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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.
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.

We received recognition with a Silver Award at the 2016 African Responsible Tourism Awards in the category “Poverty Alleviation” for our efforts to spread the benefits of tourism as widely as possible.

We were also recognised by Rough Guide who have included one of our tours in their book “Clean Breaks: 500 New Ways to See the World”

Drakensberg Adventures
based at Sani Lodge Backpackers, 10.5km on Sani Pass road, Southern Drakensberg, KZN, South Africa

Phone +27 (0) 33 7020330 • Cell +27 (0) 83 9873071
Try booking office landline first and cell if no success.

E Mail info@drakensbergadventures.co.za
Web www.drakensbergadventures.co.za
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 1, 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: Payment can be made in cash upon arrival, by credit card at the lodge or by Exchange4free, prior bank deposit or paypal.

- Prices shown in this brochure are valid until the end of February 2018. 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 or go to www.lesothoembassy.ie/consular-services/visa-information.html Visas must be acquired in advance.
- 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 around 17-17.30 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.
- South Africa has introduced new regulations for children to cross our border. Contact us for a more detailed explanation.

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.
### SUMMARY OF TOURS AND RATES

The following apply to the period 1 March 2017 to 28 February 2018.

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<tr>
<th>TOUR NAME</th>
<th>3+ pax</th>
<th>2 pax</th>
<th>1 pax</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Day Tours</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SANI PASS DAY TOUR</td>
<td>R700</td>
<td>R800</td>
<td>R1550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HODGSONS PEAKS DAY TOUR</td>
<td>R700</td>
<td>R800</td>
<td>R1300</td>
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<tr>
<td>IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE BUSHMEN (full day hike)</td>
<td>R470</td>
<td>R530</td>
<td>R920</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Eastern Lesotho Village Experience Tours</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 DAY</td>
<td>R1875</td>
<td>R2275</td>
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<td>3 DAY</td>
<td>R2675</td>
<td>R3200</td>
<td>R4250</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pony Trekking Tours</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 DAY MOLUMONG</td>
<td>R2350</td>
<td>R2825</td>
<td>R3800</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 DAY TOUR MOLUMONG</td>
<td>R3525</td>
<td>R4150</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 DAY THABANA NTLENYANA PONY TREK TOUR</td>
<td>R4600</td>
<td>R5350</td>
<td>R6850</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| **Combination Village Experience/Pony Trek Tour** | | | |
| 3 DAY VILLAGE/PONY COMBINATION | R3300 | R3900 | R5075 |

| **Sehlabathebe Tours** | | | |
| 3 DAY | R3250 | R4050 | R5625 |
| **Roof of Africa Tours (all inclusive)** | | | |
| 4 DAY | R4375 | R5400 | R6975 |
| 5 DAY Tour | R6750 | R8250 | R10175 |

| **Classic Lesotho (excludes activities)** | | | |
| 7 DAY TOUR | R9300 | R11325 | R14125 |

| **Semonkong Abseil (all inclusive)** | | | |
| 3 DAY TOUR | R4650 | R5400 | R6925 |

| **Guided Overnight Hiking:** | | | |
| Thabana Ntlenyana from No.10 Riverside | | | |
| 4 DAY TRIP, 2 ½ DAY SUPPORTED HIKE | R4125 | R4775 | R6075 |
| Molumong Village Hikes (slackpacking) | | | |
| 2 DAY Trip | R1900 | R2575 | R3525 |
| 3 DAY Trip | R3200 | R3800 | R5050 |
| 4 DAY Trip | R4200 | R4950 | R6475 |

| **2 DAY GXALINGENWA CAVE HIKE** | | | |
| 3+ pax | 2 pax | 1 pax |
| 2 DAY GXALINGENWA CAVE HIKE | R950 | R1375 | R2675 |
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 household in Skiring village
- a visit to the shearing shed
- the shepherds in the area. The funds are used to purchase blankets for them. Since 2009 we have distributed 415 blankets to shepherds!

Our tours visiting No. 10 Riverside make a substantial contribution to the local economy benefiting:
- The Nkune family (the main service providers and hence the major beneficiaries)
- Over 74 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), and two evening entertainment groups.

