

South Africa



Escorted Touring Holidays **2023 - 2024**

distantjourneys
Your Time to Explore



A Warm Welcome Awaits

South Africa has everything you could wish for in a holiday destination – vast savannah brimming with wildlife, world-class cities rich with history and vibrant culture, stunning scenic wonders such as Table Mountain and the Garden Route, a glorious year-round climate and friendly, welcoming people.

Our South Africa tours enjoy all this and so much more - safaris in search of Africa's 'Big Five' or luxury rail journeys on either the Blue Train or Rovos Rail. With options to extend your holiday with stays in Victoria Falls and Botswana too, join Distant Journeys on a spectacular adventure around this amazing and heart-warming country.

Over 75 years creating incredible touring holidays
Our Directors have over 75 years combined travel industry experience and are true escorted touring experts. Between them, they have created an exciting style of flexible, award-winning touring holidays, giving you the chance to create a holiday which is perfect for you. Many years of meticulous planning go into delivering touring holidays of exceptional standards and unbelievable value.

Operated at a leisurely pace and providing you with unrivalled flexibility and value for money, we tailor our itineraries to the tastes of UK travellers, and our aim is simple - to make every moment of your holiday as memorable as it should be.

Award-winning holidays
Our friendly travel professionals are experts in the destinations we visit and are happy to share their passion with you at any time. The exceptional quality of our touring holidays means that Distant Journeys has been a 13-time winner at the prestigious British Travel Awards, including the Best Holiday Company to Sub-Saharan Africa for three consecutive years.

Platinum standard customer satisfaction
We are so proud our customers really love what we do. This is shown by the fact Distant Journeys has achieved an incredible 99% satisfaction rating with independent reviews provider Feefo. What's more, Distant Journeys has been awarded its highest 'Platinum Trusted' rating, for consistently delivering an excellent level of customer service.

Financially protected
Distant Journeys are fully bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority and The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited, meaning you can book in confidence, knowing your money is 100% safe.

This brochure has been printed using Carbon Balanced Paper, in conjunction with the World Land Trust conservation charity.



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Why Choose Distant Journeys?

- 1. Exceptional value, uncompromising quality**
Our aim is to offer exceptional value for money without compromising on the quality of your holiday. You'll find included all you would expect from a touring holiday, along with a few special extras you might not expect.
- 2. Meticulously designed tours**
With over 75 years combined experience, our directors understand just what it takes to design the perfect touring holiday. Many years of planning go into every detail of our holidays, and each element is carefully chosen with our customers' enjoyment in mind.
- 3. Personal knowledge and expert advice**
Distant Journeys has a team of professional travel specialists with personal knowledge of the countries we visit, our selected hotels and the fabulous experiences offered.
- 4. Leisurely paced itineraries**
Our holidays operate at a relaxed pace, as we aim to give you plenty of time to fully explore and savour each area, as well as giving you some time to unwind.
- 5. Hand-picked hotels**
You'll be delighted by your hotels, as Distant Journeys only select accommodation which meets the high standards of quality, service and location our guests have come to expect.
- 6. Once in a lifetime experiences**
From luxurious rail journeys to exploring lesser-known gems, our holidays feature many incredible experiences which will provide memories to cherish forever.
- 7. Experienced Tour Managers and guides**
Our Tour Managers and local guides are all greatly experienced in their field, and have the right balance of organisational skills and local knowledge, coupled with a warm, friendly personality.

- 8. Personalise your travel arrangements**
Flying from regional UK airports at no extra cost, upgrading your flight and extending your holiday are just a few of the ways in which you can personalise your tour so it's perfect for you.
- 9. Freedom to explore**
We know our customers rightly expect to have all the must-see excursions included, but we understand they also want to tailor their holiday to their own tastes. That's why our tours have several Freedom Days to allow you the flexibility and choice to decide how you wish to spend your time.
- 10. Our Price Promise**
We want you to have the peace of mind you are paying the best price for your holiday, so Distant Journeys guarantees this through our Price Promise.

Price Promise ✓

Early booking offers

Our philosophy is simple - the earlier you book the better the offer you will receive.

No last minute discounts

Distant Journeys never discount our holidays at the last minute, so you can be confident you will never see your holiday at a lower price than the one you paid.

No surcharges

Irrespective of any additional costs incurred by Distant Journeys as a result of currency fluctuations, air fare increases or other costs associated with your holiday, surcharges will never be added once you have confirmed a booking.

Price match

We want you to have the peace of mind when booking a Distant Journeys holiday that you are receiving the best possible price. So, if you see the same holiday cheaper, not only will we match that price, we will also give you £200 off the price of a future holiday with Distant Journeys.

For more information on our Price Promise, please see our Terms & Conditions on page 60-63.

Terrific itinerary and well organised trip throughout. Fantastic guide and a holiday that will live long in the memory - only what we have come to expect from Distant Journeys.

Mr & Mrs Denman, Surrey



Exceptional Value

We are passionate about what we do, passionate about the countries we visit, the experiences we include, the service we offer and the value for money we deliver to our guests without compromising on the quality of the holiday experience.

With Distant Journeys, value for money means we will provide you with the opportunity to discover South Africa in comfort and style, with so much flexibility and so many experiences included in the itinerary, without it costing the earth.

So much included

From start to finish, each Distant Journeys holiday is meticulously planned. As you would expect from a touring holiday, we include return international flights from the UK on award-winning scheduled airlines, with all your on-board meals and drinks included. What you might not expect is a choice of regional UK airports including, Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City Airport, without paying any extra.

All your touring holiday essentials are included, such as overseas transport in modern air-conditioned coaches, a porter service for your luggage, all pre-payable airport and resort taxes, and all the entrance fees to the many incredible places you will visit. What's more, to help you make the most of your time in South Africa, you will be accompanied by a knowledgeable Tour Manager or Train Manager, if travelling by rail.

Unforgettable experiences

To make your holiday extra special, along with all the must-see excursions already included, Distant Journeys includes a number of once in a lifetime experiences and visits to lesser-known hidden gems. These are all included to create memories you will treasure forever.

Comfort and convenience

Hotels are carefully selected to make the most of each location, and offer quality and comfort so you can unwind and relax when returning from a day's exploring. Daily breakfast is included, in addition to a selection of other meals.





Award-winning Customer Service

We believe great customer service should be at the heart of everything we do, and we never lose sight of what matters most – you, our valued customers. We are with you every step of the way; before, during and after your tour. We recognise our guests are individuals, with different requirements, tastes and needs, and we tailor our support accordingly.

Our commitment to excellence in customer service has won us many awards, which recognise the superb customer service and high standards throughout the entire experience of booking and travelling with Distant Journeys. We are committed to exceeding expectations for your well-deserved holiday.

A team of dedicated travel experts

Our Travel Experts are friendly, well-travelled individuals with a passion for the destinations we visit, and love to share their experience and knowledge with you. We have travelled on our tours and visited the places you will visit, so we can offer advice from personal experience and give you practical recommendations. Our Travel Experts are always available to answer your queries, no matter how small; it's your holiday of a lifetime and we want you to be able to look forward to it with excitement and confidence.

Our service doesn't stop once you're on holiday, as you will then be in the capable hands of our Tour Managers and Train Managers. Once your tour is over, we will contact you to welcome you home and to hear how much you enjoyed your holiday.

Experienced Tour and Train Managers

A highly experienced Tour Manager is an absolute must on any escorted tour, playing several roles to ensure we deliver a successful tour; a leader who works tirelessly to ensure everything runs smoothly, a destination expert happy to share their local knowledge, recommendations and advice, and a friendly, resourceful presence always on hand to help.

Distant Journeys' Tour Managers are all personally selected to ensure they are the best in the business. Individuals who share a mutual passion for travel and for delivering exceptional service. Their enthusiasm is unfeigned; they love nothing more than to share their country with our customers.

If you are travelling on Rovos Rail or the Blue Train, a dedicated Train Manager will look after you throughout your time on board.

Platinum Trusted Service

Distant Journeys are proud to have been awarded Feefo's Platinum Trusted Service award every year since its inception in 2019. The Platinum Trusted Service award is based on independently verified customer reviews, and is only given to companies who consistently offer excellence in customer service. As you plan your holiday with Distant Journeys, we trust that reading our Feefo customer reviews will reassure you that you are in safe hands.

Travel with the award-winners

Over the years, Distant Journeys have consistently won awards for its touring holidays. The British Travel Awards are based on travellers' votes, and celebrate the very best in travel providers throughout the UK. For six years in a row, we have received multiple awards, including the 'Best Small Holiday Company to Sub-Saharan Africa', and we have also received awards in the prestigious 'Best Small Escorted Tours Holiday Company', four years running. These are remarkable achievements in the travel industry's most highly-prized awards.





Hand-Picked Hotels

Distant Journeys appreciate the hotels in which you stay are an integral part of your holiday enjoyment, which is why we take great care in hand-picking all the accommodation featured in our itineraries.

Location and quality are always paramount considerations, and we strive to provide the best of both.

Hotel ratings

Each property has been personally inspected whilst planning our holidays, and you can be confident the hotels featured in this brochure have been carefully selected for their location, quality, facilities and level of service.

We understand from many years of experience that accommodation ratings may vary from country to country. We therefore provide our own ratings, which are based on the expectations of guests from the United Kingdom, alongside the official hotel rating. Please review our hotel directory on pages 54-56 for more information regarding the hotels included.

Location, location, location

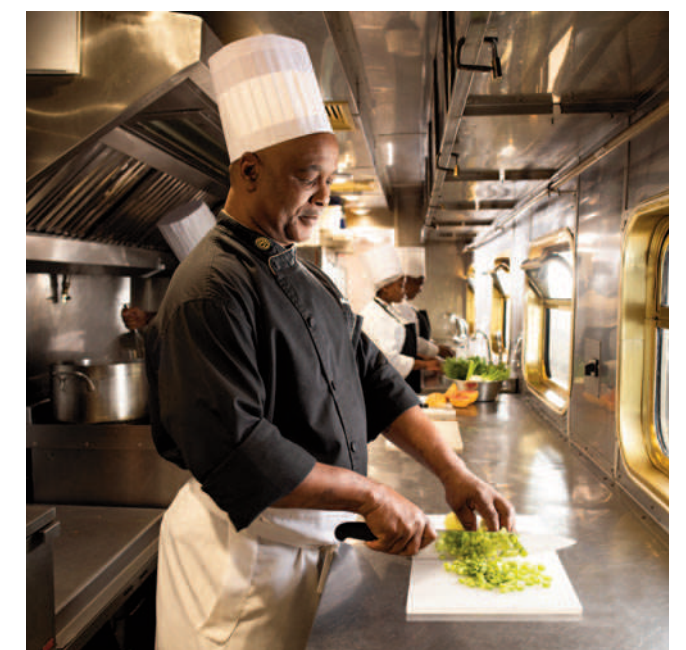
Relax in the knowledge that every hotel has been carefully chosen to allow you to make the most of each destination you visit. In Umhlanga for instance, you stay at the five-star Beverly Hills Hotel, which offers spectacular views of the Indian Ocean.

Natural World

Some hotels simply make the most of their surrounding landscapes. For example, the Protea Hotel Kruger Gate, ideally situated on the banks of the Sabi River, gives our guests incredible access into the game-rich reaches of the southern Kruger National Park.

Character and charm

Some hotels are more than just a place to rest. Whilst staying in Pretoria, you'll experience two wonderful nights at Irene Country Lodge – an oasis of tranquillity set in beautiful lakeside gardens, surrounded by the Camdeboo Forest.





Freedom & Flexibility

Imagine being able to enjoy all the benefits of travelling with a group of like-minded people; the fun, the camaraderie, the friendships, the hassle-free organisation - and at the same time being able to personalise your holiday so that it's perfect for you.

When it comes to having the freedom to tailor your touring holiday to suit your tastes and wishes, the flexibility provided by Distant Journeys cannot be beaten.

Fly from your local airport

To get your journey off to the best possible start, Distant Journeys offer you flights with British Airways from London Heathrow. Should you wish to add a connecting flight from Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City Airport, Distant Journeys will arrange this, at no extra cost.

Flight upgrades

If you would like to treat yourself to a little more comfort on your international flights, World Traveller Plus and Club World upgrades are available on selected routes. Please see page 57 for more details.

Choose your safari experience

When travelling on the Spectacular South Africa tour, you can choose your perfect safari experience. Dependent on your preferred itinerary you can experience South Africa's 'Big Five' at Bayala Private Game Reserve or enjoy the 'Durban Safari' from the comfort of one of the world's most luxurious trains, onboard Rovos Rail.

Freedom Days

For an escorted tour to be truly memorable, we believe you should have the freedom to customise your touring experiences to match your interests. That is why we ensure our tours have a number of Freedom Days for you to spend as you please. A journey through the Cape Winelands, the fascinating World Heritage site of Robben Island, and the historic Anglo-Zulu battlefields of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift are just a few of the choices available.

Extend your holiday

Distant Journeys offer three spectacular holiday extensions to finish off your South African adventure, dependent on your choice of itinerary; a three-night stay at spectacular Victoria Falls, a three-night stay in Chobe National Park or a six-night stay which incorporates the delights of both Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park. Please see pages 46-49 for more information.

Personalise your holiday

You may wish to combine your holiday with a visit to see family and friends or explore another area within your chosen destination. We will be happy to make arrangements for you, it's all part of the Distant Journeys service.





We planned a holiday of a lifetime and Distant Journeys did not disappoint. From start to finish you could not fault them.

Mr & Mrs Harding, Manchester



Once in a Lifetime Experiences

Distant Journeys offer touring holidays to a selection of truly magical countries, featuring an incredible array of holiday experiences.

When you travel with Distant Journeys, you can be confident that not only will all the must-see sights be included, but you will also enjoy several extra special experiences to make your holiday as memorable as it should be.

Explore captivating cities and towns

Enjoy the country's most captivating cities, from vibrant Johannesburg and the sprawling township of Soweto; to the incredible city of Cape Town with iconic Table Mountain as its backdrop. Discover Asian-influenced Durban and the impressive architecture of the capital, Pretoria, and delight in the smaller towns of Stellenbosch, in the heart of the winelands, and picturesque Knysna.

Spectacular safaris

Southern Africa is one of the world's greatest safari regions, teeming with unparalleled wildlife, and each of our holidays will bring opportunities to experience the area's incredible natural world. Depending on your choice of itinerary, some of the spectacular safari options on our itineraries include the world-renowned Kruger National Park in South Africa, incredible Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe, and the true wildlife paradise of Chobe National Park in Botswana. Get your camera at the ready!

Blue Train

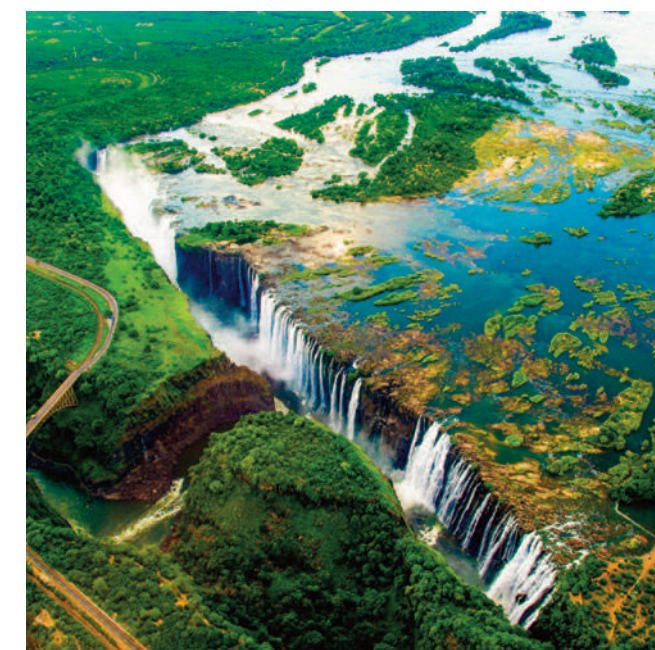
Be entranced by the stunning landscapes of South Africa from the comfort of the luxurious Blue Train. Included as part of our Very Best of South Africa tour, the distinctive sapphire-coloured carriages of the legendary Blue Train will take us on a 1,600 km journey from Pretoria to Cape Town.

Rovos Rail

Scenic views are matched by the elegance and style of travel from a bygone era, when travelling on board Rovos Rail, 'The most luxurious train in the world'. Available as part of our Spectacular South Africa and brand new African Rail Adventure tours, discover the charming Edwardian period features of Rovos Rail, coupled with excellent on-board service.

Victoria Falls

Our South African tours offer the opportunity to visit Victoria Falls, the world's largest waterfall and one of the planet's greatest natural wonders. Among the unmissable included activities are a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River and a walking tour of UNESCO World Heritage Victoria Falls to explore its magnitude, grace and beauty.





Spectacular South Africa

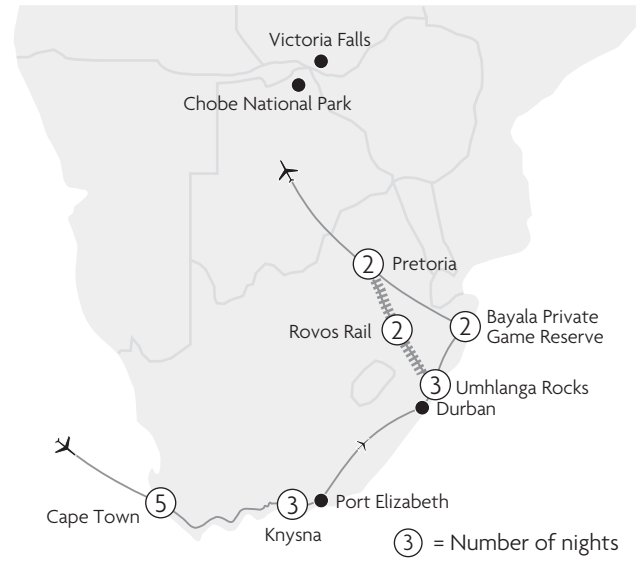
18 days from only £3,995 per person

It is 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 18-day tour showcases Spectacular South Africa at its best.

This 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 Bayala Private Game Reserve, or join luxurious Rovos Rail for an all-inclusive Durban Safari.

