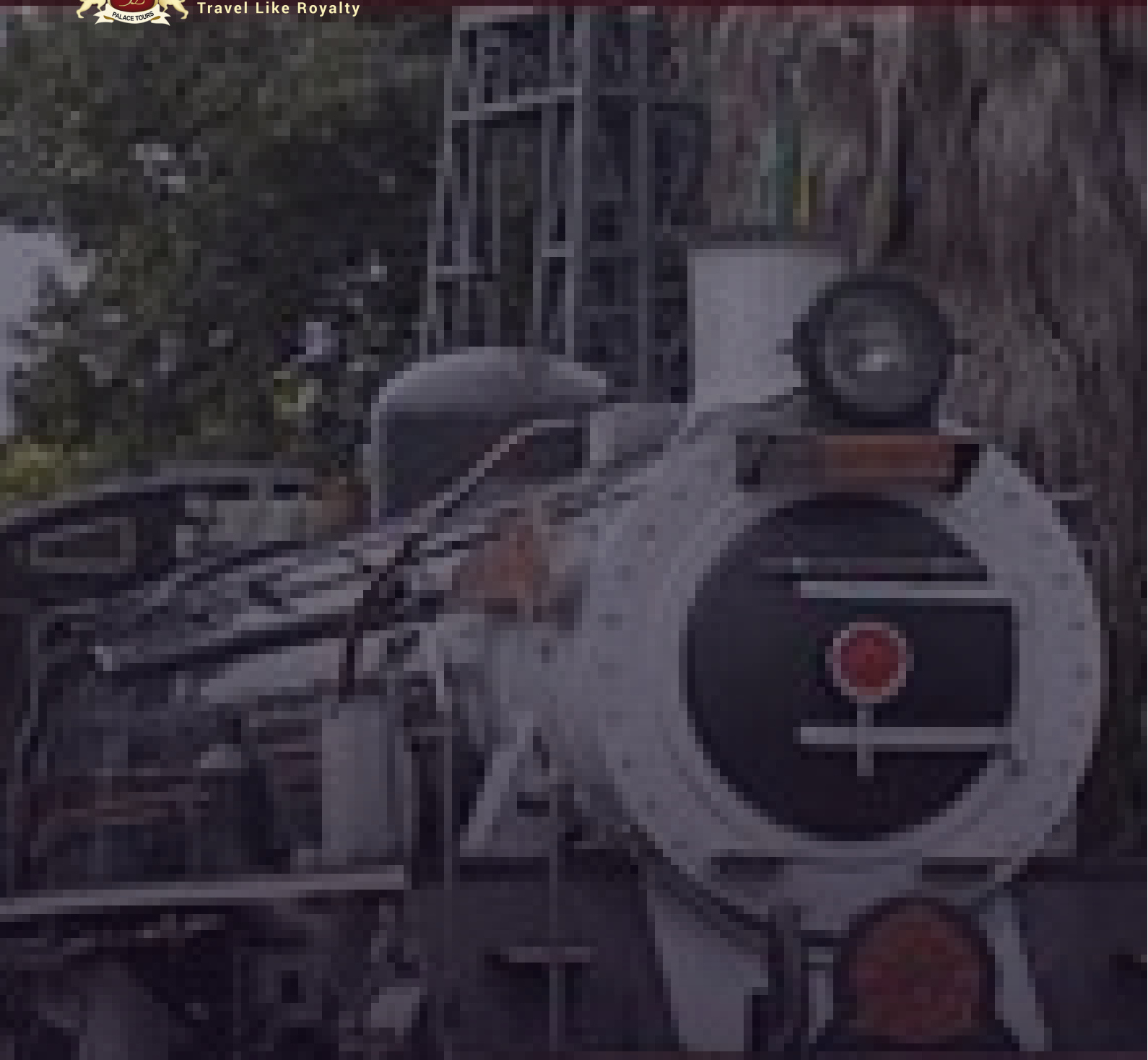
PALACE TOURS
Travel Like Royalty



PALACE TOURS

The Cape Town Journey: Rovos Rail (Northbound)

