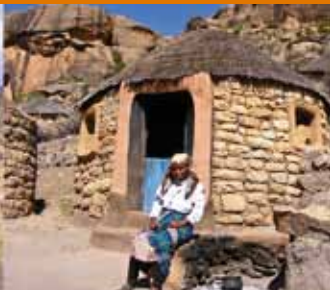


Drakensberg Adventures



Lesotho and Drakensberg Experts



www.drakensbergadventures.co.za



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KEY TO SYMBOLS USED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES



Great mountain scenery



Hiking



Horse riding



Culture

If the symbol is dominant, it is a major theme of the tour.

ABOUT DRAKENSBERG ADVENTURES

Simone and Russell Suchet started Sani Lodge in the Drakensberg Mountains in 1992. In 1998, we started Drakensberg Adventures as a tour company attached to the lodge. Russell is author of "A Backpacker's Guide to Lesotho" and we have used our extensive knowledge of the Drakensberg and Lesotho to set up a variety of excellent tours aimed at the backpacker seeking a trip with content! These have been designed not only to give quality and value for money, but also to benefit communities and the national park areas in the countries we visit. Community tourism is about sustainable and environment-friendly practice, and we do our best to support these aims. Our guides are all people with a passion for Lesotho and the Drakensberg, great respect for the Basotho people and a love for the job they do.

Our efforts have been recognised by Rough Guide who have included one of our tours in their new book "Clean Breaks: 500 New Ways to See the World"



Drakensberg Adventures

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HOW OUR TOURS WORK

We aim to provide our customers with a flexible and easy-to-use service. This means we will do our best to accommodate whichever tour you wish to do whenever you wish to do it.

Prices quoted for 2 day trips and longer are based on 4 people, but trips will run for 2 or 3 people at a higher price. Contact us to find out what existing trips have already been lined up which you could join. Booking can be done directly with us by phone or email, or you can book at participating hostels around the country.

Please note – we do not accept credit cards. Payment can be made in cash upon arrival or by prior bank deposit.

- Prices shown in this brochure are valid until the end of February 2011. After that see our website or contact us for latest prices.
- All tours which enter Lesotho require a valid passport. There are no exceptions.
- A few nationalities, mainly countries in Eastern Europe, South America and Asia, require visas for Lesotho, see our website or contact us to see if you need a visa
- If the tour includes meals, we can cater for vegetarians if given advance notice.
- Kit lists for essential items to bring on tours may be viewed on our website
- Tours depart from Sani Lodge at 0900 hours and return at 1700 hours unless stated otherwise on tour page.
- Children under 10 pay half price on tours and under 3 are free. However, enquire as to which tours are suitable for children.

WEATHER

Summer is the rainy season, meaning that the days are warm, often with an afternoon thunderstorm. There are occasional days of set-in rain. Raincoats are essential, but seldom does the weather completely disrupt a tour.

Winter is the dry season, meaning that the days are sunny and the nights clear and cold. There will often be an overnight frost, but it warms up very quickly once the sun rises. There are occasional snowfalls, but seldom enough to affect traffic on Sani Pass. Warm clothing is essential for nights.

COMMUNITY TOURISM

Mission Statement

Drakensberg Adventures has since its inception always strived to ensure that the tours set up are beneficial to communities by:

1. *Educating service providers about tourism*
2. *Securing a product in harmony with the community*
3. *Ensuring that as many people as possible benefit from the tours*
4. *Setting realistic expectations so that the tours can be sustainable and communities will feel that tourism is delivering benefits directly to them in terms of payments for services rendered and recognition of the importance of cultural practices.*

Our tours visiting the Sani Top area bring benefit to three segments of the local community by Setting aside funds as payment for:

- *a visit to a woman in Skiring village who offer wares to taste and buy*
- *a visit to the shearing shed*
- *the shepherds in the area. The funds are used to purchase blankets for them. In 2009 we distributed two batches of 30 blankets each!*

Our tours visiting No. 10 Riverside make a substantial contribution to the local economy benefiting:

- *Thabiso and his family (the main service providers and hence the major beneficiaries)*
- *Over 60 other people in the local community, including two dance/culture groups from neighbouring villages, the traditional healer, members of the community pony trekking association (who provide horses for visitors to ride), two evening entertainment groups and the local primary school.*

Our pony trekking tours support:

- *a local Basotho entrepreneur, horse guide Jacob*
- *the development of new businesses in remote villages where families provide accommodation and meals to pony trekking tourists.*

Our longer tours support Lesotho National Parks and other community tourism initiatives in various parts of the country.



