PALACE TOURS

Cape Town Journey: Rovos Rail (Southbound)

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.

Images: Courtesy - Rovos Rail

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary

DAY 1

PRETORIA

Please check-in a minimum of one hour before departure. Should you wish to visit our museum or do a station tour at
Rovos Rail Station, we suggest arriving two hours prior to departure.

Depart Rovos Rail Station, Pretoria. Travel across the goldfields of the Witwatersrand and the broad grassland plains of
the Highveld. Guests may freshen up in their suites before joining fellow travellers in the lounge and observation cars.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Klerksdorp.
Overnight on board.
Dress: Formal

DAY 2

KIMBERLEY

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00 en route to Kimberley.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
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.
Dinner is served in the dining cars.

Overnight on board.

Dress: Formal

DAY 3

MATJIESFONTEIN

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. 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. After lunch, there is a chance for guests to disembark the train at Whitehill Siding and
walk the 5km into Matjiesfontein. A member of staff will accompany the group.
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.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
About an hour after Matjiesfontein, the train arrives at the first of four tunnels on the pass. The first tunnel is 13.5km long
so guests are to be careful when walking through the train and may wish to turn on necessary lights.
Dinner is served as the train climbs ±750m down the escarpment towards Worcester.
Dress: Formal

DAY 4

CAPE TOWN

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

The train travels through the Hex River Valley.
Arrive at journey's end at Cape Town Station.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Tips & Travel Guide

Frequently Asked Questions & Tips

Please dress accordingly for excursions/game drives: 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. 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 for any changes.

In your Suite is a Journeys magazine featuring articles of interest related to the route.

Please ensure passports and the required visas are valid prior to departure for Africa.

View Passport & Visa Guide. Train station platforms are not always accessible from ground level.

Message from Rovos Rail: *"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."*

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Oct 30, 2026	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Pullman Suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Nov 13, 2026	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Pullman Suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Nov 27, 2026	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Pullman Suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Dec 11, 2026	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Pullman Suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Dec 25, 2026	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Pullman Suite	**$81,000**	**$54,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Jan 5, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Jan 8, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Jan 22, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Jan 29, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Feb 12, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Feb 23, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Feb 27, 2027	Pullman Suite	$26,400	$18,200
Mar 5, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Mar 12, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Apr 2, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Apr 16, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Apr 30, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
May 14, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
May 28, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Jun 11, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000
Jun 25, 2027	Deluxe Suite	$117,000	$78,000
	Royal Suite	$156,000	$104,000

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Jun 29, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Jul 3, 2027	Pullman Suite	**$26,400**	**$18,200**
Jul 9, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Jul 23, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Aug 6, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Aug 17, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Aug 20, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Sep 10, 2027	Deluxe Suite	**$117,000**	**$78,000**
	Royal Suite	**$156,000**	**$104,000**
Oct 9, 2027	Pullman Suite	**$26,400**	**$18,200**

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/Rovos-rail for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Booking Conditions

- **Deposit & Confirmation:** A 25% non-refundable deposit is required at booking. Booking confirmed upon receipt and written confirmation.
- **Final Payment:** Balance due 120 days before departure. Full payment required if booking within 120 days.
- **Pricing:** Per person, subject to availability, may change before confirmation.

Cancellation Terms

- All cancellations must be in writing.
- More than 120 days before departure: Loss of deposit (25%)
- 120-61 days before departure: 50% of total
- 60-31 days before departure: 75% of total
- 30 days or fewer / no-show: 100% (no refund)

Important Notes

- Travel insurance strongly recommended.
- Passport/visa requirements are traveler's responsibility.
- Palace Tours may modify itinerary if necessary.
- Prices exclude international airfare unless stated.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

How long is the southbound Cape Town Journey from Pretoria?

> The southbound Cape Town Journey spends 3 nights on board, covering about 1,600 km from Pretoria to Cape Town. It crosses the Highveld grasslands, the Great Karoo and the mountains of the Cape, with stops at Kimberley and Matjiesfontein on the way.

Where and when do I board the train in Pretoria?