3 Nights • Luxury Experience

www.palacetours.com travel@palacetours.com 786-408-0610

Overview

For many visitors to South Africa, there is no finer way to see the country than on the popular 48-hour weekly journeys between Pretoria and Cape Town. This 1 600-kilometre meander is a perfect illustration of South Africa as a world in one country. Travel the grasslands of the gold-rich Highveld to the haunting barrenness of the Great Karoo; trundle through the spectacular mountain ranges and scenic winelands of the Cape. Journey's end is Cape Town, the Mother City of South Africa, cradled by the imposing bulk of Table Mountain, Devil's Peak and Lion's Head.

Highlights of the north- and southbound routes include a visit to the historic village of Matjiesfontein; this authentic perfectly preserved Victorian Village, which was founded by Mr Logan as a refreshment stop in 1890, also boasts an impressive museum on the platform. Another stop is made in Kimberley providing an opportunity to enjoy a city tour and a visit to the Diamond Mine Museum and the world's largest man-made excavation, the Big Hole.

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary

DAY 1

CAPE TOWN

Depart from Cape Town Station. Trundle through the winelands of the Western Cape towards Worcester.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train climbs ±750m up the face of the escarpment.

Dress: Formal

Around midnight, the train arrives at the first of four tunnels on the pass. The last tunnel is 13.5km long so guests are
to be careful if walking through the train.

DAY 2

MATJIESFONTEIN

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
Disembark at Matjiesfontein for an opportunity to stroll through the historic village. Of special interest is the museum
on the platform and a collection of historic cars and railway carriages to the right of the Lord Milner Hotel.
The train travels through the Karoo, a vast semi-desert region that was once an enormous inland sea. Over millions of
years, volcanic matter was ground down and deposited as silt upon the seabed to form what geologists call the Karoo system.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars.

Overnight on board.

Dress: Formal

DAY 3

KIMBERLEY

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 08:30.
Enjoy a tour of Kimberley's Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole. Capital of the Northern Cape, Kimberley is
well known for the discovery of diamonds that led to its establishment in 1871.
Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train travels northeast towards the broad grassland plains of the Highveld.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars.

Overnight on board.

Dress: Formal

DAY 4

PRETORIA

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 09:30.

*Disembark at Meyerton Station (±100km south of Rovos Rail Station). An optional complimentary transfer (±90min)
from Meyerton Station to Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria is available. Should you wish to visit our museum or do a
station tour, we suggest allowing ±90 minutes.

Tips & Travel Guide

Will I require visas for my trip on board Rovos Rail?

Visas are required for passengers traveling though South Africa, Swaziland, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Zambia and Tanzania on the various rail and air journeys. If you require a visa for a particular African country, the visa will still be needed even if you are only in transit through that country. It is the passenger's own responsibility to ensure that they comply with any necessary visa or vaccination requirements. All passengers must be in possession of a full 10-year passport. Passengers traveling to Zimbabwe, Zambia and Tanzania will have their visas taken care of by Rovos Rail providing that full passport information is provided on the booking form. Please check with the relevant embassies or consulates in good time.

Are there different levels of accommodation on board?

The rebuilt sleeper coaches contain the most spacious train suites in the world, offering every modern convenience and comfort. The epitome of luxury, with handsome wood paneling and period Edwardian features, the air-conditioned suites accommodate two people offering the option of twin or spacious double beds. All are equipped with a writing surface and, for valuables, a personal safe. There is also a bar fridge filled with beverages of the passengers' choice and room service is available 24 hours a day. In the en suite bathrooms original fittings combine with the modern technology of hot showers, hair dryers and shaver plugs. There are three levels of accommodation available. The **Royal Suites**, each of which take up half a carriage, are spacious and elegant, measuring about 16 sq meters in size (172 sq ft). Each has its own private lounge area and full bathroom with Victorian bath and separate shower. The **Deluxe Suites** (approx. 11 sq meters/118 sq feet) also accommodate two passengers in either twin or double beds and have a lounge area and en-suite bathroom with shower. A third level of accommodation, the **Pullman Suite,** is approximately 7 square meters (76 sq feet) in size and while it will include the identical bathroom to that of the deluxe suites, the bedroom will be smaller with a one up one down bed for twin requirements or a double bed for couples. During the day this can be converted into a comfortable couch. Please see our "Photo Gallery" for pictures of all suites.

