 nights

This morning we travel along South Africa's Elephant Coast en-route to Ubizane Nature Reserve, situated in the heart of Zululand. With a history spanning more than 50 years, Ubizane is one of the oldest reserves in the area, with a long-standing heritage. Upon arrival, enjoy lunch prior to checking into our individual lodges, proudly built on stilts and set under a canopy of a Fever Tree Forest. Later in the afternoon we take to our open jeeps for our first safari around the reserve. Ubizane is teeming with wildlife including giraffe, wildebeest, zebra, hyena and white rhino, as well as over 450 different bird species. After a thrilling afternoon we return to our lodge in time for dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 14: Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve Tour Highlight

This morning we take a short drive to the oldest proclaimed safari reserve in Africa: the Hluhluwe-Imfolozi Game Reserve. South Africa's third largest safari reserve is home to 'The Big Five', so keep a look out for elephant, lion, buffalo, rhinoceros and leopard. Following breakfast we return to our lodge where you are free to relax until the heat of the day subsides later in the afternoon. Perhaps read a book, watch for wildlife from the comfort of your own personal viewing deck or take a swim in the pool at the adjacent Safari Lodge. Later in the day we return to Hluhluwe in our four-wheel drive vehicles for another safari prior to dinner. This evening enjoy an African bush experience, eating dinner under the stars, next to a roaring fire in the lodge's boma. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 15: Pretoria, 2 nights

All good things must come to an end and, after breakfast this morning, we leave Ubizane as we make our way to St Lucia and the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. The St Lucia Estuary is one of South Africa's longest and was declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1999. It is home to Nile Crocodiles, hippos and an abundance of birdlife. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for African Fish Eagles looking for an easy meal. After a thrilling cruise we drive to Richards Bay and board our flight to Johannesburg. Upon arrival we make our way to Irene Country Lodge, where we stay for two nights.

Breakfast included



As an alternative to the two-night stay in Ubizane Nature Reserve (days 13-15), you have the option to recapture the romance and atmosphere of a bygone era, by joining the luxurious Rovos Rail on an all-inclusive two night 'Durban Safari'. See pages 24-25 for full details of this alternative itinerary.

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Durban Safari with Rovos Rail

Days 13 to 15: Rovos Rail Durban Safari - Pretoria



Dubbed 'the most luxurious train in the world', step aboard Rovos Rail to find lovingly restored, wood-panelled coaches with period Edwardian features, and enjoy fine cuisine in five-star luxury.

Rovos Rail Durban Safari

If choosing the Rovos Rail 'Durban Safari', days 13-15 will be as follows. Please note that your Tour Manager will not accompany you on the train. Instead you will be looked after by the Train Manager and their excellent crew.

Day 13: Rovos Rail, 2 nights

This morning, we make our way to Durban Rail Terminal in time for our magnificent overland rail journey. We depart Durban and travel through the stunningly scenic Valley of a Thousand Hills. Following a relaxed lunch, an afternoon excursion takes us to the fascinating Ardmore Ceramics Gallery. Ardmore Ceramics is a story about the Zulu people whose sense of rhythm, colour, dance and song, as well as the spirit of the African imagination, can be seen in the artwork produced in the gallery. Returning to the train, we make our way to Ladysmith, enjoying dinner with new-found friends along with some fine South African wines. Afterwards relax in the comfort of the Lounge Car with an after-dinner drink. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 14 – Spionkop & Nambiti Private Game Reserve

Following an early wake-up call and sumptuous breakfast you have a choice of excursions. The first option is to take an open-jeep safari in Spionkop Reserve, boasting a rich selection of wildlife including white rhinoceros, giraffe and antelope. Alternatively, you may wish to join the Spionkop battlefields tour. Britain marched into the South African war in the spring of 1899, confident that it "would all be over by Christmas!" The war lasted three years and was to become the costliest Britain had ever fought.

