

# Santa Fe Workshops

## **SOUTH AFRICA: Cape Town to Safari with Jennifer Spelman**

May 18 – 29, 2027

*Cape Town - Cape of Good Hope - Franschhoek - Stellenbosch -  
Arniston - Durban - Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park - Durban*



## **Daily Itinerary**

*Please note: While we do our best to follow the above itinerary, changes may be made to any aspect of the tour due to a variety of potential situations or unforeseen circumstances.*

### **Day 1 (May 18): Cape Town/Arrival Day**

Upon arriving in Cape Town, you are picked up at the airport and transferred to our hotel near the V&A Waterfront, a harbor area known for its many restaurants and cultural attractions, where you can relax and recover from your journey. For those who arrive early, our tour leader will be on-site to offer recommendations and help everyone make the most of their time. In the evening, we gather for a welcome dinner at a nearby local restaurant.

*Included meal: Dinner*

### **Day 2 (May 19): Cape Town**

Today begins with a photography-focused tour of Bo-Kaap, a historic neighborhood recognized for its brightly painted houses and cobbled streets. As we walk through the area, we photograph the contrast of vivid blues, greens, pinks, and yellows, while also learning about its history. After lunch, we continue with a walk around Cape Town's city center, stopping at the Company's Garden, a green space originally planted by the Dutch in the 1650s, and the Castle of Good Hope, the oldest surviving colonial building in South Africa. In the late afternoon, we ride the cable car up Table Mountain, a flat-topped peak that offers wide-reaching views of Cape Town and the coastline. As we explore the summit, we have time to photograph the dramatic landscape before descending during sunset.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

### **Day 3 (May 20): Cape Town / Cape of Good Hope / Cape Town**

After breakfast, we embark on a full-day private tour of the Cape of Good Hope, a nature reserve celebrated for its dramatic sea cliffs and abundant wildlife, including baboons, ostriches, and various marine birds. Our journey begins at Boulders Beach, where we have the chance to see African penguins in their natural habitat as they roam the sandy shores. Next, we take a guided walk to the picturesque Cape Point Lighthouse, located at the tip of the peninsula where the Atlantic Ocean meets the Indian Ocean, offering a unique view of the convergence of the two great seas. For lunch, we enjoy fresh seafood at a restaurant along the False Bay coastline before returning to Cape Town in the late afternoon.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

#### **Day 4 (May 21): Cape Town / Franschhoek / Stellenbosch / Cape Town**

Today we start with a quick 1-hour drive to Franschhoek, a valley town shaped by French Huguenots in the 1600s, known for its Cape Dutch homes, kitchen gardens, and world-class vineyards. The mix of altitude, evening breezes, and well-drained granite soils suits grapes such as Chenin Blanc, Chardonnay, and Pinotage. Upon arrival, we visit a winery, photograph the cellar, and learn how grapes are sorted, fermented, and aged, followed by a guided tasting. We continue into town for lunch and then have time to capture the picturesque houses, small galleries and bookshops, shaded courtyards, and the Huguenot Monument with oak trees and mountain views. We continue to Stellenbosch for a second wine tasting. Here, the valley is a bit warmer, and the soils carry more clay – conditions that favor structured reds such as Cabernet Sauvignon and Bordeaux-style blends. We return to Cape Town in the early evening.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch*

#### **Day 5 (May 22): Cape Town / Arniston**

We start the morning with a visit to Langa, one of Cape Town's oldest townships, where we take a guided walk to make images and learn about its history and strong sense of community. Along the way, we visit a local center that provides education and job training, meet artisans in their workshops as they create handmade crafts, and spend time at a children's home, where caregivers provide a safe and supportive space for 38 children. After an early lunch at a local restaurant, we set off on a 3.5-hour drive to Arniston, making several scenic stops along the way to take in the landscape, stretch our legs, and break up the journey. Arniston is a quiet and authentic fishing village that is still untouched by mass tourism. Unlike Cape Town's busier coastal towns, Arniston is a quaint, working community where fishing has been a way of life for generations. We end the day with dinner at our hotel, enjoying the peaceful atmosphere of this off-the-beaten-path destination.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

#### **Day 6 (May 23): Arniston**

Today we start our day with a guided tour of Kassiesbaai, a nearby historic fishing village and one of the last remaining communities in South Africa where traditional fishing is still a way of life. As we walk through the village, we photograph the simple, sand-colored homes with thick walls and thatched roofs, some of which have been passed down through generations, and meet fishermen who still head out to sea in wooden boats. We also have a portrait session with a couple of the fishermen, photographing them preparing their boats, untangling fishing lines, and sorting their daily catch along the shore. After lunch we visit the Waenhuiskrans

Cave, a large sea cave located just outside Arniston, which can only be reached at low tide. Inside we photograph the smooth rock walls, naturally shaped by the waves, and step up to the cave's wide opening for a view of the ocean framed by stone. In the afternoon, you have time to wander and photograph the town, have a drink with a view of the ocean, or relax with a massage at our hotel's spa.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 7 (May 24): Arniston / Cape Town / Durban**

Today we begin our journey to the other side of the country with a 2.5-hour drive back to Cape Town, followed by a 2-hour flight to King Shaka International Airport in Durban. Durban is South Africa's third-largest city and the main gateway to KwaZulu-Natal's wildlife areas. We check into our hotel near the airport and take some time to relax and prepare for the days ahead in the game reserves.

*Included meal: Breakfast*

### **Day 8 (May 25): Durban / Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park**

After breakfast, we set off on a 4-hour drive to our lodge inside Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park, South Africa's oldest game reserve and a key stronghold for white rhino conservation. We check in to our lodge, have lunch, and have the rest of the afternoon to enjoy the property, take a swim, book a spa treatment, watch the waterhole from the deck, or find a quiet spot to review our new images with a coffee before we meet again for dinner.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 9 (May 26): Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park**

We are up before sunrise today for our first game drive in Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park, when the light is soft and animals are most active. With our ranger, we cover a mix of hilltops and river lines to find the Big Five game animals – keeping our lenses ready for elephants near water, buffalo in close-knit herds, rhinos grazing on short grass, lions on the ridgelines, and leopards moving through tree cover. We also search for giraffes among fever trees, zebras on the open flats, and raptors riding the morning air. We return to the lodge for lunch and a few hours at leisure before heading back out for a second safari as the day cools, hoping for fresh sightings in the golden light before returning to the lodge for dinner.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 10 (May 27): Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park**

After coffee and breakfast at first light, we head out to a different section of Hluhluwe–iMfolozi, taking a slow loop past a waterhole and along the river lines. This is another great opportunity to look for giraffes meeting at the edge of the water, zebras arriving to drink, and elephants moving quietly through the reeds. Your ranger checks for fresh tracks and scans the hills where big cats often rest, and we keep an eye out for the rest of the Big Five as we proceed. By late morning, we return to the lodge for lunch and a few hours to review your photographs. As the heat eases, we roll out again on a new route to cover fresh ground in search of new photo opportunities. We return before gate time and end the day with dinner at the lodge.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 11 (May 28): Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park / Durban**

We begin our last full day together at sunrise with a morning safari for a final opportunity to photograph the incredible wildlife at Hluhluwe–iMfolozi. We return for breakfast at the lodge, then begin the 4-hour journey back to Durban. Upon arrival, we gather for a final photography review session followed by our farewell dinner, celebrating our time together before our flights back home tomorrow.

*Included meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### **Day 12 (May 29): Durban / Departure Day**

You are picked up at the hotel by a private driver to King Shaka International Airport in Durban for your departing flight.

*Included meal: Breakfast*