Are all meals, drinks and excursions included in the price?

The rate includes accommodation, meals and excursions during the train journey, as well as alcoholic beverages while on board the train.

What type of cuisine is served on board?

There is an emphasis on fresh local ingredients and traditional dishes such as game are a specialty. Every morning you will enjoy a full breakfast with dishes cooked to order. A selection of cold meats, croissants, pastries, fresh fruit, yogurts, cereals and preserves make up a tempting breakfast buffet. For lunch and dinner there is a starter and a choice of fish, meat or vegetarian dishes, followed by a tempting dessert and these are complemented by a selection of excellent South African wines. All meals are served in one sitting only in the charming Victorian atmosphere of the Dining Cars.

Can you cater for special dietary requirements?

detailed request has been made at the time of your reservation. If a special request has not been made, the chefs will endeavor to prepare suitable meals with the ingredients available on board. We do however regret that we are unable to provide meals requiring strict religious observance in the preparation.

Do I need to leave a gratuity for the Rovos Rail Staff?

There will be an envelope addressed to the Train Manager in your suite which may, at your discretion, be used for gratuities.

Does Rovos Rail take children?

Rovos Rail does accommodate children but we ask parents to be mindful of the sophisticated adult atmosphere we endeavor to maintain. This is particularly pertinent to our long journeys.

Can disabled people travel on Rovos Rail?

We regret that the dimensions of the passages and layout of the train are not suitable for wheelchair-bound passengers. We are able to accommodate passengers with slight walking difficulties although we recommend that an able-bodied passenger accompany them. Should you have any special requirements please inform us at the time of booking.

Is there room in my suite for my luggage?

Yes there is enough space for 6 large suitcases. These can be stored on the overhead luggage rack or under the bed.

What is the dress code on board Rovos Rail?

During the day, the dress is smart, casual and comfortable. Attire that is more formal is worn in the evening on the “Pride of Africa”. A jacket and tie is a minimum requirement, please.

Are there showers on board Rovos Rail?

All the suites have an en suite shower with the Royal Suites having a shower and a separate Victorian bath.

What currency do I need on board Rovos Rail?

Although Rovos Rail prices are all inclusive it is recommended that passengers have a small amount of Rands for on board or off-train purchases.

Can I smoke on board Rovos Rail?

You may smoke in the privacy of your suites or in the Club Lounge situated towards the rear of the Train. Smoking is strictly forbidden in all other parts of the Train.

What service can I expect on board Rovos Rail?

A dedicated Host/ess will be available for full 24-hour room service and bar facilities. He/she can be called on the phone in your suite. The Train Manager and Deputy Train Manager are on hand throughout the journey to help with any queries.

What languages do the staff speak on board the Train?

Mainly English with some German and Spanish.

Is there an on-board Gift Shop?

There is an on-board Gift shop situated in the Lounge Car/Royal Suite coach. Due to fluctuating exchange rates we

Diners Club.

Is there an on-board safe?
An electronic safe is provided in the cupboard in each suite.

Is there a laundry service on the train?
There is a LIMITED laundry service on board comprised of household washers, dryers and steam irons. The turn around time is 48 hours so the staff are not able to handle a week's worth of washing.

Do you provide dressing gowns onboard?
We provide a thick terry toweling one-size-fits-all gown plus slippers for each guest.

