

14 DAY SELF DRIVE HOLIDAY
CAPE TOWN, GARDEN ROUTE + SAFARI

(one way – Cape Town to PE)

THE LILIZELA TOURISM AWARDS 2019 NATIONAL WINNER 2019

Discover the highlights of South Africa's Western and Eastern Cape at your own pace on this flexible self-drive holiday. Journey from Cape Town to the Cape Winelands and along the iconic Garden Route, before ending with an unforgettable Big 5 safari in the malaria-free Eastern Cape.

Every Earthstompers holiday is fully customizable, so please chat to your tour consultant to tailor the itinerary or accommodation to suit your travel style.

Package includes:

- Car rental for the duration of your trip, with unlimited kilometres & full cover
- Airport meet & greet
- 13 nights' accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- Return Table Mountain Cableway tickets
- Two-night all-inclusive safari in the Eastern Cape
- Conservation & community support fees

Package price (September 2025 – August 2026):

Two Guests *(Cost per person sharing)*		Self-drive holiday price	Safari price	**Total package price**
5-star option	HIGH SEASON	R 108,550	R 48,334	**R 156,884 per person**
	LOW SEASON	R 91,750	R 42,470	**R 134,220 per person**
4-star option	HIGH SEASON	R 41,250	R 25,190	**R 66,440 per person**
	LOW SEASON	R 41,000	R 20,350	**R 61,350 per person**

Rates are indicative; final price varies by specific travel dates and room/vehicle category availability. Please enquire for a fixed quote - our consultants will be happy to advise on options to meet your group size, available dates & budget.

High season: September – April, excluding peak season of 15 December – 15 January; Low season: May – August.

Single supplements: Please inquire if you require a quote for single rooms.

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Itinerary:

Day 1: Cape Town arrival

Welcome to Cape Town! One of our friendly consultants will meet you at Cape Town International Airport, take you to get your rental car, and give you a briefing of what to expect during your self-drive holiday in South Africa. You have the rest of the day at leisure to shake of the jet lag, relax at your accommodation or to explore Cape Town and surrounding area on your own.

Included meals:	None
Included activities:	Airport meet & greet
Optional activities:	**Add more food & culture**: Welcome African dinner **Add more foodie**: Food & Wine pairing dinner at Reverie Social Table
Approximate driving time:	+/- 30 minutes, 25 km
Overnight:	Cape Town 5-star: Cape Cadogan Boutique Hotel Cape Town 4-star: Parker Cottage Guest House

Day 2: Cape Town City & Table Mountain

Guests can explore Cape Town at leisure today. We recommend riding to the top of the famous Table Mountain in a cable car, for magnificent views over Table Bay, Robben Island, The Cape Peninsula and Lions Head. Table Mountain tickets are included in your package – they can be used anytime within 7 days.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Included activities:	Return Table Mountain Cableway Tickets (valid for 7 days)
Optional activities:	**Add more history**: Robben Island Tour **Add more nature**: Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens **Add more foodie**: Lunch in the Bo-Kaap **Add more art**: Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa **Add more adventure**: Sunrise Lions Head or Table Mountain Hike **Add more convenience:** Upgrade to Fast track Table Mountain tickets (recommended in Peak seasons)
Approximate driving time:	+/- 2 hours, 80 km
Overnight:	Cape Town 5-star: Cape Cadogan Boutique Hotel Cape Town 4-star: Parker Cottage Guest House

Day 3: Cape Peninsula

We recommend a day outing to the Cape of Good Hope today. Explore Cape Point National Park on foot by taking a walk up to the lighthouse (or opt to take the "Flying Dutchman" funicular). Visit the Cape of Good Hope, the furthest southwestern point in Africa, for a great photo-op. Afterwards, visit the nearby African Penguin colony at Boulders Beach. Don't miss driving along Chapman's Peak on the way back, for one of the best views in the region.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Entrance fees:	Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve (guest pay entry fee on arrival) Visit to the African Penguin colony at Boulders Beach (guest pay entry fee on arrival)
Optional activities:	**Add more adventure:** Kayak near the Penguins **Add more adventure:** Snorkelling in the underwater kelp forest **Add more foodie:** Gourmet 6-course lunch, paired with herbal teas inspired by the local Cape floral kingdom





	Add more wine: Explore the Cape's oldest wine region with a tasting in Constantia
Approximate driving time:	+/- 3 hours, 130 km
Overnight:	Cape Town 5-star: Cape Cadogan Boutique Hotel Cape Town 4-star: Parker Cottage Guest House

Day 4: Cape Winelands

The Western Cape of South Africa is home to more than 500 wineries, and today we recommend visiting a few favourites in the Stellenbosch wine region. Some of our current recommendations are:

