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Rovos Rail's African Collage: A 12-Night Journey from Pretoria to Cape Town

12 Nights • Luxury Experience

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Overview

You settle into your lavish suite, the gentle rhythm of Rovos Rail beginning its 12-night serenade from Pretoria to Cape Town. Outside your window, Africa unfolds in a living panorama: the wild expanse of Kruger National Park, where the morning light catches the silhouette of a giraffe against the acacia trees. You feel the deep connection to the land, the sense of timelessness as the train carries you through landscapes that whisper tales of ancient cultures and untamed beauty.

The scent of fynbos and the crisp mountain air fill your lungs as you traverse the Drakensberg, then the warm, earthy notes of the Karoo. Each day brings a new revelation—the vibrant markets of eSwatini, the poignant history of Spionkop, the geological wonders of the Cango Caves. You sip a South African Pinotage as the sun dips below the horizon, painting the sky in fiery hues, realizing this isn't just a trip; it's a profound reawakening of the senses, a memory etched deep within your soul that you carry long after the journey ends in Cape Town.

Images: Courtesy - Rovos Rail

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

EMALAHLENI / MIDDELBURG / PRETORIA

18:00 — Depart from Rovos Rail Station, Pretoria. The train travels on the eastern line towards the eMalahleni coal-mining area and Middelburg, known as the 'stainless steel capital of Africa'. The Dutch railway building company, NZASM, built this eastern line between Pretoria and Lourenço Marques (Maputo) from 1893 to 1895. **19:30** — Dinner is served in the dining cars. Dress: Formal. Guests are requested to ensure the Train Manager or Administration Deputy has their passport, which will be returned before the trip's end.

DAY 2

DULLSTROOM / EMAKHAZENI / ENTOKOZWENI / MALELANE



07:00-10:00 — Breakfast is served in the dining cars. The rolling hills of eMakhazeni, eNtokozweni and Dullstroom, renowned for trout fishing, pass by. **13:00** — Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train descends the spectacular Drakensberg Mountain escarpment, first named by the Voortrekkers who thought the unbroken chain of heavily weathered peaks reminded them of the spines on a dragon's back. **16:30** — Tea is served in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Malelane. Dress: Formal.



DAY 3

ESWATINI / KRUGER NATIONAL PARK / MPAKA / NELSPRUIT (MBOMBELA) / WHITE RIVER

LEISURE GUESTS: 05:30 — Breakfast is served. **06:30** — Game drive in the Kruger National Park with tea, lunch, and curio shopping. **15:00** — Return to the train. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner en route to Mpaka. Border formalities. Dress: Formal. The Kruger Park (2-million hectares) is a world leader in environmental management, home to 336 species of trees, 49 fish, 34 amphibians, 114 reptiles, 507 birds, and 147 mammals including the Big Five.

GOLFERS: 05:30 — Breakfast is served until departure. Transfer (±75 min) to White River Country Club OR (±60 min) to Mbombela for tee off and lunch. Golf at Leopard Creek may be booked on request. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner en route to Mpaka. Dress: Formal.

DAY 4

ESWATINI / HLUHLUWE / MANTENGA CULTURAL VILLAGE / NKONYENI / ROYAL SWAZI SUN / SWAZI CANDLES



LEISURE GUESTS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served. **08:00** — Transfer (±90 min) to Swazi Candles and Mantenga Cultural Village with lunch. **14:00** — Return to the train (±75 min). **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner en route to Hluhluwe. Dress: Formal. Border formalities. The Kingdom of eSwatini (Swaziland) is an absolute monarchy covering 17 000km², known for two capital cities (Mbabane, Lobamba) and rich artisan traditions at Swazi Candles and Mantenga Lodge.

GOLFERS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served until departure. Transfer (±75 min) to Nkonyeni OR Royal Swazi for tee off and lunch. **14:00** — Return to the train (±75 min). **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner en route to Hluhluwe. Dress: Formal. Border formalities.



DAY 5

HLUHLUWE / ZULULAND

05:00 — Breakfast is served. **07:00** — Transfer (±30 min) to Hluhluwe for a game drive. As Africa's oldest proclaimed reserve, Hluhluwe encompasses 960km^2 of hilly topography in central Zululand, known for its rich wildlife and conservation efforts, including all the Big Five. It's also a prime birding destination. **11:00** — Return to the train. **12:30** — Lunch is served as the train travels south along the Indian Ocean coastline. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: Formal.

