

SOUTH AFRICAN FARMING & WILDLIFE TOUR

Our Ref 22cb006
22 July 2022

MARCUS OLDHAM ALUMNI CATCH-UP TOUR

Day 1 **SYDNEY to JAHANNESBURG** **TUESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2022**
(D) Assemble at Sydney International Airport for daylight flight to South Africa. Upon arrival at OR Tambo International Airport, you are meet by local tour escort and taken to hotel – within the airport precinct.

Protea Marriot Hotel

Day 2 **JOHANNESBURG to PARYS** **WEDNESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2022**
(B L D) Breakfast seminar at hotel with invited representatives of Austrade to give an overview of agribusiness relationships between Australia and South Africa. Later travel in an easterly direction to Bethal in Mpumalanga province, where there will be an extended visit to Hurwitz Farming. With beef production incorporating stud and commercial cattle (Boran & Droughtmaster) as well as a feedlot and a deboning plant, along with a very large cropping and silage contracting business, Hurwitz Farming is one of the leading agricultural companies in South Africa. Later in the afternoon you travel in a south westerly direction to the resort town of Parys on the Vaal River, for dinner and overnight.

Stonehenge River Lodge

Day 3 **PARYS to KROONSTAD** **THURSDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2022**
(B L D) After breakfast at resort you travel south into the Free State with a morning visit to Goedgedacht the Dannhouser family farm south of Parys. They run a 4,000-commercial cow herd, a Simmental and Africa Droughtmaster stud consisting of 200 animals, and a feedlot finishing 2,500 calves for slaughter in two cycles per year. The Dannhausers have farmed the 10,000ha farm since 1882. Between 1950 and 2005, the family focused on grain, but in 2005 they began converting their lands to pasture for cattle. After lunch you continue south to Edenville with a visit to headquarters of the Sernick Group. Established in 1983 with the purchase of 30 commercial Bonsmara heifers, Nick Serfontein has established an enterprise that today consists of a Bonsmara Stud, a commercial Bonsmara herd, a Phase C bull testing station as well as an animal feed factory, a feedlot, an abattoir and retail butcheries. Today Sernick consists of Seven business entities, each adding value to the group. The group employs more than 600 people with annual revenues of ZAR 1.5 billion. Of particular interest during the visit will be the positive approach taken by the company to uplift and educate emerging black farmers – a vision that has promoted Nick Serfontein into the national spotlight. Continue south to Kroonstad, where you check into accommodation for two nights. Dinner at your hotel.

Arcadia Guesthouse

Day 4 (B - D) KROONSTAD FRIDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2022
Today you travel to the nearby town of Bothaville, where the annual NAMPO/ALFA Expo is underway. The Expo incorporates the African Livestock Trade Fair – which has developed into being the largest livestock show in Africa, as well as a major hunting and outdoor exhibition. Today will be a wonderful opportunity to interact with large numbers of other young country people from all over southern Africa. Special meetings and networking opportunities will be arranged.
Later return to Kroonstad for dinner and overnight.

Arcadia Guesthouse

Day 5 (B L D) KROONSTAD to CLARENS SATURDAY 01 OCTOBER 2022
The first visit this morning will be to large herd dairy farm on the outskirts of Kroonstad. The recently established farm milks around 2,000 cows, strip grazing irrigated pastures under 10 centre pivots with water allocation from the Valse River.
Later depart and travel into the Eastern Free State to for a visit to Waaiwate, a mixed farm owned and operated by Johan van Niekerk and sons, growing potatoes, maize, soyabeans, sugar beans and wheat. And also running SA Meat Merion sheep and Simbra cattle.
Later in the afternoon travel into the foothills of the Drakensberg Ranges for two nights stay in the holiday village of Clarens. Dinner tonight at hotel.

Protea Marriot Hotel

Day 6 (B - D) CLARENS SUNDAY 02 OCTOBER 2022
This morning you will be taken into the Golden Gate Highlands National Park, which is located near the Lesotho border. The park's most notable features are its golden, ochre, and orange-hued, deeply eroded sandstone cliffs and outcrops, especially the Brandwag rock. Another feature of the area is the numerous caves and shelters displaying San rock paintings. Wildlife featured at the park includes mongooses, eland, zebras, and over 100 bird species. It is the Free State's only national park and is more famous for the beauty of its landscape than for its wildlife. Optional trekking will be possible.
Later return to Clarens with free afternoon to explore the town, with its art galleries, coffee shops and of course the boutique brewery!
Dinner included once again at your hotel.

Protea Marriot Hotel

Day 7 (B L D) CLARENS to POTCHEFSTROOM MONDAY 03 OCTOBER 2022
Skirting the Lesotho border you travel this morning, through picturesque Eastern Free State to Fouriesburg. Spend morning with Linde and Chris du Plessis inspecting and discussing their Droughtmaster and Brahman cattle herds.
Afternoon travel in a northerly direction with visit near Lindley to Woodview Wagyu, operated by Brian Angus, the pioneer of Wagyu genetics into Africa. Today Woodview has branded wagyu beef across Africa in partnership with the Sparta meet processing company.
Later continue north to Potchefstroom in the North West province for dinner and overnight.

Willows Garden Hotel

Day 8 (B L D) POTCHEFSTROOM to RUSTENBURG TUESDAY 04 OCTOBER 2022
Potchefstroom hosts the headquarters of AFL South Africa, and this morning you will have an opportunity to meet members of staff and learn how the fledgling code is trying to gain a foothold within the rugby and soccer mad country. Later travel to the Ventersdorp district, where you visit the farm operated by Stompie and Elrie Olivier. Trading as Hotspot Cattle, they have generated a significant name for themselves with Boran and Droughtmaster cattle. Late afternoon continue north to the mining city of Rustenburg for overnight.