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



Your holiday includes

- Flights with award-winning scheduled airlines**
- Return economy class flights
 - Fly British Airways from London Heathrow, Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City Airport
 - Domestic flight within South Africa
 - All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
 - UK Air Passenger Duty
- Carefully selected hotels**
- First class and deluxe hotels in great locations
 - All hotel portorage
 - Applicable hotel taxes

- Many meals**
- Daily breakfast, worth £296 per person
 - 5 lunches
 - 2 dinners

- Unforgettable experiences**
- Sightseeing tours in Cape Town, Knysna, Durban and Pretoria
 - Visit Cape Point and Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens
 - Tour along South Africa’s world renowned Garden Route

- When choosing Bayala Private Game Reserve**
- Three safaris in Bayala Private Game Reserve
 - All meals

- When choosing Rovos Rail ‘Durban Safari’**
- Choice of a safari in Spioenkop Game Reserve or tour of the Spioenkop 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 covered by our Covid Guarantee*
 - Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 60-63.



Cape Town



African Penguins, Boulders Beach



Mossel Bay Lighthouse

Spectacular South Africa

Days 1 to 8: UK - Cape Town - Garden Route - Knysna

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart from London Heathrow with British Airways. Connecting flights to London Heathrow from Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City are available at no extra cost.

In-flight meals and drinks included

Day 2: Cape Town, 5 nights

We land in magnificent Cape Town, where our waiting coach will take us to the President Hotel, ideally situated in Bantry Bay, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and just a short drive from Cape Town's fashionable Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. **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 whilst taking in 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. We tour many of the city's highlights, including Greenmarket Square, the colourful Malay Quarter of Bo Kaap, Company Gardens and the Houses of Parliament, City Hall, the Castle of Good Hope and Slave Lodge. During the tour, there will be opportunities to explore on foot. This afternoon we visit the superb Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Founded in 1913 to preserve the country's unique flora, 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 Camps Bay and Bakoven. We continue to Hout Bay, a pretty fishing village. From here, we take a short cruise to Duiker Island, more commonly known as Seal Island due to its population of Cape Fur seals and other marine life. Next, it's 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 are fabled to meet. We continue to Boulders Beach, home to a colony of the endangered African Penguin. Enjoy a visit to Simon's Town prior to our return to Cape Town later in the afternoon. **Breakfast and lunch included**

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. Upon arrival in Stellenbosch we will have plenty of time to discover the second oldest town in South Africa. The 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 also cross the scenic Helshoogte Pass and visit Franschhoek, the area settled by the French Huguenots in 1688, and 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. You may wish 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 including 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. 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

Today, we say goodbye to Cape Town, as we begin our Garden Route tour. Our journey takes us 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 where 16th and 17th century sailors left their letters for returning ships to carry to Europe. From Mossel Bay we continue to Knysna and our next three nights at the Protea Hotel Knysna Quays. **Breakfast included**

Day 8: Featherbed Nature Reserve

This morning, we have included an excursion to Featherbed Nature Reserve, a unique 150 hectare private nature reserve, which encompasses the whole of the Western Head of Knysna, one of South Africa's Natural Heritage Sites. We cruise across Knysna Lagoon and enjoy the spectacular coastal scenery during a gentle stroll. Featherbed is home to many native flowers and trees, as well as the endangered Blue Duiker (one of the smallest antelope species in Africa), Cape Mountain Tortoises, Blue Cranes (South Africa's national bird) and rare Black African Oystercatchers. Your afternoon is free to relax or stroll around Knysna's pretty waterfront. **Breakfast included**



Knysna Lagoon



Spectacular South Africa

Days 9 to 15: Knysna - Umhlanga Rocks - Bayala Private Reserve - Pretoria

Day 9: Knysna Freedom Day

Another Freedom Day for you to spend as you please. Perhaps 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 coloured 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.



Day 10: Umhlanga Rocks, 3 nights

This morning, our journey continues along the Garden Route, via Plettenberg 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 luxurious Beverly Hills Hotel, ideally situated overlooking the Indian Ocean, in the upmarket resort of Umhlanga Rocks. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 11: Umhlanga Rocks

After breakfast, enjoy a half day sightseeing tour of nearby 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. With a prime beachfront location and unobstructed sea views, relaxing by the hotel's huge pool is a wonderful way to unwind this afternoon. **Breakfast included**

Day 12: Umhlanga Rocks Freedom Day

A day at leisure to spend as you please on South Africa's beautiful Dolphin Coast. 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 witness the landscape on which the battles occurred. Alternatively embark on an immersive day trip to the tiny country of Lesotho. As you near Lesotho, join 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**

Day 13: Bayala Private Game Reserve, 2 nights

This morning we travel along South Africa's Elephant Coast to the magnificent Bayala Private Game Reserve, situated in the heart of Zululand. Nestled within a 'Big Five' private conservancy of close to 30,000 hectares of unspoiled wilderness, Bayala provides the perfect venue for your safari experience. Upon arrival, enjoy lunch prior to check-in. Later in the afternoon we take to our open jeeps for our first game drive. Bayala 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: Bayala Private Game Reserve

This morning we wake early for another exciting game drive. Bayala is home to 'The Big Five', so keep a look out for elephant, lion, buffalo, rhinoceros and leopard, as well as a whole host of other game species. We return to our lodge in time for breakfast. Our day is free to relax until the heat of the day subsides later this afternoon. Perhaps read a book or take a swim in the pool enjoying the sights and sounds of the African bush. Later in the day we return to our jeeps for another game drive prior to dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 15: Pretoria, 2 nights

All good things must come to an end and sadly, after a hearty breakfast, we must leave Bayala as we make our way across country to South Africa's Jacaranda City, Pretoria. Upon arrival we make our way to the beautiful Irene Country Lodge, situated just a 15-minute drive from the city centre, for our final two nights. **Breakfast and lunch included**



As an alternative to the two-night stay in Bayala Private Game 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 22-23 for full details of this alternative itinerary.



Spectacular South Africa

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

When choosing the Rovos Rail ‘Durban Safari’, days 13-15 will be as described on this page. 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.

A choice of suites

Rovos Rail provides a choice of Pullman and Deluxe Suites, both offering every modern convenience and comfort with fittings and facilities that are of the highest standard. The suites accommodate one or two passengers with the option of double or twin beds. All have en-suite bathrooms with shower, toilet and basin.

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 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: Spioenkop & Nambiti Private Game Reserve

Following an early wake-up call and a sumptuous breakfast we have a choice of excursions. The first option is to take an open-jeep safari in Spioenkop Reserve, boasting a rich selection of wildlife including white rhinoceros, giraffe and antelope. Alternatively, we may wish to join the Spioenkop 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, 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 our 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. On return to the train, enjoy a drink in the Lounge Car prior to 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, for our final two nights. **Breakfast and lunch included**





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, Voortrekker Monument and Melrose House. Our afternoon is at leisure to relax in the beautiful surroundings of our hotel. Alternatively, there is the option to visit 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 we board our chosen flight for our homebound journey to the UK. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 18: Arrive UK
We arrive into our chosen airport. Flights to London Heathrow with British Airways are direct. For regional UK airports, flights will travel via London Heathrow. After 18 fabulous days, our Spectacular South Africa adventure comes to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Holiday Extensions from only £1,395 per person

Victoria Falls is just over an hour and a half away from Johannesburg by air, and Chobe National Park is a relatively short drive from Victoria Falls, so now is the perfect opportunity to add on one of the planet's great natural wonders and more incredible safari experiences.

Victoria Falls
Three nights from only £1,395 per person
Experience the majesty of Victoria Falls on our three-night holiday extension. Stay at Ilala Lodge, located just a short walk from Victoria Falls – so close that spray from the falls can be seen from the hotel grounds. Experience a walking tour of the falls, along with a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River. Also included are return flights to Victoria Falls, all transfers, daily breakfast, one dinner and the services of a local guide.



Victoria Falls & Chobe National Park
Six nights from only £2,495 per person
Chobe National Park, Botswana is famous for its herds of elephants and teeming wildlife, making it the perfect addition to our Victoria Falls holiday extension. Following on from the delights of Victoria Falls, spend a further three nights at Cresta Mowana Safari Lodge, located on the banks of the Chobe River. In addition to the Victoria Falls inclusions, experience two sunset wildlife cruises, two spectacular safaris in Chobe National Park, daily breakfast, lunch and dinner and the services of a local guide.



Please see pages 46-49 for more details on these holiday extensions.

Departure Dates & Prices

Including Bayala Game Reserve

2023 Departures

04 Oct 2023	£3,995pp
08 Nov 2023	£3,995pp

2024 Departures

17 Jan 2024	£3,995pp
31 Jan 2024	£3,995pp
13 Mar 2024	£3,995pp
03 Apr 2024	£3,995pp

Including Rovos Rail

2023 Departures

	Pullman	Deluxe
04 Oct 2023	£4,995pp	£5,745pp
08 Nov 2023	£4,995pp	£5,745pp

2024 Departures

	Pullman	Deluxe
31 Jan 2024	£4,995pp	£5,745pp
13 Mar 2024	£4,995pp	£5,745pp
03 Apr 2024	£4,995pp	£5,745pp

Prices

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

Single occupancy supplement

Bayala Private Game Reserve £1,145.
Rovos Rail £1,595 in a Pullman Suite.
Rovos Rail £1,975 in a Deluxe Suite.

Deposit

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

Holiday extensions

Extend your holiday to Victoria Falls from £1,395 per person. Extend your holiday to Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park from £2,495 per person.

Flight upgrades

Upgrade to World Traveller Plus from £1,395 per person return, or Club World from £3,795 per person return.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book.

Deluxe Suites are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 60-63.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3742

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

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





The Very Best of South Africa

25 days from only £6,195 per person

South Africa is a dream holiday destination. Its dramatic Atlantic and Indian Ocean coastlines surround a country of spectacular landscapes and plentiful wildlife; of modern, multicultural cities rich with social and political history and a nation of people whose warmth is only surpassed by the sun that shines all year round.

Our 25-day Very Best of South Africa tour will offer a fascinating insight into the Rainbow Nation.

To get the most out of the country's many and varied attractions, we've put together the ultimate tour - The Very Best of South Africa. Over 25 unforgettable days, we will explore lively cities, head out on safari in search of the 'big five', travel through stunning scenery and take one of the world's most luxurious train journeys.

As always with Distant Journeys, the itinerary includes all the must-see attractions plus several once in a lifetime experiences, all conducted at a leisurely pace. In a tour full of highlights, the stand-out experiences include two nights on safari in the world-famous Kruger National Park, and a wonderful two-night journey on board the legendary Blue Train.



Your holiday includes

Flights with award-winning scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights
- Fly British Airways from London Heathrow, Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City Airport
- Domestic flights within South Africa
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- First class and deluxe hotels in great locations
- All hotel portorage
- Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- Daily breakfast, worth £412 per person
- 10 lunches
- 1 high tea
- 6 dinners

All-inclusive on the Blue Train

- Visit Kimberley's 'Big Hole' diamond mine
- All meals on board
- Selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, on board

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Pretoria
- Visit Cape Point and Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens
- Explore the Western Cape Winelands
- Tour along South Africa's world-renowned Garden Route
- Experience the Cango Caves
- Safaris in Kruger National Park
- Tour the scenic Panorama Route

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 covered by our Covid Guarantee*
- Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 60-63.



Blue Train



Chapman's Peak, Hout Bay

The Very Best of South Africa

Days 1 to 8: UK - Johannesburg - Blue Train - Cape Town

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart from London Heathrow with British Airways. Connecting flights to London Heathrow from Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City are available at no extra cost. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2: Johannesburg, 2 nights

We land in Johannesburg, where our waiting coach will take us to the Protea Hotel Johannesburg Balalaika Sandton, ideally situated in Johannesburg's fashionable Sandton district. The rest of our day is at leisure until the early evening, when we shall gather for drinks so we may become acquainted for our forthcoming travels together. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 3: Johannesburg

Today we will be introduced to Johannesburg with a full day tour of the city and its best-known township, Soweto. We begin at Constitution Hill, a former prison and military fort which is now a living museum telling the story of South Africa's long journey from colonialism and apartheid to democracy. Soweto (an acronym for South Western Townships) is a sprawling urban complex of over 1.5 million people, an area known for its rich political history and vibrant trend-setting culture. We visit key sites including Vilakazi Street, famed for having been home to two Nobel Peace Prize winners in Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu; the Hector Pieteron memorial and Regina Mundi, the largest Roman Catholic church in South Africa. We end our afternoon at Rosebank Sunday Market, a lively centre of arts and craft stalls, bric-a-brac, food stalls and live music with stunning views of the Johannesburg skyline. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 4: Blue Train, 2 nights

Tour Highlight

This afternoon we check in at Pretoria Station and board the Blue Train to embark on one of the most incredible railway journeys in the world. Our Blue Train experience begins the moment we step into the train's VIP departure lounge. Settle in with an aperitif and delicious canapes and be entertained by live music, whilst we await the beginning of our adventure. Once onboard, our butler will escort us to our Deluxe Suite and give us an orientation tour of the train as our 1,600 km journey to Cape Town begins. Our suite provides a spacious lounge by day and a peaceful sanctuary by night. Settle in to life on board as the Blue Train rolls out of Pretoria, before an elegant High Tea is served. Dinner is a stylish affair, so dress up to the nines and enjoy an aperitif in the Lounge Car prior to a sumptuous dinner paired with exquisite wines. **Breakfast, high tea and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 5: Blue Train, Kimberley

This morning the Blue Train arrives into Kimberley, the capital of South Africa's Northern Cape. Kimberley prospered thanks to the discovery of diamonds in the area and during our stop here we learn more about the diamond rush with a tour of the fascinating Open Mine Museum. Learn more about the intriguing history and peer over the edge of the Kimberley 'Big Hole' diamond mine. Returning to the train, lunch is served and the afternoon is ours to enjoy as we watch the vast African panoramas unfolding. A delicious dinner of local cuisine and fine Cape wines will round off a wonderful day. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 6: Cape Town, 4 nights

Enjoy breakfast before we bid farewell to the Blue Train as we arrive into beautiful Cape Town, where our rail journey ends. Our waiting coach will take us on a short orientation tour of the city prior to our arrival at The President Hotel. Located in Bantry Bay on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean, the hotel is just a short drive from Cape Town's fashionable Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. **Breakfast included**

Day 7: 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 along with 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. We tour many of the city's highlights, including Greenmarket Square, the colourful Malay Quarter of Bo-Kaap, Company Gardens and the Houses of Parliament, City Hall, the Castle of Good Hope and Slave Lodge. During the tour, there will be opportunities to explore on foot. This afternoon we visit the superb Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Founded in 1913 to preserve the country's unique flora, 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 8: 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 Camps Bay and Bakoven. We continue via Hout Bay, a charming fishing harbour with magnificent mountain views, and we enjoy a short cruise to Duiker Island, which is commonly known as Seal Island. Next, it's 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 are fabled to meet. We continue to Boulders Beach, home to a colony of the endangered African Penguin. Enjoy a visit to Simon's Town prior to our return to Cape Town later in the afternoon. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Dutch Reformed Church, Franschhoek



The Very Best of South Africa

Days 9 to 12: Cape Town - Franschhoek - The Garden Route - Oudtshoorn

Day 9: 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. You may wish to take an optional trip to Robben Island? Once reserved for high-profile prisoners of the apartheid regime, the island was brought to the world's attention when Nelson Mandela was released from prison in the early 1990s. 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**

We recommend

Robben Island

Experience this UNESCO World Heritage site, which is preserved as a memorial to those who spent many years incarcerated here.



Day 10: Franschhoek, 2 nights

With a vast expanse of vineyards set against a landscape of towering green mountains, the Cape Winelands are home to some of South Africa's most stunning scenery. As we leave Cape Town behind, our winelands journey begins with a picturesque drive through valleys and vineyards and includes a cellar tour and wine-tasting in one of the region's fabulous wineries. Upon arrival in Stellenbosch, we will have plenty of time to discover the second oldest town in South Africa. The oak tree-lined streets and whitewashed Cape Dutch-style buildings make this a delight for exploration on foot. We continue to Franschhoek via the scenic Helshoogte Pass. We stay the next two nights at the delightful Protea Hotel Franschhoek. **Breakfast included**

Day 11: Franschhoek Freedom Day

French Huguenots settled in Franschhoek in 1688, bringing their vines with them. Over 300 years later, this lovely winelands town still retains many of its French roots. It's a wonderful place to spend a relaxing day exploring its art galleries, stylish architecture and wonderful array of cafes and restaurants. For those who would prefer to venture a little further, we have arranged tickets for the Franschhoek Wine Tram. This hop-on hop-off service provides a unique way to discover the Franschhoek Valley as you journey through the vineyards visiting some of South Africa's most distinguished wine estates. **Breakfast included**

Day 12: The Garden Route & Oudtshoorn, Overnight

Today, we say goodbye to Cape Town's winelands, as we begin our Garden Route tour. Our journey takes us along Route 62, which links Cape Town in the Western Cape and Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape. We travel through numerous picturesque towns and villages including Worcester, Robertson, Montagu, Ladismith and Calitzdorp. Crossing the spectacular Huisrivier Pass, we descend to the laid-back country town of South Africa's ostrich capital, Oudtshoorn, where we enjoy a guided tour of an ostrich farm, tracing the ostrich from egg to adulthood. Our home for the night is the historic Queen's Hotel. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Cape Winelands



Western Cape

The Very Best of South Africa

Days 13 to 17: Knysna - Umhlanga Rocks

Day 13: Knysna, 2 nights

After breakfast, we explore the pretty Victorian buildings of Oudtshoorn, before heading to the Cango Caves, a vast series of magnificently colourful limestone caverns, which to this day have only been partially explored. This afternoon, we take a drive over the visually stunning Outeniqua Pass as we make our way from the beauty of the semi-arid Klein Karoo to the Protea Hotel Knysna Quays, situated on the edge of Knysna Lagoon. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 14: Knysna Freedom Day

A day at leisure to relax or explore the beautiful scenery of Knysna Lagoon. An excursion to Featherbed Nature Reserve is highly recommended - a unique 150 hectare private nature reserve, which encompasses the whole of the Western Head of Knysna, and is one of South Africa's Natural Heritage Sites. Perhaps take a cruise across Knysna Lagoon and enjoy the spectacular coastal scenery during a gentle stroll. Featherbed is home to many native flowers and trees, as well as the endangered Blue Duiker (one of the smallest antelope species in Africa), Cape Mountain Tortoises, Blue Cranes (South Africa's national bird) and rare Black African Oystercatchers. **Breakfast included**

We recommend

Featherbed Nature Reserve

Explore the unique flora and fauna of this beautiful private nature reserve, including a cruise on Knysna Lagoon.