DAY 6

COTSWOLD DOWNS / DURBAN / MT EDGECOMBE / UMHLANGA / VALLEY OF A THOUSAND HILLS



LEISURE GUESTS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served. **09:00** — Enjoy a Durban city tour, a visit to the botanical gardens, and lunch at Umhlanga's beachfront. Durban is South Africa's third largest city, important for industry and its large port. **15:00** — The train traverses the Valley of a Thousand Hills. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: 'Africa' Theme or Smart Casual.

GOLFERS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served until departure. Transfer (±15 min) to Durban Country Club OR (±20 min) to Mt Edgecombe OR (±30 min) to Cotswold Downs for tee off and lunch. **15:00** — The train traverses the Valley of a Thousand Hills. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: 'Africa' Theme or Smart Casual.



DAY 7

CHAMPAGNE SPORTS RESORT / DRAKENSBERG / HARRISMITH / SPIONKOP

LEISURE GUESTS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served. **09:00** — Transfer (±30 min) to Spionkop Lodge to hear the historic tale of the Battle of Spionkop and walk in the footsteps of Churchill and Gandhi. Enjoy lunch. **14:00** — Afternoon nature drive OR relax at the lodge. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: Formal. The Drakensberg Mountains were first named by the Voortrekkers who thought the unbroken chain of heavily weathered peaks reminded them of the spines on a dragon's back.

GOLFERS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served until departure. Transfer (±75 min) to Champagne Sports Resort for tee off and lunch. **15:30** — Return to the train (±75 min). **19:30** — Dinner is served en route to Harrismith. Dress: Formal.

DAY 8

BLOEMFONTEIN / CLARENS / GOLDEN GATE HIGHLANDS NATIONAL PARK / LEH / PORT ELIZABETH / TAIN



06:00 — Breakfast is served. **08:00** — Take a drive through the Golden Gate Highlands National Park, known for its golden ochre and orange-hued sandstone cliffs, especially Brandwag Rock. **09:30** — Visit the picturesque town of Clarens in the foothills of the Maluti Mountains. Enjoy an early lunch (own account). **13:00** — Transfer (±60 mins) to the Sandstone Heritage Trust, a large agricultural estate housing an impressive collection of heritage trains, tractors, buses, cars, and military vehicles. **15:30** — Transfer (±60 mins) to the train at Bethlehem and depart for Bloemfontein. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: Formal. The observation car will lead the train until Port Elizabeth, offering a different aspect for rail enthusiasts.



DAY 9

BLOEMFONTEIN / CAPE COAST / KAROO

06:00 — Breakfast is served. **08:00** — Tour of Bloemfontein, including the Women's Memorial and Anglo Boer War Museum. Bloemfontein is the seat of the South African judicial system, capital of the Free State Province, and known as the Rose City. The Women's Memorial commemorates 27 000 women and children who died in concentration camps. **10:00** — Traverse the Karoo, a vast and beautiful semi-desert stretching across the great South African plateau inland from the Cape coast. The train crosses the dry southeastern region with its variety of grasses, hardy shrubs, tumbleweeds, and succulents, and descends the Great Escarpment towards the coast. **13:00** — Lunch is served. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: Formal.

DAY 10

ADDO ELEPHANT PARK / HUMEWOOD / PORT ELIZABETH



LEISURE GUESTS: 07:00-10:00 — Breakfast is served. **12:30** — Lunch is served. Game drive in Addo Elephant Park, South Africa's third largest national reserve, stretching from the semi-arid Karoo, over the Zuurberg Mountains and down through the Sundays River valley to the coast. The park is home to one of the densest African Elephant populations on Earth – roughly 600. Return to the train. Depart for Port Elizabeth. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: Formal.

GOLFERS: 07:00 — Breakfast is served until departure. Transfer (±90 min) to Humewood Golf Course for tee off and lunch. Return to the train. Port Elizabeth, the 'Friendly City' or 'Windy City', is a major seaport. **19:30** — Dinner is served. Dress: Formal.



