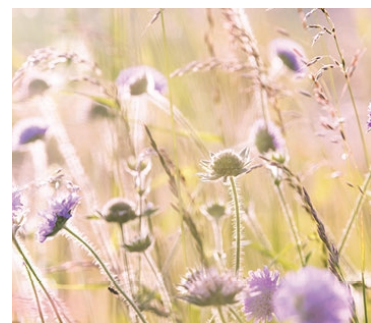




Africa

# Women's Drakensberg Wildflower Trails



## trip highlights

Explore the wildflower rich grasslands and valleys of the UNESCO World Heritage listed Drakensberg Mountains

Stay in elegant lodges, where comfort, cuisine, and mountain views are all part of the experience

Enjoy gentle, guided walks through rewilded landscapes, forested ridgelines, and flower studded meadows

Sample local wine and seasonal produce, with relaxed meals shared in beautiful locations

Share a nature based retreat with like-minded women, designed for those who enjoy fine food, fresh air and flowers



Trip Duration	8 days	Trip Code: WTDK
Grade	Introductory to Moderate	
Activities	Day Walking, Women's Adventure	
Summary	8 day trip, 7 nights lodges in Drakensburg	

## welcome to World Expeditions

For over 50 years, we've been creating high-quality, expedition-style adventures for active travellers with a curious spirit. From our very first trek in the mountains of Nepal to pioneering remote routes across all seven continents, our journeys are built for those who want to truly explore – not just visit.

At the heart of what we do is a simple philosophy: take the paths less travelled.

This means travelling with care, supporting local communities, minimising our impact, and unlocking experiences that most travellers will never have.

If you're ready to go further and dig deeper, we invite you to join us on the Women's Drakensberg Wildflower Trails, a journey that captures the essence of a unique adventure.

## why travel with World Expeditions?

Our extra attention to detail and seamless operations on the ground ensure that you will have a memorable experience in Africa. Most importantly, our adventures have always sought to benefit the local peoples we interact with, safeguard the ecosystems we explore and contribute to the sustainability of travel in the regions we experience. You will be accompanied by a local walking guide in the Drakensberg whose knowledge and passion will add a unique dimension to your trip.



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World Expeditions will endeavour to arrange for single travellers to share accommodation with another participant of the same gender, however if we cannot match you up a single supplement will be applicable. If you prefer not to share, a single supplement is payable to guarantee your own room. Please refer to our website for the additional cost.

## the trip

Celebrate South Africa's wildflower season on a women's walking tour that embraces natural beauty, good company, and the comfort of beautifully located lodges. Timed to coincide with the Drakensberg's floral bloom, this relaxed walk travels through rewilded grasslands, forested ridgelines and the soaring peaks of the World Heritage listed Drakensberg Mountains. An expert walking guide brings the trail to life and help you spot orchids, arum lilies, crocosmia, and colourful alpine blooms. This tour stays in handpicked lodges chosen for their beauty, charm and atmosphere and with options for creative downtime or spa treatments (not included).

This trip is graded introductory to moderate, with daily walks ranging approximately 5 to 15km (3 to 9 miles) on established but sometimes rocky or uneven trails. As we return to comfortable lodge accommodation each night, you'll only carry a light daypack. The lodge based format also gives our guide the flexibility to adapt each day's walk to the group's energy levels and the weather, drawing from a wide range of nearby trails. There's also the option to skip a day's walk and simply enjoy some quiet time relaxing at the lodge.

## about your leader/escort

Shaen Adey is a qualified mountain guide and Level 3 Wilderness First Aider with over 30 years of experience leading walks and nature-based journeys in South Africa and abroad. Raised near the Drakensberg, where her grandfather authored Wild Flowers of the Drakensberg. Based in Cape Town, she has guided extensively across Table Mountain, the Cape Peninsula, and further afield in destinations such as Mount Kenya, Kilimanjaro, the Atlas Mountains, Japan and New Zealand. Her calm, encouraging style helps guests of all backgrounds feel safe, supported and at ease in nature. A trained photographer and lifelong creative, Shaen has a storyteller's eye and a deep respect for the natural world.

