

FEATURING A
THREE-NIGHT
LUXURY SAFARI
AT THORNYBUSH
GAME RESERVE



Treasures of
SOUTHERN AFRICA

CAPE TOWN & ROBBEN ISLAND & VICTORIA FALLS



& A JOURNEY ON THE LUXURIOUS ROVOS RAIL



SPONSORED BY



JANUARY 15-29, 2013

**(415) 597-6720 or travel@commonwealthclub.org
www.commonwealthclub.org/travel**



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore **Cape Town**, South Africa's oldest city.
- Walk in Nelson Mandela's footsteps with a visit to **Robben Island**.
- Discover the spectacular scenery and the biodiversity of the **Cape Peninsula**.
- Experience the thrill of seeing wild animals in their native habitat during a **three-night, luxury safari**.
- Visit a youth center in **Soweto** and enjoy a lunch of traditional African cuisine.
- Enjoy incredible scenery and classic luxury during a **two-night train journey aboard Rovos Rail**.
- Feel the power of the great **Victoria Falls**.



S

outhern Africa is a historic, cultural and natural wonderland. In South Africa, Cape Town offers mountains and the sea as well as culture, history and cosmopolitan style. The city is a showcase of Cape Dutch houses and inspiring landmarks, including Robben Island and St. George's Cathedral. Soweto, once the main battleground in the war on apartheid, now offers opportunity and hope for a better future. See South Africa's magnificent wildlife at the private Thornybush Nature Reserve. In Zimbabwe, feel the rumbling of Victoria Falls, known locally as Mosi-oa-tunya, "The Smoke that Thunders." Come discover the extraordinary treasures of southern Africa!

UNESCO

Robben Island and the **Cape Floral Region Protected Areas** in South Africa and **Victoria Falls**, Zimbabwe, are UNESCO World Heritage sites featured in this program.

*Above: View from Table Mountain
Inset: Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town*



Dear Club Traveler,

We invite you to join us on an exciting trip to southern Africa. Discover the spirit of Cape Town and Johannesburg, marvel at the up-close sightings of exotic, wild animals during a three-night safari, and feel the power of Victoria Falls.

Our itinerary will connect you to the vibrant people, diverse cultures and breathtaking landscapes of southern Africa. Throughout your journey, you'll be treated to sumptuous cuisine, personalized service and deluxe accommodations including two nights aboard the luxurious Rovos Rail. Fantastic excursions combined with leisure time will allow you to savor your discoveries with like-minded travelers. Our guest lecturers and visit with U.S. Consulate staff are educational highlights.

This exclusive program combines great value with an outstanding opportunity to travel to southern Africa's most enchanting destinations. We will be joined travelers from the World Affairs Council on this journey. Space is limited to ensure maximum comfort, so we encourage you to make your reservation today.

Best travel regards,

Kristina Nemeth
Director of Club Travel

For further details, please contact the Club's travel desk at 415-597-6720 or email us at travel@commonwealthclub.org.

*Twelve Apostles,
Cape Town*

*"For to be free is
not merely to cast off
one's chains, but to
live in a way that
respects and enhances
the freedom of others."*

Nelson Mandela,
president of South Africa
(1994-1999),
b. 1918

*"Truth isn't always
beauty, but the hunger
for it is."*

Nadine Gordimer,
South African
Nobel laureate,
b. 1923

*"I am prepared
to go anywhere,
provided it is
forward."*

David Livingstone,
Scottish explorer,
1813-1873



CAPE TOWN

SOUTH AFRICA

Sheltered by Table Mountain, South Africa's Mother City is one of the world's most beautiful cities. Centuries-old Cape Dutch houses and colorful gardens dot the cityscape. A bustling waterfront welcomes visitors with inviting cafés and boutiques set amid workaday harbor life. To the south, the Atlantic seaboard gives way to a scenic coastline with dramatic views.

ROBBEN ISLAND

SOUTH AFRICA

Within sight of Cape Town, but effectively a world away, Robben Island was home to a prison that held Nelson Mandela and other political dissidents. Despite poor conditions, prisoners organized political debates and educational and sporting activities. From their remote prison, these prisoners helped draw attention to the injustices of apartheid. Today, former prisoners lead insightful tours of the infamous island prison.

From Prisoner to President

When the South African government instituted apartheid in 1948, Nelson Mandela was already leading the fight against injustice as a member of the African National Congress and co-founder of the ANC Youth League. Much of his time was spent in court and in jail. For years he had favored nonviolent protests, but after a 1961 incident in which 69 people died after police opened fire on a crowd, he began to believe that peaceful protests would not work and helped form an armed branch of the ANC. He soon was convicted of sabotage, treason and other charges. Mandela received a life sentence in 1964 and became an international symbol for the fight against apartheid. In the 1980s, international pressure and other factors started turning the wheels of reform. Released in February 1990, Mandela was elected the first president of the new, democratic South Africa four years later.



