

Itinerary

St Lucia Estuary

Thurs 15th After picking up all fellow travellers we will depart Johannesburg around 9.00am en route to Bethal, Ermelo, Piet Retief, Pongola and St Lucia, We will stop for tea and lunch en route and we will stop for comfort as many times as needed. It should take around 6 hours travel time plus an hour or so for stops. We are in no rush to get there but if we arrive between 4.00 and 5.00pm, that will be fine. Dinner at one of the main street restaurants.

Fri 16th After a leisurely breakfast, we will depart at around 9.00am for Cape Vidal. We enter the Isimangaliso Wetland Park right on the edge of St Lucia. This park was declared as South Africa's first Natural World Heritage site by UNESCO protocol and is one of the largest nature reserves in the world. It stretches from St Lucia up to the Mozambique border, about 260kms, and even has a marine reserve for leatherback turtles and other species.. We proceed up to Cape Vidal which is an easy trip of about 30kms with game viewing and lake viewing. Cape Vidal has a reef creating a lagoon of flat water. On our return to St Lucia we can have a snack lunch at the Ski Boat club, a local favourite, and a bit of free time before departing for the Estuary for our sunset cruise to meet the hippos and crocs, and a good chance of sighting Fish Eagles. I should point out that 800 hippos come out of the lake and estuary at night to feed. So walking in the streets at night is not wise. Dinner at another main street restaurant.

Sat 17th After another leisurely breakfast we depart for Umfolozi and Hluhluwe game reserves. Home of the rhino and everything else. On the way back we will visit a delicious looking fruit market which of course at this stage is the right time to buy. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure. Dinner at a different main street restaurant.

Sun 18th Depart St Lucia for our journey home through some beautiful scenery. Remember, the journey is part of the holiday!

Note: There is a lovely pool at the guest house (private – no prying eyes) so bring a cossie. Also a hat and sunscreen for the limited amount of time in the sun.