DAY 11

FANCOURT GOLF ESTATE / GARDEN ROUTE / KNYSNA / OUDEBOSCH / PEZULA / SIMOLA / TAIN

Guests are advised to pack an overnight bag for their stay at Fancourt. Tog bags are provided in suites. **06:00** — Breakfast is served. **08:00** — Transfer (±90 min) from Port Elizabeth Station to Oudebosch Farm Stall. **09:30** — Enjoy a refreshment stop at Oudebosch. **10:00** — Transfer (±90 min) to Knysna for a lagoon ferry ride with lunch. **16:30** — Transfer (±60 min) to Fancourt and check-in. **19:00** — Dinner and overnight at Fancourt. Dress: Smart Casual. George and Knysna sit between the majestic Outeniqua Mountains to the north and the Indian Ocean to the south. The Knysna Heads are two sandstone cliffs guarding the mouth of the lagoon. The Garden Route is a narrow coastal terrace with heavy rainfall, making it lush and green.

GOLFERS: 06:00 — Breakfast is served. **07:30** — Transfer (±90 min) from Port Elizabeth Station to Oudebosch Farm Stall. **09:00** — Enjoy a refreshment stop at Oudebosch. **09:30** — Transfer (±90 min) from Oudebosch Farm Stall to Pezula OR Simola for tee off and lunch. Check-in at Fancourt Estate after golf. **19:00** — Dinner and overnight at Fancourt. Dress: Smart Casual.

DAY 12

CANGO CAVES / FANCOURT GOLF ESTATE / KAROO / MATJIESFONTEIN / OUDTSHOORN / PRINCE ALBERT / TAIN



Guests can call Reception to collect their bag or take it to check-out. **06:30** — Breakfast is served until 09:30. Check out. **10:00** — Transfer (±60 min) to an ostrich farm for a visit followed by lunch. **13:30** — Transfer (±30 min) to the Cango Caves for a visit. **15:00** — Transfer (±150 min) to Prince Albert Rd Station. **19:30** — Dinner is served en route to Matjiesfontein. Dress: '1920s' Theme or Smart Casual. This semi-desert region is situated at the foot of the majestic Swartberg mountain range. Oudtshoorn is the centre of the Klein Karoo and famous for feathering in the early 20th century.

GOLFERS: Guests can call Reception to collect their bag or take it to check-out before tee off. **06:30** — Breakfast is served until tee off at Fancourt. **13:30** — After lunch, transfer (±180 min) to Prince Albert Rd Station to rejoin the train. Enjoy a refreshment stop en route. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **19:30** — Dinner is served en route to Matjiesfontein. Dress: '1920s' Theme or Smart Casual.



DAY 13

CAPE TOWN / WESTERN CAPE

Guests are requested to ensure luggage is ready for collection 15 minutes before arrival and that passports are available. **07:00-10:00** — Breakfast is served. The train trundles through the spectacular mountain ranges and scenic winelands of the Western Cape towards the coast. **13:00** — Lunch is served. **16:30** — Tea in the lounge and observation cars. **18:00** — Arrive at journey's end at Cape Town Station.

Tips & Travel Guide

Check-in Information

Please check-in a minimum of one hour before departure. If Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria is your starting point, it is suggested to arrive two hours before departure if you wish to do a site tour of the museum. Passports are required at check-in. No vouchers are required. Luggage will be tagged and placed in your suite on board the train where you will find a full itinerary pack. The Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria is located at 1 Transnet Avenue, Capital Park. For Cape Town, the Rovos Rail Lounge is at 1 Adderley Street, Paul Sauer Building. For Durban, the Durban Station Lounge is at Jelf Taylor Crescent, Stamford Hill.

Dining Schedule

Meals on board are served in one sitting only in the dining cars. Breakfast is served from **07:00-10:00**. Lunch is served at **13:00**. Tea is served at **16:30**. Formal Dinner is served at **19:30**. Bar Service operates from **07:00-±01:00**. A gong heralds lunch and dinner. All meals are served at these times unless otherwise stated in the timetable. Rovos Rail offers a carefully curated selection of local and international beverages, with a proud focus on South African offerings. All beverages on board are included, though special requests like international sparkling wine can be pre-ordered at an additional cost (30+ days before departure).