Day 15: Umhlanga Rocks, 3 nights

This morning, our journey continues along the Garden Route, via Plettenberg 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 luxurious Beverly Hills Hotel, ideally situated overlooking the Indian Ocean, in the upmarket resort of Umhlanga Rocks. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 16: Umhlanga Rocks

After breakfast, enjoy a morning tour of nearby 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. With a prime beachfront location and unobstructed sea views, relaxing by the hotel's huge pool is a wonderful way to unwind this afternoon. **Breakfast included**

Day 17: Umhlanga Rocks Freedom Day

A day at leisure to spend as you please on South Africa's beautiful Dolphin Coast. 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 witness the landscape on which the battles occurred. Alternatively embark on an immersive full day trip to the tiny country of Lesotho. As you near Lesotho, join 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**



Umhlanga Rocks



Pretoria



The Very Best of South Africa

Days 18 to 23: Kruger National Park - Hazyview - Pretoria

Day 18: Kruger National Park, 2 nights

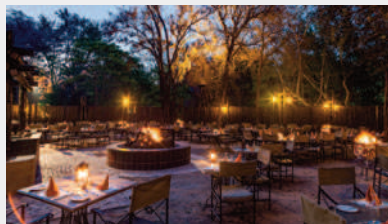
Tour Highlight

This morning we travel to Durban Airport for our flight to Nelspruit Airport, from where we make our way to Kruger National Park, South Africa's largest game reserve. On arrival at the reserve, we will be met by a fleet of specially-adapted 4x4 vehicles which will transport us on our first safari in the Kruger. Renowned as one of South Africa's greatest wildlife-watching destinations, Kruger National Park is home to the Big Five - lion, elephant, buffalo, leopard and rhino – along with iconic African species, such as cheetah, giraffe, hippo, hyena and zebra. After a thrilling introduction to the Kruger, we arrive at the Kruger Gate Hotel. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 19: Kruger National Park

Early today, our experienced rangers help us explore the sights on a morning game drive in Kruger National Park. As we traverse vast areas of sweeping savannah, keep a look out for hippos bathing in rivers, warthogs quenching their thirst or possibly the elusive leopard lazing in a tree. We return to our hotel where there is time to relax and unwind before we head out on our second game drive late in the afternoon. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Dinner Under the Stars



If weather permits, we shall enjoy a traditional African bush experience, eating dinner under the stars, next to a roaring fire at the hotel's boma.

Day 20: Hazyview, 2 nights

Following breakfast, we check out from the hotel and enjoy our final game drive in Kruger National Park in our 4x4 vehicles. This morning's route explores new areas of the park and provides a great opportunity to spot even more of South Africa's incredible wildlife. We leave the park in the afternoon, transfer to a comfortable, air-conditioned coach and journey to the Sabi River Sun Resort in Hazyview, for the next two nights. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 21: Hazyview

We spend our day exploring the Panorama Route, winding its way through some of South Africa's most spectacular scenery of mountains, waterfalls and canyons. We follow the incredible Blyde River Canyon, a deep gorge which carves its way through 20 miles of the Drakensberg Escarpment, separating the temperate grasslands of the highveld and the drier savannah beyond. Highlights of the day include the rainforest at God's Window, Bourke's Luck Potholes and the Three Rondavels. We also visit the former gold mining town of Pilgrim's Rest to see the Victorian-era wooden and corrugated houses lining its main street, and to learn about its chequered history. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 22: Pretoria, 2 nights

Today we travel west, ascending the Drakensberg Escarpment from the low country to the wide-open spaces and vast farmlands of the Highveld. Upon arrival into Pretoria, we make our way to the beautiful Irene Country Lodge, situated just a 15-minute drive from the city centre, for our final two nights in South Africa. **Breakfast included**

Day 23: Pretoria

In the morning, enjoy a tour around the city of Pretoria. Included is the Union Building, Voortrekker Monument, Melrose House and Paul Kruger House. Afterwards, we return to our hotel where our afternoon is at leisure to relax in the most beautiful of settings. **Breakfast included**



Three Rondavels, Blyde River Canyon



Jacaranda trees, Johannesburg



The Very Best of South Africa

Days 24 to 25: Johannesburg - UK

Day 24: Depart Johannesburg

The day is ours to spend as we please prior to our departure to the airport later in the day. There is the option to visit 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. This evening we board our flight for our homebound journey to the UK. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

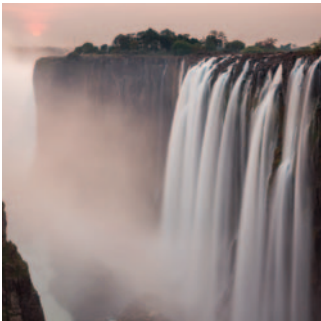
Day 25: Arrive UK

We arrive into our chosen airport. Flights to London Heathrow are direct. For regional UK airports, flights will travel via London Heathrow. After 25 fabulous days, our Very Best of South Africa journey comes to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

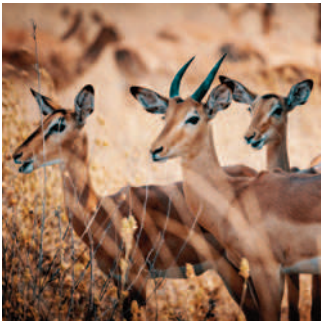
Holiday Extensions from only £1,395 per person

Victoria Falls is just over an hour and a half away from Johannesburg by air, and Chobe National Park is a relatively short drive from Victoria Falls, so now is the perfect opportunity to add on one of the planet’s great natural wonders and more incredible safari experiences.

Victoria Falls
Three nights from only £1,395 per person
Experience the majesty of Victoria Falls on our three-night holiday extension. Stay at Ilala Lodge, located just a short walk from Victoria Falls – so close that spray from the falls can be seen from the hotel grounds. Experience a walking tour of the falls, along with a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River. Also included are return flights to Victoria Falls, all transfers, daily breakfast, one dinner and the services of a local guide.



Victoria Falls & Chobe National Park
Six nights from only £2,495 per person
Chobe National Park, Botswana is famous for its herds of elephants and teeming wildlife, making it the perfect addition to our Victoria Falls holiday extension. Following on from the delights of Victoria Falls, spend a further three nights at Cresta Mowana Safari Lodge, located on the banks of the Chobe River. In addition to the Victoria Falls inclusions, experience two sunset wildlife cruises, two spectacular safaris in Chobe National Park, daily breakfast, lunch and dinner and the services of a local guide.



Please see pages 46-49 for more details on these holiday extensions.

Departure Dates & Prices

2023 Departures

	Deluxe	Luxury
20 Oct 2023	£6,195pp	£6,645pp

2024 Departures

	Deluxe	Luxury
12 Jan 2024	£6,195pp	£6,645pp
16 Feb 2024	£6,195pp	£6,645pp
01 Mar 2024	£6,195pp	£6,645pp
12 Apr 2024	£6,195pp	£6,645pp

Prices

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

Single occupancy supplement

£1,695 in a Deluxe Suite.
£1,875 in a Luxury Suite

Deposit

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

Holiday extensions

Extend your holiday to Victoria Falls from £1,395 per person. Extend your holiday to Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park from £2,495 per person.

Flight upgrades

Upgrade to World Traveller Plus from £1,395 per person return, or Club World from £3,795 per person return.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book.

Luxury Suites are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 60-63.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3742

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

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



African Rail Adventure

16-days from only £7,795 per person

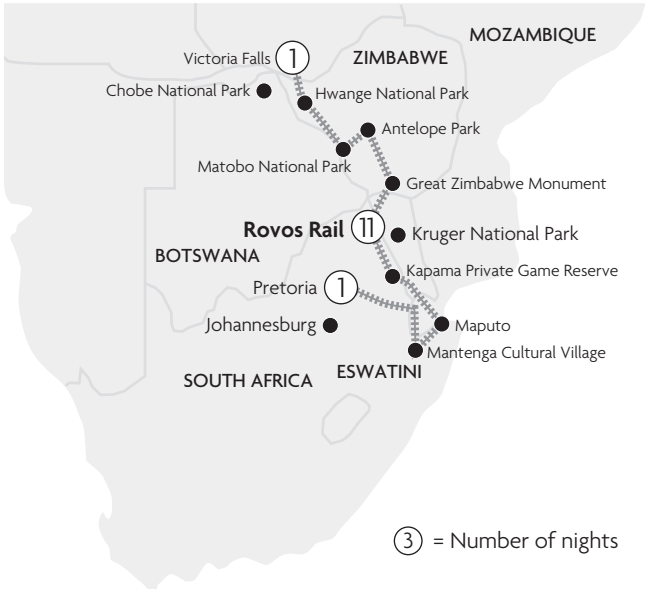
Our brand-new 16-day African Rail Adventure is the perfect holiday for anyone looking to combine exploration and excitement with the romance of railways.

Step aboard Rovos Rail, ‘the most luxurious train in the world’ and be transported to a bygone era of travel, where ever-changing landscapes unfold beyond the windows of the elegant wood-panelled carriages. Adventure-filled days give way to convivial evenings as the striking of a gong heralds dinner and the sounds of chatter fill the air.

Our two-week odyssey between Pretoria and Victoria Falls traverses South Africa, Mozambique, the Kingdom of eSwatini and Zimbabwe; four unique countries which offer up diverse landscapes, fascinating histories and a plethora of wildlife. See some of Africa’s most celebrated game viewing national parks as we go in search of the Big Five during excellent off-train excursions.

As always, when travelling with Distant Journeys we see all the well-known highlights including Victoria Falls and Kruger and Hwange National Parks. We also explore lesser-known gems such as the Great Zimbabwe Monuments and Matobo National Park. On board Rovos, all meals and selected drinks are included.

Discover the joy of train travel and join Distant Journeys on this wonderful journey of African exploration.



Your holiday includes

Flights with award-winning scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights
- Fly British Airways from London Heathrow, Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City Airport
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- First class hotels in Pretoria and Victoria Falls
- All hotel portage
- Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- Daily breakfast

All-inclusive on the Rovos Rail

- 11-nights onboard Rovos Rail
- All meals on board
- Selected alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, on board

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Pretoria, Soweto, Maputo, eSwatini (Swaziland), Great Zimbabwe Monument and Victoria Falls
- Game drives in Kruger National Park, Kapama Private Game Reserve, Hwange National Park
- Tour the scenic Panorama Route
- Discover Antelope Park
- Explore the unique history of Matobo National Park
- Sunset River Cruise at Victoria Falls

On the ground

- All overseas transfers

100% confidence

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

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 60-63.



Kruger National Park



Mantenga Cultural Village



Rovos Rail

African Rail Adventure

Days 1 to 9: UK - Pretoria - Kruger National Park - Maputo - eSwatini - Kapama Private Game Reserve - Limpopo

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart from London Heathrow with British Airways. Connecting flights to London Heathrow from Manchester, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen or Belfast City are available at no extra cost. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 2: Pretoria, Overnight

We land in Johannesburg, where our waiting coach will take us to the delightful Irene Country Lodge, Pretoria. The day is ours to relax in the beautiful surroundings of our hotel. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 3: Pretoria and Soweto

Following an early breakfast, we transfer to Rovos Rail's private railway station, with its leather chesterfield sofas and glamorous decor, where we complete our check-in formalities and meet fellow guests for our forthcoming rail adventure. Prior to our departure, we visit vibrant Soweto, home to over one million people and famously where Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Nelson Mandela spent their early years. After lunch, we explore South Africa's administrative capital, Pretoria, with visits to the terraced gardens of the Union Buildings and the Voortrekker Monument.

Late afternoon, we return to the Rovos Rail Station, to board our waiting train. Settle into our sumptuous accommodation as our journey on the 'most luxurious train in the world' begins. After donning our finest attire, enjoy exquisite cuisine accompanied by fine South African wines in the elegant surroundings of the dining car before retiring to our cosy suite. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 4: Panorama Route

Enjoy breakfast in the dining car prior to today's exploration of the spectacular Panorama Route. Beginning our day at Pilgrim's Rest, we visit the area where gold was discovered in 1873. Once a lively town full of prospectors, Pilgrim's Rest has been wonderfully preserved. Next on our route is Bourke's Luck Potholes, in the Blyde River Canyon. Viewed via bridges and walkways, these wonderful geological cavities were formed by eddy erosion from the Blyde and Treur Rivers. Our lunch stop is in Graskop, where we descend in a viewing lift to the forest, taking in the spectacular views of the gorge as we go. Once in the forest, wooden walkways will guide us along a 600 metre trail. We continue to Nelspruit, where our luxury train will be waiting. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 5: Kruger National Park

Tour Highlight

An exciting day lies ahead with a visit to one of South Africa's biggest and most well-known safari areas, Kruger National Park. Following an early breakfast, we head into the park for a full day safari. Home to the Big Five - leopard, lion, rhino, buffalo and elephant, we hope to spot these magnificent creatures alongside cheetah, hippo, zebra and a vast array of other mammals, reptiles and birds that can be found in the park. After an exhilarating day on safari, we return to the comfort of our train, where the friendly staff will greet us with a glass of sparkling wine and a refreshing cold towel, and continue our journey to Mozambique. Following dinner, retire to the Lounge Car, with its elegant wing back chairs and comfy sofas, for a nightcap and recall the highlights of the day with your fellow passengers. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 6: Maputo

We awake to find ourselves in Mozambique, on Africa's east coast. With a heady mix of African, Portuguese and early colonial architecture, Maputo is the country's capital and a city of contrasts. Enjoy a tour of the city and discover the influences of Maputo's past as we explore the Catholic churches, Victorian mansions and mosques sitting side by side. We take lunch in Maputo and return to the train later in the afternoon. Enjoy high tea in the comfortable lounge or observation cars as we journey towards the tiny Kingdom of eSwatini (formerly Swaziland). **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 7: eSwatini

A day of discovery in the Kingdom of eSwatini (meaning "place of the Swazi") lies ahead. Our first stop is Swazi Candles, where we have the opportunity to see beautiful candle-making alongside wood carvings, textiles and basketwork from local craftspeople and artists. We continue to Mantenga Cultural Village for an insight into the Swazi way of life and its traditions dating back to the 1800s. This living museum has a number of fascinating traditional artefacts on display. Lunch is taken at Mantenga Lodge before we return to the comfortable surrounds of our waiting train. Take time to relax in the lounge with a refreshing cocktail, or witness the ever-changing landscapes from the observation car as we return to South Africa. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 8: Kapama Private Game Reserve

We depart early for our game drive in the Kapama Private Game Reserve. Situated in South Africa's province of Limpopo, and spanning over 15,000 hectares of African bush, over 40 different species of mammals, including the Big Five, and 350 species of bird can be found here, in their natural habitat. We round off our morning with a visit to the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre. This unique African wildlife facility focuses on conservation and sustainability of rare, vulnerable and threatened species. We return to our train where we spend an afternoon relaxing and enjoying the elegant and atmospheric surroundings onboard one of the finest trains in the world. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 9: Limpopo Province

A leisurely day to relax and unwind onboard, as we traverse the Limpopo Province towards Zimbabwe. From the comfort and convenience of the train, we enjoy the beautiful scenery of the province including semi-desert, bush, tropical forests and spectacular mountains. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**



Victoria Falls

African Rail Adventure

Days 10 to 14: Great Zimbabwe Monument - Antelope Park - Matobo N.P. - Hwange N.P. - Victoria Falls

Day 10: Great Zimbabwe Monument

Today, we travel to the Great Zimbabwe Monument, an imposing former city, built between the 11th and 15th century, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We explore the remains of this ancient city as we learn about the history of the Rozwi people who lived here. We return to the train late in the afternoon and continue our journey through Zimbabwe. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 11: Antelope Park

After a restful night's sleep and a sumptuous breakfast, we spend our day in Antelope Park - home to many species of animals and birds, as well as the African Lion and Environmental Research Trust (ALERT), which introduces the offspring of lions bred in captivity back into the wild. During our free time, there is a selection of optional activities available including canoeing, bird-watching cruises, game drives and elephant interaction to make our visit here even more memorable. Back on board Rovos, enjoy a cocktail in the lounge as we await the call of the evening gong. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 12: Matobo National Park

Located in southwest Zimbabwe, Matobo National Park is best known for the Matobo Hills, a region of spectacular granite rock formations created around two billion years ago! It is at Matubo Hills that Cecil John Rhodes is buried in a granite tomb overlooking the beautiful Matopos region. His resting place is aptly named 'World's View' and it was personally chosen as he loved the view from the top of the outcrop. The park is also home to many animals including endangered black and white rhinos and birds such as the black eagle. We also visit bushman's cave to view its impressive rock paintings and carvings. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 13: Hwange National Park

Today's excursion takes us to Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe's largest national park, boasting the highest diversity of mammals of any National Park in Africa - so get your cameras to the ready! Following our full day of game viewing we return to our train for our final night onboard Rovos Rail. Once the traditional evening dinner gong is struck throughout the carriages for the final time, enjoy and reflect on some of the most incredible experiences of the past week and a half, over a wonderful dinner accompanied with fine wines and, of course, new-found friends. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected on-board drinks included**

Day 14: Victoria Falls

Rovos Rail rolls into Victoria Falls Railway Station, bringing an end to our spectacular rail journey. Our waiting guide takes us on a walking tour of Victoria Falls town followed by a visit to the spectacular Victoria Falls. This awe-inspiring natural wonder, made up of five separate waterfalls, spans 1.7km across Zimbabwe and Zambia. We finish our day with a sunset cruise on the mighty Zambezi River, where we hopefully catch a glimpse of the crocodiles, hippos and elephants which live along this beautiful river. We spend our final night at the wonderful Ilala Lodge Hotel. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Rovos Rail



Rovos Rail



Zambezi River



Zebra

African Rail Adventure

Days 15 to 16: Victoria Falls - UK

Day 15: Depart Victoria Falls

Following our spectacular journey traversing the African continent aboard the elegant Rovos Rail, we travel to the airport mid-morning for our flight to Johannesburg. Our onward flight to London Heathrow departs this evening. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 16: Arrive UK

We arrive into London Heathrow this morning. Flights to London Heathrow are direct. For regional UK airports, flights will connect via London Heathrow. After 16 fabulous days, our African Rail Adventure comes to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Holiday Extension from only £1,245 per person

Chobe National Park is a relatively short drive from Victoria Falls, and with its massive population of elephants, herds of buffalo and incredible birdlife, our African Rail Adventure offers the perfect opportunity to add another wonderful safari experience.