We have established relationships with two local primary schools, Mphere and Ha Tseko. Our objective is to provide support to enhance the learning environment for the learners at the schools. In March 2013, we handed over two sets of football kit, one to each school, for the use of their 1st football teams. This
was celebrated by a match between the two schools. We have also provided
the THRASS English learning system and other educational materials such as the
WESSA Envirokids magazine. The past year has seen monies earned through tour-
ism paying for the construction of a new classroom at each school. Ha Tseko’s
new classroom was officially opened in November 2016.

Our pony trekking tours support:
- a local Basotho entrepreneur, horse operators: the Nthloki family
- 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.

Since the inception of our longer tours in 2005/6, over R4 million has been
earned by our Basotho partners and stakeholders. Joining one of our tours
therefore offers you not only a unique and unforgettable experience, but also
directly benefits local communities financially and via respect for their culture.

PHOTOS We encourage visitors to print some
of the best photos they take of anyone they
encounter in Lesotho and to send them to
us at Sani Lodge. People in Lesotho do not
own cameras, and absolutely love receiving
actual printed photos of themselves. If you
post them back to us at Sani Lodge, we will
take them into Lesotho on future tours and try
and ensure that the photo reaches its right-
ful owner! Post photos to us at P.O. Box 485,
Underberg, 3257, South Africa.
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, hear 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. Tour price includes contributions to the household we visit, the shepherd community and in season, the shearing shed.

Passports essential. Tour departs from Sani Lodge at 0900 hours and returns at 17-17.30 hours.

**COST** R700pp including lunch & village contributions (R800pp if only 2)
CONTROVERSY OVER THE FUTURE OF THE ROAD

In 2005, the South African government started a process proposing to upgrade the Sani Pass with a hard surface. This was part of a joint project with Lesotho to upgrade the whole route across that country. On the Lesotho side of the border, the road from Mokhotlong to Sani Top has been tarred by a Chinese contractor and was completed at the end of 2015. They had little regard to local people, their land and crops, or to the environment.

On the South African side, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process had to be followed before any work can begin. The EIA began in 2007, and after much public consultation, was concluded in late 2012. The EIA report then went to the South African Department of Environmental Affairs, and they gave their decision in mid-2013. To the delight of most local people on both sides of the border, the decision was that the upgrade could take place, but only with an upgraded gravel surface which would preserve the character of the Pass itself. However, the Department of Transport appealed, and in mid-2014, the Minister handed down her decision in upholding the appeal and giving permission for the hard surface. A very sad day indeed! Work began with bridge and culvert construction in November 2016. 3 years have been allocated for the first phase to the South African border post, then a further 2 years to complete the road to the top, although past experience suggests it will take much longer.
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 of around 7km each way 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 08.15 hours and returns at 16-17.30 hours.**

While the Drakensberg Bushmen are sadly no more, there are other living Bushman communities within South Africa. One of these are the ‡Kho-Mani Bushmen who live in the Kalahari, Northern Cape province, just south of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. In tribute to the memory of the artists who painted the rock art we visit, and their now disappeared communities, we take a R30 “levy” from the tour price and put this towards
an educational development project for the ‡Khomani Bushman community.

Our funds were initially used to support “Heritage Picnics”, where elders would instruct young children in tracking and gathering skills which would otherwise be lost. In 2016, a primary school dedicated to the ‡Khomani community was opened. In its second year now, one of its unique features is that a teacher is instructing the children in the Bushman language called N/u. While the original language spoken by Bushman clans in the area was N/u, most ‡Khomani speak Nama and/or Afrikaans, and N/u was almost an extinct language with only a handful of people left alive who could speak it. Dia Vaalbooi, who learnt N/u from her grandmother, is the teacher and our contributions will be used to fund her salary. A noble cause indeed, helping to save a language!!

We have introduced a new way to further support the ‡Khomani Bushmen and to add value to clients’ experience by adding in to the trip a small, authentic Bushman momento, a small craft item produced by the ‡Khomani Bushmen and which is included in the tour price.

