



SOUTH AFRICA

Wildlife, Culture, Food & Wine with Professor Kundai Chirindo

TOUR DATES: January 5-16, 2026

Embark on a unique guided journey that weaves history, nature, and culture into a transformative journey of connection.

Experience South Africa from Johannesburg's economic hub to the scenic landscapes of Cape Town. Explore Constitution Hill, the historic roads through Soweto, and the Cradle of Humankind. Engage with community leaders and activists, relax at a game reserve, and taste local wine. Learn about conservation under the stars, travel from townships to the Cape Peninsula, and track key moments from colonization until today.

Highlights

- Visit Soweto's activists and entrepreneurs
- Enjoy a special storytelling dinner and home hospitality experience
- Visit the Cradle of Humankind, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Stay at a Big-5 private game reserve: learn about sustainable practices, rangeland restoration, and ecosystem conservation
- Meet grassroots artists, culinary innovators and community builders
- Immerse in a hands-on African cooking class

In Partnership with



MEJDI TOURS



PRICING: \$7,995 (*Main Tour*)

INCLUDED:

- 11 nights' accommodation:
Seven Villas, Johannesburg; Sediba Luxury Safari Lodge; Kloof Street Hotel, Cape Town
- Meals: 11 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 10 Dinners
- Local Guides + Tour Facilitator
- Private transportation and airport transfers
- Flight from Johannesburg to Cape Town
- Entrance and activity fees, speaker honoraria
- Customary gratuities for all providers
- Pre-departure & on-ground support



January 5: Welcome to South Africa

Arrive in Johannesburg and transfer to your hotel. The tour starts with a welcome dinner and orientation.



January 6: City of Gold

Begin your journey with an immersive day meeting urban farmers and local businesses, becoming acquainted with the people, energy and rhythm of Johannesburg.

Delve into the complexity of the country's divisive past at Constitution Hill, a former prison that today houses South Africa's Constitutional Court. Move across urban rooftops and pass through bustling markets for a better sense of the local reality. After lunch, move through inner-city precincts and hangouts that showcase arts, entrepreneurship, crafts and the trajectory of a multicultural evolution. Conclude the day with a special storytelling dinner, discussing how the recent pandemic acted as a catalyst for alternative urban living towards a more livable, inclusive future metropolis.

January 7: From Soweto to Democracy

Visit Soweto with a trusted expert, before walking the streets where Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Tutu once lived. Have lunch on your own along lively Vilikazi Street, before visiting the Apartheid Museum to learn about South Africa's dark past of racial division, and the consequences of deep rooted structural and economic inequalities. Have a special group dinner at Sanctuary Mandela, established at the home of the late leader.



January 8: Human Origins & National Heritage

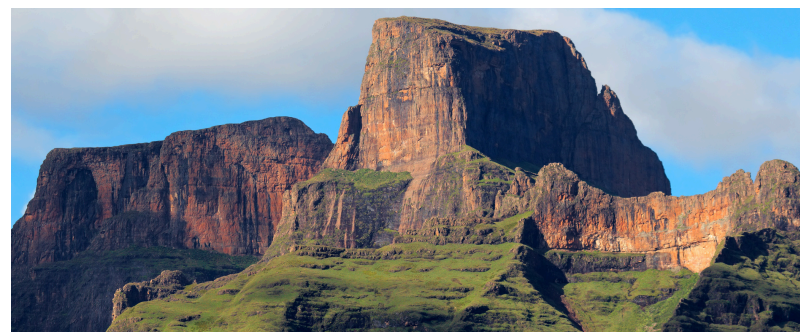
Head to the Cradle of Humankind, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, for an exclusive perspective on the origins of humankind. This unique experience takes us to the Malapa dig site, where significant discoveries like Homo Naledi and Australopithecus Sediba have reshaped our understanding of human evolution. After lunch on your own at an outdoor mall with a number of cafes, continue to South Africa's capital city of Pretoria. Make a visit of reflection to the Voortrekker Monument, a citadel built to reflect the struggle and glory of the Afrikaners who would establish an apartheid state. Arrive at Dinokeng Nature Reserve for the evening, where further conversation on countryside heritage accompanies a traditional "braai" barbeque dinner.

The next morning, visit nearby Mandela Village and Kekana Gardens for a township experience highlighting the community's unique heritage and artistic traditions.



January 9 - 11: Conservation & Environment

Spend three nights in an area dedicated to the regeneration of the land while building a best-in-class Big 5 game reserve. Early morning and afternoon, evening game drives will surprise and delight with up-close views of a large variety of Africa's iconic animals. Meet the Reserve's conservation experts to learn about the interplay between conservation, the regeneration of rangelands and the need for world-class security to protect the ecosystem. Relax with fine dining, comfortable surroundings and under stunning night skies.