Chobe National Park

Three nights from only £1,245 per person

Your Chobe National Park extensions includes all transfers, three nights' accommodation with daily breakfast at the Cresta Mowana Safari Lodge, two dinners, two cruises on the Chobe River, two safaris in Chobe National Park and the services of a local guide.

Please see page 48 for more details on this Holiday Extensions.

2023 Departures

	Pullman	Deluxe
01 Nov 2023	£7,795pp	£10,095pp
14 Nov 2023*	£7,895pp	£10,195pp

2024 Departures

	Pullman	Deluxe
16 Jan 2024*	£8,195pp	£10,695pp
05 Mar 2024	£8,095pp	£10,595pp
19 Mar 2024*	£8,195pp	£10,695pp
02 Apr 2024	£8,095pp	£10,595pp
16 Apr 2024*	£8,195pp	£10,695pp

*These departures operate in a reverse direction to the itinerary featured, beginning in Victoria Falls and finishing in Pretoria.

Please note, November 2023 departures will be operated as Shongololo by Rovos. Standards of service, meals and all-inclusive drinks remain unaffected. Evening dress code will be smart casual rather than the more formal dress code of Rovos Rail.

Prices

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

Single occupancy supplement

£2,595 in a Pullman Suite.
£3,695 in a Deluxe Suite.

Deposit

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

Holiday extension

Extend your holiday to Chobe National Park from £1,245 per person.

Flight upgrades

Upgrade to Premium Economy or World Traveller Plus from £1,395 per person return, or Business Class and Club World from £3,795 per person return.

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.

Deluxe Suites are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 60-63.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3742

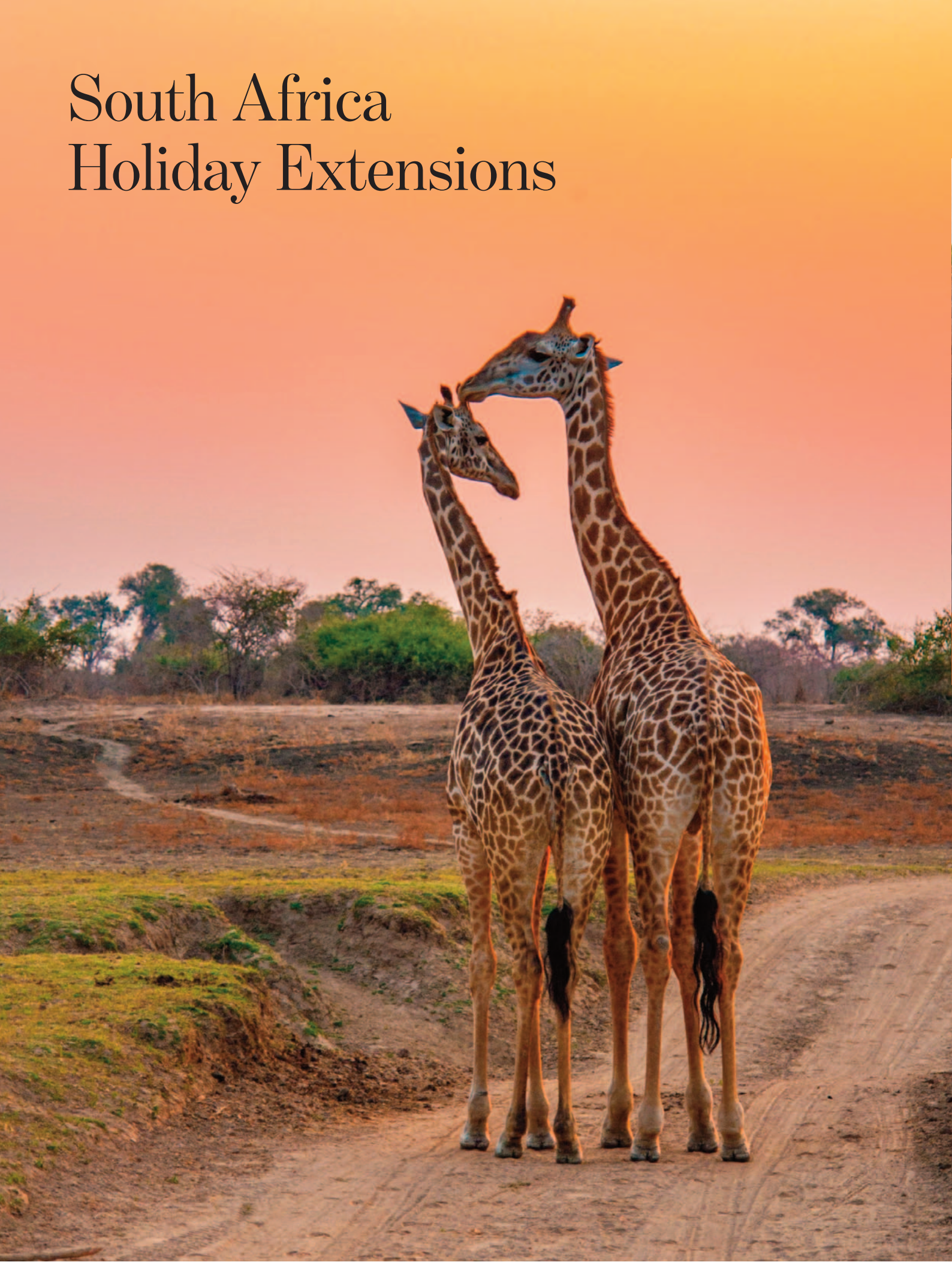
Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.

Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk



South Africa Holiday Extensions



Victoria Falls from only £1,395 per person

Victoria Falls is a World Heritage site of awe-inspiring beauty, described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 19th century as Mosi-oa-Tunya - ‘The Smoke that Thunders’. As Victoria Falls is only a short flight from Johannesburg, it makes an ideal extension to your South African touring holiday.

Available with the Spectacular South Africa or Very Best of South Africa tours



See pages 16-25 and 26-37

Day 1: Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), 3 nights
A morning departure takes us to Johannesburg Airport in time for our flight to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Upon arrival, we meet our local guide and transfer to the outstanding Ilala Lodge. This afternoon, we join a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River, a relaxing experience where we hope to see hippopotamus, crocodile and elephant as well as other wildlife species. **Breakfast included**

Day 2: Victoria Falls
Victoria Falls is a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty, and this morning we take in incredible views of the falls from various vantage points during a walking tour. In the afternoon we are free to enjoy a whole array of optional activities: fishing for tiger fish in the Zambezi, or perhaps take in the ultimate panorama of the falls on board a scenic helicopter flight. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 3: Victoria Falls Freedom Day
A Freedom Day in Victoria Falls to spend as you please. For a wonderful insight into Zimbabwean rural life, join our excursion to a local village where we have the privilege of meeting the village chief and learning about the villagers’ lives. Alternatively, relax by the pool at the hotel and spot the various wildlife that often frequent the hotel grounds! **Breakfast included**

Day 4: Depart Victoria Falls
We travel to the airport mid-morning for our flight to Johannesburg. An onward flight to London Heathrow departs in the evening. **Breakfast, in-flight dinner and drinks included**

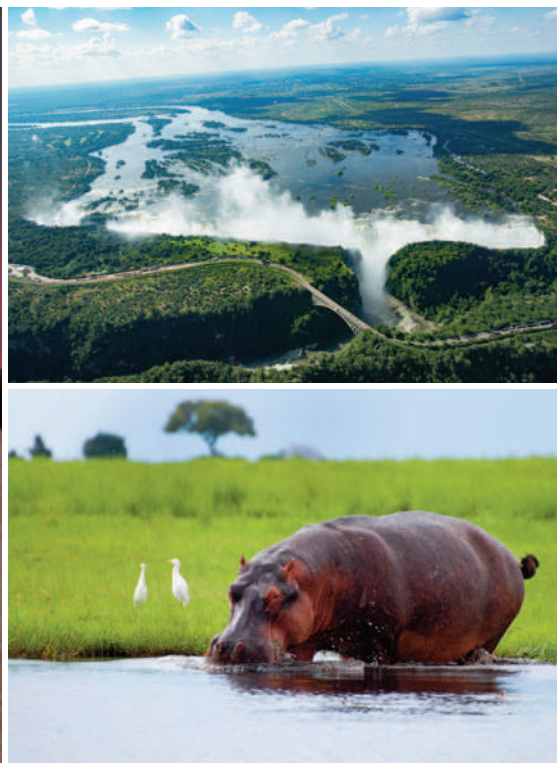
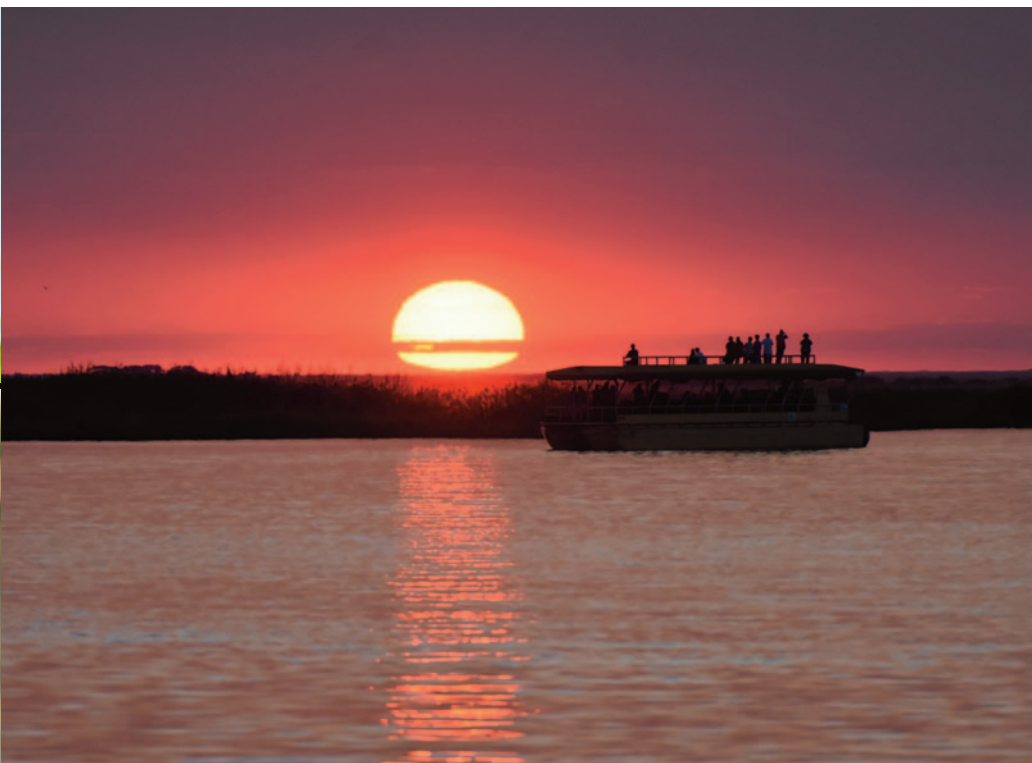
Your Victoria Falls holiday extension includes:
Return air travel from Johannesburg to Victoria Falls including applicable airport charges, three nights accommodation with daily breakfast in Victoria Falls, one dinner, a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River, walking tour of Victoria Falls, services of a local guide and all transfers.

2023 & 2024 Departures

All dates **£1,395 per person**

Single occupancy supplement £245

Holiday Extensions



Chobe National Park from only £1,245 per person

Just a one-hour drive from Victoria Falls, Chobe National Park - ‘The Land of the Giants’, is best known as being home to Africa’s largest elephant population. The Chobe River is the focus of wildlife activity, as the heat of the African sun beats down across the plains, herds of wildlife congregate in and around the river – a truly magical sight to behold.

Available with the African Rail Adventure



See pages 38-45

Day 1: Chobe National Park, 3 nights
We leave Victoria Falls this morning for our short journey to Botswana and our hotel for the next three nights the Cresta Mowana Safari Lodge. With an idyllic location on the banks of the Chobe River, it provides the perfect base for our Botswana adventure. This afternoon we venture into Chobe National Park onboard a wildlife cruise. The banks of the Chobe River draw animals in their hordes, as they congregate to drink, bathe and play, and we hope to see hippos, antelope, buffalo and some of Chobe’s 120,000 elephants. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 2: Chobe National Park
Early this morning we head out on an exhilarating game drive. Chobe is teeming with wildlife, including many rare or threatened species; look out for the blue wildebeest, Cape buffalo, civet, crocodile, giraffe, hyena, zebra, and much more.

After lunch at the hotel, there’s time to take it easy and enjoy the lodge’s facilities before we take our second game drive of the day. Chobe is also rich in birdlife, boasting more than 450 species of birds, so keep your binoculars ready. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 3: Chobe National Park
Today is at leisure for you to enjoy in your own way. There is the option of a further game drive for those who wish. We end the day with a spectacular sunset cruise on the Chobe River. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 4: Depart Chobe National Park
Sadly, we must leave Botswana and Africa today. This morning, we make our way back to Victoria Falls Airport in time for our flight to Johannesburg. Our onward flight to London Heathrow departs this evening. **Breakfast, in-flight dinner and drinks included**

Your Chobe National Park holiday extension includes:
Three nights accommodation in Chobe National Park, with daily breakfast, lunch and dinner, two wildlife cruises on the Chobe River, two game drives in Chobe National Park, services of a local guide and all transfers.

2023 & 2024 Departures
All dates **£1,245** per person
Single occupancy supplement £245

Victoria Falls & Chobe National Park from only £2,495 per person

Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park are two of southern Africa’s most remarkable destinations. Together they represent the perfect combination of landscapes and wildlife, and showcase everything that’s magical about southern Africa’s alluring charm.

Available with the Spectacular South Africa tour or Very Best of South Africa tours



See pages 16-25 and 26-37

Day 1: Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe), 3 nights
A morning flight takes us to Victoria Falls. Upon arrival, we meet our local guide and transfer to the outstanding Ilala Lodge. This afternoon, we join a sunset cruise on the Zambezi. **Breakfast included**

Day 2: Victoria Falls
Victoria Falls is a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty on the Zambezi River, and this morning we enjoy a walking tour. Afternoon at leisure. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 3: Victoria Falls Freedom Day
A Freedom Day in Victoria Falls to spend as you please. There are many optional excursions to enjoy, or perhaps just marvel once more at the falls. **Breakfast included**

Day 4: Chobe National Park (Botswana), 3 nights
A short drive takes us to Chobe. Later we venture into Chobe National Park to enjoy a wildlife cruise. The banks of the Chobe River draw animals in their hordes, as they congregate to drink. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Your Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park holiday extension includes:
All inclusions as outlined in the Victoria Falls holiday extension on page 47, as well as all the inclusions outlined in the Chobe National Park extension on page 48.

Day 5: Chobe National Park
Early this morning we head out on an exhilarating game drive. Chobe is teeming with wildlife; look out for the blue wildebeest, Cape buffalo, hyena, and crocodile. Later in the day we join another game drive prior to dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 6: Chobe National Park
There is the option of a further game drive this morning for those who wish. We complete our day with a spectacular sunset cruise on the Chobe River. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 7: Depart Chobe
Sadly, we must leave Botswana and Africa today. This morning, we make our way back to Victoria Falls Airport in time for our flight to Johannesburg. Our onward flight to London Heathrow departs this evening. **Breakfast, in-flight dinner and drinks included**

2023 & 2024 Departures
All dates **£2,495** per person
Single occupancy supplement £395

Rovos Rail ‘The Most Luxurious Train in the World’



For more than 30 years, family-run Rovos Rail has operated rail journeys through some of South Africa’s most stunning scenery, in a style redolent of a bygone era of elegance and a spirit of African exploration.

Still overseen by Rohan and Anthea Vos, Rovos Rail’s ethos is to share their love of the romance of rail travel with their guests by offering wonderful rail itineraries through Southern Africa.

Today, as you step aboard the beautifully restored vintage wood-panelled coaches and experience discreet and friendly service, top cuisine and a selection of South Africa’s finest wines, you too can discover the delights of rail travel, onboard Rovos Rail, dubbed ‘the most luxurious train in the world’.

Distant Journeys offers the opportunity to join Rovos Rail on our Spectacular South Africa tour. Travelling from Durban to Pretoria over three days, enjoy 800kms of wonderful scenery and fascinating excursions, on this all-inclusive and unforgettable experience.

On our 16-day African Rail Adventure, enjoy 11 incredible nights on Rovos Rail, visiting four different countries, and providing memories to last a lifetime.

Your exquisite suite

The beautifully rebuilt trains carry a maximum of 72 passengers in 36 superbly-appointed suites. These wood-panelled carriages have all been remodelled and refurbished to pristine condition, with period Edwardian features combined with all modern amenities; a cosy, comfortable retreat and home-from-home at the end of a fabulous day exploring the wonders of Southern Africa.

Pullman Suites (7m²)

Distant Journeys’ guests will be accommodated in comfortable Pullman Suites. These suites can be configured with double or twin beds (side-by-side or upper and lower bunks).

Deluxe Suites (10m²)

The Deluxe Suites are slightly larger and include their own seating area and bar fridge, which will be filled with on-board beverages of your choice.

Royal Suite (16m²)

The largest of the suites available, The Royal Suites each take up half a carriage with their own private lounge area and en-suite bathroom with Victorian bath.

All suites feature the following facilities

- Double or twin beds
- Private en suite bathroom with shower, washbasin and toilet
- Bathrobe and slippers
- Tea-making facilities
- Power outlets including USB ports
- Safe
- Air-conditioning

Life on board Rovos Rail

Savour life in the slow lane throughout your journey. In keeping with the spirit of a bygone era, there are no radios or television sets on board; fewer distractions make for more relaxation. The use of mobiles is confined to the privacy of your personal suites.

During the daytime on board Rovos Rail, guests mingle and socialise in the lounge car and observation car, whose big picture windows allow you to soak up the spectacular scenery.

In keeping with the stylish ambience, days on board are smart casual, with safari clothing and cool linens a popular choice, while evening attire is a little more formal. Enjoy the opportunity to dress up to the nines and revel in the elegance of the evening.



Observation and Lounge Cars

Rovos Rail’s observation and lounge cars are the social hub of the train. The comfy sofas and cosy booths are ideal spots for chatting with friends or whiling away the hours in peace and quiet. Large picture windows make the most of the expansive landscapes, and guests can step out onto the open-air balcony to savour the fresh African air.