How is the temperature controlled on the Train?
All the public cars are fitted with gas-filled air-conditioning systems. Although each air-conditioner is individually controlled, where necessary we endeavor to maintain a standard internal temperature of between 20 to 21°C (70 to 72°F) throughout the journey. For the comfort of guests, each suite has and individual air-conditioner with individual temperature controls which range from 18 to 24°C (65 to 77°F). Fresh air intake is simply solved by opening a window! During cold periods, all systems are provided with heating cycles from the air-conditioning units, as well as under-floor heating and electric underblankets.

What is the electricity voltage on the Train?
The electricity on the train is as follows: 220V AC 50Hz. The plugs are 3 point round pronged wall plugs. International adaptors are also available on board.

Are there shaving plugs?
There are 110V 2 prong plugs for shavers.

Is there a TV on the train?
In keeping with the bygone era of the Train there are no televisions, radios, newspaper or Internet access.

Is there cell phone reception?
The reception is poor while the Train is moving, but does improve when we are stationery or near main roads. Please note that the use of mobile telephones and laptop computers is forbidden in all the public areas. Please use your phone and computer in the privacy of your suite.

Does the train have security?
When on board the train we encourage our guests to close the shutters and windows in the suites. If left open the temptation provided for anyone standing on the platform might be too great. Safes are provided in your suite for valuables. The train doors in the passages are all locked from the inside. Your suite door can also lock from the inside.

Is there secure parking at Rovos Rail Station at Capital Park in Pretoria?
Yes there is but Rovos Rail cannot be held liable for the safety of your vehicles or any possessions left in the vehicles.

Will I need insurance for my trip?
Yes, travel insurance is strongly advised.

Do I need to take anti-malaria medication?

Anti malaria precautions are advisable for travel to Africa. Please consult your medical practitioner.

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Nov 2, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Nov 3, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Nov 13, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Nov 17, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Dec 1, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Dec 15, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Dec 21, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Dec 29, 2026	Pullman suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**

Rates shown in South African Rand (ZAR). Approximate USD equivalents available upon request.

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.

🏷️ **Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.**

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/capetown-train for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

PAYMENT TERMS:

(i) 30% at the time of booking

(ii) 70% or balance no later than 65 days prior to date of the first service sold by TRAVBUZZ / PALACE TOURS

CANCELLATION FEES:

(i) 25% of the total tour value if cancelled more than 90 days prior to date of first service sold by TRAVBUZZ / PALACE TOURS

(ii) 35% of the total tour value if cancelled 89-65 days prior to date of first service sold by TRAVBUZZ / PALACE TOURS

(iii) 55% of the total tour value if cancelled 64-35 days prior to date of first service sold by TRAVBUZZ / PALACE TOURS

(iv) 100% of the total tour value if cancelled 34-0 days prior to date of first service sold by TRAVBUZZ / PALACE TOURS

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance to cover the losses incurred in case of cancellation. For information on available plans or to purchase travel insurance, please visit www.palacetours.com/insurance.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

How long is the northbound Cape Town Journey and where does it go?

> The northbound Cape Town Journey spends 3 nights on board, travelling about 1,600 km from Cape Town towards Pretoria. It passes through the Cape winelands and mountains and the Great Karoo, with stops at Matjiesfontein and Kimberley, before crossing the Highveld grasslands.

What happens on the first evening after leaving Cape Town?

> The train leaves Cape Town Station and travels through the Western Cape towards Worcester, with tea served in the lounge and observation cars. After dinner it climbs about 750 m up the escarpment. Around midnight it enters the first of four tunnels on the pass, and the last tunnel is 13.5 km long, so take care if you walk through the train.

Where does the northbound Cape Town Journey end?

> On Day 4 you leave the train at Meyerton Station, about 100 km south of the train's station in Pretoria. An optional complimentary transfer of about 90 minutes takes you from Meyerton to Pretoria. Allow roughly 90 minutes more if you want to visit the station museum or take a station tour.

What do we see at Matjiesfontein on the way north?

> On Day 2, after breakfast, you get off at Matjiesfontein to stroll through this preserved Victorian village. It was founded as a railway refreshment stop in 1890. Look out for the museum on the platform and the collection of historic cars and railway carriages near the Lord Milner Hotel.