> The train leaves from Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria, and you need to check in at least one hour before departure. If you want to visit the station museum or take a station tour, arrive about two hours early. Lunch is served on board as the train crosses the goldfields of the Witwatersrand.

When does the southbound train arrive in Cape Town?

> The train arrives at Cape Town Station on the morning of Day 4. Breakfast is served until 09:30 as the train comes down through the Hex River Valley. Transfers and hotel nights in Cape Town are not included, so plan your arrival arrangements in advance.

What do we see on the Kimberley stop?

> On Day 2 you tour Kimberley's Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole, which is often described as the world's largest hand-dug excavation. Kimberley, the capital of the Northern Cape, grew up around the diamond discoveries that led to its founding in 1871.

What is Matjiesfontein and can we walk there?

> Matjiesfontein is a perfectly preserved Victorian village, founded in 1890 as a refreshment stop. It has a museum on the platform and a collection of historic cars and railway carriages. On Day 3, after lunch, you can get off at Whitehill Siding and walk about 5 km into the village with a member of staff, or stay on board and stroll around once the train arrives.

What scenery does the Pretoria to Cape Town train pass through?

> The route runs from the goldfields of the Witwatersrand and the Highveld grasslands, through the vast semi-desert of the Karoo, which was once an inland sea. It then descends through the mountains and the Hex River Valley to Cape Town, below Table Mountain. It is a good cross-section of South Africa's landscapes in one journey.

What suite types are available on the Cape Town Journey?

> There are three suite types, each available with double or twin beds: Pullman Suites of about 7 square metres, Deluxe Suites of about 10 square metres, and Royal Suites of about 16 square metres, with only two Royal Suites per carriage. Each suite type is priced separately in the departure list on this page.

How much does the southbound Cape Town Journey cost?

> Fares start from about US$1,122 per person sharing, in the entry suite category, with Deluxe and Royal Suites costing more. Fares vary by departure and suite, so the exact fare for each departure is shown on this page.

Can I travel alone on the Pretoria to Cape Town train?

> Yes. Single fares start from about US$1,627 per person for sole use of a suite. The exact single fare depends on the date and suite type and is shown for each departure on this page.

What is included in the southbound Cape Town Journey fare?

> The fare includes your suite, all meals, all beverages on board, room service and limited laundry. It also covers guided excursions such as the Kimberley tour, entrance fees as listed in the itinerary, an onboard historian and doctor, and government tax.

What is not included in the Pretoria to Cape Town fare?

> Flights, transfers to and from the stations, and hotel nights before or after the journey are not included. Nor are travel insurance, visas, gratuities and personal expenses. Beverages outside the included on-board selection are also extra.

What are the meal times on board the train?

> Unless the schedule changes, breakfast is served from 07:00 to 10:00, lunch at 13:00, afternoon tea at 16:30 and dinner at 19:30. Meals are served in the dining cars, and afternoon tea is in the lounge and observation cars. On the last morning, breakfast ends at 09:30.

Is there a dress code on the Cape Town Journey?

> Evenings on board are formal, so pack something smart for dinner each night. During the day, dress is relaxed. For excursions, bring layers, comfortable walking shoes, a hat and sun protection, because mornings and afternoons can change from cool to warm. Rain capes are available if needed.

Are the excursion times on the Cape Town Journey fixed?

> Excursions may be adjusted to fit the schedule the train actually achieves, and all times are approximate and cannot be guaranteed. The Train Manager announces any changes on board. The Kimberley and Matjiesfontein visits are the core excursions on this route.

Can children travel on the southbound 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. Contact us with your children's ages and we will confirm availability and the child fare for your chosen departure.

What deposit do I pay to book the Cape Town Journey, and when is the balance due?

> A deposit of 30% of the tour cost confirms your booking, and the balance is due 65 days before departure. Your suite is held once the deposit is received.

Which southbound departures are on sale?

> This is one of the most frequent journeys on the train, with 71 southbound departures on sale from 2 October 2026

Is there a doctor and a guide on board the train?

> Yes. An onboard historian and a doctor are included in the fare. The historian adds background on the places you pass through, and in your suite you will find a Journeys magazine with articles about the route.

Can I travel the Cape Town Journey in the other direction?

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

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

> 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: pick 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