Elegant dining

Delicious food and drinks take centre stage on your all-inclusive Rovos Rail journey. An enthusiastic team of chefs take great pride in ensuring guests’ every need is catered for, with an accent on fresh local ingredients and traditional speciality dishes as well as international favourites.

The striking of a gong heralds the start of lunch and dinner service; the tables are set with crisp linens and sparkling crystal glasses and each delicious course is complemented with a selection of the finest South African wines. Both lunch and dinner are four-course meals, and the well-stocked bar is open from morning to late at night.

Sit back and take a traditional afternoon tea as some of the most varied scenery imaginable unfolds beyond the windows, and after dinner, the Lounge Car is where guests relax with a nightcap before bed.

Rovos Rail Inclusions

- All-inclusive dining, including breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon tea
- All-inclusive wines, beers, spirits and non-alcoholic beverages
- All off-train experiences

Blue Train

A Window to the Soul of Africa



The Blue Train has been synonymous with luxury and hospitality since 1946. Its distinctive sapphire-blue carriages streaking through the spectacular scenery of South Africa.

Born of a dream to build a railway that would snake its way the entire length of the continent from Cape Town to Cairo, through the uncharted African interior, the Blue Train was originally named the Union Express. The plans were thwarted as the Great African Railway reached only as far as a bridge across the Zambezi River, overlooking the thundering smoke of Victoria Falls. However, the Blue Train grew its reputation as a 'Palace on Wheels' as it plied its route between Pretoria and Cape Town.

Today, the Blue Train epitomises luxury railway travel, marrying traditional discreet elegance and excellence with modern amenities and comforts.

Distant Journeys' Very Best of South Africa tour includes the Blue Train's two-night journey between Pretoria and Cape Town, a 31-hour expedition of 904 miles, through some of the most diverse and spectacular scenery offered by the African sub-continent.

Your comfortable suite

The Blue Train carries a maximum of 82 guests and offers a choice of two elegantly furnished suites; Deluxe or Luxury. Both suites offer a spacious and relaxing lounge by day and a peaceful sanctuary by night, with goose down pillows and cotton bed linen making for a blissful night's sleep. A personal butler is on hand 24 hours a day, to ensure that you have everything you need to make your journey aboard the Blue Train the most perfect experience.

Deluxe Suites (8m²)

Distant Journey's guests will be accommodated in a wonderful and extremely comfortable Deluxe Suite.

Luxury Suites (10.25m²)

Offering more space, the delightful Luxury Suites benefit from bath tubs and a digital entertainment system, complete with a selection of music CDs and movies on Blue-Ray DVD.

All suites feature the following facilities

- Double or twin beds
- Private en-suite marble bathroom with luxury toiletries
- Air-conditioning
- Underfloor heating
- GPS system and TV monitor track the train's progress

Life on board the Blue Train

Life on the Blue Train is slow, allowing guests to surrender to the luxury of their surroundings and watch the magnificent South African landscape unfold. On board guests can be assured of personal attentive service from a dedicated butler, comfortable suites, exquisite fine-dining and excellent wines.

Linking the suites are the Lounge and Club Cars, ideal for an aperitif, an interlude between meals, or an after-dinner conversation. Meet with newfound friends, or simply watch the ever-changing scenery pass by. Along your journey there is an off-train excursion to the once active diamond town of Kimberley.

To add to the stylish ambience on board the Blue Train, as the evening descends, the day's smart-casual dress code gives way to elegant evening wear. An opportunity to dress up to the nines so synonymous with luxury travel of yesteryear.

Dining Car

Dinner is a feast for all the senses, the tables in the Dining Car laid with crisp Irish linen and twinkling crystal glassware ready for an array of local cuisine and finest Cape wines. The background music provided by the Soweto String Quartet blends with the hum of lively conversation and the chinking of glasses. The talented team of chefs offers a changing menu of fine dining, using local produce and the freshest ingredients to serve meals that will live long in the memory.

Blue Train Inclusions

- All-inclusive dining, including breakfast, lunch, dinner and afternoon tea
- All-inclusive wines, beers, spirits and non-alcoholic beverages



South Africa Hotel Directory



Bayala Private Game Reserve - Bayala Safari Lodge and Camp

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Bayala Safari Lodge and Camp is a welcoming and stylish retreat, set in a vast area of wilderness in the ancient kingdom of Zululand, and offers excellent opportunities to see a wide variety of wildlife. Modern guest rooms have a cool, calming décor and local artworks on the walls. All rooms have en-suite bathrooms with large walk-in showers. Dining is a relaxed affair, enjoyed in the stylish lodge or al fresco under the star-studded African skies.



Cape Town - The President Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The President Hotel is located just a 3-minute walk from Queens Beach, and both the terrace bar and the infinity pool offer stunning panoramic views of the Atlantic Ocean and Lion's Head Mountain. Guest rooms are bright and contemporary, with flat screen TV, air conditioning and a really useful kitchenette. The Island Restaurant serves everything from delicious buffet breakfasts to authentic wood-fired pizzas and locally-sourced dishes. The Deck Bar & Terrace is the place to kick back and enjoy an ice-cold drink and a light snack.



Chobe National Park, Botswana - Cresta Mowana Safari Resort

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Mowana Safari Lodge has an idyllic location on the banks of the Chobe River, where four African countries meet. The hotel is named after the baobab, Africa's 'tree of life', and resort facilities include a swimming pool, 9-hole golf course and a fitness centre. Guest rooms are well-equipped with a balcony facing the Chobe River. Enjoy all-day dining at Serondella Restaurant and relax with a drink at Savuti cocktail bar.



Franschhoek - Protea Hotel by Marriott

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The Protea Hotel by Marriott is an historic property set in the heart of the charming town of Franschhoek. Parts of the hotel date back to the 1880's and the spacious, well-appointed guest rooms are the perfect retreat after a day touring Franschhoek. Guests can relax in the hotel's garden and outdoor swimming pool, and enjoy dinner at the Hussar Grill, serving prime South African steaks and a superb selection of local wines.



Hazyview - Sabi River Sun Resort

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

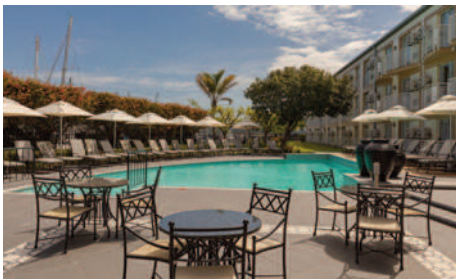
Sabi River Sun Resort is a destination in its own right, set in extensive grounds with an 18-hole golf course offering stunningly scenic views over a hippo dam. The modern, air-conditioned guest rooms combine a wild safari location with modern hotel comforts, with views over the lush gardens. Sesonke Restaurant offers a selection of favourites, with the accent on African flair and locally-sourced ingredients.



Johannesburg - Protea Hotel by Marriott Balalaika Sandton

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The Protea Balalaika is a peaceful hotel offering stylish accommodation within close proximity to local attractions including nearby Nelson Mandela Square and the Sandton City mall. Guest rooms are tranquil and spacious, decorated in an English country style. There are two outdoor pools set in lovely grounds, and a fitness centre. The Bull Run Restaurant is a New York-style steak house, whilst breakfast is served in The Conservatory, overlooking the lush gardens.



Knysna - Protea Knysna Quays

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The hotel sits on the Knysna Quays Waterfront, the ideal location to enjoy uninterrupted views of the lagoon. The spacious rooms are decorated in warm earthy tones, and the hotel has a heated outdoor swimming pool and a wellness centre. Diners are spoilt for choice as there are several great places to eat within easy walking distance.



Kruger - Kruger Gate Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The Kruger Gate Hotel is ideally situated on the banks of the Sabi River, set among peaceful woodland. All guest rooms have en-suite bathrooms, air-conditioning and free wi-fi. Enjoy game-viewing from the hotel's stunning infinity pool and savour sumptuous dining beneath African skies accompanied by the crackle of wood fires. Dinner at Lapa Restaurant is a splendid affair, with a range of local and international cuisine laid out under a canopy of stars.

South Africa Hotel Directory



Oudtshoorn - Queen's Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The Queen's Hotel is the third-oldest hotel in South Africa and an oasis of elegance and charm in the centre of Oudtshoorn. The en-suite guest rooms all have wi-fi, air-conditioning and satellite TV, and the hotel has a secluded courtyard garden plus a wonderful outdoor pool. Dine at the upstairs Colony Restaurant and enjoy a menu packed with South African specialities and signature dishes.



Pretoria - Irene Country Lodge

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Located in the pretty village of Irene, just a short drive from Pretoria, Irene Country Lodge is an oasis of tranquillity set in beautiful lakeside gardens surrounded by the Camdeboo Forest. Bedrooms are comfortably furnished with local mahogany for an authentic South African ambience, and the outdoor pool is a perfect place to relax in the African sunshine.



Umhlanga - Beverly Hills Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

The award-winning Beverly Hills Hotel in Umhlanga has been a byword for elegance and superb hospitality since 1964. All guest rooms have private balcony with views of the Indian Ocean, and are bright and comfortable. The Sugar Club restaurant is open for all-day dining and delicious cocktails are always available in Elements Café Bar. The pool area is a wonderful place to relax and enjoy the ocean breeze.



Victoria Falls - Ilala Lodge Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Ilala Lodge Hotel is a family-run hotel set amid beautifully landscaped gardens, ideally located just an eight-minute walk from Victoria Falls. Each air-conditioned guest room at Ilala Lodge has its own balcony or patio, and hotel facilities include a large outdoor pool and sun terrace. The Palm Restaurant offers all-day dining and guests can eat al fresco under starry African skies, surrounded by the sound of the distant thunder of Victoria Falls.

Our Airline Partner

Fly with award-winning scheduled airlines

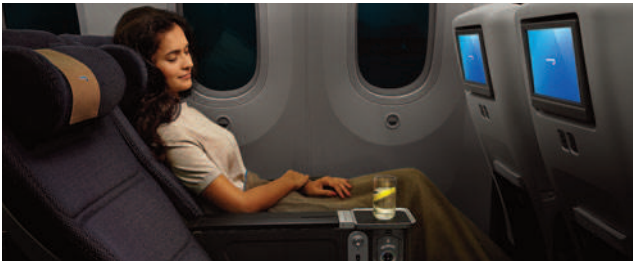
Distant Journeys appreciate how important it is to make sure your holiday starts and ends in the best possible way. Our award-winning airline partner, British Airways, offers great quality and comfort in Economy Class cabins, which are all the more important when travelling long haul.

Why not make your holiday even more memorable with a flight upgrade? With priority check-in, lounge access and spacious comfortable seats, it will take your flying experience to a new level of comfort and service.



World Traveller

World Traveller, British Airways economy service is packed with comfort and benefits. Your seat is ergonomically designed and a whole world of entertainment awaits you with an on-demand service. Naturally, your experience includes complimentary drinks and a delicious assortment of meals designed by world renowned chefs.



Upgrade to World Traveller Plus from £1,395 return

World Traveller Plus is British Airways' long-haul premium economy service, providing a more comfortable, relaxing experience. In addition to enjoying wider seats, more legroom and a personal amenity kit, you'll also be able to enjoy a recently enhanced cabin, which includes a stylish new quilt and cushion, a bespoke menu and signature cocktails.

- Wider seat with greater recline, lumbar support, head rest and foot rest
- Small, intimate cabins with expert, attentive service
- Personal entertainment system with noise-reducing headphones
- Priority boarding
- Amenity kit



Upgrade to Club World from £3,795 return

Club World offers superior levels of comfort and service. Enjoy your own space with a seat which converts into a 6ft fully flat bed. Inspired by some of the world's top chefs, the Club World restaurant style dining combines irresistible local and international flavours to create a mouth-watering experience every time.

- Access to private lounges
- Dedicated check-in desks, fast track security and priority boarding
- Complimentary Elemis treatments available at London Heathrow lounge
- An array of indulgent treats and healthy options from the Club Kitchen that you can help yourself to, throughout the flight
- Luxury bedding and amenity kit by The White Company

Important information: Prices shown are for return flights and are supplements to the individual tour price. Prices are subject to the availability of flights and may change. However, the correct price will always be confirmed before you book. Images shown are representative of the product and may vary dependant on the aircraft type. Seat pitch is dependent on the aircraft type. World Traveller Plus and Club World are for long haul services.

Important Information

We recommend that you read our Important Information, together with our Terms & Conditions before booking your holiday.

Entry requirements

The following information on entry requirements, passports and visas is for British Citizens only. Any visa information covers visa requirements for the duration our tour stays in any given country. If you intend to stay longer you should seek additional information before booking.

Holders of a British Subject passport, non-British citizens and holders of a passport endorsed in any way should check immigration requirements with the relevant embassy or consulate of the country to be visited, as should clients with dual nationality or renounced citizenship.

It is important to recognise that whilst the information below is correct at the time we go to print, all requirements may change and all clients must check the up to date position in good time before departure with the Embassy or consulate of the country(ies) you are travelling through and to.

We also suggest referring to the UK government's Foreign Travel Advice website, www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice for advice about travelling abroad, including the latest information on safety and security, entry requirements and travel warnings.

Passports

A valid ten-year British passport is required for all our holidays, valid for a minimum of six months after your return date to the UK. If you are not currently in possession of a valid passport please make sure you leave plenty of time before your holiday to apply for this document.

A full British passport presently takes approximately up to 10 weeks to obtain. If you are 16 or over and have not yet arranged a passport, you should apply for one at least six weeks before your departure from the UK. The UK Passport Service has to confirm an applicant's identity before issuing their first passport and will ask them to attend an interview in order to do this. Please note, if you need to apply for visas after you receive your new passport, you will need to factor in additional time for this.

For more information on passport and entry requirements please visit the Government Passport Office website, or see our website for more details.

Visas

This table provides a quick guide, for British Citizens, to which countries require a visa. If visas are required it is highly recommended you allow for a minimum of two blank pages per visa required. If a visa is being purchased locally, we recommend you have the correct amount, as change is not always available.

Country	Visa required	Cost
Botswana	No	
eSwatini	No	
Mozambique	Yes	US\$60 per person
South Africa	No	
Zimbabwe	Yes	US\$55 per person for a single entry US\$70 per person for a double entry

Applying for your visa

The below information provides guidance on how to apply for your visa. Alternatively, if you would prefer to have assistance with your visa and have the application process managed by a visa company, we recommend The Visa Travel Company.

For more detailed information along with useful links to the Foreign Office, online applications and The Visa Travel Company please refer to the FAQ section of our website.

Botswana

Currently a visa is not required for any travellers entering Botswana. **Important:** If travelling to Botswana, as we enter/depart via Zimbabwe, please also refer to information on Zimbabwe visas.

eSwatini

Currently a visa is not required for any travellers entering eSwatini.

Mozambique

When travelling on our African Rail Adventure with Rovos Rail, you will be required to obtain a visa for Mozambique. Rovos Rail will help arrange for your visa (cost not included), whilst on-board.

Zimbabwe

If travelling to Zimbabwe a visa is required.

If you are extending your Spectacular South Africa, or Very Best of South Africa holiday to Victoria Falls your visa can be arranged on arrival at Victoria Falls Airport, together with payment. If you are travelling to Victoria Falls on our South African Rail Adventure, Rovos Rail will help facilitate whilst travelling onboard.

If you are only planning to visit Victoria Falls a single entry visa will be required. However, if you are considering taking our day excursion to Chobe National Park from Victoria Falls, or are booking our Chobe, or Victoria Falls & Chobe Holiday extension you must purchase a double entry visa for Zimbabwe.

Please note, visa requirements are subject to change. Distant Journeys will inform you of any changes.

Health & vaccinations

Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide and may change at any time. You should take health advice from your GP or local travel clinic about your specific needs as early as possible and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough (which may be a month or more prior to departure) to be fully effective by the date of travel.

In addition to the UK government's own travel advice website, we also recommend visiting the NHS Travel Vaccinations website, www.nhs.uk/conditions/travel-vaccinations for more information any required vaccinations.

Staysure™

Distant Journeys customers will benefit from a 15% saving on the base premium of Annual-Multi Trip or Single Trip policies booked through our insurance partner Staysure. For a no obligation quotation, call Staysure on Freephone 0800 652 1125, and quote reference DJ15 to be eligible for the 15% saving. Alternatively, visit our website distantjourneys.co.uk/insurance/

Travel insurance

We highly recommend that you take out sufficient and appropriate travel insurance. We recommend you do this at the time of booking so that in the event of cancellation, providing it is covered by your policy, your deposit (less any applicable excess) is protected. Distant Journeys work alongside Staysure to offer you a range of comprehensive single trip and annual multi-trip insurance policies.

Medication and pre-existing conditions

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions or walking difficulties, you should inform us at the time of booking. It is your responsibility to ensure that any medication you are carrying is permitted to be taken into the countries you are visiting. We recommend you consult with your GP and relevant embassy before booking or travelling. Always carry medicines in their original, labelled packaging and in your hand-luggage along with a copy of your prescription. Whilst we recommend only carrying enough for the duration of your time away, a small spare supply can be useful. Check that the expiry dates of your medicines will be valid for the duration of your visit abroad.

Mobility on tour

Many of our itineraries include sightseeing tours which involve walking for medium to long periods of time and over uneven surfaces. Steps may also feature, either as part of a tour or within your accommodation. For your enjoyment we recommend a reasonable level of fitness and mobility is required for all tours.

Due to the limited accessibility to many of the sights and restrictions on included activities, our tours are generally not suitable for wheelchair bound customers or customers with restricted walking abilities. Both Rovos Rail and the Blue Train are unfortunately unable to accommodate the use of wheelchairs on their trains.

If you are in any doubt of the suitability of any of our tours, or have reduced mobility in any way, it is essential you discuss this with us before making a booking.

Travel documents

On payment of a deposit, your holiday is confirmed and we will send you your confirmation email. It is important you check this email as soon as you receive it. Check the tour name and departure date is correct, check names exactly match your passport and familiarise yourself with the times of your flights. If anything is incorrect, please call us immediately.

Your full travel documents which include electronic tickets, a final itinerary, luggage labels and holiday information booklet will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to your departure.