For background to this fascinating community and their inspiring story, visit the ‡Khomani website at www.khomanisan.com

COST  
R470pp (R530pp if only 2) including lunch, Park entry permit & and Khomani craft item
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 Merino 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. Picnic lunch on the summit. 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 07.45 hours and returns at 17- 17.30 hours.

COST R700 pp including lunch (R800pp if only 2)
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 R1050pp (3 or more) (R3025 for 1, R1550pp for 2)**

**OPTION 2: 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.
OPTION 3: 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) or a tent nearby.

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 R4375pp (4 or more) (R6425pp for 2, R5050pp for 2)

OPTION 4: Lesotho Village Hikes: (Supported “slackpacking”)
These hikes can be 2, 3 or 4 day trips. The follow the same basic pattern as our Molumong Pony treks (see page 20), but instead of horse riding, you hike from village to village using more realistic hiking routes. Since accommodation and food is provided in all the villages, you only need to carry the bare minimum of luggage.
in a large day pack, making this an option for those not wanting to carry a large pack or pay large amounts of money for portered-type hikes. The tours travel the Sani Pass and into Lesotho. From Sani Top, we drive about 60km into Lesotho to arrive at Molumong village, about 60km into Lesotho after lunch time. This is the starting point for the hikes. The afternoon’s hike is around 6km and has an altitude gain of around 250m to the village of Libibing where we stay the night in traditional rondavel accommodation. On the 2 day hike, we return next morning via a different route to Molumong, after lunch driving back to Sani Lodge. On the 3 and 4 day hikes, we set off on a full day of hiking to our overnight stop in Malubelube village. Enjoy valleys, soaring peaks and views of the Senqu Valley. On the 3 day trip, we follow a shorter route back to Molumong, after lunch driving back to Sani Lodge. On the 4 day trip, we set off on another full day of hiking, a very special day as the route takes us over a high ridge and into the remote and seldom visited Bobatsi valley, overnighting in Bobatsi village. On day 4, we return to Molumong, after lunch driving back to Sani Lodge.

**COST**

2 DAY TRIP R1900pp (4 or more) (R3525pp for 2, R2575pp for 3)
3 DAY TRIP R3200pp (4 or more) (R5050pp for 2, R3800pp for 3)
4 DAY TRIP R4200pp (4 or more) (R6475pp for 2, R4950pp for 3)

All Pictures by M. Chaplin
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 along the way, then on into typical highlands villages. We stop at the home of the Nkune family at the quaintly named “No. 10 Riverside”. They will help you to appreciate and understand their lifestyle, 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. A special experience is the visit to the newly established Shepherds’ Evening 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 TOUR
Depart after lunch on day 2 and return via a drink at the Highest Pub in Africa to Sani Lodge by 5pm.

COST R 1875pp (R3075pp for 2, R2275pp for 3)

3 DAY TOUR – TOTAL IMMERSION
Spend an extra day with the Nkunes and have the time to really get a feel of the rhythm of life in the highlands. Climb a nearby peak, spend longer on horseback, help with the agricultural or cooking chores and become a part of the community!! There is also time to visit the highlands town of Mokhotlong.

COST R2675pp (R4250pp for 2, R3200pp for 3)
His wife and daughter have carried on with the business, and the continued success of the Eastern Lesotho Village Experience along with the African responsible Tourism Award are the finest monument to Ntate Thabiso.”
Classic Lesotho

Teyateyaneng
Thaba Bosiu
Roma
Malealea
Semonkong
Hlotse (Leribe)

Maseru
Morija

Lesotho

Quthing (Moyeni)
Ongeluksnek
Matatiele
Qacha’s Nek

Port Elizabeth
Ts’ehlanyane
Bokong
Katse Dam
Molweni

Liphofung
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.

**2 DAY TRIP**  Saddle up after lunch for an afternoon’s ride to Libibing village where we stay the night in traditional rondavel 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** R2350pp (R3800pp if 2, R2825pp for 3)

**3 DAY COMBINATION TOUR**  Combine the 2 day Village Experience with the 2 day Pony Trek – a popular choice giving you the best of both tours!

