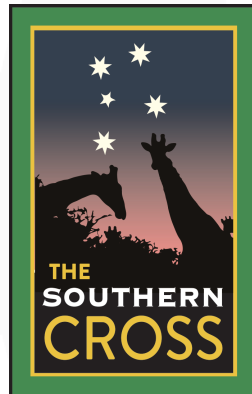




ROVOS RAIL

JOURNEY
INFORMATION

Southern Cross



VICTORIA FALLS-PRETORIA
~11 NIGHTS~

ITINERARY & MAP
TRAIN SPECIFICATIONS
GENERAL INFORMATION
TERMS & CONDITIONS

The Most Luxurious Train in the World



ITINERARY

SOUTHERN CROSS VICTORIA FALLS-PRETORIA 11 NIGHTS › 2500KM



DAY 1: VICTORIA FALLS	
10:30	Meet at Victoria Falls Hotel. Luggage will be taken to the train by Shongololo staff.
11:00	Enjoy a tour of the Victoria Falls with lunch.
16:00	Reception at Victoria Falls Hotel.
17:00	The train departs for Dete.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: Formal</i>
	<p>The little station of Victoria Falls was first reached by railway in June 1904. Old colonial buildings, bougainvillea and palm trees against the backdrop of the Victoria Falls Hotel form a charming oasis of soft sweetness after the rugged dryness of the landscape. The Victoria Falls is one of nature's great revelations on a par with the Grand Canyon, Mount Everest and an erupting volcano. It is believed that there have existed no less than seven different Victoria Falls over the past two million years. These cascades correspond to the lower gorges of the Zambezi. The present falls is wearing from Devil's Cataract northwards, eroding the softer material behind the present basalt base of the falls. When eventually all the soft matter has been removed, the Victoria Falls will move back, a fresh gorge will yawn and where the falls are now will become a new site for tourists. Although just over a mile long (1.7km), the falls are broken up by various small islands, including Livingstone Island. At their deepest, the falls are 108m deep at Rainbow Falls.</p>
DAY 2: HWANGE NATIONAL PARK	
05:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
06:30	Full-day game drive in Hwange National Park with a packed lunch.
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. Depart for Bulawayo. <i>Dress: Formal</i>
	<p>Situated in the northwest corner of Zimbabwe, Hwange National Park covers 1 462 000 hectares making it the nation's largest wildlife area. It contains a variety of animals and bird species but is well-known for its prolific lion population.</p>