Weather

Generally, all our tours travel when it is considered the best time to travel, however it is important to note that climates may vary between different regions so the weather may vary throughout your tour. As weather patterns around the world are becoming less predictable the information we provide should be used as a guide only and is no guarantee of the weather at the time you travel. We also recommend checking up-to-date weather forecasts before you travel.

Botswana

Similar to Zimbabwe the weather is generally hot and humid, with the rainy season bringing some cooler temperatures and the occasional rain shower in late October to November. January and February are the wettest months, characterised by torrential downpours in the afternoon. In March and April, the rainfall reduces. The temperature remains hot during the day but tends to be cooler at night.

eSwatini

Our African Rail Adventure visits October-April, which is classed as the summer months. Generally, during this period whilst hot and sometimes wet the vegetation is green and there is abundant birdlife.

Mozambique

Mozambique has a subtropical climate. The dry season lasts from April to December, with temperatures between 25°C and 32°C, the rainy season January to March.

South Africa

As a general guide, in the Western Cape areas of Cape Town and the Garden Route, summers tend to be warm, cooled by ocean breezes, with rain falling occasionally. Umhlanga and Bayala, found in KwaZulu-Natal can have very hot summers and you should consider adequate protection. Johannesburg and Pretoria are situated at altitude on the highveld plateau and generally enjoy a hot climate with the occasional thunderstorm. Due to the altitude evenings can be a little cooler.

Zimbabwe

Between September and November, this is the end of the dry season and the weather is generally hot and humid. The falls are at their lowest level, which gives excellent visibility from the Zimbabwe side. Rains in late October and November transform a dry, dusty terrain into a lush, green oasis. In January to March the height of the summer and rainy season can produce dramatic thunderstorms in the afternoons due to the hot and humid weather. The falls are in full flow, some views can be limited due to the mist produced by the falls.

Clothing

Dress for our tours is generally relaxed and informal during the day, dressing to suit the weather conditions and the activity you are undertaking. Evening dinners are also informal, with smart casual dress being the norm. Whilst on safari in South Africa, is it recommended to wear natural colours such as khaki, green or beige as bright colours can attract insects and cause diversions for the wildlife.

It's likely there will be occasions when exploring you'll be walking on uneven surfaces, so we recommend sturdy and comfortable walking shoes. Wearing layers of clothing means it's much easier to deal with potentially varied weather conditions – remember it will be cooler at higher altitudes - and it's always advisable to carry a waterproof, good insect repellent, a high factor sunscreen lotion and a hat for protection from the sun.

Rovos Rail and Blue Train: If travelling on Rovos Rail, or the Blue Train, evening attire is more formal – for gentlemen, a jacket and tie is a minimum requirement, while for ladies a cocktail / evening dress or suit is suggested. On our African Rail Adventure there will be occasional themed evenings where guests can dress up accordingly or opt for smart casual.

Bear in mind some countries you will visit adopt a more conservative standard of dress than we are used to in the UK. When visiting sacred places, it is recommended that arms and legs are covered. Women may also wish to take a shawl to cover their shoulders and all visitors should wear long trousers, or skirts or shorts that reach below the knee. Taking off your shoes is also a prerequisite before entering many sacred places.

Currency, credit cards and currency cards

Country	Currency	Additional Information
Botswana	Botswana Pula	Botswana Pula cannot be obtained before entering Botswana
South Africa	Rand	
Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Dollar	Zimbabwe dollar cannot be obtained before entering Zimbabwe.

If travelling on our African Rail Adventure when visiting eSwatini and Mozambique, USD will be accepted.

No matter which country you are travelling to please take note of the following general advice:

- ATMs are generally available in major cities, less so in rural areas.
- Credit cards are generally widely accepted in the majority of hotels, cruises, larger international restaurants and shops, although be aware credit card payments may incur an additional fee.
- If purchasing small items or purchasing from local shops, restaurants and markets, local currency is always recommended.
- Outside of major cities, with the exception of hotels, local currency is always recommended.
- If you are planning to use your debit or credit card whilst travelling, advise your bank of your travel plans in advance so you do not encounter potential problems when trying to withdraw cash or make a payment.
- When you change money, ask for some small bills and keep these, along with coins separate from the larger ones, so that they're readily accessible. Carrying small notes and coins separately is also handy for tipping.
- It is always worth carrying a small amount of UK Sterling or US Dollars as these can always be readily exchanged.
- Keep your exchange receipts as these may be needed if you want to exchange any remaining currency you have at the end of your trip.

Currency Cards

In addition to using Credit and Debit cards, a currency card is also a popular way of buying currency for your holiday. You can preload these before leaving the UK and many also offer advantageous exchange rates. If travelling to multiple countries, different currencies can be loaded and used for card payments or ATM cash withdrawals.

We recommend the Revolut card, which offers 150 currencies and enjoys favourable exchange rates, making it a perfect card to use for any card payments, such as hotels and restaurants. You can withdraw cash from ATMs whilst abroad, but there is a limit of £200 per month, before paying a 2% fee.

For further benefits on using currency cards, more information on Revolut please visit <https://www.distantjourneys.co.uk/revolutcurrency-card>

Tipping

Tipping is common practice in most destinations in Africa and should ideally be paid in the local currency. For restaurants 10%-15% is the norm unless a service fee has been added to your bill. Hotel porters would normally expect a tip of approx. 10-20 Rand. If you wish to tip other hotel staff, similar amounts should be offered. It is customary to tip safari guides an estimated ZAR150 (US\$10) per guest.

When travelling on the Blue Train or Rovos Rail, gratuities for the staff are at your discretion. Should you wish to tip generally there will be a staff collection box (or similar) so that tips may be shared amongst all onboard staff. A suggested amount would be between ZAR100-300 (US\$10-20) per person per night.

Baggage allowance

You're entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44lbs). Please be aware that in most instances, this will be less than the airlines' permitted allowance. Luggage is restricted to accommodate for coach capacity, domestic flights and where applicable local health and safety laws. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried.

Personal and valuable items such as cameras, medication, money / credit cards etc. should be carried in a travel bag or on your person.

Airline seats

With many airlines you can pre-book your seats prior to check in to give you a wider choice of seat selection. Please note, many airlines now charge for this service. Pre-selected seating is not guaranteed and can be charged at the airlines discretion.

Domestic flights

All domestic flights within our tours are booked on a group basis. Your tour manager will fully assist with the check-in process for these flights.

Freedom Days

During your tour, you can book a range of additional optional excursions and activities. These are at an additional cost, subject to availability and seasonal operations, and may be subject to minimum/maximum numbers. Where possible we allow for these to be booked locally with your Tour Manager, however, in some instances pre-booking will be required. When booking locally, in some countries these excursions can only be paid for in cash.

Details on the Freedom Day experiences available for your tour, along with costs and information on how to book, may be found on our website alongside the itineraries of each individual tour.

Public holidays

On occasions some of our tours may be travelling during National or Public Holidays, some of which are religious. In some instances, this can mean a limitation of services, or reduced opening hours for shops and restaurants. Alternatively, it may mean that some attractions are much busier than normal. For more detailed information, please refer to the Distant Journeys website.

Seat rotation on coaches

On group tours we offer a fair system of seat rotation to allow all passengers to experience a variety of views. Exceptions cannot be made to this policy.

Smoking

Smoking, including electronic cigarettes, is not allowed at any time onboard our coaches or any flight. Within hotels, smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes may be restricted to designated areas. We'll endeavour to ensure there are frequent stops on any coach trip, however we can't guarantee smoking facilities will always be available. It is also worth noting some countries are beginning to ban the use of electronic cigarettes. We recommend you check for up-to-date information before you travel.

Tour Manager

An experienced English-speaking Tour Manager accompanies our Spectacular South Africa and Very Best of South Africa Holidays. They are there to ensure your comfort, answer your questions and make your holiday relaxed and memorable. If you are travelling on our Africa Rail Adventure, your pre/post train journey will be managed by an English-speaking local guide/drive. Upon check-in with Rovos, you will be looked after by the Rovos Rail Train Manager and their crew.

Please note that if you are extending your holiday to Victoria Falls or Chobe you will be looked after by an experienced English-speaking local guide.

Travel extras

Distant Journeys offer you a range of travel extras – from airport transfers, or airport parking and hotels, to security fast track and airport lounges. For more information and prices on the range of extras available to book, please visit the Distant Journeys website.

Further information

The information provided here is as a general guide only. For more detailed information please refer to our FAQ section on our website www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements 2018

Part 1: General

The combination of travel services offered to you is a package within the meaning of the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018. Therefore you will benefit from all EU rights applying to the packages. We, Distant Journeys Limited, a company registered in England with company number 08994196 and registered office at 8 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AY, will be fully responsible for the proper performance of the package as a whole. Additionally, as required by law, we have protection in place to refund your payments and, where transport is included in the package, to ensure your repatriation in the event that we become insolvent.

Part 2: Key rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018

- Travellers will receive all essential information about the package before concluding the package travel contract.
- There is always at least one trader who is liable for the proper performance of all the travel services included in the contract.
- Travellers are given an emergency telephone number or details of a contact point where they can get in touch with the organiser or the travel agent.
- Travellers may transfer the package to another person, on reasonable notice and possibly subject to additional costs.
- The price of the package may only be increased if specific costs rise (for instance fuel prices), and if expressly provided for in the contract, and in any event not later than 20 days before the start of the package. If the price increase exceeds 8% of the price of the package, the traveller may terminate the contract. If the organiser reserves the right to a price increase, the traveller has a right to a price reduction if there is a decrease in the relevant costs.
- Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee and get a full refund of any payments if any of the essential elements of the package, other than the price, has changed significantly. If before the start of the package the trader responsible for the package cancels the package, travellers are entitled to a refund and compensation where appropriate.
- Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee before the start of the package in the event of exceptional circumstances, for instance if there are serious security problems at the destination which are likely to affect the package.
- Additionally, travellers may at any time before the start of the package terminate the contract in return for an appropriate and justifiable termination fee.
- If, after the start of the package, significant elements of the package cannot be provided as agreed, suitable alternative arrangements will have to be offered to the traveller at no extra cost. Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee, where services are not performed in accordance with the contract and this substantially affects the performance of the package and the organiser fails to remedy the problem.
- Travellers are also entitled to a price reduction or compensation for damages or both where the travel services are not performed or are improperly performed.
- The organiser has to provide assistance if the traveller is in difficulty.
- If the organiser becomes insolvent, payments will be refunded. If the organiser becomes insolvent after the start of the package and if transport is included in the package, repatriation of the travellers is secured. Distant Journeys Limited has taken out insolvency protection for flight-only booking and flight inclusive packages by way of our Air Travel Organiser's Licence number 10913, issued by the Civil Aviation Authority, Gatwick Airport South, West Sussex, RH6 0YR, UK, telephone 0333 103 6350, email: claims@caa.co.uk. For package holidays which don't include flights, Distant Journeys provides full financial protection by way of a bond held by The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT) (ABTOT membership number 5427) and in the event of their insolvency. You may contact ABTOT'S 24/7 helpline on 01702 811397 and advise you are a customer of an ABTOT protected travel company. Travellers may contact this entity if services are denied because of Distant Journeys Limited's insolvency. Please see our Booking Conditions for further information.

Part 3: The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 can be found here:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/634/contents/made> as amended
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1367/contents/made>

Terms & Conditions

1. Important

The following Terms & Conditions together with our Privacy Policy, the general information contained in our tour brochure and any other written information we brought to your attention before we confirmed your booking form the basis of your contract with Distant Journeys Limited, a company registered in England with company number 08994196 and registered office at 8 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AY ("we", "us", "our"). Please read them carefully as they set out our respective rights and obligations. In these Terms & Conditions references to "you" and "your" include the first named person on the booking and all persons on whose behalf a booking is made or any other person to whom a booking is added or transferred.

Except where otherwise stated, these Terms & Conditions only apply to the tour arrangements shown in our brochure (including accommodation required both before and after your main holiday and activities and other services) which you book with us and pay for before departure from the UK and which we agree to make, provide or perform (as applicable) as part of our contract with you.

All references in these Terms & Conditions to "holiday", "booking", "tour" or "arrangements" mean such tour arrangements unless otherwise stated. All bookings are made pursuant to these Terms & Conditions. **Please be aware that your deposit is non-refundable, (unless stated otherwise in our Covid-19 Guarantee, see clause 11).**

By making a booking, the first named person on the booking agrees on behalf of all persons detailed on the booking that:

- he/she has read these Terms & Conditions and has the authority to and does agree to be bound by them;
- he/she consents to our use of information and personal data in accordance with our Privacy Policy and is authorised on behalf of all persons named on the booking to disclose their personal details to us, including where applicable special categories of data (such as information on health conditions or disabilities and dietary requirements);
- he/she is over 18 years of age and resident in the United Kingdom and where placing an order for services with age restrictions declares that he/she and all members of the party are of the appropriate age to purchase those services;
- he/she accepts financial responsibility for payment of the booking on behalf of all persons detailed on the booking.

2. In these Terms & Conditions

- Unless these Terms & Conditions state otherwise, any reference to European Union law and/or International Conventions in these Terms & Conditions, that is directly applicable or directly effective in the United Kingdom is a reference to how it applies in England and Wales. This includes where the law has been retained, amended, extended, re-enacted or given effect on or after 11pm on 31st January 2020 (including the transition period).
- "Force Majeure" means any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events are likely to include, but are not limited to (whether actual or threatened) war, terrorism, fire, chemical or biological disaster, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination, epidemics, plagues or pandemics (including, but not limited to the ongoing effects of Covid-19 and/or any other strain of the coronavirus) or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely to the travel destination or remain at the travel destination, loss of power, industrial disputes, slow-downs or other strike activities, riots or civil disturbances, acts of government, government agencies or other authorities, inability to obtain any necessary licence or consent through no fault of ours and any other event or circumstances beyond the control of us or any supplier of any part of your tour.

Brexit implications; please note that certain travel arrangements may be affected as a result of the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union. This could include an unavailability of certain flight routes, access to certain ports and airports and changes to the visa requirements of British citizens travelling to, within or through the EU. Please rest assured that this is something we will continue to monitor and will advise our customers as soon as possible if we become aware of any confirmed bookings that will be affected. However, since this is something which is completely unprecedented and outside our control, we would treat any such changes as Force Majeure, and whilst we will endeavour to provide suitable alternative arrangements or refunds where possible, we will not be liable to pay you any compensation.

3. Fitness to travel, disabilities and medical problems

Many of our itineraries include sightseeing tours which may involve walking for medium to long periods of time and over uneven surfaces. Steps may also feature, either as part of a tour or within your accommodation. Different modes of transport, such as, safari vehicles, rickshaws, trains and houseboats may also be used.

This is not an exhaustive list and it is therefore a condition of booking that you are fit and able to take care of yourself for the duration of the tour and recognise that if you do have any disabilities or walking difficulties you may find access to certain attractions restricted.

If you are in any doubt of your suitability for any of our tours, have reduced mobility in any way, have any medical condition, or any special requirements as a result of any medical condition or disability (including any which affect the booking process), it is essential you discuss this with us before making a booking so that we can assist you in considering the suitability of the arrangements and/or making the booking.

We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance to a passenger for walking, dining, pushing their wheelchair, getting on and off motor coaches or other transportation vehicles or other personal needs. Therefore, passengers who need such assistance, or passengers with disabilities or special needs must be accompanied by a companion capable of providing all assistance required.

We reserve the right to refuse to carry any person who we deem cannot fully care for themselves on tour without assistance or whenever we reasonably feel unable to accommodate the needs or restrictions of any particular passenger. You must also notify us of any changes or deterioration in the disability or medical condition or development of any disability or medical condition after booking.

We further reserve the right to cancel your booking and impose cancellation fees if we are not fully advised of any relevant disability or medical condition at the time the booking is made and/or promptly notified of any development, change or deterioration occurring after booking. On occasions, the decision to cancel can only be made at the time the person concerned joins the tour as it may only be apparent at this stage that their disability or medical condition cannot be accommodated.

Any passenger affected by a disability or medical condition must ensure they have notified this to their travel insurers and that their travel insurance will cover it. We may refuse to allow you on the tour or may have to terminate your participation in your tour if your mental or physical condition is such as to render you, in the reasonable opinion of any representative of ours or any carrier or other person in authority, incapable of caring for yourself or a hazard to yourself or other passengers.

We will not be liable for any expenses arising from your being precluded from joining or completing the tour for any such reason and no refunds or compensation will be paid.

Mobility aids

If you are planning to take a mobility scooter or other mobility aid please be aware each airline has their own restrictions in regards to what they will carry. This can include, but is not limited to, battery wattage, size and weight. It is your responsibility to ensure you have checked that you meet the airlines requirements. We cannot accept any liability if you are refused boarding or unable to take intended equipment.

Destination specific terms

We use different suppliers in each of the destinations in which we offer tours. Some of the suppliers which we use are unfortunately unable to accommodate particular disabilities or medical issues and we have set out a brief description of these below:

Africa Tours: Rovos Rail and the Blue Train are unfortunately unable to accommodate the use of wheelchairs on their trains.

Please Note: The above is not an exhaustive list and we would still strongly advise that you contact us to discuss any disability which you have so that we can ensure that your chosen tour is suitable for your needs

4. Minimum number of bookings

The operation of all tours is conditional on us securing the minimum number of bookings required to operate the tour. Unless notified otherwise, the minimum number which we aim for in respect of each tour is 15 travellers, or if travelling to Japan, the minimum number is 20 travellers. For Private Tours, Holiday Extensions and our African Rail Adventure, the minimum number is 2 travellers. For Solo Tours, the minimum number is 10 travellers. Where sufficient numbers cannot be achieved, we reserve the right to cancel or change a scheduled tour. Please also see clause 14. We will endeavour to make any decision to cancel or significantly change a tour no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date of the tour but in any event will notify you no less than 30 days prior to the departure date of the tour.

Please also see **clause 14**. We will endeavour to make any decision to cancel or significantly change a tour no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date of the tour but in any event will notify you no less than 30 days prior to the departure date of the tour.

5. Special requests

If you have any special requests (including dietary requirements) you must notify us at the time of booking. Whilst every effort will be made by us to try and arrange your reasonable special requests, we cannot guarantee that they will be fulfilled. Failure to meet any special request will not be a breach of contract by us unless the request has been specifically confirmed by us. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier of any service(s) or the inclusion of the special request on your confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed by us in writing, all special requests are subject to availability. We cannot accept any conditional bookings, i.e. any booking which is specified to be conditional on the

fulfilment of a particular request. All such bookings will be treated as "standard" bookings subject to the above provisions on special requests.

