



## MOUNTAIN BIKING GARDEN ROUTE – 14 DAYS

4 STAR ★★★★★

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### HOLIDAYS

-  South Africa
-  Cape Garden Route & Klein Karoo

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## INTRO

Some like to experience their adventures in air conditioned 4x4 vehicles, but that is not for everyone. There are those that want to use their own muscles and experience nature up close and personal. Mountain biking is for those that want to do it under their own power and the 14-day mountain biking tour of the Garden Route is an absolute must for avid mountain bikers.

What makes this tour even better is that it was planned by mountain bikers so you can depend on their being lots of dirt roads that are off the beaten track, single track and forest riding plus there is some rafting to be done on the Breede River on this mountain biking adventure as well.

## MORE

### Overview

This is a 14-day mountain biking tour that starts in Cape Town and goes a long, circular route that brings you back to Cape Town on the final day. We pass through truly spectacular scenery that include the slopes of Table Mountain, the Tsitsikamma, the Swartberg Pass, through the Garden Route, Knysna, Plettenberg Bay and as a grand finale we tackle Chapman's Peak. This is truly an ultimate mountain bike experience for all cycling enthusiasts.

## ITINERARY

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### Itinerary

#### **Day 1: Cape Town Table Mountain (single track)**

Arrival at the guest house in the City Bowl, freshen up and then we build the bikes. The afternoon is spent taking on Table Mountain with some brilliant down hills.

#### **Day 2: Cape Town Tokai Forest (single track)**

The morning is set aside for single track riding in Tokai Forest and the afternoon we go and visit a wine farm in Durbanville. The evening is for relaxation and dinner will be seafood in the V&A Waterfront.

#### **Day 3: Stellenbosch Jonkershoek (single track)**

Jonkershoek Nature Reserve is where we spend the morning for excellent single track riding. The trip back to Cape Town features great climbs and down-hills and the views are stunning. The afternoon we spend exploring Stellenbosch and doing some serious wine sampling.

#### **Day 4: Montagu Mont Eco (single track and jeep tracks)**

Today we head out of Cape Town and ride along Route 60 to Montagu. From the Breede River we ride along the Old Bains Road through the Cogmans Kloof and through the Hole in the Rock, known to the locals as the gateway to the Klein Karoo. We go into the Monteco Private Game Reserve for single track and jeep track riding. If we're lucky we will see some of the different deer species while we crank up the trails; it's also a very popular meeting point for 4x4 vehicles.

#### **Day 5: Calitzdorp Red Stone Hills (single track and gravel)**

Today we tackle single track and off the beaten track gravel roads on a farm used in one of the Cape Epic Races. If we have enough time we will visit an ostrich farm or the Congo Caves. Overnight stay is on a colonial working farm where we relax under a starry sky on the veranda and get a taste of what traditional farm cooking is all about.

#### **Day 6: Prince Albert Swartberg Pass (gravel road)**

This morning our breakfast includes unique scrambled eggs made from an ostrich egg and after a good, solid breakfast we ride out to the bottom of the Swartberg Pass, which is billed as the best mountain bike riding pass in South Africa. Once we've conquered the pass, there is the thrilling downhill ride to Prince Albert, which is a quaint village that is an absolute gem of preserved Cape Dutch architecture.

#### **Day 7: Plettenberg Bay Prince Alfred's pass (Gravel)**

Yesterday we had a hard ride, so today we transfer to Uniondale before we start cycling again and then we take on the Alfred Pass en route to the Indian Ocean. We spend the next few days in Plettenberg Bay; a stunning coastal town on the Garden Route.

#### **Day 8: Plettenberg Bay Hakerville Forest (single track)**

The Hakerville Forest bike route is famous on the Garden Route and we crank the route and after the bracing ride we relax on the beach or spend the time in any of the other activities on offer such as a visit to an elephant nature park or go bungee jumping at the Storms River.

**Day 9: Knysna the jewel of the Garden Route Homtini Trail (single track)**

On our agenda is cycling the Homtini trails in the mountain reserve behind Knysna, which has a great climb and brilliant downhill at the end. The afternoon we spend some time doing shopping in the Waterfront or enjoy coffee at one of the great cafes in the Waterfront. We have the option of going for a boat ride on the lagoon or visit the brewery. We have a seafood dinner in town.

**Day 10: Knysna Rest Day**

Our legs need a rest after nine days of cycling and today we do no riding, we explore the town, do shopping or take the Outeniqua Choo-Tjoe on a steam train journey to George.

**Day 11: Swellendam Breede River (river rafting)**

We transfer to a river camp situated on the Breede River where we will stay in safari tents and in the evening we will have a traditional South African braai [barbeque]. The afternoon we will do some padding through the rapids on the river using rubber dinghies.

**Day 12: Hermanus Shaws Pass (tar and gravel)**

We cycle along the coast line towards Hermanus and have a brilliant downhill ride on Shaws Pass and then had back to the coast again. During whaling season there are excellent land-based whale watching points along the Hermanus coast.

**Day 13: Grabouw Lebanon Trail (single track)**

We tackle the stupendous Lebanon trail today and cycle through pine forests and fynbos that includes a brilliant 10km downhill stretch and for those with extra energy, you can do the downhill stretch again or go for a swim in the dam. We overnight at the Trail Centre in workers cottages and relax around the campfire during the evening.

**Day 14: Cape Town Chapmans Peak (pass tar road)**

This is the final day of our 14-day mountain bike tour and we head back to the Mother City and for our grand finale we ride Chapmans Peak and at the end we pack up the bikes and head back to our hotel where everyone will go his and her own way.

**Riding Distance: 600km****Included in the tour price:**

- Accommodation in guest houses, hotels and working farms.
- 5 evening meals plus 1 picnic lunch
- Full vehicle support, airport pick-ups and baggage transport.
- Entry fees into all national parks and rides
- Wine tasting
- GPS data available.
- Starter pack that includes route maps, and a complimentary bottle of wine.
- Free fruit and isotonic drinks on the tour
- Two registers guides that are world-class and extremely experienced.
- Comprehensive bike repair tool kit

**PRICING INFORMATION**

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**R23,625**  
per person

## RATES INFO

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**Price:**

R23, 625.00 per person