DAY 3: MATOBO NATIONAL PARK	
07:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
09:00	Full-day tour of Matobo National Park with lunch. Visit the grave of Cecil John Rhodes as well as bushmen caves with rock art.
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. Depart for Dabuka. <i>Dress: Formal</i>
	Matobo (or Matopos), meaning ‘bald heads’, was the name chosen for the area by the Ndebele King, Mzilikazi. He is buried in the Matobo hills just a short distance from the park. It is an apt description of the dramatic hills and granite rocks of this area. The park is also the site of Cecil John Rhodes’ grave at the summit of Malindidzimu – ‘hill of benevolent spirits’. He referred to this hill as having a view of the world. His grave is carved out of solid granite and surrounded by a natural amphitheatre of boulders. A visit can be made to one of the more accessible bushman caves, of which there are many hidden amongst the hills. Matobo is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
DAY 4: ANTELOPE PARK	
06:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
08:00	Depart for a full day at Antelope Park with lunch. <i>Optional extras include canoeing, game drives, horseback game viewing, elephant interaction, bird-watching cruises and so on (see price list).</i>
15:00	Return to the train. Depart for Bannockburn.
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: Formal</i>
	Set in over 3000 acres of open savannah grassland, Antelope Park is a unique game reserve and a haven of tranquillity welcoming guests and volunteer eco-tourists alike. It is home to the world-famous African Lion and Environmental Research Trust (ALERT) lion rehabilitation programme, which is a multiphase lion conservation initiative. It is Africa’s first genuine programme working to ethically re-introduce the offspring of captive-bred African lions back into the wild.
DAY 5: GREAT ZIMBABWE MONUMENT BORDER: BEITBRIDGE, ZIMBABWE / MUSINA, SOUTH AFRICA	
06:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
08:00	Transfer to the Great Zimbabwe Monument for a tour with lunch.
17:00	Return to the train. Travel towards Beitbridge for border formalities.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: Formal</i>
	Travel through attractive granite hill country to the Great Zimbabwe Monument, a hugely impressive monument situated on the southeastern edge of the central plateau and the largest precolonial monument south of the Egyptian pyramids. A celebrated achievement of the African people and a place where magical fables such as the story of <i>King Solomon’s Mines</i> find their origins amongst the ruins of an ancient city built by the Rozwi people. Discover how these ancient people lived and mined gold and silver, which were ultimately taken out of Africa by Arabic and Portuguese traders.
DAY 6: LIMPOPO PROVINCE	
07:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Day on board as the train traverses Limpopo.
13:00	Lunch is served in the dining cars.
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. Travel towards Hoedspruit. <i>Dress: “Africa” Theme or Smart Casual</i>
	Limpopo Province is in the far north of South Africa and shares borders with three neighbouring countries: Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. For this reason, the province is also known as the gateway to other African countries and also shares provincial borders with Gauteng, Mpumalanga and Northwest. The Limpopo landscape varies from one area to the other from tropical forests, bush and shrubs to semi-desert areas with small trees and bushes and mountains to flat land. Limpopo is divided into five regions, strategically located according to the cultural inhabitants. Capricorn is the central region predominantly occupied by the Bapedi people. Waterberg is the largest region with a majority of Tswana people. Vhembe in the far north is dominated by Vhavenda and Vatsonga. The Mopani region near the Kruger Park is Vatsonga whereas the Sekhukhuni region is dominated by Bapedi and Ndebele. Limpopo is the only province in South Africa with more than two cultural groups staying together in their original habitat in harmony. Other ethnic groups include English and Afrikaans people.
DAY 7: KAPAMA RESERVE & HESC BORDER: KOMATIPOORT, SOUTH AFRICA / MPAKA, ESWATINI	
05:00	Continental breakfast is served in the dining cars until 05:30.
05:30	Game drive in Kapama Game Reserve followed by visit to the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre .
12:00	Return to the train for lunch. Depart for Mpaka.
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: Formal</i>
	Situated in South Africa’s northernmost province of Limpopo, renowned for its prolific and diverse wildlife, Kapama Private Game Reserve is home to over 40 different mammal species including the Big Five, approximately 350 bird species and a myriad smaller species. The Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre is a unique African wildlife facility focusing on conservation and the sustainability of rare, vulnerable and threatened species. Founded on passion, the centre has adopted a holistic approach to its conservation activities such as the educating of surrounding communities, tourism, breeding, rehabilitation and anti-poaching, to name a few.