CAPE PENINSULA

SOUTH AFRICA

In 1580, Sir Frances Drake, the great English navigator, described the Cape of Good Hope as the "fairest cape ... in the whole circumference of the earth." The Cape is blessed with a dramatic beauty. The peninsula is a part of the Cape Floral Region, which is considered to have the most diverse range of plant life in the world. Visitors are likely to see plenty of wildlife, especially chacma baboons. At Cape Point, ascend one of the world's highest sea cliffs by funicular to admire stunning panoramic coastal views.

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA

If tranquil Cape Town is the country's oldest and most genteel city, Johannesburg is its rambunctious little brother.

In 1886, the discovery of a huge lode of gold triggered a gold rush. Today, Joburg is the country's financial center, and many people come here to enjoy the fast-paced lifestyle. By contrast, the suburb of Westcliff and the peaceful environs of your hotel are distinguished by mansions with beautiful gardens.



Far left: Musician, Cape Town

Left: Cape Peninsula

Below left: African penguin

Below: Mural of Nelson Mandela, Soweto



SOWETO

SOUTH AFRICA

Soweto, an abbreviation for South Western Townships, is no longer just a collection of shantytowns built to house black mine workers away from the center of Johannesburg. It is a thriving community that is proud of its role in ending the oppression of apartheid. Its Vilakazi Street even produced two Nobel Peace Prize laureates: Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. Squatter camps still exist, but these camps are disappearing as more affordable housing is built. With a brave spirit, the residents of Soweto are embracing both the new opportunities and challenges presented to them.



VICTORIA FALLS

ZIMBABWE

Until the 19th century, the Zambezi River's great cascade was called Mosi-oa-Tunya, "the smoke that thunders," by the region's Kololo tribe. "Discovered" on November 16, 1855, by Dr. David Livingstone and renamed for England's queen, Victoria Falls is the planet's largest curtain of water — spanning more than a mile — as it crashes some 328 feet into the raging Batoka Gorge below. Twice the height of Niagara Falls, mighty Victoria Falls casts a veil of spray that can be seen up to 50 miles away!



The Safari Experience

In the not-so-distant past, a safari was synonymous with hunters stalking herds of big game that roamed the African plains. Today, most hunters are armed with cameras instead of guns. Their trophies? Images of Africa's incomparable wildlife.

Each day unfolds with discoveries of nature's grandeur on the wild continent. Awaken to the aroma of freshly brewed coffee as your expert driver prepares his vehicle for your early morning game drive. Set off in pursuit of exotic animals and birds in their natural habitat and see the drama of their day-to-day struggle for survival.

Return to the lodge for a hearty English breakfast and share your morning encounters with fellow travelers. After lunch, there is time to take a dip in the pool or treat yourself to a massage at the spa. Tea is served before your afternoon game drive.

As the sun completes its sojourn across the sky, return to the lodge for a relaxing evening. After a dinner of delicious Continental and local cuisine, gather around the fireplace to trade tales and tally your Big Five sightings. By day's end, you'll have collected many photographs and thrilling memories of your very own safari.



ROVOS RAIL

The Pride of Africa

Enjoy the luxurious charm of Rovos Rail during a relaxing, two-night journey from Pretoria to Victoria Falls. This unforgettable experience captures the glamour and romance of the golden age of train travel. Rovos Rail offers deluxe travel in splendid vintage carriages, painstakingly restored and impeccably appointed for your comfort. The décor, late Victorian and Edwardian, includes handsome wood paneling and elegant, spacious suites.

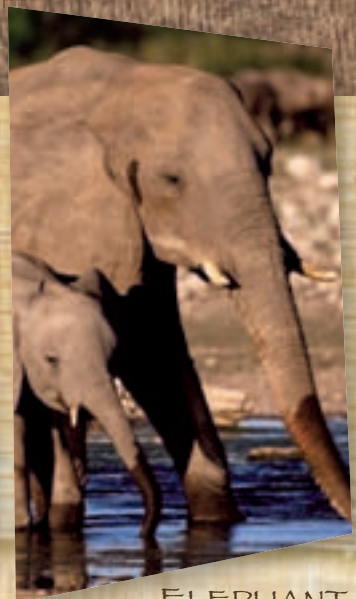


The Big Five

The phrase, The Big Five, was coined in the 19th century by European big-game hunters. The term refers to the most dangerous animals to track on foot and which, therefore, are the most prized trophies. They are: the lion, elephant, black rhinoceros, Cape buffalo, and leopard. These magnificent creatures are still the most desired shots to stalk while on safari, but, nowadays, with a zoom lens mounted on a digital camera!