**COST** R3075pp (R4700pp if 2, R3625pp 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. We arrive at Molumong in mid-afternoon, saddle up and embark on a 2 hour ride to Libibing village where we spend the night in traditional rondavel accommodation. 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** R3300pp (R5075pp if 2, R3900pp for 3)

**4 DAY TRIP**  We offer two different 4 day pony trekking tour options:

**OPTION 1:** 4 Day Ride to Thabana Ntlenyana, the highest point in southern Africa! Accommodation in the *motebo* on day 2 is very basic and warm sleeping bags are
required. Guests may prefer to bring their own tents if the idea of sleeping in a very basic stone and thatch hut does not appeal.

Day 1 Start as for 2 day Eastern Lesotho Village Experience trip. Afternoon spent visiting nearby villages, seeing traditional dancing, artefacts and the healer. Overnight at No. 10 Riverside.

Day 2 Meet guide, saddle up and head off into the mountains. Ride up and up towards the summit of Africa! Stay the night in a motebo or shepherd’s dwelling on a high ridge.

Day 3 Follow the high ridge through soaring mountain scenery to Thabana Ntlenyana (3482m) highest point south of Mount Kilimanjaro! Start the journey back. Overnight in a motebo.

Day 4 Return on horseback to no. 10 Riverside for lunch. Stop off for a drink at the highest pub in Africa.

OPTION 2: 4 Day Village trek: This tour is an extension of the 3 day tour with an extra day added on to stay at another remote village, Bobatsi. It is a much gentler option than the Thabana Ntlenyana ride.

COST R4350pp (R6475pp for 2, R5350pp for 3)

Ntate Jakob Ntlhoki, our pioneering partner in these Pony Treks, tragically passed away in 2013. We have sadly lost an innovative, friendly and professional business partner, but more, we have all lost a friend! Tsamaea Hantle, Ntate! His brother John has taken over the running of the business and so these great trips continue.
SEHLABATHEBE NATIONAL PARK

On this 3 day tour, let us show you the wonders of Lesotho’s oldest national park, the high plateau country of Sehlabathebe. The centerpiece of these tours is the oldest National Park in Lesotho, Sehlabathebe National Park which was created by Lesotho’s first Prime Minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan. The park is a little known, secret jewel!! Explore the hidden gems of this park: soaring mountain vistas, secluded rock pools, waterfalls, rock dwellings, massive overhangs, rock art, rock arches and a beautiful and unique ecosystem of plants, birds and animals. The tours end with a unique way to cross from one country to another, via a border post which has a road coming into it from the South African side, but only a path on the Lesotho side.

Day 1 Travel through the picturesque farmland of East Griqualand, once known as “Nomansland”, and on via the seldom used and very scenic road pass of Ramatseliso’s Gate. Crossing into Lesotho, the road follows the southern border to Sehlabathebe. Arriving in late afternoon, there may be time for a short walk.

Day 2 A full day to spend in the wonderful nature of the Park. Walk or horse-ride. Option include climbing the Devil’s Knuckles, hiking to the beautiful Tsoelikana waterfall and the rock overhang mountain called Kepising. Bushman rock art abounds in the area.

Day 3 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 R3250pp (R5625pp if 2, R4050pp for 3)

SEHLABATHEBE ACCOMMODATION

Sadly, the historic Park Lodge where we used to stay has been closed to the public. We therefore have two accommodation options available, the fairly basic Mabotle Lodge in the nearby Sehlabathebe village, or at a very basic homestay with a family in Thamatu village offers a good insight into Basotho life.
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 Lepaqoa Waterfall. Over Mafika Lisiu Pass (3090m) and on to the town of Hlotse. Here we visit the excellent Leribe Craft Centre. On to Ts’ehlanyane National Park. Two nights and full board at riverside huts attached to 5 star Maliba Lodge.

**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!

**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** R6750pp (R10175pp for 2, R8250pp for 3)
4 DAY ROOF OF AFRICA TOUR
as for 5 day tour but leave out day 4, the full day at Tsehlanyane
The third night is spent at Mamohase Homestay near Butha Buthe.

