



SOUTH AFRICA

THE RUGGED COAST AND WESTERN CAPE

August 23 - September 6, 2016 14-days

FROM \$4,000 PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY COST INCLUDES:

- Accommodations, entrance fees, and activities
- Meals (11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 7 dinners)
- Private vehicle transportation
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Expedition Leader Sarah Reichard, and full time local guide for duration of program
- Bottled water on the bus
- Carbon offset

NOT INCLUDED:

- International airfare (estimated at \$2,200 from Seattle)
- Gratuities
- Alcoholic beverages
- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature

Cost is based on double occupancy; for a single room add \$875 (limited availability). A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form is required by April 25, 2016 to hold your space on the trip. Deposit is refundable until May 20, 2016 excluding a non-refundable \$100 cancellation fee. Cancellations after this date will result in loss of full deposit. Final payments are due no later than May 20, 2016. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is always recommended.

To Book: Contact Sandy Schmidt at schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or 877.907.5360
Register online at <http://holbrooktravel.com/privategroups/uwbgsouthafrica>



EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

Leader: Dr. Sarah Reichard

- Tour the renowned Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens and Stellenbosch Botanical Gardens.
- Visit Kagga Kamma Reserve, Skilpad Nature Reserve, Bird Island Nature Reserve, Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve, and Nieuwoudtville Wild Flower Reserve.
- Sample fine wines and cuisine at a Cape wine estate.
- Observe the vibrant floral colors of the Namaqualand region with its awe-inspiring landscape.
- Explore and photograph famous Clanwilliam Wild Flower Society Flower Show.
- Escape from the pressures of modern life to enjoy the silence and starlit skies of the peaceful southern Cederberg Mountains.
- Experience spectacular views of Cape Town from the top of Table Mountain.

This summer travel with Dr. Sarah Reichard, exploring a land of contrasts, where landscapes display impossible rock formations, craggy wilderness areas and sweeping vistas.

Here, incredible and unusual vegetation blankets huge tracts of land and, in August, the desert becomes a brilliant palette of flowers. Add to this the warmth and richness of the people, world-renowned wines, and prolific fauna and nesting birds and you'll find this South African journey truly a trip of a lifetime.



YOUR EXPEDITION LEADER

For more than 15 years Seattle native, Dr. Sarah Reichard has taken small, intimate groups of inquisitive travelers to some of the most biologically diverse areas of the world. Her profound interests in biology, ecology and ornithology have led her across the world to more than 20 countries including South Africa, Chile, Costa Rica and Australia.



As Director of the University of Washington Botanic Gardens, Sarah has spent years writing and teaching about the garden world – whether it be invasive plants, rare plants, urban food systems or botanic gardens. Although a garden enthusiast, Dr. Reichard also has a keen interest in birding, as well as all natural history, and enthusiastically shares that knowledge with her groups.

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

AUGUST 23 -24 DEPART USA via Heathrow, London (Overnight).

AUGUST 25 - CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA Arrival

AUGUST 26 - CAPE TOWN

Begin with a guided tour of Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, considered the most beautiful National Garden in Africa, and one of the great Botanic Gardens of the world. Few gardens can match the sheer grandeur of the setting of Kirstenbosch, against the eastern slopes of Cape Town's Table Mountain. Weather permitting, ride the cable car up Table Mountain for a walk on the trails and gorgeous views at every turn.

AUGUST 27 - CAPE TOWN

Travel to the Wine lands, leaving the city behind you. En route, tour Stellenbosch University Botanical Garden, which houses an enormous diversity of plants, both indigenous and exotic. Continue to Franschhoek and Grande Provence Heritage Wine Estate, a wonderful example of Cape Dutch architecture. Framing the entry road are rows of vineyards, heavy with the promise of next year's vintage. Tour the beautifully manicured grounds complete with informal wine tasting.

AUGUST 28 - LAMBERT'S BAY

Travel north through the Western Cape to Lambert's Bay, via Clanwilliam, home of the famous Clanwilliam Wild Flower Show, designed around different biomes of the region. Due to tremendous differences in topography (Cederberg, Karoo, Sandveld, Wetlands and Coastal regions), Clanwilliam possess an exceptional variety of wild flowers, many found nowhere else in the world, including the Snow Protea, Clanwilliam Cedar tree, Rooibos and Kreupel Waboom.

AUGUST 29 - LAMBERT'S BAY

Two rivers embrace the town of Clanwilliam. Here you'll journey to the Ramskop Nature Reserve which is situated overlooking the Clanwilliam Dam with the Cederberg Mountains, fields of rooibos tea and orange groves as a backdrop for a picnic lunch. Its wild flower garden boasts of more than 350 different species.



AUGUST 30 - NIEUWOUDTVILLE

Enjoy a visit to Bird Island Nature Reserve, home to world's most accessible gannet colony. Nieuwoudtville, considered the bulb capital of the world, has unique placement in the Karoo plain (known as the Bokkeveld) which allows for an incredible variety of wildflowers. You will also have the opportunity to explore Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve, an untamed accumulation of gorges, rivers, caves and plateaus that provide you with wonderful chances for exploration.



AUGUST 31 - NIEUWOUDTVILLE

Today you'll visit the Hantam National Botanical Floral Garden, South Africa's only National Botanic Garden in the Northern Cape. An incredible 1350 plant species have been recorded in the area thus far. Declared a botanical treasure of international importance, it boasts superb trails for visitors to experience the garden on foot. The 284 acre Nieuwoudtville Wild Flower Reserve has more than 300 species of indigenous flora, including Red Cats Tail, unique to this area. If time permits, also visit Akkerendam Nature Reserve.



SEPTEMBER 1 - SPRINGBOK

Travel north to Namaqualand and the town of Springbok, nestled in a valley of the Klein Koperberge, an area renowned for its natural beauty. From August to October each year, Springbok is transformed from dry scrubland into the multicolored carpet of flowers which has made Namaqualand famous. The oddly shaped Kokerboom, or Quiver tree, is another common sight in South Africa's Northern Cape region.



SEPTEMBER 2 - SPRINGBOK

In 400 square-mile Namaqua National Park, seemingly overnight, the dusty valleys of Namaqualand are transformed into a carpet of wildflowers as far as the eye can see. With its winter rainfall, Namaqualand is home to the richest bulb flora of any arid region in the world and more than a 1,000 of its estimated 3,500 plant species are found nowhere else on earth. Known for its spectacular scenery especially in the mountainous section located in the eastern regions of the park, Namaqua National Park is considered to be the most well-preserved section of Namaqua coastline.



SEPTEMBER 3 - KAGGA KAMMA

Journey south to Kagga Kamma Reserve and Lodge replete with rich, cultural heritage. The stunning location of the lodge was once home to the Bushmen, and today many of their ancient cave paintings are still clearly visible on the rocks, some dating back 6,000 years.



SEPTEMBER 4 - KAGGA KAMMA

Enjoy a full day at Kagga Kamma including a nature drive with local guides to spot resident antelope and ostrich. Guests may also spot lynx, jackal, and the spectacular Cape Mountain leopard. Dry Mountain Fynbos and succulent Karoo plants provide grazing land. Keep on the lookout for interesting bird and reptile species and learn fascinating facts about the geology of the area.



SEPTEMBER 5 - DEPART CAPE TOWN via Heathrow London for USA

SEPTEMBER 6 - SEATTLE, WA USA Arrival