DAY 8: ESWATINI		BORDER: MPAKA, ESWATINI / LEBOMBO, MOZAMBIQUE
07:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.	
08:30	Disembark at Mpaka. Transfer (±90 min) to Swazi Candles and visit Mantenga Cultural Village with lunch at Mantenga Lodge .	
14:15	Return to the train (±75 min). Depart for Maputo.	
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.	
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: Formal</i>	
	The tiny Kingdom of eSwatini (Swaziland) covers only 17 000km ² , most of which is mountainous. For such a small country, it is surprising that it sustains two capital cities: Mbabane is the administrative capital and Lobamba is the royal and legislative capital. In April 2018, Swaziland changed its name to the Kingdom of eSwatini (meaning "place of the Swazi") and is an absolute monarchy. It is landlocked and borders South Africa and Mozambique. Continue through the Ezulwini Valley to Swazi Candles where guests are invited to interact with the artisans as they make a variety of candles. Woodcarvings, colourful textiles and superb basketwork are also on display. Mantenga Cultural Village, a living museum of old traditions representing a classical Swazi lifestyle during the 1800s. With the traditional artifacts on display, the village illustrates many facets of the ancient Swazi way of life: social, economic and religious. Mantenga Lodge is nestled in the mountains overlooking 'Execution Rock'.	
DAY 9: MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE		BORDER: GOBA, MOZAMBIQUE / KOMATIPOORT, SOUTH AFRICA
07:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.	
09:00	City tour of Maputo, Mozambique , with lunch.	
15:30	Return to the train. Border formalities take place.	
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.	
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Malelane. <i>Dress: Formal</i>	
	Capital of Mozambique, Maputo is a city of contrasts offering an exciting mix of cultures. Its architecture is a blend of African, Portuguese and early Colonial traditions with old Catholic churches side-by-side with mosques, fortresses, Victorian mansions and other buildings from a bygone era.	
DAY 10: KRUGER NATIONAL PARK		
05:30	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.	
07:00	Full-day game viewing in the Kruger Park with lunch.	
18:00	Return to the train. Depart for Mbombela.	
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: Formal</i>	
	The famous Kruger Park has 2-million hectares of an unrivalled diversity of life forms. It is a world leader in advanced environmental management techniques and home to an impressive number of species, e.g. 336 species of trees, 49 species of fish, 34 species of amphibians, 114 species of reptiles, 507 species of birds and 147 species of mammals including the Big Five.	
DAY 11: PANORAMA ROUTE		
07:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars.	
09:15	Full-day tour of historical areas Pilgrim's Rest, Bourke's Luck Potholes and Graskop with lunch. The Graskop viewing lift takes visitors 51m down the face of the gorge into the forest below where wooden walkways and suspension bridges meander along a 600m trail through the indigenous forest with an interactive exhibit (<i>lift for own account</i>).	
17:00	Return to the train. Depart for eMalahleni.	
19:30	Dinner is served in the dining cars. <i>Dress: "1920s" Theme or Smart Casual</i>	
	Pilgrim's Rest is a living museum and declared a National Monument. Gold was discovered in this area in 1873 attracting 1500 prospectors. Today many of the restored miner's houses serve as shops and restaurants. Bourke's Luck Potholes are strange deep cylindrical cavities formed by river erosion and floodwater. Blyde River Canyon Nature Reserve has the most spectacular viewpoints overlooking South Africa's Lowveld, so named because it is much lower than the high escarpment along which the Panorama Route runs.	
DAY 12: PRETORIA		
07:00	Breakfast is served in the dining cars. The train travels on the eastern line towards Middelburg, known as the "stainless steel capital of Africa", and the harsh eMalahleni coal-mining area. The Dutch railway building company, NZASM, built the eastern line between Pretoria and Lourenço Marques (Maputo) from 1893 to 1895.	
13:00	Lunch is served in the dining cars.	
16:30	Tea in the lounge and observation cars.	
18:00	Arrive at journey's end at Rovos Rail Station, Pretoria .	

Please dress accordingly for game drives/excursions: mornings can be cool then warm up considerably; afternoons can be warm then cool down considerably. Warm clothing, comfortable shoes, hats and sun protection are advised (season dependent). Rain capes are available.

Excursions may be changed according to schedule achieved. Times are approximate and cannot be guaranteed.

Please check with the Train Manager or reservations@rovos.co.za for any updates/changes to the itinerary.

In your cabin you will find the *Journeys* magazine that features articles of interest related to the route.

We strongly discourage giving any form of handout to children while travelling. This action may have detrimental consequences to local communities. If you would like to give responsibly, we support many local charities and would be happy to assist.

INCLUDED: Accommodation; all meals; all beverages on board; excursions with a qualified guide (where applicable); entrance fees as per itinerary; limited laundry; government tax. **EXCLUDED:** All beverages off the train; international sparkling wine; gratuities; personal expenses; visas; travel insurance; pre- and post-tour accommodation, flights and transfers.