LION



ELEPHANT

Spend your days in the observation car or mingle with your fellow travelers in the lounge. You can expect attentive service and even a little bit of formality at dinner, as passengers dress for the occasion. The fine cuisine emphasizes local ingredients and regional specialties, with all beverages included. Each morning, take in the scenic splendor of the passing landscapes during a sumptuous breakfast buffet and dishes cooked to order. Three-course lunches and dinners include a selection of excellent South African wines.

Comfortable, air-conditioned accommodations include your choice of a 75 square-foot standard Pullman Suite, with joined twin beds or a double bed that converts to a sofa, or a 120 square-foot Deluxe Suite, with choice of twin or double beds and a lounge area. Each suite includes a minibar, a personal safe and a private bathroom with shower and hair dryer. Room service is available at any hour.

Thornybush

GAME RESERVE

If you've ever imagined seeing a pride of lions lazing in the sun, a lone cheetah scouting for prey or a herd of impala gracefully bounding across grassland, then embarking on a safari at the private Thornybush Nature Reserve will be a dream come true. Located near world-renowned Kruger National Park, the reserve offers incredible wildlife encounters in the most game-rich area in the country. During each game drive, ride in an open-top Land Rover with stadium seating while knowledgeable and seasoned rangers and trackers share their knowledge of the flora and fauna. Scan the savannah for the famous Big Five and the many other animals that live here. Chances are you will also see many of the 507 bird species and the 114 reptile species that reside within Thornybush's 28,417 acres of lowveld.



RHINOCEROS



CAPE BUFFALO



LEOPARD

YOUR LUXURIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS



MOUNT NELSON HOTEL | CAPE TOWN

Surrounded by beautiful gardens with a view of Table Mountain, the Mount Nelson Hotel has charmed celebrities, statesmen and other travelers for more than a century. A short stroll from the city center, the "Nellie" combines impeccably appointed rooms with world-class service. The Mount Nelson's famous afternoon tea is a must-do for both locals and travelers alike.

THE WESTCLIFF | JOHANNESBURG

With terraces, courtyards and fountains winding down the hillside, The Westcliff is Johannesburg's most glamorous retreat. The graceful rooms are designed to soothe and relax, as are the botanical spa and heated infinity pool overlooking the zoological gardens.



THORNYBUSH GAME LODGE | THORNYBUSH NATURE RESERVE

Unrivalled big-game viewing is complemented by luxurious accommodations at the exclusive Game Lodge of the Thornybush Nature Reserve. Luxurious amenities include full spa facilities and a swimming pool. Indulge in full English breakfasts and superb gourmet cuisine infused with local flavor. Enjoy highly personalized and friendly service. Comfortable air-conditioned suites with extensive living areas are styled in rich natural textures and overlook the seasonal Monwana River. Each features an outdoor shower and a private deck from which to appreciate the view of the savannah and 24-hour observation of activity at the water hole.



VICTORIA FALLS HOTEL | VICTORIA FALLS

The Victoria Falls Hotel has a spectacular location beside Victoria Falls. Built in 1904 to house railway workers, "The Grand Old Lady of the Falls" features ambiance and world-class service and tropical gardens. On the terraces overlooking Victoria Falls Bridge, guests can feel the spray from the falls below.

Reserve your Southern Africa trip today!

For Office Use Only: B #: _____ Date: _____
Trip #:1-20907W PSR: _____

Send to: Commonwealth Club Travel
 595 Market Street
 2nd Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94105

Please contact the Commonwealth Club of California at (415) 597-6720 or fax (415) 597-6729, or travel@commonwealthclub.org with questions regarding this tour.

Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

(1) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

(2) _____
 Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Home: (_____) Office: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately)

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Cabin category desired: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Land and Air Program

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the Air Program to Cape Town, South Africa, with return from Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, to depart from:

Departure City _____

Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

*Please note: Air prices will be sent to you with your Reservation Confirmation and air schedule sent at 90 days before departure. International flight arrangements can be canceled with **no obligation up to 75 days before departure.***

Land Program

- I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.
- Please contact me/us regarding air options.
- I prefer single accommodations at an additional cost (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by November 1, 2012 (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard or Visa. Make checks payable to AHI International.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600 per person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI International**.
- Charge my deposit to: MasterCard Visa

Card # _____

Expires _____/_____/_____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the Cancellation terms.

Need pre- or post-trip assistance?

If you are interested in making independent travel arrangements before and/or after this program, please contact **AHI Travel** at (800) 323-7373 no later than **60 days prior to departure** and they will be happy to assist you with your reservations. *A nonrefundable service fee and additional air/land charges based on reservations apply.*

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; gratuities to housekeeping staff at hotels, Thornybush ranger/tracker/staff, Rovos Rail staff, personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature. Airport transfer costs for those not participating in AHI's air program.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL.The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded.

Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

CANCELLATION-In addition to airline cancellation penalties, all cancellations for any reason whatsoever will be subject to a \$250 per person cancellation fee. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75 days to 30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to Commonwealth Club of California.

BAGGAGE-Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

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LAND PROGRAM

January 17-28, 2013

	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price
B-Pullman Suite (75 sq. ft.)	\$7,245	\$250	\$6,995*
A-Deluxe Suite (120 sq. ft.)	\$8,045	\$250	\$7,795*

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT is an additional \$325 per person.

All prices quoted are per person, based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated).
Single accommodations for the Pullman Suite are an additional \$2,445
for the Deluxe Suite they are an additional \$3,690 (limited availability).

AIR PROGRAM

January 15-29, 2013

AHI Travel's exclusive Air Program provides special advantages for travelers who are flying on our designated group flights. Reserve your air with us to enjoy a number of important services to help ensure a smooth and relaxing journey. We have negotiated special fares and benefits with our airline partners.

AHI AIR BENEFITS

- **Arrival and Departure Transfers** including baggage handling.
- **Price Guarantee** – protect yourself from fare and fuel surcharge increases.
- **Advance Seat Assignments** on most airlines.
- **Group Discount Business Class Prices** on most airlines.
- **Flexibility** – Most programs do not require immediate ticketing, avoiding penalties for cancellations or changes until the tickets are issued.
- A dedicated **Passenger Service Representative** – a single point of contact to assist you.
- **Knowledgeable Air Agents** will track your flights and assist with any lost baggage, flight delays or cancellations.

ITINERARY

- Day 1** Depart your gateway city[†]
- Day 2** Arrive Frankfurt, Germany/
Depart for Cape Town,
South Africa[†]
- Day 3** Arrive Cape Town
- Day 4** Cape Town
- Day 5** Cape Town
- Day 6** Thornybush Game Reserve
- Day 7** Thornybush
- Day 8** Thornybush
- Day 9** Johannesburg
- Day 10** Rovos Rail
- Day 11** Rovos Rail
- Day 12** Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
- Day 13** Victoria Falls
- Day 14** Victoria Falls/ Transfer and
flight to Johannesburg[†]/
Depart[†] for Gateway City
- Day 15** Arrive North America

NOTE: *This itinerary schedule may change due to local conditions. Many excursions in this program involve an element of walking.*
[†]Provided for Air Program participants only.



INCLUDED FEATURES

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

- **Three nights** at the deluxe **Mount Nelson Hotel**.
- See **Cape Town's highlights**, including the Robben Island prison that held Nelson Mandela and other anti-apartheid activists.
- Visit the scenic **Cape Peninsula** with a funicular ascent at Cape Point.
- Attend a lecture on South African culture and history and another about contemporary South Africa.
- Mingle with your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception.

THORNYBUSH NATURE RESERVE

- **Three nights** at **Thornybush Game Lodge**, a luxury safari lodge.
- Spend your mornings and afternoons on guided game drives.
- Attend a lecture on the flora, fauna and wildlife of South Africa.
- Attend a Thornybush Welcome Party.

JOHANNESBURG

- **One night** at **The Westcliff**, a deluxe hotel in one of Johannesburg's most exclusive neighborhoods.
- Tour **Soweto**. Visit a youth center and take part in a tree-planting ceremony.
- Meet with U.S. Consulate staff for a briefing.

ROVOS RAIL

- **Two nights** aboard the deluxe **Rovos Rail** train from Pretoria to Victoria Falls.

VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE

- **Two nights** at the landmark **Victoria Falls Hotel**.
- Discover the power of **Victoria Falls**.

SCHEDULED JET SERVICE

- Flights from Cape Town to Hoedspruit and from Hoedspruit to Johannesburg.

TRANSFERS AND PORTERAGE

- Deluxe motor coach transfers from the Mount Nelson Hotel to the airport, between the airport and Thornybush Game Reserve, from the airport to The Westcliff, from The Westcliff to the rail station in Pretoria.
- Baggage handling on above transfers.



Dining al fresco at Thornybush Game Lodge

MEALS

- Enjoy 11 breakfasts, eight lunches and six dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties during select meals at featured local restaurants.
- Take advantage of leisure time to try the local cuisine independently.

MANY INCLUDED EXTRAS

- Tipping of guides and drivers on included excursions.
- Consultation services of a **Passenger Service Representative** prior to departure.
- Services of a professional **Travel Director** throughout your stay.
- Detailed destination and travel information to assist in your planning.
- Complimentary travel wallet.



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Top to bottom:
Enjoying a game drive
Protea, South Africa's national flower
Safari
Victoria Falls
Cover photos:
Lion on the savannah
Cape Town



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Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.