**COST** R4375pp (R6975pp if 2, R5400pp for 3)
CLASSIC LESOTHO

7 DAYS
Let us show you a smorgasbord of what makes Lesotho such a special place. This is the classic trip, experiencing the Lodges who pioneered tourism in Lesotho and who are still at the cutting edge!! We spend 2 nights at each of three classic destinations, giving you 4 travel days through spectacular scenery and a full day at each of the Lodges we stay at where you can choose how you spend each day.

Day 1  Depart in our 4x4 via Underberg, Matatiele entering Lesotho through the scenic pass of Qachas Nek. We follow the beautiful deep valley of Lesotho’s main river, the Senqu (Orange). We then take the brand new road crossing the Senqu and its main tributary, the Senqunyane over massive bridges before climbing up, up and further up into the mountains. Arrive at Semonkong in the afternoon and settle in at Semonkong Lodge.

Day 2  Your day at Semonkong. Activity options (not included in the tour price) include:
- Viewing or hiking (guided or self-guided) to the impressive Maletsunyane Falls which tumble 200m into the carved gorge below.
- Semonkong Lodge’s speciality, abseiling down the Falls in what the Guinness Book of records has certified as the longest commercial abseil in the world
- Another of their specialities, pony trekking
- A demonstration of Basotho Blankets
- A donkey Pub Crawl

Day 3  Travel north from Semonkong over more stunning mountain passes, dropping down via Roma and on to the cradle of the Basotho nation, the mountain fortress of Thaba Bosiu. climb the mountain with a local guide who recreates the days of the founding king of Lesotho, Moshoeshoe the Great. We travel on south to Malealea Lodge.
Day 4 Your day at Malealea. Activity options (not included in the tour price) include:

- Pony Trekking – these guys were the pioneers of community pony trekking in Lesotho. A pony trek is one way of enjoying this wonderful area where lowlands meet highlands.
- Hiking – guided or self-guided
- Mountain biking - venture into the mountains, trails to suit all levels - single tracks, gravel roads, climbs and descents with spectacular views accompanied by local guide with knowledge of the routes and bicycle maintenance.
- Children’s choir and band with their home-made instruments.

Day 5 First stop after leaving is Morija and the only Museum in Lesotho which we visit to understand what makes Lesotho tick! On to Maseru, the nation’s capital for lunch, then crafters in Maseru, Teyateyaneng and Leribe before arriving at Maliba Lodge in Ts’ehlanyane National Park.

Day 6 Full day in Ts’ehlanyane. Activity options (not included in the tour price) include:

- Hiking to crystal clear pools and cascading waterfalls
- Pony trekking in the Park
- A village visit with Maliba Lodge to the nearby Ha Mali village.
- A massage treatment at their Wellness Centre.

Day 7 Travel via Butha Buthe to Liphofung Cultural Reserve. Climb out of the lowlands up Moteng Pass, coffee at Oxbow, then the Roof of Africa route, via Afri-ski, the diamond mine, past Mokhotlong and via the Sani Pass down to Sani Lodge.

Accommodation is in dormitories at Semonkong, En suite accommodation at Malealea and the Riverside Huts (Mountainside Retreat in winter) at Maliba. Supplement to upgrade at Semonkong.

Activities are NOT included in the tour price. There are many possibilities and you can make your own choices. Abseiling at Semonkong needs to be arranged ahead of time, other activities can be decided upon as you travel.

COST R9300pp (R14125pp for 2, R11325pp for 3)
SEMONKONG ABSEIL

The Maletsunyane Falls at Semonkong are one of the most spectacular sights in southern Africa! The river plunges over a 200m drop into a deeply incised gorge which carries on for a few kilometres downstream. 11 years ago, Semonkong Lodge pioneered what has been certified by the Guinness Book of Records as the “Highest Commercial Abseil in the World”. We are offering you the chance to do this!!

DAY 1 Depart from Sani lodge at 7.30am in our 4x4 vehicle via Underberg, Matatiele and enter Lesotho through the scenic pass of Qachas Nek. Our route follows the beautiful deep valley Lesotho’s main river, the Senqu, taking the brand new road north. This feat of modern engineering crosses massive bridges before climbing up into the mountains. Arrive at Semonkong Lodge early afternoon and immediately embark on the abseiling training course. This includes theory and practical as you experiment on small cliffs near the lodge itself.