MEALS ON BOARD (unless adjusted) Breakfast 07:00-10:00 • Lunch 13:00 • Tea 16:30 • Dinner 19:30



SPECIFICATIONS

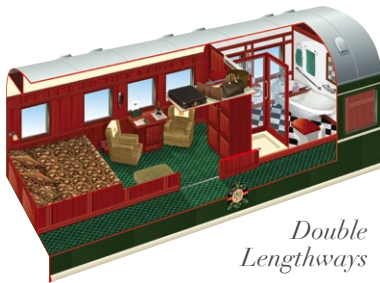
ROYAL SUITES

±16m²
±172ft²

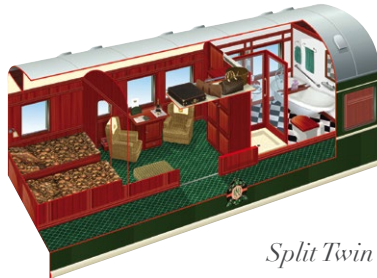
Bed Dimensions: LxW in CM

Double: 200x189

Split Twin: 200x75



Double Lengthways



Split Twin

Minibar, air conditioning, writing desk, luggage shelf, cupboards, safe, en-suite bathroom with toilet, basin, bath and shower.

THE SUITES & COACHES

Each train has accommodation carriages, dining cars, a lounge car (±26 seats), small gift shop, smoking lounge (±11 seats) and observation car (±32 seats) with open-air balcony. The three types of suites are elegant and spacious offering passengers privacy, comfort and luxury with double or twin beds and fittings and facilities that are of the highest standard. All have en-suites with shower, toilet, basin and bath (Royal only), tea facilities, safes, air conditioning, linen and amenities and are serviced daily. There is adequate storage and small cupboards with hangers and shelves.

Suite layouts may differ from images.

Royals and Deluxes sometimes have a room divider.

DELUXE SUITES

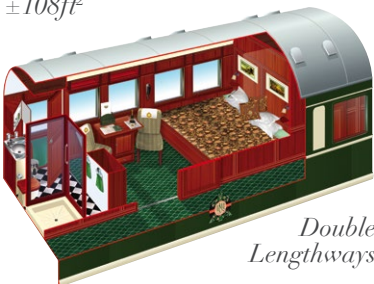
±10m²
±108ft²

Bed Dimensions: LxW in CM

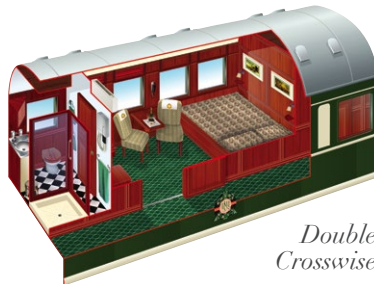
Double Lengthways: 189x189

Double Crosswise: 189x160

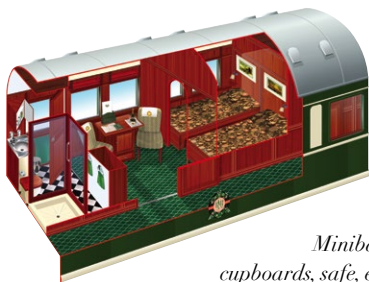
Split Twin: 189x75



Double Lengthways



Double Crosswise



Split Twin

Minibar, air conditioning, writing desk, luggage shelf, cupboards, safe, en-suite bathroom with toilet, basin and shower.

PULLMAN GOLD SUITES

±7m²
±76ft²

Bed Dimensions: LxW in CM

Double: 189x189

Split Twin: 189x75



Daytime Couches and Night-time Split Twin



Night-time Double

Tea drawer, air conditioning, fold-out writing desk, luggage shelf, cupboards, safe, en-suite bathroom with toilet, basin and shower.

ROYAL SUITES



DELUXE SUITES



PULLMAN GOLD SUITES



PILLARED DINING CAR



BANQUETTE DINING CAR



OBSERVATION CAR



LOUNGE CAR



CLUB LOUNGE & DELUXE CAR



STAFF CAR



KITCHEN CAR



GENERATOR CAR