Dress Code

Days on board: Smart Casual. This means neat, conventional yet relatively informal style, combining casual and formal clothing pieces.

Dinner on board: Formal. For gentlemen, a collar and tie are mandatory, while a jacket is optional. For ladies, cocktail/evening dresses or suits are suggested. Please respect this dress code. On long journeys, themed evenings ('Africa' and '1920s') may occur, where guests can dress up accordingly or opt for smart casual.

Off-train excursions/Game Drives: Comfortable walking shoes, sun lotion, and hats are recommended. Rain capes are available. Game drives are on open vehicles, so dress accordingly; mornings can be cool then warm up considerably, afternoons can be warm then cool down considerably. Warm clothing is advised for cooler conditions.

Golf Courses: Refer to specific Golf Course Information for the dress code at the golf courses.

Electricity & Connectivity

The train is equipped with 220V AC 50Hz 3-point round-pronged wall plugs and 110V/220V 2-pin plugs for shavers and chargers. USB ports are available in each suite. International adaptors are also available. A generator supplies power, but be aware that certain breaks in power are necessary for servicing. In maintaining the spirit of train travel, there is no radio, television or WiFi on board. The use of mobile phones, laptops and anything that can disturb other guests is confined to the privacy of your suites only. Reception is poor while the train is moving. WiFi is available at Rovos Rail lounges in Cape Town and Pretoria, and at most off-train accommodation (though not always guaranteed).

Climate & Weather

The average temperatures vary by area and month. For example, Cape Town experiences average highs of 28°C

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.

Onboard Amenities

South African biodegradable and/or recyclable products are provided, including soap (40g), bamboo tissues, shampoo (50ml), hand and body wash (50ml), hand and body lotion (50ml), lip balm (15ml), insect repellent spray (for journeys over 4 days), reusable bamboo rounds, bamboo ear buds, a compostable shower cap, ear plugs, sun cream, razors, and nail files. Plug-in hairdryers are available. Dressing gowns and slippers are provided for guest use, and can be purchased from the Gift Shop. There is a limited laundry service (10 items/day) with a 48-hour turnaround; no dry-cleaning. The Gift Shop on the train and at Rovos Rail Station sells stamps and other items.

Medical Information

All guests are solely responsible for ensuring they are capable of undertaking the tours and activities. Rovos Rail is equipped with a standard medical kit, oxygen, automated external defibrillator, and a wheelchair. Train Managers are First Aid Level 3 trained. Anti-malarial precautions are recommended for malaria areas including Kruger Park and Eswatini. Recommended immunisations (not required) include Hepatitis A+B, Polio, Tetanus, Cholera (low risk). A Yellow Fever/Medical Exemption Certificate is essential if travelling to/from DRC and Angola. Consult your clinic or doctor. TRAVEL DOCTOR AFRICA: local 0861 300 911 or international +27 (0) 11 214 9030.

Luggage

Luggage can be stored in your suite under the bed or above the door on a luggage rack. While there are no strict restrictions, it's not recommended to bring more than two large suitcases. On selected long journeys, Rovos Rail tog bags are provided for overnight trips or hand luggage on aircraft. A soft bag is preferable for plane transfers due to a 15kg weight restriction.

Currency

South Africa accepts Rands only. Rands are accepted in Namibia and eSwatini. US Dollars are accepted in Zimbabwe and Tanzania (Dar es Salaam only). Cash is highly recommended. Hotels and major dealers accept credit cards. US Dollars printed before 2013 or worn will not be accepted. Low denominations are recommended for shopping/gratuities. Larger denominations are recommended for exchanging money to local currency (especially in Tanzania) as you get a better rate.