## at a glance

DAY 1	MORNING SET OFF FROM DURBAN, TO THE WORLD HERITAGE DRAKENSBERG MOUNTAINS
DAY 2	WALKS AND RELAXATION FROM YOUR LODGE BASE
DAY 3	ON TO NORTHERN DRAKENSBERG
DAY 4	WALK THE WILDFLOWER VALLEYS
DAY 5	CHOOSE YOUR OWN DRAKENSBERG ADVENTURE
DAY 6	ON TO CLARENS
DAY 7	EXPLORE CLARENS
DAY 8	TRIP CONCLUDES ON ARRIVAL IN DURBAN

## what's included

- Expert local guide Shaen Adey
- 7 nights boutique lodges in Drakensburg
- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 5 dinners
- Vineyard tour, tasting and lunch at Highgate Wine Estate
- National park and conservation fees
- Private transport throughout

## what's not included

- Flights
- Travel Insurance
- Visas
- Single supplement - when staying in your own room
- Pre &/or post tour night in Durban, - we can assist in booking this for you

# Women's Drakensberg Wildflower Trails



## trip dates

**2026** 29 Nov - 06 Dec

## fast facts

**Countries Visited:**  
South Africa

**Visas:**  
Please check visa requirements with your reservations consultant\*

**Vaccinations:**  
Please consult a travel vaccination specialist for up to date information

**Leader:**  
Expert local leader

- Spa treatments
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Bottled water, aerated and alcoholic drinks
- Items of a personal nature
- Tips

## detailed itinerary

### DAY 1 Morning set off from Durban, to the World Heritage Drakensberg Mountains

Leave the city behind for the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands, where rolling hills give way to vines and valley views. Our first stop is a local gem, a scenic wine estate nestled in the heart of the Midlands, known for its small batch, 100% estate grown wines. Here, we'll enjoy a relaxed tasting in the elegant cellar and lunch. A short vineyard stroll completes the experience before we continue inland toward the Drakensberg foothills. We arrive at our mountain retreat in the tranquil Kamberg Valley. Surrounded by open grasslands and forested ridges, this stylish lodge offers inviting spaces to unwind.

Overnight: Cleopatra Mountain Farmhouse, KwaZulu-Natal Drakensberg  
meals: L,D

### DAY 2 Walks and relaxation from your lodge base

Wake to birdsong and enjoy a wholesome breakfast before our first guided walk through the rewilded grasslands that surround the lodge. These landscapes are alive with seasonal wildflowers with your guide sharing stories of the region's unique ecology, and ongoing conservation work. Lunch is taken back at the lodge with a free afternoon to relax, take a dip in the pool, or curl up with a book and the mountain view.

Overnight: Cleopatra Mountain Farmhouse, KwaZulu-Natal Drakensberg  
meals: B,L,D

### DAY 3 On to Northern Drakensberg

Morning relaxation, or optional walk before we bid farewell to our peaceful lodge and begin the journey north. Today's drive is a scenic one, winding past farmlands and up into the dramatic folds of the Drakensberg Mountains. Crossing the Oliviershoek Pass, the soft hills of the Midlands give way to steeper basalt cliffs and alpine ridgelines. Our lodge base for the next 3 nights is tucked into a forested valley beneath the Amphitheatre escarpment and offers sweeping views across the northern Drakensberg. After lunch on the terrace, we'll head out on an introductory nature walk on the look out for wildflowers including watsonias, red hot pokers, pelargoniums, wild gladiolus, and orchids.

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa  
meals: B,L,D

### DAY 4 Walk the wildflower valleys

From our lodge, we step straight into the floral richness of the Northern Drakensberg, a World Heritage listed region where dramatic escarpments cradle wildflower filled valleys. Today's walk will be a full day, heading higher up the mountain for sweeping views. We may spot berg lilies, everlastings, violets

# Women's Drakensberg Wildflower Trails



## thoughtful travel

Our World Expeditions adventures are grounded in a deep commitment to regenerative travel, going beyond minimising harm to actively restoring and enriching the places we visit. We partner closely with local communities, ensuring that our trips support cultural preservation, fair livelihoods, and community-led initiatives. Each expedition is designed to protect and regenerate natural ecosystems through low-impact practices, climate action, and education that fosters respect for biodiversity. We prioritise meaningful connections between travellers and place, encouraging a sense of stewardship that lasts well beyond the journey. By embedding sustainability into every layer of our operations, we aim not only to explore the world responsibly but also to leave it healthier, more resilient, and more vibrant for future generations.

## trip grading Introductory to Moderate

This trip is graded introductory to moderate, with daily walks ranging approximately 5 to 15km (3 to 9 miles) on established but sometimes rocky or uneven trails. As we return to comfortable lodge accommodation each night, you'll only carry a light daypack.

The lodge based format also gives our guide the flexibility to adapt each day's walk to the group's energy levels and the weather, drawing from a wide range of nearby trails. There's also the option to skip a day's walk and simply enjoy some quiet time relaxing at the lodge.

## adventure travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise.

and orchids among the grasses. Birdlife is abundant too, with prinia, sunbirds and vultures. A picnic lunch will be enjoyed in the wild air. There is free time back at the lodge with optional treatments at the onsite spa.

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa  
meals: B,L,D

### DAY 5 Choose your own Drakensberg adventure

A range of walking and wellness options designed to suit your pace and energy are on offer today. If you're keen to head deeper into the mountains, join a scenic walk to a nearby waterfall, following a trail that winds through shady tree fern forests and mossy rock outcrops. Prefer to slow down? Stay at the lodge and enjoy the views, take a swim or spa, or stretch with some yoga.