DAY 2 An early start gets you to the top of the Falls. When all is ready, you start your descent which takes you through the very spray of the waterfall. Unbelievable views in a 40 minute descent give you a once in a lifetime experience! The experienced abseil guides will assist you and ensure that this is a completely safe thing to do. After the descent, you hike along and then climb back out of the gorge. Time in the later afternoon for the Donkey Pub Crawl – visit 4 or 5 local Semonkong taverns on donkey back with Basotho guides!

DAY 3 A leisurely departure and drive more slowly back the way we came on Day 1 with more time for view stops.

COST R4650pp (R6925pp for 2, R5400pp 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ESSENTIAL DRAKENSBERG</strong> 3 Nights/2 days</td>
<td>Sani Pass and In the Footsteps of the Bushmen</td>
<td><strong>R2070 (Children under 10 – R1450pp)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>HIKERS HEAVEN</strong> 4 nights/3 days</td>
<td>Hodgsons Peaks, In the footsteps of the Bushmen &amp; self guided day hike.</td>
<td><strong>R2480 (Children under 10 – R1815pp)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LESOTHO TOUR AND VOLUNTEERING</strong> 3 Nights/2 days</td>
<td>Sani Pass, Tea with Nxasane, Funda Reading Club &amp; Volunteering at Kwa Pitela School</td>
<td><strong>R1735 (Children under 10 - R1275pp)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SANI THREE CULTURES TOUR AND VOLUNTEERING</strong> 4 nights/3 days</td>
<td>Sani Pass, In the Footsteps of the Bushmen, Tea with Nxasane, Funda Reading Club &amp; Volunteering at Kwa Pitela School</td>
<td><strong>R2495 (children under 10 - R1830pp)</strong></td>
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Accommodation can be upgraded to double or rondavel with payment of a supplement. Contact us for details.
VOLUNTEERING AT KWA PITELA SCHOOL

Are you keen to help others less fortunate than yourselves? Would you like to help teaching English to local Zulu children?

It will enrich your life as much as theirs as you will learn so much from the experience especially if you are considering teaching as a career.

BACKGROUND
In 2013, we established a relationship with the deep rural primary school KwaPitela, 6km from Sani Lodge. Assistance with English for the 10 – 13 year age group was identified as a need. Since the pupils come from Zulu speaking households, and are not exposed to much English in their daily lives, hearing and interacting with English speakers is of value since their success at secondary school level is dependent on being proficient in English. So successful has this program been that the Headmaster reports back an ongoing significant improvement in conversational English and confidence of the pupils. Feedback from volunteers has also been overwhelmingly positive – “Most enjoyable, rewarding and life-changing. A privileged experience!”

REQUIRED
• The ability to speak and read English fluently, with a love of reading stories, patience, praise and encouragement for each pupil
• The desire to engage with local Zulu children, sharing your skills and giving up your time of 3 hours daily between 11.30am and 2.30 pm weekdays, for a worthy cause.
• Be fun and creative via word games, songs, acting out plays. We supply you with guidance and tips on activities.
• Be open to interacting with children to find out more about their own unique culture and share your own too.

COST: No cost for volunteering (R60pp if you require us to transport you)
THERE ARE 3 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

1. Simply volunteer some of your time during your stay with us. Often this works best during a quiet day or else on the morning of your departure. This can be arranged in advance, or once you get here.

2. Join one of our two special packages listed on page 29. This gives a day spent Volunteering combined with other fun/interesting activities at the Lodge.

3. If you have a minimum of 2 weeks to devote to volunteering, we are offering a free dorm bed.

In addition to the Volunteering program, we have assisted the school with- fencing, a water tap, signage, environmental education Envirokids magazine, waste recycling bins with ongoing education of correct waste disposal to conserve the environment and make crafts from waste, a donation of 75 blankets and 120 beanies to keep the children warm in winter, facilitation of the donation of an “edu-tainer” school library which now serves the entire local Community and donated quality books for both children and adults. We have many more projects in the pipeline.