- Uva Mira, a boutique winery situated on the slopes of the Helderberg Mountain range
- Jordan Wine Estate, a picturesque family-owned estate
- Warwick, award-winning wines and the first estate to produce a 'Cape Blend'
- Stark-Condé, spectacular Cabernet Sauvignon with spectacular views
- Babylonstoren, at the foot of Simonsberg Mountain in the Franschhoek wine valley, with a fruit and vegetable garden of amazing beauty and diversity
- Boschendal, with its garden-to-table restaurant, historic manor buildings, garden picnics, and exceptional food & wine
- Muratie Wine Estate, a Stellenbosch farm dating back to 1685, one of the oldest estates in South Africa (with the cobwebs to prove it)
- Rust en Vrede, specializing in robust red wines like Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah
- Oldenberg, a hidden gem with great views of the Banhoek Valley

Alternatively, we can arrange a wine tour for you with one of our knowledgeable guides, so you don't have to worry about tasting and driving.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add a driver/guide:** Earthstompers Winelands day tour **Add more adventure:** Cycle or e-bike in the Cape Winelands **Add more perspective:** Scenic helicopter flip **Add more foodie:** Farm-fresh picnic lunch at Boschendal **Add more foodie:** "Soil to fork" seasonal lunch at Babel at Babylonstoren, or Faber at Avondale
Approximate driving time:	+/- 2.5 hours, 140 km
Overnight:	Stellenbosch 5 Star: Lanzerac Wine Estate Stellenbosch 4 Star: Oude Werf Hotel

Day 5: Stellenbosch – Hermanus

After breakfast, depart Stellenbosch and travel along the scenic Clarens Drive (R44) — one of the most beautiful coastal routes in South Africa. This winding road offers breathtaking views of rugged mountains and the sparkling False Bay coastline.

Stop in the seaside village of Betty's Bay to visit the Stony Point Penguin Colony**,** home to one of the largest African penguin colonies in the country. Enjoy watching these charming birds in their natural habitat before continuing your journey along the coast to Hermanus**.**

Arrive in Hermanus by early afternoon and spend the rest of the day exploring this picturesque coastal town. Depending on the season (June to November), you may spot southern right whales breaching just offshore. Stroll along the coastal path, browse the local shops and markets, relax at a coffee shop, or simply take in the ocean views and beaches that make Hermanus so special.





Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more adventure:** Cape Canopy Tour, ziplining in the Hottentots-Holland Nature Reserve **Add more wildlife:** Visit the African Penguin colony at Stoney Point
Approximate driving time:	+/- 2 hours, +/- 150 km
Overnight:	Hermanus 5 Star: The Marine Hotel Hermanus 4 Star: 1 Marine Drive Boutique Hotel

Day 6: Hermanus

Today is yours to enjoy at leisure in the beautiful coastal town of Hermanus**,** known as one of the world's top land-based whale-watching destinations.

During whale season (June to November)**,** you may spot southern right whales breaching just offshore — or join an optional whale-watching boat trip for a closer encounter. Adventure seekers can head to nearby Gansbaai for a thrilling shark cage diving experience, while golf enthusiasts may enjoy a round at one of Hermanus's scenic golf courses overlooking the ocean.

For a more relaxed day, explore the Hemel-en-Aarde Wine Valley, just a short drive inland, where boutique wine estates and farm-to-table restaurants await. Alternatively, take a leisurely stroll along the coastal path, visit the local markets and art galleries, or simply unwind at a café overlooking the sea.

Whether you're in the mood for adventure, fine wine, or pure relaxation, Hermanus offers the perfect setting to do it all, at your own pace.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more wildlife:** Whale watching boat trip (in season, July – November; must be pre-booked) **Add more adventure:** Shark Cage Diving in nearby Gansbaai **Add more wine:** Hemel & Aarde hop-on hop-off wine tour
Approximate driving time:	TBD – local exploration
Overnight:	Hermanus 5 Star: The Marine Hotel Hermanus 4 Star: 1 Marine Drive Boutique Hotel

Day 7: Hermanus – Cape Agulhas – Swellendam

After breakfast, depart the coastal town of Hermanus and travel through the beautiful Overberg region**,** a landscape of rolling hills, farmland, and small country villages.

Continue south to Cape Agulhas**,** the southernmost tip of Africa**,** where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans officially meet. Visit the historic Cape Agulhas Lighthouse and enjoy a short walk to the marker at the point — a memorable photo opportunity at the "End of Africa."

In the afternoon, journey inland towards Swellendam**,** one of South Africa's oldest and most charming towns. Surrounded by mountains and farmlands, Swellendam offers a perfect blend of history, architecture, and natural beauty. Arrive at your guesthouse in the late afternoon and enjoy some leisure time before dinner.



Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more nature:** Explore De Hoop or Marloth Nature Reserves
Approximate driving time:	+/- 3.5 hours, +/- 260 km
Overnight:	Swellendam 5 Star: Schoone Oordt Country House (suite) Swellendam 4 Star: Schoone Oordt Country House (room)

Day 8: Swellendam – Mossel Bay - Wilderness

Enjoy a leisurely morning at your guest house in Swellendam, with time to savour breakfast and the peaceful country surroundings before continuing your self-drive adventure toward the Garden Route**.**

Travel east and enter the Garden Route at Mossel Bay**,** known as the landing site of the first European mariners to round the southern tip of Africa. Spend some time exploring the town's beautiful beaches**,** or take a short hike along the Cape St. Blaize Trail**,** which offers spectacular views from the cliffs overlooking the Indian Ocean.

In the afternoon continue your journey along the coast to Wilderness**,** a tranquil seaside village surrounded by lakes, forests, and long stretches of beach. Arrive in the afternoon and settle into your guest house, where you can relax and enjoy the ocean views as the sun sets over the Garden Route.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more history:** Point of Human Origins Archaeological Tour **Add more adventure:** Ocean Zipline **Add more booze:** Gin tasting at the Cape Saint Blaize Distillery
Approximate driving time:	+/- 2.5 hours, +/- 250 km
Overnight:	Wilderness 5 Star: Views Boutique Hotel Wilderness 4 Star: Mes Amis Guest House

Day 9: Wilderness

Wake up at your guest house / hotel to the sound and view of the sea and enjoy a **l**eisurely breakfast before setting out to explore Wilderness at your own pace.

This idyllic seaside village is surrounded by ocean, lagoon, and forest, offering the perfect blend of relaxation and gentle adventure. Spend your day canoeing along the Touw River**,** taking long beach walks, or exploring the forest trails of Wilderness National Park.

Whether you prefer outdoor exploration or quiet seaside serenity, Wilderness invites you to slow down and savour the beauty of the Garden Route.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more nature**: Wilderness National Park hiking or canoeing
Approximate driving time:	TBD – local exploration
Overnight:	Wilderness 5 Star: Views Boutique Hotel Wilderness 4 Star: Mes Amis Guest House



Day 10: Wilderness – Knysna – Plettenberg Bay

After breakfast, continue your self-drive journey along one of South Africa's most scenic coastal stretches. Your first stop is the lagoon-side town of Knysna**,** famous for its warm-water estuary, lush indigenous forests, and the dramatic Outeniqua Mountains as a backdrop.

Take a drive to the spectacular Knysna Heads viewpoint, where towering sandstone cliffs frame the narrow channel connecting the lagoon to the Indian Ocean, one of the most photographed spots along the Garden Route.

In whale season (July to November), you may join a whale-watching boat trip for a chance to spot southern right or humpback whales breaching just beyond the Heads. Nature lovers can enjoy the Featherbed Eco Experience**,** a guided excursion combining a scenic ferry ride, nature walk, and breathtaking viewpoints over the lagoon. Alternatively, unwind on a relaxing sunset cruise and soak up the beauty of Knysna from the water.

Later, continue along the coast to Plettenberg Bay, where long beaches, ocean views, and charming seaside cafés make for the perfect end to your day.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more wildlife:** Whale Watching boat trip (in season, Jul – Nov) **Add more nature:** Featherbed Eco Experience or Paddle Cruiser **Add more Instagram moments:** Sunset Catamaran Cruise
Approximate driving time:	+/- 1.25 hours, 85 km
Overnight:	Plettenberg Bay 5 Star: The Plettenberg Hotel & Spa Plettenberg Bay 4 Star: Christiana Lodge

Day 11: Plettenberg Bay

After several days on the road exploring the Garden Route, enjoy a slow, easy morning and a leisurely breakfast before setting out to discover Plettenberg Bay at your own pace.

This beautiful coastal town offers plenty to see and do. Spend time relaxing on one of Plettenberg's golden beaches**,** enjoy lunch at one of the excellent seaside restaurants, or visit a nearby wine estate to sample some of the region's cool-climate wines.

If you're feeling more adventurous, take a hike in the Robberg Nature Reserve, a spectacular coastal trail offering dramatic sea views, sandy coves, and the chance to spot seals, dolphins, or even whales in season.

Whether you prefer to unwind by the ocean or explore the natural beauty of the coastline, Plettenberg Bay is the perfect place to pause and soak up the essence of the Garden Route.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Optional activities:	**Add more nature:** Hiking in Robberg Nature Reserve or Tsitsikamma National Park **Add more wildlife:** Whale Watching boat trip (in season, Jul – Nov) **Add more foodie**: Luka Vineyards **Add more local craft:** Mungo Mill
Approximate driving time:	TBD - local exploration





Overnight:	Plettenberg Bay 5 Star: The Plettenberg Hotel & Spa Plettenberg Bay 4 Star: Christiana Lodge

Day 12: Plett – Eastern Cape Safari

This morning, depart the Garden Route and make your way to the Eastern Cape for a malaria-free Big 5 safari. Check into your lodge in time for lunch, before heading out on a two-to-three-hour afternoon game drive. **Note:** Leave early (right after breakfast) to give yourself enough time to get to your safari lodge, so you can check in and enjoy lunch before your first game drive departs.