By going on one of our tours, you are not only getting a unique and unforgettable experience, you are also helping bring positive benefits (both financial and morale boosting) to local communities through tourism! In the past 4 years, over R300 000 have flown directly into the eastern highlands of Lesotho through our tours.

SUMMARY OF TOURS AND RATES

The following apply to the period 1 March 2010 to 28 February 2011:

TOUR NAME	4 +	3	2
Day Tours			
SANI PASS DAY TOUR	R390	R390	R460
HODGSONS PEAKS DAY TOUR	R390	R390	R460
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BUSHMEN (full day)	R230	R230	R260
Village Experience Tours to No 10 Riverside			
2 DAY EASTERN LESOTHO VILLAGE EXPERIENCE	R1050	R1250	R1700
3 DAY EASTERN LESOTHO VILLAGE EXPERIENCE	R1500	R1800	R2400
Pony Trekking Tours			
2 DAY MOLUMONG PONY TREKKING TOUR	R1400	R1650	R2200
3 DAY MOLUMONG PONY TREKKING TOUR	R2150	R2525	R3250
4 DAY THABANA NTLINYANA PONY TREK TOUR	R2950	R3450	R4450
Sehlabathebe Tours			
2 DAY SEHLABATHEBE TOUR	R1450	R1850	R2650
3 DAY SEHLABATHEBE TOUR	R2100	R2650	R3800
4 DAY SEHLABATHEBE	R2800	R3450	R4800
Roof of Africa Tours			
3 DAY KATSE DAM	R2750	R3500	R4650
4 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA	R2950	R3700	R5100
5 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA	R3750	R4700	R6450
6 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA	R4350	R5600	R7600
Southern Lesotho Explorer:			
3 DAY SOUTHERN LESOTHO EXPLORER	R2250	R2750	R3750
4 DAY SOUTHERN LESOTHO EXPLORER	R2800	R3450	R4800
5 DAY SOUTHERN LESOTHO EXPLORER	R3600	R4400	R6000

For Guided Hiking rates, see pages 10 and 11

SANI PASS DAY TOUR



This popular day tour gives an all round taste of Lesotho via the spectacular gateway of the Sani Pass. Travel up the only road through the Drakensberg cliffs in a 4x4, hearing tales of the pioneering of the route, learn about the natural history of the Drakensberg and see the beautiful wildflowers, wildlife and birds which inhabit the slopes. Crossing into Lesotho at Sani Top, we enter another world altogether! We drive further into Lesotho, crossing the Sani Flats to visit a small shepherd's village. Get a feel for the unique way of life, including sheep shearing in season. Ascend Black Mountain, second highest road pass in Lesotho and picnic with stunning views. We take a short walk to view the highest point in Southern Africa, then return via a stop at Sani Top Chalet for a drink in the highest pub in Africa.

Passports essential. Tour departs from Sani Lodge at 0900 hours and returns at 1700 hours.

COST R390pp including lunch (R460pp if only 2)



HODGSON'S PEAKS DAY TOUR



This trip starts like the Sani Tour by ascending the Sani Pass in a 4x4 vehicle. Parking at Sani Top, we set off on a 4 hour (return) hike to climb the highest peak on this section of the southern Drakensberg, Hodgson's Peaks (also called "The Giant's Cup") at 3256m. This guided hike crosses alpine meadowland, past flocks of sheep and Angora goats minded by shepherds, before the final climb to the peak. Situated on the edge of the escarpment, the summit provides a satisfying climb and superb 360 degree views of the Drakensberg, the KZN midlands and in to the mountainous interior of Lesotho. The hike is of a moderate level of difficulty with no technical climbing involved. The hike ends with a celebratory drink at Sani Top Chalet, the highest pub in Africa!

Passports essential. Tour departs from Sani Lodge at 0745 hours.

COST R390 pp including lunch (R460 for 2)



IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BUSHMEN



The Drakensberg Mountains, besides their natural beauty, are home to one of the largest outdoor art galleries in the world. There are hundreds of painted shelters with literally thousands of individual paintings in them. This amazing treasure trove was left behind by the Bushmen, who inhabited the Drakensberg for at least 10 000 years. All rock art sites within the national park area can only be visited with an accredited guide.