NOTE: Volunteering is only available when school is open, meaning it is not available during weekends, school holidays or public holidays.
We support the fee-paying schooling of five staff children through our Staff Education Fund in order to encourage a better standard of education for them. English is a problem for these children at primary school on account of growing up in a Zulu speaking household yet they are expected to write all examinations in English. To assist them, we have started a registered children’s Reading Club stocked with age and content appropriate illustrated books written by South African authors. Reading and telling stories to children is one of the most powerful gifts you can give them. Stories develop a child’s motivation, creativity, imagination, knowledge, curiosity and concentration.

We invite Sani Lodge guests to participate in this worthy programme.

NOT ONLY WILL YOU BENEFIT THE CHILDREN – YOU WILL REALLY ENJOY YOURSELF!

Volunteer skills required
- a love of reading stories and patience to listen to children reading to you.
- 1 hour of your time over weekends and late afternoons during the week.

We give you guidance on how to conduct the programme.
Book your slot ahead or decide when you get here!

No cost involved.
We give you an opportunity to visit our neighbour, an elderly man called Lonshi Nxasane, from whom we buy vegetables in season, for morning or afternoon tea. You will be accompanied by one of our staff members who will act as interpreter.

- Meet a Zulu-speaking South African in his home
- See his dwelling on the land he owns (as part of their small community) gained a few years ago under South Africa’s land reform process
- Hear about his life which spans over 50 years living and working in this area
- Ask questions about his family, culture and life during Apartheid
- Enjoy a cup of tea with him

When: 10.30 – 11.30 am or 3.30- 4.30pm daily by arrangement
Getting There: On Foot - 10 minute walk • By Car – 2 minute drive

COST: R60pp for a group of 2 or more (R110pp for a single person)
The home of Drakensberg Adventures tours, Sani Lodge Backpackers is run by Russell and Simone and is the ideal place to stay the night before or after your tours. There is a wide range of accommodation types on offer, camping at R90pppn, dormitories at R165pppn, standard doubles/twin with shared toilets/showers at R230pppn sharing, en suite rondavels at R295pppn sharing and self-catering cottages from R320pppn. (min. charge R830). Sani Lodge is Fair Trade in Tourism certified and 4 star graded by Tourism Grading SA.

Sani Lodge is a great base for hiking into the Drakensberg Mountains. Trails start from the doorstep into the Wilderness areas: short walks, day walks and overnight hikes including the 5 day Giants Cup Trail. We are also a great base for independent travel into Lesotho, or just to relax in beautiful surrounds!
GETTING HERE A good tarred road leads to the doorstep, so you can get here comfortably in any type of vehicle. For the independent traveller, a number of transport options exist from Durban, Pietermaritzburg or Kokstad. See our website or contact us for details.

CONTACT 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 or (083) 9873071
The Giants Cup Café and Crafts is on the same property as Sani Lodge and Drakensberg Adventures. It is open daily from 7am to 8pm serving breakfasts, light lunches and dinners as well as Cappuccinos and delicious home baked cakes. We use as many home produced products as possible and the best ingredients if we do not produce them ourselves. Whilst Sani Lodge does have a fully equipped self-catering kitchen, why not enjoy meals at The Giants Cup!

Our craft shop supports small scale entrepreneurial crafters and Fair Trade Products. We have a variety of Lesotho crafts on sale such as the famous Basotho hat, tapestries and basketware, sourced directly from the crafters.

We have also established a relationship with ‡Khomani Bushmen crafters in the Kalahari and sell their unique products. We support a number of KZN women craft groups such as Woza Moya and Rootz. We sell the unique and exquisitely crafted Bruce Dell Woodart pendants. We also sell uniquely South African produce such a Rooibos Teas and related products.

On the food side, we make and sell our own pure homemade jams and chutneys as well as dairy produce from our own jersey cows such as the best ever ice-cream and yoghurt. We sell Underberg Cheesery products, local smoked trout and local honey.

We also have a selection of indigenous plants on sale, over 70 species of tree, shrub, bulb and groundcovers.