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Nov 10, 2026	Royal Suites	—	**$323,000**
	Deluxe Suites	**$375,000**	**$250,000**
	Pullman Gold Suites	**$270,000**	**$180,000**
Apr 6, 2027	Royal Suites	—	**$372,000**
	Deluxe Suites	**$432,000**	**$288,000**
	Pullman Suites	**$310,500**	**$207,000**
Nov 2, 2027	Royal Suites	—	**$372,000**
	Deluxe Suites	**$432,000**	**$288,000**
	Pullman Suites	**$310,500**	**$207,000**
Mar 15, 2028	Royal Suites	—	**$437,000**
	Deluxe Suites	**$492,000**	**$328,000**
	Pullman Suites	**$345,000**	**$230,000**
Apr 5, 2028	Royal Suites	—	**$437,000**
	Deluxe Suites	**$492,000**	**$328,000**
	Pullman Suites	**$345,000**	**$230,000**
Nov 15, 2028	Royal Suites	—	**$437,000**
	Deluxe Suites	**$492,000**	**$328,000**
	Pullman Suites	**$345,000**	**$230,000**

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.

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/rovos-rail-african-collage-pretoria-cape-town-1 for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Payment Terms

25% of total tour cost due at the time of booking. 75% balance due no later than 65 days prior to tour departure date. All reservations are subject to availability and will be confirmed upon receipt of the required deposit. A provisional booking will be held for 14 days, after which the 25% deposit is due.

Cancellation Fees

Timeframe Before Departure	Cancellation Fee
More than 95 days	10% of total tour price
95–66 days	25% of total tour price
65–36 days	50% of total tour price
35 days or less / failure to travel	100% of total tour price (no refund)

A 5% Administrative Fee will be charged by Palace Tours on any applicable refunds. All cancellation fees apply to the full tour price before any discounts or coupons. Cancellation insurance is compulsory as these fees will not be waived. All cancellation requests must be submitted in writing.

Change of Date / Name / Occupancy

Changes may be requested up to 125 days prior to departure and are subject to availability and supplier approval. No changes will be permitted within 65 days prior to departure. Any request within this period will be treated as a cancellation and subject to the applicable cancellation fees. All changes may incur additional costs, which will be advised prior to confirmation. No changes will be processed without written authorization and payment of any applicable fees.

Payment Methods

Payments may be made via bank transfer or credit card. All payments must reference the booking number and be supported by proof of payment. Refunds, when applicable, will be processed to the original form of payment. Any exchange rate fluctuations or bank charges are the responsibility of the client.

What's Included

- Accommodation on board
- All meals on board
- All beverages on board
- Room service
- Limited laundry
- Excursions with a qualified guide (where applicable)
- Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Government tax
- Flights to/from Sosusvale

- Off-train accommodation (Sossusvlei and Etosha) including meals, water, tea/coffee, and breakfast juices

What's Not Included

- All off-train beverages (excluding water, tea/coffee, and breakfast juices at lodges)
- International sparkling wine
- Gratuities
- Personal expenses
- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Pre- and post-tour transfers, accommodation, and flights

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended and is required to cover cancellation fees, medical emergencies, and unforeseen circumstances. Clients are responsible for securing their own insurance coverage and should travel with a copy of their policy including the insurance company name, policy number, and 24-hour medical emergency telephone number.

Passports & Visas

Valid passports and any required visas are the sole responsibility of the client and must be obtained prior to departure. Passports must have at least five blank visa pages and must be valid for at least six months from the return-home date. This tour passes through South Africa and Namibia; please confirm visa requirements for your nationality well in advance.

Health & Medical

Guests are solely responsible for ensuring they are capable of undertaking the tours and activities. Please inform us at the time of booking if you have any medical conditions, physical disabilities, or allergies. Anti-malarial precautions are recommended for certain areas visited on this itinerary, including Etosha National Park. Please consult your clinic or doctor for the latest medical advice prior to travel.

General Conditions

All services are provided subject to availability and supplier terms and conditions. Schedules, routing, and excursions are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Times are approximate and excursion arrangements may be altered due to operational, weather, or other factors beyond our control. The operator is not liable for loss, damage, injury, delays, or unforeseen events beyond its control. Participation in tours and related activities is voluntary and at the client's own risk.

Guest Indemnity

Although certain limited insurances have been arranged, the operator and its agents, servants, or employees shall not be liable for any loss or damage to passengers' luggage or effects. The passenger waives any claim against the operator, its servants, agents, employees, or subcontractors for any injury and/or loss of any nature whatsoever (including consequential loss) arising directly or indirectly from any aspect of the tour, including any form of transport used. This waiver binds the passenger's executors, heirs, trustees, and dependants. The passenger accepts all services and facilities voluntarily, with full knowledge that they may expose them to injury, danger, or loss.

