



KRUGER BIRDING & NATURE HIGHLIGHTS

This 4 day tour is designed to provide, in the short time available, an extensive overview of the birds, mammals and general nature occurring in the Kruger National Park. Several different habitats will be encountered ranging from Grass savannah, Riverine forest, as well as several tree and bush savannah areas occurring on the predominant basalt and granite soils. Depending on the time of year one can expect to view in excess of 250 birds, 25 mammal species as well as reptiles, trees and other fauna.

DAY 1: On arrival at OR Tambo International Airport, transfer by shuttle bus to the Peermont Metcourt Hotel in the Emperor's Palace Complex. Remainder of day at leisure to explore the complex or relax by the pool. Dinner at one of the complex's many restaurants (own account)

DAY 2: After an early breakfast, depart on the shuttle at around 07h45 and transfer by road to Hazyview. On arrival at around 12h00 you will be met and transferred to Gecko Lodge, your home for 2 nights. After check-in we will depart for an afternoon open vehicle safari in the Kruger National Park returning to the lodge at around 18h00. Meet for dinner and complete check lists

DAY 3: An early wake up and depart at 05h30 for a full day open vehicle safari in the Kruger National Park. The lodge will supply breakfast packs and we'll stop at a Restcamp or picnic site at around 08h30. Lunch for your own account. Continue the search for birds and wildlife until around 16h00 when we leave the Park and return to Gecko Lodge. Meet for dinner and complete check lists.

DAY 4: An early wake up and depart at 05h30 for an open vehicle morning safari in the Kruger National Park. Breakfast packs supplied by the lodge. We'll exit the Park at around 11h00 to return to the hotel for check-out and completion of check lists. Transfer to Perry's Bridge Trading Post for the shuttle back to Johannesburg at 12h30. Overnight at the Peermont Metcourt.

SPECIALS

Mammals:

The Kruger Park is famed for the "Big 5" (Lion, Leopard, African Elephant, Rhinoceros, and Cape Buffalo) during the few days allowed one will be likely to view several of these species. Apart from viewing these "flagship species" other mammals such as Giraffe, Burchell's Zebra, Hippopotamus and several antelope species are likely to be seen.

Birds:

This tour gives the birding enthusiast a chance of viewing many of the possible 25 endemics, near endemics and breeding endemics which can be encountered in the area such as Raptors which are in abundance in the Kruger Park (particularly in summer). Sightings of African Hawk Eagle, Martial Eagle, Tawny Eagle, African Fish Eagle and Bateleur are fairly regular. Several of the 5 vulture species which occur in the area may be encountered as well as the possibility of viewing other vulnerable species.