In the afternoon, having enjoyed lunch and time to relax, we arrive at Elandslaagte, where we disembark for an afternoon safari experience in Nambiti Private Game Reserve. Nambiti has an incredible biodiversity including savannah, grasslands, thornveld and tall acacia trees. Enjoy your open-jeep 4WD safari in search of 'The Big Five'. Nambiti is also home to over 40 other species of game including cheetah, giraffe, hippo, hyena, impala, eland and zebra. After freshening up and enjoying a pre-dinner drink in the Lounge Car it's time for dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

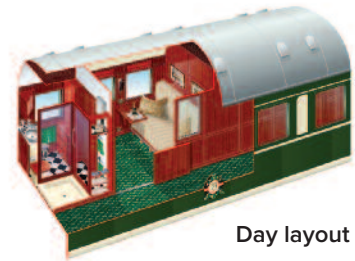
Day 15 – Pretoria, 2 nights

Take it easy today as we continue our journey north. Enjoy the panoramas as we traverse the gold mining areas of Gauteng (literally translated as Place of Gold). Our arrival into the Rovos Rail Terminal in Capital Park is scheduled for late afternoon, and upon arrival our waiting coach will take us to re-join our fellow passengers at Irene Country Lodge, where we stay for two nights. **Breakfast and lunch included**

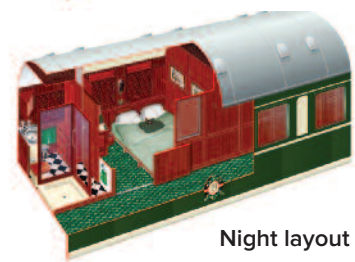


Our accommodation on board Rovos Rail

The coaches have all been remodelled and refurbished to pristine condition. Our accommodation is in Pullman Suites; with 76 square feet of space. These private, air-conditioned sleepers feature a comfortable sofa, which converts into twin or double beds by night. Each suite enjoys an en-suite shower, wash basin, toilet and all modern amenities.



Day layout



Night layout



Dining

A team of enthusiastic chefs produce excellent cuisine, which is served with a selection of great South African wines in the charming Victorian atmosphere of the dining cars. Guests enjoy the added elegance of meals served on fine china, with crisp white linen and silver, and are encouraged to dress accordingly in the evenings.





Spectacular South Africa

Days 16 to 18: Pretoria - UK

Day 16: Pretoria

This morning enjoy a tour around the city of Pretoria. Included is the Union Building, Voortrekkers' Monument, Melrose House and Paul Kruger's House. Afterwards we return to our hotel where our afternoon is at leisure. Alternatively, there is the option of a visit to the Ann Van Dyk Cheetah Breeding Centre. Established in 1971, as the De Wildt Cheetah Research Centre, the centre has performed an important role in the preservation and protection of cheetahs. **Breakfast included**

Day 17: Depart Johannesburg

The day is yours to spend as you please prior to our departure to the airport later in the day. Perhaps use the opportunity to visit the region's liveliest township, Soweto, home to over 3.5 million people and steeped in history. This evening board our South African Airways flight bound for London Heathrow. Alternatively fly with British Airways. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 18: Arrive UK

In the morning we arrive into London Heathrow. Guests travelling to regional UK airports will change aircraft at London Heathrow. After 18 days, our Spectacular South African adventure comes to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Extend your stay at Victoria Falls

Three nights for only £1,195 per person

Victoria Falls is the world's largest waterfall and a World Heritage site. The town of Victoria Falls is just over an hour and a half away from Johannesburg by air, so your Spectacular South Africa tour offers the perfect opportunity to add on one of the planet's great natural wonders.

Staying in the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, you will be able relax in luxurious surroundings, with easy access to the falls. For a detailed itinerary and prices please see pages 28-29.



Departure Dates & Prices

Ubizana Nature Reserve

2019 Departures

18 September 2019	£3,495 per person
16 October 2019	£3,495 per person
13 November 2019	£3,495 per person

2020 Departures

07 January 2020*	£3,595 per person
29 January 2020	£3,595 per person
11 March 2020	£3,595 per person
01 April 2020	£3,295 per person

Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Supplements

Single occupancy supplement for Ubizane £795.
Single occupancy supplement for Rovos Rail £1,195.

Deposit

£1,000 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,950 per person if travelling World Traveller Plus with British Airways, and £3,750 per person for Business Class or Club World.

Victoria Falls extension

Extend your holiday to Victoria Falls from £1,195 per person.

Rovos Rail

2019 Departures

18 September 2019	£3,995 per person
16 October 2019	£3,995 per person
13 November 2019	£3,995 per person

2020 Departures

07 January 2020*	£4,095 per person
29 January 2020	£4,095 per person
11 March 2020	£4,095 per person
01 April 2020	£3,795 per person

Flight upgrades

South African Airways upgrade to Business Class from £3,295 per person.