Important Note

All timeframes are based on the local time of the destination. To allow sufficient processing time, clients must submit payment or cancellation requests with a minimum 5-day advance margin prior to the applicable deadlines.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the dress code for dinner on Rovos Rail's African Collage?

> Dinner on board Rovos Rail is a formal affair. For gentlemen, a collar and tie are mandatory, with a jacket being optional. Ladies are encouraged to wear cocktail or evening dresses, or suits. On long journeys like the African Collage, themed evenings, such as an 'Africa' theme or a '1920s' theme, may occur, allowing guests to dress accordingly or opt for smart casual. Daytime attire on board is smart casual, which means neat, conventional yet relatively informal clothing.

What type of electrical outlets are available on Rovos Rail suites?

> Rovos Rail suites are equipped with 220V AC 50Hz 3-point round-pronged wall plugs for general use. Additionally, 110V/220V 2-pin plugs are available for shavers and chargers. USB ports are also provided in each suite for convenience. International adaptors are available for guests from different regions. The train operates on generator power, and brief breaks in power may occur for servicing.

Is there WiFi available on board Rovos Rail?

> In maintaining the spirit of traditional train travel, Rovos Rail does not offer radio, television, or WiFi on board the train itself. The use of mobile phones, laptops, and other devices that might disturb other guests is confined to the privacy of your suites only. Mobile reception can be poor while the train is moving. However, WiFi is available at Rovos Rail lounges in Cape Town and Pretoria, and at most off-train accommodation options, though not always guaranteed.

What are the luggage restrictions for the Rovos Rail African Collage tour?

> Luggage can be stored conveniently in your suite under the bed or on the luggage rack above the door. While there are no strict luggage restrictions on board the train, it is not recommended to bring more than two large suitcases. For overnight excursions, Rovos Rail provides tog bags. If your itinerary includes plane transfers, a soft bag is preferable due to a typical luggage weight restriction of 15kg for flights.

What medical precautions should I take for the African Collage journey?

> Guests are solely responsible for their health and ability to undertake the tour's activities. Rovos Rail trains are equipped with a standard medical kit, oxygen, an automated external defibrillator, and a wheelchair. Train Managers are trained in First Aid up to Level 3. Anti-malarial precautions are recommended, as the itinerary includes malaria-risk areas such as Kruger Park and eSwatini. Recommended (though not required) immunisations include Hepatitis A+B, Polio, Tetanus, and Cholera (low risk). A Yellow Fever/Medical Exemption Certificate is essential if travelling to/from DRC and Angola. Consult your doctor or TRAVEL DOCTOR AFRICA (local 0861 300 911 or international +27 (0) 11 214 9030).

What currencies are accepted on the Rovos Rail African Collage tour?

> In South Africa, only Rands are accepted on the train. Rands are also accepted in Namibia and eSwatini. For Zimbabwe and Tanzania (Dar es Salaam only), US Dollars are accepted. Cash is highly recommended for off-train purchases, and major dealers accept credit cards. Please note that US Dollar notes printed before 2013 or those that appear worn will not be accepted. Low denominations are recommended for shopping and gratuities, while larger denominations are better for exchanging money to local currency, especially in Tanzania.

Is laundry service available on Rovos Rail?

> Yes, Rovos Rail offers a limited laundry service on board, processing up to 10 items per day. The turnaround time for laundry is typically 48 hours. There are no dry-cleaning facilities available either on the train or en route. While this is a complimentary service, Rovos Rail cannot be held responsible for items that may be damaged or lost during the process.

Can children travel on the Rovos Rail African Collage?

> Rovos Rail does accommodate children, but parents are kindly asked to be sensitive to the adult nature and atmosphere of the train by ensuring children are respectful and quiet. Long journeys are not recommended for children under 13 years old. Children between 0-2 years old are not permitted to travel. There are no child-minding facilities or activities available on board. Please refer to the Child Policy on rovos.com for more details.

What are the check-in procedures for Rovos Rail departures?

> Guests are required to check in a minimum of one hour before departure. If departing from Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria, arriving two hours prior is suggested if you wish to visit the museum or take a site tour. Passports are mandatory for check-in and will be returned before the end of the trip. No vouchers are required as luggage will be tagged and placed directly in your suite.