If you have any food allergies which may cause significant health issues, you must tell us before you confirm your booking. Whilst our partners will try to accommodate any such requests, it is your responsibility to ensure that you actively avoid any food you are allergic to and make all appropriate enquiries to establish the ingredients contained within any food. The supplier is not under any obligation to prepare or provide special meals.

6. Booking and making payment for your arrangements

To secure any booking, you must pay the applicable deposit or full payment if booking 90 days or less before the start of the tour. Unless otherwise notified to you in writing by us, with the exception of tours to India and Sri Lanka, the deposit for each booking is £1,000 per person if travelling in economy flight class, £1,950 if travelling premium economy flight class, or £3,750 per person if in business flight class. If booking a tour to India or Sri Lanka, the deposit for each booking is £500 per if travelling in economy flight class, £1,000 if travelling premium economy flight class, or £1,500 per person if in business flight class. Where fares are higher than our standard rates, an additional deposit may be required. We reserve the right to return your deposit and decline to issue a booking confirmation at our absolute discretion. The deposit or full payment, as applicable, must be received by us within 7 days of booking to ensure your place on the tour is held. Bookings will be automatically cancelled if the applicable deposit or full payment, as applicable, is not received by us within this 7-day period and we will have no further liability to you. We will not refund your deposit in such circumstances. Deposits are non transferable and non-refundable except as expressly set out in these Terms & Conditions. We therefore recommend that you have adequate insurance to cover this.

The balance of the tour price (after deduction of the applicable deposit) must be received by us no less than 90 days prior to the start of your tour. If we do not receive all payments due (including any surcharge where applicable) in full and on time, we are entitled to believe that you wish to cancel your booking. In this case, we will be entitled to keep all deposits paid or due at that date. If we do not cancel straight away because you have promised to make payment, you must pay the cancellation fees shown in clause 15 depending on the date we reasonably treat your booking as cancelled.

Please Note: If you are a single passenger, unless travelling on one of our Solo Tours, the applicable single supplement will be added to your invoice at the time of your booking. We will aim to accommodate single passengers in twin or double rooms, with single occupancy.

7. Your contract

Subject to availability we will confirm your booking by issuing our confirmation invoice. This invoice will be sent to the lead name on the booking ("Lead Name"). If your confirmed arrangements include a flight, we will also issue you with an ATOL Certificate. Upon receipt, if you believe that any details on the ATOL Certificate or confirmation invoice or any other document are wrong you must advise us immediately as changes cannot be made later and it may harm your rights if we are not notified of any inaccuracies in any document within ten days of our sending it out (five days for tickets).

A binding contract between you and us comes into existence when we dispatch our confirmation invoice for all bookings.

8. Law and jurisdiction

We both agree that English law (and no other) will apply to your contract and to any dispute, claim or other matter of any description which arises between us ("claim") (except as set out below). We both also agree that any claim (and whether or not involving any personal injury) must be dealt with by the Courts of England and Wales only unless, in the case of court proceedings, you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland. In this case, proceedings must either be brought in the courts of your home country or those of England and Wales. If proceedings are brought in Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may choose to have your contract and any claim governed by the law of Scotland/Northern Ireland as applicable (but if you do not so choose, English law will apply).

9. Your obligations whilst on tour

- You must follow the Tour Manager's instructions at all times to ensure on tour safety. You acknowledge that failure to do so may result in restricted access to places of interest on tour or, if necessary for your own safety and/or that of other passengers, withdrawal from the tour. On Private Tours, your obligation is to the appropriate Distant Journeys representative, be that a local guide, or driver guide.
- All our customers are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly and acceptable manner and not to disrupt the enjoyment of others. If we, or our staff or suppliers, are of the view you are negatively affecting your own health, safety or environment or that of other passengers, we can oblige you to withdraw from the tour immediately and we will terminate your booking with us with immediate effect. We will have no further obligations to you and/or your party and we will not be liable to you for any loss, cost or damage resulting from your withdrawal. If you are withdrawn from the tour, you must make your own return travel arrangements at your own expense.

No refunds for lost accommodation or any other arrangements will be made. You and/or your party may also be required to pay for loss and/or damage caused by your actions and we will hold you and each member of your party jointly and individually liable for any damage or losses caused by you or any member of your party. Full payment for any such damage or losses must be paid directly to the hotel manager or other supplier prior to departure. If you fail to make payment, you will be responsible for meeting any claims (including legal costs) subsequently made against us as a result of your actions together with all costs we incur in pursuing any claim against you.

- You must make your own enquiries regarding your tour, including being aware of any relevant government travel or safety warnings.

10. Tour price

Prices shown in our brochures and on the website are believed correct at the time of publication. We reserve the right to alter our advertised (brochure or website) tour prices, introduce supplements or correct pricing errors at any time before your booking is confirmed. We also reserve the right to correct any errors in any tour price and not be legally bound in the case of incorrect pricing and acknowledgement of such an error does not mean acceptance of it. We will advise you of any error of which we are aware and of the revised applicable price at the time of booking. Once the tour price has been confirmed at the time of booking, clause 11 below will apply.

11. Price Promise and Covid Guarantee

Early booking offers: Whilst we may offer promotional discounts and/or additional inclusions on some tours, these offers reduce in value closer to the departure date meaning the earlier you book the better offer you will receive. Last minute discounts: It is our policy never to sell any holiday cheaper than originally advertised. In the unlikely event we reduce the price of your holiday to below what you have already paid (after any discounts have been applied), we will contact you to refund the difference. **No surcharges*:** We guarantee that no surcharge will be added to the basic price of your holiday once your booking has been confirmed, irrespective of any fluctuation in currency exchange rates, increases in international included economy air fares, or increases in other costs associated with your holiday other than the circumstances set out in the paragraph below which are expressly excluded from the price promise. In return for this guarantee and its risk to us, we shall not be able to make any refunds in the event of favourable exchange rate variations or other decreases in costs which would otherwise result in the reduction of the selling price except for the circumstances identified in the paragraph below.

Price match: Price match applies to an identical holiday operated by another tour operator (excluding travel agents and arrangements made independently) at the same or a lower price within 7 days of booking with us. By 'identical holiday', we mean one which: (i) departs on the same day from the same airport, with the same flight number and carrier, (ii) visits the same destination(s) for the same duration and offers the same number of included excursions/meals, (iii) features the same accommodation and board basis, and (iv) utilises the same services of a Tour Manager. If this happens we will refund the difference between the cost of the holiday you have booked with us and the price of the identical holiday offered by the competitor. Plus, we will give you £200 per person towards a future booking. Our Price Promise applies once a booking is confirmed and a contract exists between us. It applies to tour prices only and does not include ad hoc or optional services such as airline upgrades, holiday additions, extended stays or regional connecting flights. Additionally, this price promise does not apply to optional services including, but not limited to; visa charges, excursions and amendment fees.

***Exclusion:** The price promise excludes surcharges which are a direct consequence of changes in the level of taxes, fuel surcharges or fees chargeable for services applicable to the holiday imposed by third parties not directly involved in the performance of the holiday, including, but not limited to, tourist taxes, landing taxes, embarkation or disembarkation fees at ports and airports or airline fuel surcharges. Where such circumstances apply, you will be charged for the amount of any increase in accordance with this clause. However, if this means that you have to pay an increase of more than 8% of the price of your confirmed holiday (excluding any insurance premiums, amendment charges and/or additional services or travel arrangements), you will have the option of accepting a change to another holiday if we are able to offer one (if this is of lower quality you will be refunded the difference in price), or cancelling and receiving a full refund of all monies paid to us, except for any insurance premiums and any amendment charges and/or additional services or travel arrangements. Should you decide to cancel for this reason, you must exercise your right to do so within 7 days from the issue date printed on your final invoice. We will consider an appropriate refund of insurance premiums paid if you can show that you are unable to transfer or reuse your policy. Should the price of your holiday go down due to the changes mentioned above, then any refund due will be paid to you less an administrative fee of £25. There will be no change made to the price of your confirmed holiday within 20 days of your departure nor will refunds be paid during this period.

Covid Guarantee: If Distant Journeys is unable to operate your tour as planned due to Covid-19 (a Force Majeure event), we will notify you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before your departure date, and if available, Distant Journeys will offer you the following options:

- (for significant changes to your tour) accepting a change to your tour (including, but not limited to, changes to certain arrangements that make up your tour, a change to another tour or deferring your tour to a later departure date); or
- purchasing alternative arrangements from Distant Journeys, of a similar standard to those booked if available, with you paying a supplement if the alternative arrangements are more

expensive than those originally booked (you will receive a refund if you select an alternative which is of lower value); or

- cancelling or accepting the cancellation of your tour and receiving a full refund of all monies you have paid to Distant Journeys, in accordance with these Terms & Conditions.

The above options will not be available where any change made to your tour as a result of Covid-19 is considered a minor change (please see clause 14).

Please note that before you travel you should ensure that you and each member of your party have obtained adequate travel insurance (see clause 18). Where you and/or a member of your party are forced to cancel your tour due to contracting Covid-19, we will be unable to refund any monies paid (outside the scope of our Terms & Conditions) and will direct you to your travel insurer.

12. Tour features

The features of the tour are set out in the tour brochure. We make no representations about the features of any tour other than those expressly set out in the tour brochure and these terms and conditions.

13. Brochure validity

The tour brochure and these Terms & Conditions are valid for the departure dates as stated in the tour brochure, or additional departure dates we may introduce, unless otherwise expressly advised by us.

14. Variation or cancellation by us

As we plan your holiday arrangements many months in advance we may occasionally have to make changes or cancel your booking and we reserve the right to do so at any time. We reserve the right to alter or change the accommodation, carriers, vehicles, vessels or any other service(s) which form part of any tour at any time for any reason and cancel or alter the itinerary and/or tour at any time without notice as we consider necessary for any reason whatsoever including road, weather or traffic conditions, non-performance of suppliers, industrial action, operational conditions and requirements, water level problems, excessive winds or Force Majeure. Errors in the details of advertised and/or confirmed tours and/or other details occasionally occur and we reserve the right to correct these whenever they occur.

- In the event of industrial action affecting air, rail, cruise or other tour related transportation we will make every effort to contact the lead name and advise of alternative arrangements (if any).
- Most changes made to a confirmed tour are minor. If we make a minor change to your holiday, we will make reasonable efforts to inform you as soon as reasonably possible if there is time before your departure but we will have no liability to you. Examples of minor changes include alteration of your outward/return flights and/or coach journeys by less than 12 hours, changes to aircraft type, change of accommodation to another of the same or higher standard, changes of carriers. Please note that carriers such as airlines used in the brochure may be subject to change.
- Occasionally, we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour and we reserve the right to do so. A significant change is a change made before departure which, taking account of the information you give us at the time of booking or which we can reasonably be expected to know as a tour operator, we can reasonably expect to have a significant effect on your tour. Examples of "significant changes" include the following, when made before departure:
 - A change of accommodation area for the whole or a significant part of your time away.
 - A change of accommodation to that of a lower standard or classification for the whole or a significant part of your time away.
 - A change of outward departure time or overall length of your arrangements by more than 12 hours.
 - A change of UK departure airport except between:
 - The London airports: Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Stansted, London City and Southend
 - The South Coast airports: Southampton, Bournemouth and Exeter
 - The South Western airports: Cardiff and Bristol
 - The Midlands airports: Birmingham, East Midlands and Doncaster Sheffield
 - The Northern airports: Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds Bradford
 - The North Eastern airports: Newcastle and Teesside
 - The Scottish airports: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Prestwick and Aberdeen
- A significant change to your itinerary, missing out one or more destination entirely.

We will not cancel your travel arrangements less than 90 days before your departure date, except for reasons of Force Majeure, failure by you to pay the final balance or where the minimum number of clients required for a particular tour is not reached.

- If we have to make a significant change or cancel, we will tell you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before departure, you will be offered the following options:
 - (for significant changes) accepting the changed arrangements; or
 - purchasing alternative arrangements from us, of a similar standard to those booked if available, with you paying a supplement if the alternative arrangements are more expensive than those originally booked (you will receive a refund if you select an alternative which is of lower value); or

- cancelling or accepting the cancellation and receiving a full refund of all monies you have paid to us.
- You must notify us of your choice within 7 days of our offer. If we do not hear from you within 7 days, we will contact you again to request notification of your choice.

If you fail to respond again, we will assume that you have chosen to accept the change or alternative booking arrangements. Please note, the above options are not available where any change made is a minor one.

- If we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour, we will in addition to the options set out above pay you reasonable compensation in the following circumstances:
 - If, where we make a significant change, you do not accept the changed arrangements and cancel your booking; or
 - If we cancel your booking and no alternative arrangements are available and/or we do not offer one.The compensation that we offer does not exclude you from claiming more if you are entitled to do so.

Period before departure within which notice of Cancellation or major change is notified to you	Compensation payable per person booking
91 days or more	Nil
75 - 90 days prior to departure	£10
60 - 74 days prior to departure	£20
30 - 59 days prior to departure	£30
Less than 30 days prior to departure	£40

IMPORTANT NOTE: We will not pay you compensation in the following circumstances:

- where we make a minor change;
- where we make a significant change or cancel your arrangements more than 90 days before departure;
- where we make a significant change and you accept those changed arrangements or you accept an offer of alternative travel arrangements;
- where we have to cancel your arrangements as a result of your failure to make full payment on time;
- where the change or cancellation by us arises out of alterations to the confirmed booking requested by you;
- where we cancel due to insufficient bookings;
- where we are forced to cancel or change your arrangements due to Force Majeure.

Very rarely, we may become unable to provide a significant proportion of the arrangements that you have booked with us after you have departed. If that occurs we will, if possible, make alternative arrangements for you at no extra charge and where those alternative arrangements are of a lower standard, provide you with an appropriate price reduction.

15. Amendment or cancellation by you

If you wish to make any amendments to your confirmed booking you must notify us in writing as soon as possible. Whilst we will do our best to assist, it may not always be possible to make such amendments. Where we can, an amendment fee of £75 per person will be payable together with any costs incurred by ourselves and any costs or charges incurred or imposed by any of our suppliers in making this change. You should be aware that these costs could increase the closer to the departure date that changes are made and you should contact us as soon as possible. A change of tour dates will normally be treated as a cancellation of the original booking and rebooking in which case cancellation fees will apply. Changes may result in the recalculation of the tour price where, for example, the basis on which the price of the original tour was calculated has changed. Where we are unable to assist you and you do not wish to proceed with the original booking we will treat this as a cancellation by you. A cancellation fee may be payable in accordance with these Terms & Conditions.

Transfer of booking:

If you or any member of your party is prevented from travelling, that person(s) may transfer their place to someone else, subject to the following conditions:

- that person is introduced by you and satisfies all the conditions applicable to the holiday;
- we are notified not less than 7 days before departure;
- you pay any outstanding balance payment, an amendment fee of £75 per person transferring, as well as any additional fees, charges or other costs arising from the transfer; and
- the transferee agrees to these Terms & Conditions and all other terms of the contract between us.

You and the transferee remain jointly and severally liable for payment of all sums. If you are unable to find a replacement, cancellation fees as set out below will apply in order to cover our estimated costs. Otherwise, no refunds will be given for passengers not travelling or for unused services.

Important Note: Certain arrangements may not be amended or transferred after they have been confirmed and any alteration could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements. Air Passenger Duty will always be non-refundable.

You may cancel your booking by notice to us in writing, this may be by letter or email, and payment of the applicable cancellation fee as shown below. Cancellation notifications are not effective until received by us in writing (if received by us on a weekend day or public holiday the notification will be treated as having been received by us on the next working day). Should one or more member of a party cancel, it may increase the per person holiday price of those still travelling and you will be liable to pay this increase.

The following cancellation fees apply to each individual person who cancels and where shown as a percentage are based on the total cost of the arrangements which are being cancelled excluding any insurance premiums, amendment fee or previously incurred cancellation fees which are all non-refundable in the event of your cancellation:

Cancellation fees

Period before your tour commences within which written notification of cancellation is received by us:

Tour cancellation period	Fee per person
More than 90 days prior to departure	Loss of Deposit
90 days to 75 days prior to departure	50% of holiday price
74 days to 60 days prior to departure	60% of holiday price
59 days to 30 days prior to departure	75% of holiday price
30 days prior to departure or less	100% of holiday price

NB Transferring to another departure date is highly likely to be treated as a cancellation by our suppliers and the cancellation fees above will apply. Depending on the reason for cancellation, you may be able to reclaim these cancellation charges (less any applicable excess) under the terms of your insurance policy. Claims must be made directly to the insurance company concerned.

Important Note: Certain arrangements may not be amended or transferred after they have been confirmed and any alteration could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements. Air Passenger Duty will always be non-refundable.

Cancellation by you due to unavoidable & extraordinary circumstances:

You have the right to cancel your confirmed holiday before departure without paying a cancellation charge in the event of “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances” occurring at your holiday destination or its immediate vicinity and significantly affecting the performance of the holiday or significantly affecting the transport arrangements to the destination. In these circumstances, we shall provide you with a full refund of the monies you have paid but we will not be liable to pay you any additional compensation. Please note that your right to cancel in these circumstances will only apply where the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office advises against travel to your destination or its immediate vicinity. For the purposes of this clause, “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances” means warfare, acts of terrorism, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely to the travel destination.

This clause 15 outlines the rights you have if you wish to cancel your booking. Please note that there is no automatic statutory right of cancellation under the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013.