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa  
meals: B,L,D

### DAY 6 On to Clarens

Our destination is Clarens, a beloved small town nestled between the Rooiberge and Maluti Mountains in South Africa's Eastern Free State. Often called the "Jewel of the Free State," Clarens blends striking natural scenery with a creative, village charm. It's a haven for artists and makers, with more than 20 galleries and a trove of boutiques, bookstores and craft shops set against sandstone cliffs and wide open skies. Here we are based in Clarens town with easy access to enjoy the shops, cafes and art galleries.

Overnight: The Protea Hotel by Marriott, Clarens  
meals: B,L

### DAY 7 Explore Clarens

We begin the day with a morning walk through the grasslands of Golden Gate Highlands National Park, just a short drive from Clarens. These sweeping montane meadows are home to alpine wildflowers, including bellflowers, and bright yellow starworts. Spend the rest of the day exploring Clarens, perhaps following the Art Route, browse shops and markets, or sitting in a sun dappled cafe.

Overnight: The Protea Hotel by Marriott, Clarens  
meals: B

### DAY 8 Trip concludes on arrival in Durban

After a final relaxed breakfast in Clarens, we begin our drive back to Durban with time to reflect on the landscapes and beauty of the past week. The trip concludes on arrival in Durban mid afternoon, for evening onward travel or an overnight stay in Durban. If you would like assistance booking flights, or accommodation in Durban, we will be happy to help.

Drive: 5 hours  
meals: B

This itinerary is subject to change with any change in Community regulations as well as Governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

## country information

South Africa is a huge and diverse nation covering the entire Southern Tip of the African continent. The Rainbow Nation is home to an incredible diversity of peoples who are working on forging a new future after the fall of the Apartheid regime. The land is as diverse as the people,

# Women's Drakensberg Wildflower Trails



## important note

The itinerary should be seen as a guide only. This itinerary may change at any time due to inclement weather, forces of nature and other circumstances beyond our control.

from the postcard perfection of Cape Town and Table Mountain to the rugged splendour of the Orange River and the teeming metropolis of Johannesburg.

## climate

November marks the start of summer in the Drakensberg, bringing pleasantly warm daytime temperatures, fresh green landscapes and the the wildflower bloom. Expect highs between 20C and 26C (68F to 79F) in the mountains, with slightly warmer conditions in the lower grasslands near Clarens. Light afternoon showers or isolated thunderstorms may occur, but they are usually short and contribute to the region's lushness. Nights remain comfortably mild, averaging 10C to 14C (50F to 57F). It's a wonderfully vibrant and refreshing time to explore on foot, with comfortable lodge accommodation, warm bedding and hot showers to welcome you at the end of each day.

## dietary requirements

Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us well in advance to determine whether we can cater to your dietary requirements. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more unavailable. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Travellers must carry all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

## accommodation on the trip

We have detailed our intended accommodations and though unlikely, these are subject to change, in which case a property of equivalent style and standard will be provided.

As the tour commences on the morning of day 1, from Durban and returns there late in the afternoon of day 8, we do recommend that you book a pre and post tour nights accommodation in Durban. We will be more than happy to assist you with these arrangements.

## what you carry

In your daypack you will need to carry extra warm clothing, a rain jacket, water bottle, camera or phone, sunscreen, lip balm etc.

## visas

Visas for South Africa are exempt for a stay of less than 90 days for passport holders from the following countries:-

Australia

Canada

United States

United Kingdom

New Zealand

\*All other nationalities should check with your nearest embassy or consulate.

Please bear in mind that visas may be required for countries you are visiting en route or transiting through on the way to your destination. It is important that you check the requirements of all countries you will visit. Visa costs and requirements do change regularly so we suggest you check with your travel agent or World Expeditions reservations consultant. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary visas.

# Women's Drakensberg Wildflower Trails



## webinars & events

Catch a Webinar – Live or On Demand - to learn more about a particular trip. Make sure the trip you choose is right for you. Watch them live, so you can ask our presenters a question, or catch the recording later at your leisure and watch it On Demand. Visit our website or keep an eye on our newsletter for upcoming presentations.

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Share the love

Use the hashtag #WorldExpeditions on your best travel photos and videos to be featured.

## how to book

To book a trip, you will need to complete a Booking Form (online or request a PDF) and pay a non-refundable deposit. Please note that when booking our tours to not confirm any additional arrangements until all services related to your tour are confirmed by World Expeditions.

We recommend taking out travel insurance as soon as your place on the tour is confirmed.

A minimum of 6 participants is required to operate this tour, with a maximum group size of 12.

In the unlikely event that we do not reach the minimum numbers to operate the tour, in that circumstance, the tour deposit would be refunded in full.