What is included in the Kimberley stop?

> On Day 3, breakfast is served until 08:30, followed by a tour of Kimberley's Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole. Kimberley grew from the diamond discoveries that led to its founding in 1871. After lunch the train heads northeast across the Highveld grasslands.

What suite types can I book on the northbound Cape Town Journey?

> There are three suite types: Pullman Suite, Deluxe Suite and Royal Suite. Pullman is the most compact, and Royal is the largest, with only two per carriage. The departure list on this page shows the fare for each suite type on every date.

How much does the northbound Cape Town Journey cost?

> Fares start from about US$2,772 per person sharing, in the entry suite category, with Deluxe and Royal Suites costing more. The exact fare for each departure is shown on this page.

What does a single traveller pay on the northbound Cape Town Journey?

> Single fares start from about US$4,158 per person for sole use of a suite. The single price depends on the date and suite type, and the exact fare for each departure is shown on this page.

Can the price change because of exchange rates?

> Yes. Rates are based on the South African rand and can change with exchange-rate movements. Your balance is charged at the exchange rate that applies when it becomes due. You can pay in full at booking to lock in the current exchange rate. Contact us for details.

What is included in the northbound Cape Town Journey fare?

> The fare includes three meals a day on board and all beverages on the train. It also covers sightseeing with a qualified English-speaking guide, entrance fees as listed in the itinerary, 24-hour room service, limited on-board laundry and government taxes.

What is excluded from the northbound fare?

> Flights and transfers to and from the train station are not included, apart from the optional complimentary transfer from Meyerton to Pretoria. Off-train beverages and laundry, telephone calls, souvenirs, gratuities and other personal items are also extra.

Do I need a visa or special documents for the Cape Town Journey?

> You need a valid passport, and it is your responsibility to meet any visa or vaccination requirements for South Africa based on your nationality. Check with the South African embassy or consulate in good time before you travel.

What is the child policy on the northbound Cape Town Journey?

> Children are booked in two age bands, based on age at departure: under 2, and from 2 up to (but not including) 10. Child pricing is quoted on request, so call or message us with your children's ages and your preferred date.

How much is the deposit for the Cape Town Journey, and when is the balance due?

> A deposit of 30% of the tour cost secures your suite, and the balance is due 65 days before departure. Remember that the balance is charged at the exchange rate in effect at that time, unless you choose to pay in full at booking.

Which northbound Cape Town Journey departures can I book?

> We currently have 36 northbound departures on sale, from 22 September 2026 to 29 December 2026. That period covers South Africa's spring and early summer. The live dates, suite availability and fares are in the departure list on this page.

Is there a dress code on the northbound train?

> Dinners on board are formal every evening, so pack something smart. Daytime dress is relaxed. For the Matjiesfontein and Kimberley excursions, bring comfortable walking shoes, a hat and sun protection.

What landscapes does the northbound Cape Town Journey cross?

> You leave Cape Town through the winelands and mountain passes of the Western Cape. Next comes the Karoo, a vast semi-desert that was once an inland sea, where layers of ancient silt formed what geologists call the Karoo

Is room service available on the train?

> Yes. 24-hour room service is included in the fare, along with limited on-board laundry. Afternoon tea is served in the lounge and observation cars, and meals are served in the dining cars.

Can I take the Cape Town Journey southbound instead?

> Yes. The route also runs southbound, from Pretoria to Cape Town, with the same Kimberley and Matjiesfontein stops in reverse order. It has its own page and departure list. Ask us if you want to compare dates and fares in both directions.

How do I ask a question or book The Cape Town Journey: Rovos Rail (Northbound)?

> You can email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610. A travel specialist or our AI assistant will reply. You can also book any date in the departure list on this page directly: choose your date and suite type and reserve online.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

travel@palacetours.com | 786-408-0610

www.palacetours.com

500 S. Federal Hwy, Unit 3852, Hallandale Beach, FL 33008