British Airways, upgrade to World Traveller Plus from £1,195 per person, or Club World from £3,695 per person.

Important information

Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest available booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book.

* This tour operates in reverse, beginning in Pretoria and ending in Cape Town.

Full booking conditions are available on pages 36-39.

To book, call us on 01695 577 961

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry. **Email:** enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk





Victoria Falls Extension

Three nights from only £1,195 per person

Described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 19th century as Mosi-oa-Tunya – ‘The Smoke that Thunders’ – Victoria Falls is a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty.

Our three night extension follows on from our Spectacular South Africa tour and provides an amazing opportunity to witness one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

Day 17: Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), 3 nights

A morning departure takes us to Johannesburg Airport in time for our flight to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Upon arrival, and having cleared customs we meet our local guide and transfer to the outstanding Victoria Falls Safari Lodge. This afternoon join your travelling companions for a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River, which is a relaxing experience where hopefully we may sight hippopotamus, crocodile, elephant and other wildlife species. **Breakfast included**

Day 18: Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls are a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur on the Zambezi River, bordering Zambia and Zimbabwe. Columns of spray can be seen up to 40 kilometres (25 miles) away as 546 million cubic metres of water per minute plummet over the edge (at the height of the rainy season). This morning we take you on a walking tour of the falls to discover its magnitude, grace and beauty. Stops will be made at the various vantage points, so we may take in the incredible views of the falls, the mighty Zambezi as well as neighbouring Zambia. In the afternoon we are free to enjoy a whole array of optional activities: fishing for tiger fish in the Zambezi, horseback safaris, or take in the ultimate view of the falls on board a scenic helicopter flight. This evening enjoy dinner at The Boma, which provides a unique cultural experience blending the sounds and sights of Africa with a wonderful meal. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 19: Victoria Falls Freedom Day

A Freedom Day in Victoria Falls to spend as you please. We would highly recommend a visit to Chobe National Park in neighbouring Botswana – home to the highest concentration of elephants on the planet. Enjoy a boat cruise along the Chobe River, famous for its huge herds of elephant which can be viewed up-close and safely from the boat.

Afterwards enjoy an abundance of wildlife as you explore the Chobe riverfront by open jeep. Large herds of elephant, buffalo and plains game, along with their accompanying predators have made this their home. Return to Zimbabwe and the Victoria Falls Safari Lodge early evening. **Breakfast included**

Day 20: Depart Victoria Falls and Johannesburg

Sadly we must leave Victoria Falls and Africa today. After nearly three thrilling weeks, we have travelled far and gathered memories to treasure. Mid-morning we make our way back to Victoria Falls Airport in time for our flight to Johannesburg. Our connecting flight to London Heathrow departs in the evening. **Breakfast, in-flight dinner and drinks included**

Day 21: Arrive UK

In the morning we arrive into London Heathrow. Guests travelling to regional UK airports will change aircraft at London Heathrow. After 21 days, our Spectacular South African adventure comes to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**



2019 & 2020 Departures

All dates **£1,195** per person

Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Supplements

Single occupancy supplement £195.

Deposits

When booking the Spectacular South Africa tour, your deposit will cover the Victoria Falls extension.

Important information

Prices are subject to the availability of flights in the lowest fare booking class and may change, however the correct price will always be confirmed before you book.

British Citizens will require a visa for entry into Zimbabwe. This can be easily arranged on arrival at Victoria Falls Airport. If you travel to neighbouring Botswana (Day 19), no visa is required for Botswana, but we do suggest purchasing a Kaza UniVisa, which allows multiple entry into Zimbabwe. For further information on visa requirements for Zimbabwe, along with other useful information on your holiday, please refer to our 'Helpful Information' guide on pages 34-35.

Full booking conditions are available on pages 36-39.



Victoria Falls Safari Lodge

Stay in the luxurious Victoria Falls Safari Lodge. Built to blend in perfectly with the surrounding bushland, the lodge has the appeal of a vast open-plan tree house, with elegant furnishings using soft earthy colourings to complement the landscapes.

The spectacular setting can be enjoyed by guests cooling off in a two-tiered swimming pool, or over one of their famous 'sundowners' served in the hotel's Buffalo Bar – complete with a game-viewing platform overlooking the waterhole. Keep watch for elephants, buffalo, kudu, warthogs, hyena, crocodile, vultures and other species.

To book, call us on 01695 577 961

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm

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