

South Africa Tour Service, Silence, Sea March 2 -14, 2015



The warmth of the people, the magic of the bushveld and the splendor of the sea are the three things I would want any visitor to South Africa to experience. Jean and I have planned this tour to give you a four night immersion experience in each of these areas: first my Rooiboklaagte world in Mpumalanga, next a Private Game Reserve in the Eastern Cape and last, to the coast at Plettenberg Bay.

We will begin our journey in Johannesburg meeting at a comfortable B&B (yet to be chosen) where each will have their own room to reassemble after the plane flight. After breakfast the next morning we will be picked up by our driver and his bus to head for the lowveld. It will be a peaceful way to acclimate as you watch the broad plains of the highveld melt into the soft lowveld land of Acacia trees and sweet grasses. We will stop on the top of the Blyde River Canyon for a picnic and the chance to feel the great spaciousness of this land and to look down into the world into which we are heading. During this portion of the tour we will stay at the [Blyde Wilderness Lodge](#) on the banks of the Blyde River. Here you will enjoy the hum of the bushveld, gracious rooms and green grounds where you can swim, walk, gaze, or take an afternoon nap after returning from the township. We will, also, take a boat ride on the Blyde Dam and have a farewell braai with the Mapusha women.

On this first leg of our trip we will focus on time with the women and children at the New Dawn Center outside of Acornhoek. The center includes the Mapusha Weaving studio, the Katlego Creche (nursery school), the Seeds of Light Art Center and two [community gardens](#). Our hope is that each of you will find a way to share, teach, learn with the small children, the young artists, weavers, spinners and gardeners. I have spent much time with these folks and you will be welcomed as friends

and have the opportunity for a meaningful ex-



change with this, my community, in the rural Mpumalanga province.

On the 7th we will bid farewell to the lowveld and return with our driver to Johannesburg to catch a midday flight to Port Elizabeth. This will be our very special time with the animals and the bush in a private lodge on the Eastern Cape. Jean is a native South African with strong ties to the land and the animals. We will stay at the [Kariega Private Reserve](#) in our own luxury home with a cook and a

game ranger. Each day we will have a game drive or bush walk both at dawn and at dusk. We will have activities to draw or simply wonder inspired by the animal's reserve.



would like to be in silence to give everyone a chance to write, rest in the magic of this world, describe the sense of awe and being in the midst of the ani-

Next we will be driven down to Plettenberg Bay where we are booked into a [delightful B&B](#) right on the ocean. This portion of the trip will be more freeform as some might want to hike in the Robberg Nature Reserve or take a guided bird walk in Nature's Valley while others may want to search for shells on the endless empty beaches or browse craft markets.



Each day in each place we will offer a yoga class in the morning and the opportunity to take a walk. Our food choice is fresh with an emphasis on fruits and vegetables and we can accommodate gluten free, vegetarian, paleo etc. Our aim is to provide our eight guests with a wonderfully rich experience of the people and the land of South Africa.

On the 14th our tour will officially end when we will take you to the airport in George to either return to Johannesburg for your return flight to the states or take a short hop and explore CapeTown.

The cost of the trip is \$3,600 and we will need a \$2,000 deposit to reserve your space. This includes all transport within South Africa, all lodging and food other than an occasional restaurant meal. If you would like more information or to sign up for one of eight spaces please email Judy (judithbmiller@gmail.com).