Anew Resort Hunters Rest

Day 9 (B L D) RUSTENBURG to PRETORIA WEDNESDAY 05 OCTOBER 2022
This morning you travel north into an area known as the Bushveld. Visits for the day will include game farms where a range of wildlife are nowadays commercially farmed for hunting purposes. Species will include buffalo, giraffe, zebra, waterbuck, wildebeest, kudu, eland, oryx etc. During the day also visit Leeupoort Simmentals, owned and operated by Gert Nienaber with a worldwide reputation for excellence in Simental genetics. Afternoon travel in easterly direction to Pretoria, the administrative capital of South Africa. On arrival you will pass the Union Buildings, which is the official seat of the South African government and the offices of the President. It was designed by South Africa's most famous architect, Sir Herbert Baker, and completed in 1913. Check into hotel with dinner included.

City Lodge Lynwood

Day 10 (B L D) PRETORIA to POLOKWANE THURSDAY 06 OCTOBER 2022
A series of meetings will be held in Pretoria this morning, that will include leaders in agribusiness and ag-media organisations as well as the upcoming red meat producers. During the afternoon there will be a short sightseeing tour of Pretoria, that will include a visit to the Voortrekker Monument. Designed by architect Gerard Moerdijk and built between 1937 and 1949, the Voortrekker Monument is a massive granite structure erected in the memory of the Voortrekkers, colonists who set out from the Cape Colony to explore the interior of South Africa. The monument is an impressive 40 metres high and dominates the hilltop on which it sits overlooking Pretoria. Its main points of interests are the domed Hall of Heroes, containing the largest marble frieze in the world, and the Cenotaph, on which a ray of sunlight falls at midday on December 16 to commemorate the vow made at the Battle of Blood River. The monument was declared a National Heritage Site in 2011. Later in the afternoon you travel north to Polokwane situated near the Tropic of Capricorn in the Limpopo province – dinner at your hotel.

Protea Marriot Polokwane Ranch Hotel

Day 11 (B L D) POLOKWANE to TZANEEN FRIDAY 07 OCTOBER 2022
This morning you travel east into a high rainfall fertile region of the Limpopo Province which is the centre for South Africa's tropical and subtropical fruit and agriculture as well as timber plantations. A visit will be arranged to ZZZ's – one of the largest agricultural companies in South Africa, and the world's largest tomato production enterprise. You will inspect production facilities as well as packing sheds and transport hubs. As well as tomatoes, ZZZ produce considerable quantities of avocados, onions and deciduous fruits.

They also specialize in Pinzgauer cattle, and the ZZ2 Pinzgauer Stud is today the largest privately owned Pinzgauer stud in the world. Later in the afternoon you continue to the Tzaneen, for dinner and overnight accommodation.

Tzaneen Country Lodge

Day 12 (B L D) TZANEEN to KRUGER NATIONAL PARK SATURDAY 08 OCTOBER 2022

Travel southeast this morning to the world-famous Kruger National Park. Covering almost 2 million hectares, it is the largest park in Africa. You enter the park through Orpen Gate, which is situated towards the middle of the park that stretches 360km from north to south. Kruger National Park is home to the “Big Five” (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino and buffalo) so called because they were the most deadly of animals feared by early hunters.

At this time of the year, being the dry-season, viewing will be at its best – with reduced undergrowth and large herds coming into the last remaining waterholes.

Upon arrival in Kruger, you will travel in open vehicles. Lunch and game viewing will be enjoyed as you travel south towards your accommodation in Skukuza, the biggest rest camp in the park. Dinner at the restaurant.

Skukuza Rest Camp

Day 13 (B - D) KRUGER NATIONAL PARK SUNDAY 09 OCTOBER 2022

Depart on an early morning game drive and enjoy breakfast at one of the many picnic spots in the park, return midday to Skukuza time for lunch (own cost) and relax before departing on the late afternoon game drive followed by Bush Braai (BBQ dinner) Return later to your camp.

Skukuza Rest Camp)

Day 14 (B) KRUGER NATIONAL PARK to JOHANNESBURG MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2022

Depart early, with breakfast on route, and exit the park at Malelane Gate in in the south. Travel to Kruger Mpumalanga Airport and take short flight to OR Tambo Airport in Johannesburg, where you proceed through customs and depart on evening flight back to Australia.

Day 15 ARRIVE SYDNEY TUESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2022

Early afternoon arrival at Sydney International Airport where you clear customs and transfer (if required) to homeward domestic flights.

COSTING BASED ON ATTACHED ITINERARY

	Cost Per Person in Twin/Share Room	Extra cost for Single Room
Marcus Oldham Alumni Catch-up Tour RSA	AU\$ 8,500.00	AU\$ 800.00

Prices are nett and quoted in Australian Dollars

Prices are based on minimum 15 passengers travelling as a group. In the event that we have less than 15 bookings – the tour may still proceed however, possibly at a greater individual cost.

Prices include :-

- All land travel in the private use of modern comfortable coaches.
- Economy flight from Sydney to Johannesburg and return.
- Domestic flight from Kruger Mpumalanga Airport to Johannesburg.
- Professional tour manager, with personal experience of living South Africa, will be travelling with group from Australia.
- Local tour guide for duration of tour
- Technical visits and sightseeing as outlined in itinerary
- Quality accommodation with private en-suite facilities – as detailed.
- Meals as detailed in itinerary - shown (BLD)
- Gratuities for guides and drivers in South Africa.
- Tour kit including backpack, water bottle and detailed itinerary.

Prices do not include:-

- Meals not shown in itinerary
- Travel Insurance
- Expenditure of a personal nature; ie. Alcoholic beverages or phone calls.

TERMS :	
Security Deposit:	\$2,000 at time of booking
Final Balance:	On or before end of August 2022