“In the footsteps of the Bushmen” is a guided day hike requiring moderate fitness. Our knowledgeable and accredited guide will lead you through the Drakensberg grasslands, pointing out animals, birds and wild flowers. Frequent stops along the way allow us to tell the story of a unique people: their history, lifestyle, religious beliefs and their tragic end. The highlight of the day is 3 different panels of rock art, untouched and in pristine condition. We shall give you the latest interpretations of the meaning of these fascinating and ancient works of art.

Hike departs from Sani Lodge at 0800 hours.

COST R230 pp including lunch (R260pp if only 2)



GUIDED OVERNIGHT HIKING



Let our expert and knowledgeable hiking guides help you get the most out of the wonderful hiking opportunities in the Drakensberg Mountains.

OPTION 1: *Set Route Hikes: 2 Day Hike – Gxalingenwa Cave*

This two day guided hike goes up the beautiful Gxalingenwa valley into the wilderness areas of the Drakensberg to Gxalingenwa Cave. Sparkling pools (great swimming), waterfalls, indigenous forest, Bushman rock art sites and spectacular views. Overnight in the cave, return via Ndlovini mountain (2208m). **Hike departs from Sani Lodge at 0800 hours**

COST R575pp (3 or more) (R1550 for 1, R800pp for 2)



OPTION 2: *4 Day Trip To Thabana Ntlenyana (Highest Point In Southern Africa 3482m)*

DAY 1 Travel by 4x4 up Sani Pass and into Lesotho (passports essential). Arrive at No. 10 Riverside where we stay the night at the home of the Nkune family. Get a real taste of Basotho culture.

DAY 2 Depart on foot for Thabana Ntlenyana. Luggage can be carried by yourself or on the back of packhorses. Overnight in a rustic shepherds dwelling ("motebo").

DAY 3 Hike to the peak itself, return to the motebo for the night

DAY 4 Return on foot to No. 10 Riverside and return by 4x4 vehicle to Sani Lodge

COST R2450pp (R4250pp for 2, R3000pp for 3)

OPTION 3: *Nek To Nek Traverse*

A guided and catered 4 day hike in the rugged mountains between Ongeluksnek and Qachas Nek along the Eastern Cape/Lesotho border. The group is guided by local people, overnight in comfortable rondavels and communities cater all meals. Your luggage can even be transported from hut to hut if you wish.

COST R2750pp (R4500 for 2, R3350 for 3)



OPTION 4: *Tailor Made Hikes*

The guides we work with will happily tailor make a hike for you if you have specific requirements. Chat to us and we will put you in direct contact with them in order that they may ascertain your level of fitness and exactly what you wish to get out of your hiking experience. They will lead you anywhere in the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park and in the mountainous region of Eastern Lesotho.



Port Eliz



A VILLAGE EXPERIENCE IN E. LESOTHO



Community tourism at its best! We take you by 4x4 up Sani Pass, over the second highest road pass in Lesotho, then down into remote eastern Lesotho valleys. Lunch by inviting pools and rock waterslides, then on into typical highlands villages. We stop at the home of Thabiso Nkune and his family at the quaintly named "No. 10 Riverside". They will help you to appreciate and understand their lifestyle and that of the mountain people. Our time in the area includes a visit to a traditional healer, traditional dancing and a demonstration of the artefacts people use in their daily lives, a wander through the villages observing the rhythm of life and the possibility of visiting the local primary school. Horse riding is an optional extra. Hiking up a nearby peak or into an enticing valley is another option. Enjoy traditional meals with the family, a special opportunity to interact and benefit from seeing life from a different perspective. This tour is designed to benefit as many people in the local community as possible.

2 DAY TRIP

COST R1050pp (R1700pp for 2, R1250pp for 3)





3 DAY TRIP

"TOTAL IMMERSION" Stay 2 nights at No. 10 and get into the pace of life in the mountains. You'll feel like you are part of the community when the time comes to leave. Trip includes a visit to the highlands town of Mokhotlong.

COST R1500pp (R2400pp for 2, R1800pp for 3)



MOLUMONG PONY TREKKING TRIPS



These tours travel up the Sani Pass in a 4x4, continuing over Black Mountain Pass and down into the valleys to our riding base at Molumong Lodge.

2 DAY TRIP Saddle up after lunch for an afternoon's ride to Libibing village where we stay the night in traditional accommodation. Follow a different route back to Molumong by lunch on day 2, then return via a drink at the highest pub in Africa. A lot to pack in on a short trip!