16. Our liability

- (1) We will accept responsibility for the arrangements we agree to provide or arrange for you as an “organiser” under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 (as amended), as set out below and as such, we are responsible for the proper provision of all travel services included in your package, as set out in your confirmation invoice. Subject to these Terms & Conditions, if we or our suppliers negligently perform or arrange those services and we don't remedy or resolve your complaint within a reasonable period of time, and this has affected the enjoyment of your package holiday you may be entitled to an appropriate price reduction or compensation or both. You must inform us without undue delay of any failure to perform or improper performance of the travel services included in this package. The level of any such price reduction or compensation will be calculated taking into consideration all relevant factors such as but not limited to: following the complaints procedure as described in these Terms & Conditions and the extent to which ours or our employees' or suppliers' negligence affected the overall enjoyment of your holiday. Please note that it is your responsibility to show that we or our supplier(s) have been negligent if you wish to make a claim against us.
- (2) We will not be responsible or pay you compensation for any injury, illness, death, loss, damage, expense, cost or other claim of any description if it results from:
 - a) the acts and/or omissions of the person affected; or
 - b) the acts and/or omissions of a third party unconnected with the provision of the services contracted for and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable; or
 - c) Force Majeure.
- (3) We limit the amount of compensation we may have to pay you if we are found liable under this clause:
 - a) loss of and/or damage to any luggage or mobility aids or personal possessions and money: the maximum amount we will have to pay you in respect of these claims is an amount equivalent to the excess on your insurance policy which applies to this type of loss per person in total because you are required to have adequate insurance in place to cover any losses of this kind.
 - b) Claims not falling under (a) above and which don't involve injury, illness or death: the maximum amount we will have to pay you in respect of these claims is up to three times the price paid by or on behalf of the person(s) affected in total. This maximum amount will only be payable where everything has gone wrong and you or your party has not received any benefit at all from your booking.
 - c) Claims in respect of international travel by air, sea and rail, or any stay in a hotel:

- I. Where applicable, the extent of our liability will in all cases be limited as if we were carriers under the appropriate Conventions, which include The Warsaw/Montreal Convention (international travel by air); The Athens Convention (with respect to sea travel); The Berne/Cotif Convention (with respect to rail travel) and The Paris Convention (with respect to hotel arrangements). You can ask for copies of these Conventions from our offices. Please contact us. In addition, you agree that the operating carrier or transport company's own 'Conditions of Carriage' will apply to you on that journey. When arranging transportation for you, we rely on the terms and conditions contained within these international conventions and those 'Conditions of Carriage'. You acknowledge that all of the terms and conditions contained in those 'Conditions of Carriage' form part of your contract with us, as well as with the transport company and that those 'Conditions of Carriage' shall be deemed to be included by reference into this contract.
- II. Where applicable, in any circumstances in which a carrier is liable to you by virtue of EC 261/2004 (denied boarding and flight disruption), any liability we may have to you under our contract with you, arising out of the same facts, is limited to the remedies provided under the Regulation as if (or for this purpose only) we were a carrier.
- III. When making any payment, we are entitled to deduct any money which you have received or are entitled to receive from the transport provider or hotelier for the complaint or claim in question.

- (4) It is a condition of our acceptance of liability under this clause that you notify any claim to us and our supplier(s) strictly in accordance with the complaints procedure set out in these conditions.
- (5) Where any payment is made, the person(s) receiving it (and their parent or guardian if under 18 years) must also assign to us or our insurers any rights they may have to pursue any third party and must provide ourselves and our insurers with all assistance we may reasonably require.
- (6) Please note, we cannot accept any liability for any damage, loss or expense or other sum(s) of any description:
 - a) which on the basis of the information given to us by you concerning your booking prior to our accepting it, we could not have foreseen you would suffer or incur if we breached our contract with you;
 - b) relate to any business;
 - c) indirect or consequential loss of any kind.
- (7) We will not accept responsibility for services or facilities which do not form part of our agreement or where they are not advertised in our brochure. For example any excursion you book whilst away, or any service or facility which your hotel or any other supplier agrees to provide for you.
- (8) Where it is impossible for you to return to your departure point as per the agreed return date of your package, due to “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances”, we shall provide you with any necessary accommodation (where possible, of a comparable standard) for a period not exceeding three nights per person. Please note that the 3 night cap does not apply to persons with reduced mobility, pregnant women or unaccompanied minors, nor to persons needing specific medical assistance, provided we have been notified of these particular needs at least 48 hours before the start of your holiday. For the purposes of this clause, “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances” mean warfare, acts of terrorism, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely back to your departure point.

17. Carriers

The applicable conditions of sale / carriage in use by the carriers will apply to you. These may limit or exclude the carriers' liability to you, usually in accordance with international conventions. Copies of these are available on request.

18. Risk and travel insurance

You acknowledge and accept that there are inherent risks associated with our tours, for example events of Force Majeure, hazards of travelling in undeveloped areas, travel by boat, train, automobile, aircraft or other means of transportation particularly in underdeveloped countries or more remote locations, forces of nature, political unrest and accident, illness, epidemics or pandemics in regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. We cannot accept any liability regarding the provision of medical care or the adequacy of any care that may be rendered where it is provided by third parties.

It is a condition of your booking and your responsibility to ensure that you have sufficient and valid travel insurance to cover your booking with us. We reserve the right to decline your booking if adequate proof of such current and valid travel insurance is not provided to us if requested. Please note that we do not check individual policies for suitability. We insist you take out appropriate travel insurance to cover as a minimum: pre-existing medical conditions, medical expenses, repatriation in the event of accident or illness, cancellation by you for any reason, cancellation charges, loss of luggage, early return following death of a relative as defined in the respective proposal forms or emergency repatriation, for example in the event of accident or illness. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance fully covers all your personal requirements and the specific risks outlined above. Please read your policy details carefully and take them with you on your tour. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance cover you purchase is suitable and adequate for your particular needs.

If you choose to travel without adequate insurance cover, we will not be liable for any losses no matter how arising, in respect of which insurance cover would otherwise have been available. If you have any questions, these should be raised with your travel insurance provider.

19. Itinerary changes and travel advice

During local or national holidays, certain facilities such as museums and restaurants, sightseeing tours and shopping may be limited or not available. Alternatives will be offered if possible.

Your safety is our first consideration and if the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) advises against travel to a certain country, we act on this advice. The FCDO issues regular advice and updates on its website www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice which you are recommended to consult before booking and in good time before departure. You are responsible for making yourself aware of FCDO advice in regard to the safety of the countries and areas in which you will be travelling and to make your decisions accordingly.

20. Baggage allowance

You are entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44 lbs). Hand luggage must have a total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 115cm (45 inches) and weight 5kg (11lbs). Personal and valuable items such as make-up, cameras, medication, passport, money/credit cards etc should be carried in a travel bag or on your person. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried. Some carriers may impose a small surcharge per day for a second suitcase per person. Excess baggage is always at your cost.

21. Young travellers

Travellers who are less than 16 years old on the departure date must be accompanied by and share a room with an adult aged 16 or over. Children under 8 years cannot be accepted on our tours, unless travelling on a private tour.

22. Complaints

If a problem occurs during your tour, you must advise our representative immediately so that steps can be taken to resolve the matter and you can continue to enjoy the remainder of your tour. You must also advise the supplier concerned. If your complaint is not resolved locally, please contact us by email at info@distantjourneys.co.uk or call 01695 577 961.

If you remain dissatisfied, any complaint must ideally be made in writing to us giving full details within 30 days of the end of the tour. If you fail to follow this procedure, your right to claim compensation you may otherwise have been entitled to may be affected or even lost as a result.

23. Tour price and duration

All prices in our brochure(s) are quoted in English pounds (Sterling). All prices in our brochure(s) are believed to be correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing but errors may occur and prices are subject to change. You must therefore ensure you check all details of your chosen tour (including the price) with us at the time of booking. The number of days duration stated in each itinerary includes day of departure and day of return. Tour durations may vary should you choose to have a stopover, and airline flight schedules and the itineraries in our brochure(s) should be used as a guide only.

24. Included in your fare

All airfares from the UK in economy class (unless specified at the time of booking), coach travel and overseas transfers* whilst travelling as part of the group or on one of our organised stopover programmes, service of a Tour Manager* or Coach Captain* (if applicable), portage whilst on tour, airport transfers, meals as specified, accommodation as specified (please note, the third bed in a triple room may be a rollaway bed), sightseeing and admissions and other services as expressly indicated in the itinerary. * Should you be travelling outside of the main group travel dates from or to the UK transfers are not included on any outbound or return stopovers. These are available to purchase at an additional cost. *On Private Tours, you will receive the services of a driver(s) and local guides, or a driver guide, as appropriate.

NOT included in your fare

Meals not specified in the itinerary, drinks unless specified in the itinerary, laundry, passport and visa fees, expenses of a personal nature and any other items which are not expressly included in the cost of your tour. Changes to flight schedules may require additional overnight accommodation at either commencement or completion of tour which is at your own expense.

25. Airfare conditions

Your Distant Journeys travel expert will book the most appropriate fare for your tour based on the information you provide to us. Full details and conditions may be obtained from your travel expert. Changes to original tickets will incur amendment or cancellation fees, are subject to availability and surcharges may apply. Please see clause 15 above. Please note: all airfares are subject to routing restrictions. Airfares and applicable taxes are subject to increase without notice due to fare and tax changes, surcharges dependent on class available at time of booking and other factors outside our control, subject to the provisions of clause 11 (Price Promise) above. Please contact your travel consultant for the applicable rules and regulations. At the time of booking please ensure you supply your first name and surname as they appear in your passport, as these must be stated on your flight ticket.

In some instances, the airline will also request your middle name. You may not be able to travel if the name on your passport and documents do not match. Any costs for ticket changes due to an incorrect name on paperwork which has been sent to you, will result in a cost which we will pass on to you.

26. Flights

For flight inclusive tours, the flight timings given on booking are for general guidance only and are subject to change. The latest timings will be shown on your confirmation documents. As flights only become available to book around 11 months in advance, we are only able to confirm upgrade prices at time of booking your flights. However, the actual flight times will be those shown on your tickets which will be dispatched to you approximately two weeks before departure. You must accordingly check your tickets very carefully immediately on receipt to ensure you have the correct flight times. It is possible that flight times may be changed even after tickets have been dispatched - we will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs. Distant Journeys has no control over the allocation of seats by the airline, and even if you have requested or made payment directly with the airline to pre-book seats, no guarantees can be made. The provision of such seats does not constitute a term of your contract with Distant Journeys.

Where applicable and in accordance with EU Directive (EC) No 2111/2005, we are required to bring to your attention the existence of a “Community List” which contains details of air carriers that are subject to an operating ban within the European Union. The Community list is available for inspection at https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/air/safety/air-ban_en. We are also required to advise you of the carrier(s) (or, if the carrier(s) is not known, the likely carrier(s)) that will operate your flight(s) at the time of booking. Where we are only able to inform you of the likely carrier(s) at the time of booking, we shall inform you of the identity of the actual carrier(s) as soon as we become aware of this. Any change to the operating carrier(s) after your booking has been confirmed will be notified to you as soon as possible. Any change in the identity of the carrier, flight timings, and/ or aircraft type (where advised) will not entitle you to cancel or change to other arrangements without paying our normal charges except where specified in these Terms & Conditions. If the carrier with whom you have a confirmed reservation becomes subject to an operating ban as above as a result of which we/ the carrier are unable to offer you a suitable alternative the provisions of clause 12 will apply.

If you suffer a delay in your outbound travel arrangements, we will do our best to ensure you make the start of your tour or, if this cannot be achieved, join it as soon as possible. Any costs we incur in making any alternative arrangements in this situation where the delay was due to your own actions will be your responsibility. In the event of a flight delay, the airline concerned may provide refreshments and/or other assistance depending on factors such as the length of the delay, time of day and number of passengers affected. We cannot accept liability for any delay which is due to any of the reasons set out in the definition of “Force Majeure” (which includes the behaviour of any passenger(s) on the flight who, for example, fails to check in or board on time). If your flight is cancelled or delayed, your flight ticket is downgraded or boarding is denied by your airline, depending on the circumstances, the airline may be required to pay you compensation, refund the cost of your flight and/or provide you with accommodation and/or refreshments under the Denied Boarding Regulations 2004. Where applicable, you must pursue the airline for the compensation or other payment due to you. All sums you receive or are entitled to receive from the airline concerned by virtue of these Regulations represent the full amount of your entitlement to compensation or any other payment arising from such cancellation, delay, downgrading or denied boarding. This includes any disappointment, distress, inconvenience or effect on any other arrangements. The fact a delay may entitle you to cancel your flight does not automatically entitle you to cancel any other arrangements even where those arrangements have been made in conjunction with your flight. We have no liability to make any payment to you in relation to the Denied Boarding Regulations or in respect of any flight cancellation or delay, downgrading of any flight ticket or denial of any boarding as the full amount of your entitlement to any compensation or other payment (as dealt with above) is covered by the airline's obligations under the Denied Boarding Regulations. If for any reason, we make any payment to you or a third party which the airline is responsible for in accordance with the Denied Boarding Regulations, you must, when requested, assign to us the rights you have or had to claim the payment in question from the airline. If the airline does not comply with these rules, you should refer to the Civil Aviation Authority at www.caa.co.uk/Passengers/Resolving-travel-problems/

A number of Governments are introducing new requirements for air carriers to provide personal information about all travellers on their aircraft to the Authorities before the aircraft leaves the UK. The data will be collected either at the airport when you check in or in some circumstances when, or after you make your booking. Accordingly, you are advised to allow extra time to check in for your flight. Where we collect this data, we will treat it in accordance with our Privacy Policy.

27. Passports and visas

You must have a valid passport with at least 6 months validity following your return date. It is your responsibility to ensure any visas required for countries to be visited on the tour have been obtained prior to the tour departure date. Failure to obtain correct documentation, visas and/or any other requirements for travel will mean that you may be unable to participate in particular excursions and may be denied boarding and/ or entry into certain countries.

Passport and visa entry requirements and costs are your sole responsibility. We can only provide general information about this. You must check requirements for your own specific circumstances with the relevant Embassies and/or Consulates as applicable. Requirements do change and you must check the up to date position in good time before departure. We cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry correct documentation. If failure to have any necessary travel or other documents results in fines, surcharges or other financial penalty being imposed on us, you will be responsible for reimbursing us accordingly.

Please note: The impacts of Brexit may change your visa, ticket and health requirements. Third country nationals may require an airport transit visa when passing through EU Member States. You should check any impacts of Brexit on your travel, in advance of your departure, to ensure that you fulfil the requirements post-Brexit, including any passport validity requirements. The UK Government travel advice can be found at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice

28. Insolvency protection

We provide financial security for flight-inclusive packages and ATOL protected flights by way of our Air Travel Organiser's Licence number 10913, issued by the Civil Aviation Authority, Gatwick Airport South, West Sussex, RH6 0YR, UK, telephone 0333 103 6350, email: claims@caa.co.uk.

When you buy an ATOL protected product from us you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong. For further information, visit the Civil Aviation Authority website at www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection/. The price of our flight inclusive arrangements includes the amount of £2.50 per person as part of the ATOL Protection Contribution (APC) we pay to the CAA. This charge is included in our advertised prices. Not all holiday or travel services offered and sold by us will be protected by the ATOL Scheme. ATOL protection extends primarily to customers who book and pay in the United Kingdom and European Economic Area (EEA).

We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL Scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable).

If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme.

We provide full financial protection for our package holidays which don't include flights, by way of a bond held by The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited.

The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT) provides financial protection under The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 (as amended) for Distant Journeys (ABTOT membership number 5427) and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for:

1. non-flight packages

ABTOT cover provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled or repatriation if transportation was included in your package. Please note that bookings made outside the EEA are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with Distant Journeys.

In the unlikely event that you require assistance whilst abroad due to our financial failure, please call our 24/7 helpline on 01702 811397 and advise you are a customer of an ABTOT protected travel company.

You can access The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/634/contents/made>

29. Coaches

On our group tours, to ensure all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system is employed on all of our coaches and you must follow the seat rotation system.

If you suffer from travel sickness, you should arrange medication or other alternatives to treat symptoms as we cannot make allowances in the seat rotation policy for this, in fairness to other guests.

30. Optional activities and dining

Optional activities and dining are subject to availability, seasonal / operational factors and minimum / maximum numbers. More details on optional tours may be found on our website. On occasion, it may not be possible to arrange an included activity. Suitable alternatives will be arranged. Inclusions may also be subject to change.

31. Vaccines, medication and medical services

Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of all recommended vaccinations and health precautions for the countries you are visiting and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough to be fully effective by the date of travel. You should take health advice about your specific needs as early as possible and recognise that advice may change, prior to your departure. Please see the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) website www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice and NHS Travel Vaccinations on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/travel-vaccinations/> for up to date information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that any medication you need to carry is permitted to be taken into the countries you are visiting. We recommend you consult with your GP and relevant embassy before booking and review in good time before your departure as advice may change. Any medical services and costs required on tour are at your expense. We strongly recommend suitable and adequate travel insurance.

32. Images, photographs, maps and information

The photographs in the brochure and information provided represent typical scenes and descriptive detail for each tour, but it is possible that the subject matter may not be seen or experienced whilst on the tour itself. Some pictures may have been digitally enhanced.

Maps or tour depictions contained in this brochure or any other brochures issued by Distant Journeys, are intended as an indication only and should not be relied upon as the actual route taken during the tour. Distant Journeys are not liable to you for any variation to the tour.

33. Prompt assistance

If, whilst you are on holiday, you find yourself in difficulty for any reason, we will offer you such prompt assistance as is appropriate in the circumstances. In particular, we will provide you with appropriate information on health services, local authorities and consular assistance, and assistance with distance communications and finding alternative travel arrangements. Where you require assistance which is not owing to any failure by us, our employees or sub-contractors we will not be liable for the costs of any alternative travel arrangements or other such assistance you require. Any supplier, airline or other transport supplier may however pay for or provide refreshments and/or appropriate accommodation and you should make a claim directly to them. Subject to the other terms of these Terms & Conditions, we will not be liable for any costs, fees or charges you incur in the above circumstances, if you fail to obtain our prior authorisation before making your own travel arrangements. Furthermore, we reserve the right to charge you a fee for our assistance in the event that the difficulty is caused intentionally by you or a member of your party, or otherwise through your or your party's negligence.

34. Conditions of suppliers

Many of the services which make up your holiday are provided by independent suppliers. Those suppliers provide these services in accordance with their own terms and conditions which will form part of your contract with us. Some of these terms and conditions may limit or exclude the supplier's liability to you, usually in accordance with applicable International Conventions. Copies of the relevant parts of these terms and conditions are available on request from us or the supplier concerned.

35. Amendments to these Terms & Conditions

These Terms & Conditions may be subject to amendment from time to time. Amendments will be posted on the Distant Journeys website www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Other Destinations

Australia

New Zealand

India

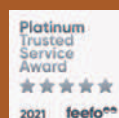
Sri Lanka

Japan

Vietnam

Cambodia

distantjourneys
Your Time to Explore



To book, call our travel experts FREE on

0800 141 3742

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm **Sunday** Open in peak season. See website for details.

Email enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk **Visit** www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Address 8 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AY