

# INTERNATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

## South Africa

29 JULY – 13 AUGUST 2017



### 29 July 2017 – Arrivals (At Johannesburg)

Welcome to the “Gateway of the African Continent” – OR Tambo International Airport. Whether arriving early or late, an IPA Committee Member will be there to meet and greet you, then transfer you to the guesthouse. The evening you can expect a heart-warming dinner and welcoming event.

### 30 July 2017 – City of Gold (Johannesburg)

Get ready as we transport you back to the gold rush era for a full day of fun and excitement. The Gold Reef City, located in central Johannesburg, is built around an authentic 19th century gold mine, and brings together fascinating historical attractions with some of the most thrilling rides in the Southern Hemisphere.

### 31 July 2017 – Jacaranda City (Pretoria)

Pretoria, the administrative capital of South Africa. Known as "Jacaranda City" for its thousands of jacaranda trees, is also known for its universities and government buildings. First stop will be a visit to a South African Police Service Training Institution and also the Union Buildings which forms the official seat of the South African government and houses the offices of the President of South Africa.

We then embark on a 10-hour journey to Durban in KwaZulu-Natal

### 1 August 2017 – Surf City (Durban)

Also known as 'Surf City', Durban is renowned for its magnificent bathing and surfing beaches, which stretch along the city's beachfront. With warm weather all year round, Durban welcomes visitors to a relaxed outdoor lifestyle. Climb on-board as we take a boat cruise along the Golden Mile, then get up close and personal with numerous snake and other reptiles at the Snake & Reptile Park. We then take a journey to the Zulu Cultural Village.

### 2 August 2017 – Discover uShaka (Durban)

uShaka Marine World is a 16-hectare (40-acre) theme park in Durban. It consists of 5 sections:

uShaka Sea World - The fifth largest aquarium in the world and the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.

uShaka Wet 'n Wild - a water park which contains everything from a lazy river ride to high speed slides, and is home to the highest water slide in the Southern Hemisphere.

uShaka Beach - a beach which has direct access from the amusement park.

uShaka Village Walk - designed similar to an African village, and includes restaurants, cafes and numerous shops.

uShaka Kids World – a place where children have the freedom to play, also home to the largest jungle gym in Africa.

### 3 August 2017 – Coffee Bay (Eastern Cape Region)

At the break of dawn we continue our journey for a 10-hour drive along the KwaZulu-Natal coast towards Coffee Bay, a small town with a population of 258 residents which is situated on the Wild Coast of the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. Coffee Bay was named after a ship that lost its cargo of coffee beans in a wreck off the Wild Coast and the beans were supposedly washed up on the beach to germinate there. These trees, if there were any to start with, are no longer visible but the name stuck. Not only is the kilometre-long beach safe for swimming, but the area off the bay's southern point offers one of the few consistent surfing waves on the Wild Coast. This beach also has some of the rarest cowries washed up by the current.

### 4 August 2017 – Hole in the Wall

Surrounded by vast stretches of unspoiled coastline and picturesque scenery, we start the day with a 9km hike from Coffee Bay to Hole in the Wall, a tiny holiday village situated in a secluded, tropical bay in the heart of the Wild Coast. Famous for its instantly recognisable rocky archway and rock formation which is made up of Ecca shale and sandstone, capped with hard volcanic dolerite. We explore this beautiful landmark which was created millions of years ago through the restless action of waves against sandstone and shale. After the hike and exploration, it is time for some surfing

lessons by some of SA's best surfers followed by a traditional Xhosa evening. The Xhosa are a South African cultural group who emphasize traditional practices and customs inherited from their forefathers. Each person within the Xhosa culture has his or her place which is recognized by the entire community.

### **5 & 6 August 2017 – Addo Elephant National Park (Port Elizabeth)**

A 4-Hour drive along the Wild Coast from Coffee Bay, we head over to South Africa's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest National Park, Addo Elephant National Park. Today this finely-tuned ecosystem is sanctuary to over 600 elephant, lion, buffalo, black rhino, spotted hyena, leopard, a variety of antelope and zebra species, as well as the unique Addo flightless dung beetle, found almost exclusively in Addo. The park can exclusively claim to be the only national park in the world to conserve the "Big 7" – the Big 5 as well as the southern right whale and great white shark off the Algoa Bay coast.

After arriving at Addo, we embark on an afternoon game drive to learn more about the wildlife of Southern Africa.

Stretching from the semi-arid Karoo area in the north around Darlington Dam, over the rugged Zuurberg Mountains, through the Sundays River Valley and south to the coast between Sundays River mouth and Bushman's river mouth, Addo covers about 180 000 hectares (444 700 acres) and includes the Bird and St Croix Island groups.

With such a huge area to explore, we continue our game drive with one in the morning and again later the afternoon.

### **7 & 8 August 2017 – Garden Route (George)**

Our next destination is a 4-hour drive from Addo. Known as "South Africa's best kept secret", The Garden Route. A stretch of the south-eastern coast of South Africa which extends from Mossel Bay in the Western Cape to the Storms River in the Eastern Cape. The name comes from the verdant and ecologically diverse vegetation encountered here and the numerous lagoons and lakes dotted along the coast.

### **9 August 2017 – The Mother City (Cape Town)**

After a 5-hour drive you will meet South Africa's Mother City, Cape Town. Home to the world-famous Table Mountain and Robben Island. With an international airport and busy port, the city is a bustling metropolis that is particularly popular with international travellers for its cultural mix, urban sophistication and stunning scenery.

### **10 August 2017 – The Gift of Giving (Cape Town)**

We spend the day at an informal settlement, working with the under privileged and making a difference in their lives.

### **11 August 2017 – 7<sup>th</sup> Wonder of Nature (Cape Town)**

Around 600 million years old, and a canvas painted with the rich diversity of the Cape floral kingdom, Table Mountain is truly iconic. Not only is it the most photographed landmark in South Africa, more than 22 million people have taken the trip to the top of Table Mountain since its opening in 1929. - A quick cable car ride will take you up the mountain then a set of network footpaths to explore the table top. We then travel up the West Coast where the ever shifting dunes of Atlantis are situated and ranges in sizes of up to 35 metres. Sandboarding is a great new adventure sport! All it takes to Sandboard is a positive attitude, a splash of sunscreen, a few basic instructions and you will be blasting down a sand dune in no time at all.

### **12 August 2017 – Triumph of the human spirit (Cape Town)**

One of the world's greatest cultural heritage destinations both for its tragedy and its triumph is Robbin Island. This World Heritage Site is most famed as the prison for anti-apartheid activists like our former president, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela. When you step foot on the island, you're able to see the cell in which Mandela was held for 18 years of his 27-year incarceration. It's a place many come to be humbled and to pay homage to the father of South African democracy. Robbin Island is a testimony to the true spirit of the South African people and history, and will never fail to humble and give you perspective. A visit to the V&A Waterfront for some shopping in the afternoon and then a farewell function in the evening.

### **13 August 2017 – Departure (From Cape Town)**

After 2 weeks it is time to say goodbye as we travel to Cape Town International Airport for the final leg of the journey, returning home.

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#### **General:**

- *The registration and signed parental agreement form with receipt of deposit paid, must be submitted to IPA South Africa by 3 February 2017.* eMail to: [iyq2017@ipasafrica.co.za](mailto:iyq2017@ipasafrica.co.za)

#### **Inquiries:**

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