COST R1400pp (R2200pp if 2, R1650pp for 3)

3 DAY TRIP For those with the extra day, this trip gives a fuller appreciation of pony trekking and the terrain! A more leisurely journey to Molumong, lunch and a swim at the river. Arrive in time for a 2 hour ride, stay the night at Molumong. After breakfast on day 2, set off for a full day ride to Malubelube village, high in the mountains where we stay the night in traditional accommodation. Day 3 back to Molumong via a different route by lunch and return to Sani Lodge via the pub!

COST R2150pp (R3250pp if 2, R2525pp for 3)





Rough Guide have included this tour as one of 500 products they suggest will give you a new way to see the world in their book "Clean Breaks".

4 DAY TRIP A leisurely journey over the legendary Sani Pass to Molumong, with an optional 2 hr late afternoon ride through the beautiful surrounding villages. Night at Molumong Lodge set in an old trading complex. Serious riding starts on day 2 as we set off on a full day ride towards the highest point in southern Africa, Thabana Ntlenyana (3482m). Overnight in a rustic shepherd's hut on a high ridge. Day 3 is the longest ride (30kms) and sees us riding to the summit, returning to stay the night in a village. Day 4 return to Molumong Lodge for lunch and return to Sani Lodge via the Highest Pub in Africa!

Long hours in the saddle but with the rewards of spectacular and isolated high altitude mountain scenery– determined riders only!

COST R2950pp (R4450pp for 2, R3450pp for 3)





Let us show you the wonders of Lesotho's oldest national park, the high plateau country of Sehlabathebe.

4 DAY TRIP Day 1 takes us through the picturesque farmland of East Griqualand, once known as "Nomansland" to Masakala Community Guest House near Matatiele in South Africa. See the traditional activities of the 3 communities who live there, Xhosa, Sotho and Phuti. On day 2, we travel via the scenic road pass of Ramatseliso's Gate. Crossing into Lesotho, the road follows the southern border to Sehlabathebe. That afternoon and all of day 3 are available to explore the wonders of the park on foot or on horseback – secret pools, weird rock formations, waterfalls, massive rock overhangs, Bushman rock art and wonderful nature. Accommodation will be at the Park Lodge, a wonderful setting with dams and rock formations overlooked by the high peaks of the "Devil's Knuckles". If we are unable to get a booking here as space is limited, we will stay at Mabothe Lodge in the village outside the park boundary. Day 4 is a unique experience – cross an international border on horseback or on foot! The local guide will escort you down Bushmans Nek Pass to the South African border post at the bottom while our vehicle travels round to meet you. Return to Sani Lodge.

COST R2800pp (R4800pp if 2, R3450pp for 3)



3 DAY TRIP

As per 4 day, except we leave out Masakala and drive straight to Sehlabathebe by early afternoon on day 1.

COST R2100pp (R3800pp if 2, R2650pp for 3)



2 DAY TRIP

Quickie up and down! As per 3 day trip but no full day to spend in the park.

COST R1450pp (R2650pp if 2, R1850pp for 3)

THE ROOF OF AFRICA/KATSE DAM



3 DAY KATSE DAM TOUR

Day 1 Depart in a 4x4 vehicle, up Sani Pass and over Black Mountain Pass towards Mokhotlong. Take the road via Menoaneng Pass and Thaba Tseka to arrive at Katse in the late afternoon after a full day of travel. Overnight at Katse Cottages.

Day 2: Full day in Katse can include any of the following activities: tour of the dam wall, a boat trip on Katse Dam, a village visit into a village near the dam wall, a wander around Katse Botanical gardens or a couple of hours of horse riding. Overnight at Katse Cottages

Day 3: Return to Sani lodge with a full day's travel along the same route as Day 1.

COST R2750pp (R4650pp if 2, R3500pp for 3)



5 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA TOUR

Day 1 Depart in 4x4 vehicle, up Sani Pass, over Black Mountain Pass and down the Sehonghong River valley, lunch by the river, then on to our overnight stop at No 10 Riverside to stay with the Nkune family. Afternoon getting a taste of the traditional lifestyle and culture of the highlands.

Day 2 Drive on over Menoaneng Pass (3045m) and down to the Senqu (Orange) River valley, through beautiful scenery of peaks, cultivated fields and villages. Arrive at Katse Dam in time for tour of the dam wall. Overnight Katse Cottages

Day 3 Enjoy the early morning at Katse Dam, then depart and drive north following the length of the dam, climbing out of the Malibamatso valley to the Bokong National Park. A short walk to view the Lepaqa Waterfall. Over Mafika Lisu Pass (3090m) and on to Ts'ehlanyane Nature Reserve. Overnight Ts'ehlanyane Guest Cottage

Day 4 Ts'ehlanyane is a gem! A tract of unspoilt wilderness, with mature forests of leucosidea trees, beautiful rivers, pools, waterfalls and soaring peaks which you can explore with a local guide, either on foot or on horse back! Overnight Ts'ehlanyane Guest Cottage.