Itinerary, continued

January 12: Reaching the Cape

Transfer back to OR Tambo (JNB) and fly into CPT, landing in the late afternoon. Take a scenic drive upon arrival to reach a traditional wine farm dinner with sunset views. Continue to your accommodations in Cape Town for the evening.



January 13: Colonization and its Aftermath

Today's tour of the peninsula features Cape Town guides leading a "dual narrative" presentation on colonisation, and how it shaped the development trajectories of the area. The history and international context provide background for understanding lived realities of marginalized communities. Follow some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world to Chapman's Peak Drive, then have a group lunch around Noordhoek or Scarborough. Meet fishermen and entrepreneurs, visit an African Penguin colony and learn how to spot sharks with a unique safety initiative that uses ancient skills to keep modern bathers and surfers safe. In the evening, meet a leader of the Rhodes Must Fall Movement to learn about their mission and approach to social change. Enjoy dinner on your own and an evening at leisure.



January 14: Tavern of the Seas

Begin the day on a cable car ride up Table Mountain to take in the beauty of the Cape Peninsula. Grab lunch from one of several restaurants near your hotel, then head to the District 6 Museum, which presents the stories of those most impacted by policies of apartheid. Continue into the Cape Flats, tracing family and community histories through local memorials and a traditional roadhouse. Next, immerse in a unique experience bringing the Cape to life through music and poetry, followed by a traditional home hospitality dinner. Discuss issues of food security and learn about efforts to provide marginalized communities a larger role in city governance.



January 15 : Recipes of Truth & Reconciliation

Visit the Desmond and Leah Tutu Foundation, a site dedicated to the life and work of the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a central figure in the anti-apartheid movement. Learn from a special exhibit on the collaboration between Tutu and the Dalai Lama on "joy." Stop in a comfortable commercial area offering options for a quick lunch on your own, then transition to an afternoon of food cultures, including tastings of South African delicacies - wine, beer and traditional isiXhosa snacks. The experience is curated by an emerging group of Black vintners, hosted at the sommelier's home in Langa, a venue far apart from the traditional, plantation-style wine farm. Take time for closing discussion and reflection, then continue to a festive dinner in Salt River - a Food Jam - where master chefs will share how they meld together the flavors of Africa.

January 16: Departure

Check out and transfer to the airport for your departing flights home.

DETAILS ON THE VICTORIA FALLS EXTENSION BELOW

Registration @ mejditours.com/open-tour/lewis-and-clark-south-africa-2026



Lewis and Clark College
VICTORIA FALLS OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION TOUR

TOUR DATES: January 3 - 5, 2026

Experience the wonders of Zimbabwe on this 3-day journey of Victoria Falls.

- Walk beside one of the world's greatest waterfalls, guided through its misty trails and panoramic viewpoints.
- Cruise the Zambezi River while spotting wildlife like elephants and hippos in their natural habitat.
- Connect with rescued elephants in an ethical sanctuary setting and learn about vital conservation efforts.

PRICING: \$1,995 per person

INCLUDED:

- 2 nights' at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge
- Meals: 2 breakfasts [B], 1 lunch [L], 2 dinners [D]
- Private guiding for two days
- Private transportation
- Arrival airport transfers
- Flight fare from VFA > JNB
- Entrance fees, site visits, & activities
- Pre-trip travel guidance & on-ground support

TOUR ITINERARY

January 3: Arrival

Arrive to Victoria Falls by 2pm local time and transfer to your accommodations. Have time to rest and explore near the lodge, with dinner provided at your convenience.

January 4: Victoria Falls

Head to iconic Victoria Falls in the morning for a guided walking tour of the awe-inspiring cascade, known locally as Mosi-oa-Tunya - "The Smoke That Thunders." Take in the breathtaking panoramas and sheer power of this iconic UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a group lunch at the Lookout Cafe, perched on the edge of the Batoka Gorge, then return to the lodge for a revitalizing wellness spa treatment. Enjoy a sunset dinner cruise on the Zambezi River, watching elephants, hippos and crocodiles gather along the banks.

January 5: Elephant Sanctuary & Departure

Make a special visit to the Elephant Camp for a meaningful, up close experience in a sanctuary setting. Learn about conservation efforts while spending time with these spectacular species. Have a light breakfast at the camp before gathering your bags and transferring to the airport for your departing flights. Travel onward to Johannesburg.