What is the suggested gratuity for Rovos Rail staff and game lodge guides?

> Gratuities for the staff are at your discretion. A suitably marked envelope will be in your suite for you to hand directly to the Train Manager, who will distribute the amount pro-rata among the staff. A suggested amount is ±ZAR450 (±US$25) per guest per night on board. For game lodges, it is customary to tip guides and lodge staff an estimated ±ZAR450 (±US$25) per guest per day.

What happens if there are delays on the Rovos Rail journey?

> Rovos Rail is reliant on the traction and railway services provided by the countries it traverses. Delays can occur due to various factors like locomotive issues, signal problems, power-cable damage, theft, vandalism, electricity outages, or driver issues. Rovos Rail is not responsible for delays or changes beyond its control. While Rovos Rail endeavors to carry out all off-train experiences, the obligation to transport guests on schedule may override excursions. Same-day air travel on departure/arrival days is strongly cautioned due to possible delays.

Are dressing gowns and other amenities provided in the suites?

> Yes, a comfortable one-size-fits-all dressing gown and slippers are provided for each guest's use on board the train. If you wish to purchase them, they are available at the Gift Shop. Other amenities provided include South African biodegradable/recyclable products such as soap, shampoo, body wash, lotion, and lip balm, along with insect repellent, bamboo tissues, ear buds, a shower cap, ear plugs, sun cream, razors, and nail files.

What are the dining times on board Rovos Rail?

> Meals are served at specific times: Breakfast from 07:00-10:00, Lunch at 13:00, Tea at 16:30, and Formal Dinner at 19:30. The bar service is available from 07:00 until approximately 01:00. A gong sounds to announce lunch and dinner. All meals are served in the dining cars in a single sitting.

Is it safe to drink the tap water in the suites?

> The water in the suites has been filtered and chlorinated, making it safe for bathing and brushing teeth only. For drinking, guests are provided with bottled water. Rovos Rail carries water in tanks under each coach, which are refilled daily, but cannot be topped up while the train is moving. Guests are kindly asked to use water responsibly.

What route does Rovos Rail's African Collage follow from Pretoria to Cape Town?

> This 13-day, 12-night journey covers about 3,700 km. From Pretoria it heads to Kruger National Park, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Hluhluwe, Durban and the Valley of a Thousand Hills, the Spionkop battlefield, Golden Gate Highlands, Bloemfontein and the Karoo, Addo Elephant Park, then Knysna, an overnight at Fancourt, Oudtshoorn and the Cango Caves, arriving in Cape Town at 18:00 on day 13.

Which game drives are included on the African Collage journey?

> Leisure guests have three wildlife days: a full-day game drive in Kruger National Park on day 3, a morning game drive in Hluhluwe, Africa's oldest proclaimed reserve, on day 5, and a game drive in Addo Elephant Park on day 10, home to roughly 600 elephants. Both Kruger and Hluhluwe are home to the Big Five.

Is there a golf option on the African Collage itinerary?

> Yes. On several excursion days golfers can swap the sightseeing for a round at a course near the train's stop, for example near White River, in eSwatini, in Durban, in the Drakensberg, at Humewood and at Fancourt. For guests on the golfers itinerary, green fees and carts are included in the fare. Let us know when booking which itinerary each traveller prefers.

Which suites are available and what does the African Collage cost?

> You can choose a Royal Suite, Deluxe Suite, Pullman Gold Suite or Pullman Suite. Fares start from about USD 10,890 per person sharing, and single fares are also available. Departures on sale run from 10 November 2026 to 15 November 2028, and the exact fare for each departure and suite is shown on this page.

What does the African Collage fare include and how do I pay?

> The fare includes your suite, all meals, all beverages on board, room service, limited laundry, guided excursions with entrance fees, and government tax. It excludes flights, pre- and post-tour transfers and hotels, visas, travel insurance and gratuities. A 25% deposit secures your suite, with the balance due 65 days before departure.

How do I ask a question or book Rovos Rail's African Collage?

> Every departure listed on this page can be booked directly online. For questions about suites, the golf option or flights to Pretoria, email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610, where a travel specialist or our AI assistant will answer.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

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