Day 5 Full day's drive back to Sani Lodge. Visit the Liphofung Cultural Reserve. Then ascend the hairpins of the Moteng Pass and on to the "Roof of Africa" route past the diamond mine at Letseng, past Mokhotlong, stopping for a drink at the highest pub in Africa before returning to Sani Lodge.

COST R3750pp (R6450pp for 2, R4700pp for 3)

4 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA TOUR

as for 5 day tour but leave out day 4, the full day at Tsehlanayane
The third night is spent at Mamohase Homestay near Butha Buthe.

COST R2950pp (R5100pp if 2, R3700pp for 3)



6 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA TOUR

as for 5 day tour but spend night at Molumong Lodge at the end of day 5. Day 6 allows time for a morning horse ride or hike in the vicinity of Molumong. The journey from Ts'ehlanyane back to Sani Lodge is much slower, allowing for more stops along the way.

COST R4350pp (R7600pp if 2, R5600pp for 3)

SOUTHERN LESOTHO EXPLORER



Join us on this voyage of exploration as we visit an untouched part of Lesotho, staying in community run tourism ventures in remote villages and hiking and/or horse riding to beautiful, seldom visited areas, deep in the spectacular mountains between the mighty Senqu river valley and the southern border of Lesotho!

5 DAY TOUR

DAY 1 Sani Lodge via Qachas Nek border post to Ha Thlaku village. Arrive late afternoon, possibility for a short hike. Overnight in village accommodation .

DAY 2 Horse ride to the edge of the escarpment (border with South Africa). This is a very long ride – 8 hours in the saddle and will appeal to the more experienced rider. Other more gentle riding options exist, as well as hiking options, all led by local guides. In the late afternoon, we travel on to Moorosi Chalets where we stay the night.

DAY 3 Full day exploring the area on foot which includes the historical battlefield of Mount Moorosi and a series of great swimming pools in the Quthing river nearby. Overnight at Moorosi Chalets.

DAY 4 Travel to Quthing to see the dinosaur footprints and the 19th century mission cave house at Masitise. Travel 50km off the main route to the community tourism enterprise in the remote village of Ha Liphapang. Afternoon horse-riding or hiking into remote valleys to good Bushman painting sites.

DAY 5 Return via the beautiful and little used pass through the mountains at Ongeluksnek. The route follows the Quthing river valley and climbs deep into the mountains, past villages where vehicles are seldom seen. The last section to the border passes the unique alpine lake, Letseng-la-Letsie. The road from Ongeluksnek returns to Sani Lodge via Matatiele.

COST R3600pp (R6000pp for 2, R4400pp for 3)



4 DAY TOUR

As for the 5 day trip, but excluding the day at Ha Thlaku. Day 1 drives direct from Sani Lodge to Moorosi Chalets.

COST R2800pp (R4800pp for 2, R3450pp for 3)



3 DAY TOUR

This trip only goes to Ha Thlaku, spending a full day there doing the long horse-ride to the edge of the escarpment – 8 hours in the saddle and appealing to the more experienced rider. We stay the second night at Ha Thlaku and for those willing to make an early start, part of the morning of day 3 is available to ride some more or do a short hike before setting off on the return journey.

COST R2250pp (R3750pp for 2, R2750pp for 3)



SPECIAL ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGE DEALS

These packages run any time with any number. They include dormitory accommodation at Sani Lodge, all meals and tours as detailed:

ESSENTIAL DRAKENSBERG 3 Nights/2 days

Sani Pass and In the Footsteps of the Bushmen

COST R1130 (Children under 10 – R710pp)

HIKERS HEAVEN 4 nights/3 days

Hodgsons Peaks, In the footsteps of the Bushmen and self guided day hike.

COST R1370 (Children under 10 – R900pp)

Accommodation can be upgraded to double or rondavel with payment of a supplement. Contact us for details.



Check out the Sani Lodge website at www.sanilodge.co.za for information on accommodation before and after your tour, or call on **(033) 7020330**

Normal vehicles can reach Sani Lodge by road without difficulty and for the independent traveller, a number of transport options exist from Durban, Pietermaritzburg or Kokstad.