Note: Alternatively, you have the option of dropping of your rental car at Port Elizabeth airport, and flying onwards to Kruger or other destinations. Talk to our consultants about different safaris and options.

Included meals:	Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities:	Afternoon game drive safari
Approximate driving time:	+/- 3.5 hours, 310 km
Overnight:	Eastern Cape Safari 5 Star: Shamwari Eagles Crag Eastern Cape Safari 4 Star: Kariega Ukhozi Lodge

Day 13: Safari

Today is a full day to enjoy on safari. Go on morning and afternoon game drives on the private game reserve, hoping to spot the wildlife that Africa is famous for: lion, zebra, giraffe, hippo, and more. This area of the Eastern Cape is renowned for game viewing, and this is a great opportunity to see wildlife in its natural environment.

Included meals:	Breakfast, lunch & dinner
Included activities:	Morning & afternoon game drives
Approximate driving time:	2 game drives, approximately 2-3 hours each
Overnight:	Eastern Cape Safari 5 Star: Shamwari Eagles Crag Eastern Cape Safari 4 Star: Kariega Ukhozi Lodge

Day 14: Safari + drop off in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth)

After one final morning game drive, guests will drop off their rental car at Port Elizabeth Airport, where services will conclude. We recommend booking late afternoon or evening flights from Port Elizabeth, in order to allow enough time to enjoy the full morning game drive.

Included meals:	Breakfast
Included activities:	Morning game drive safari
Approximate driving time:	+/- 1.5 hours, 85 km (plus 2–3-hour morning game drive)
Overnight:	n/a



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Self-drive holiday notes, terms & conditions:

- Earthstompers, or its employees and agents shall not be responsible for and shall be exempt from any liability in respect of loss, damage, injury, accident, delay or inconvenience to any person or their luggage or other personal property under any circumstances whatsoever whilst participating in this package.
- Travelers are responsible for ensuring they have valid passports, visas, driver's licenses, and any required permits. To rent a car in South Africa, you must have a valid, unendorsed driver's license, with a minimum age usually of 18 or 21. Licenses must be in English with a photo; otherwise, an International Driving Permit (IDP) is required alongside your original license.
- Travelers are responsible for navigating routes, managing travel times, and adhering to local road laws. Driving times are estimations, and may vary due to road conditions and traffic. Please add extra time for meal, refreshment, or comfort breaks. The company is not responsible for delays caused by traffic, weather, road conditions, or personal scheduling changes. Accommodation check-in and check-out times must be respected.
- The vehicle rental is subject to the rental company's own terms and conditions. A security deposit may be required by the car rental company. Fuel, traffic fines, toll fees, and additional insurance costs are the responsibility of the renter.
- Please advise in advance if you require a car seat for children booked on the tour. Car seats are available at an additional charge.
- Any extras (meals, minibar, damages, additional services) must be settled directly with the accommodation/ activity/ service supplier, unless otherwise specified.
- Package price is dependent on group size and vehicle size. Should the group size fluctuate from the original quote, your Earthstompers consultant will provide you with a revised quote.
- Customised quotes are valid for 5 days.
- We require a 20% deposit to confirm services. The balance of the payment is due 60 days before departure.
- Cancellation policy:
    - Cancellation 31+ days before departure date: fee of 15% of total package price
    - Cancellation 30 days – 15 days before departure date: fee of 50% of total package price
    - Cancellation 14 days – 8 days before departure date: fee of 75% of total package price
    - Cancellation 7 days or less or no show for departure date: fee of 100% of total package price
    - Peak season (15 December – 15 January) payment and cancellation terms can differ – please ask your consultant for specific terms.
- Earthstompers makes use of hundreds of different hotels, guest houses, and safari lodges in our packages. Each of these has their own cancellation policies, which will prevail in the event of a cancellation. Please ask your tour consultant for specific terms.
- Earthstompers South African products are priced in South African Rand (R or ZAR). In case of a refund, any amount will be refunded in South African Rand, which then gets converted to your local currency by your bank or credit card company. Please note that due to currency fluctuations, the refund amount in your local currency might be higher or lower than the amount originally paid. In the case where a tour is paid for in a foreign currency, such as Euros or US Dollars, you will be informed of the amount received in Rand, and any refunds will be calculated based on the Rand amount received.
- We strongly recommend that clients take out travel insurance to cover fees in case of cancellations or other unforeseen circumstances.

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Cape Town TOURISM MEMBER

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