

J U L Y 1 4 - 2 5 , 2 0 1 5

Destination...

# South Africa and Namibia

A Beautiful Land, A Beautiful People



Join us as we journey to South Africa and Namibia for the dedication of our new convent in Pella. Due to the generosity of St. Mary parish and many friends of the Oblate Sisters, the house is nearly complete and will be blessed and dedicated on July 18<sup>th</sup>. During our trip we will visit the beautiful capital of Cape Town, travel to majestic Table Mountain, visit several Oblate Sisters' Missions, and participate in two Game Drives (safaris).



## Overview of our African Trip

### July 14-17

Departure from Dulles Airport with a transfer in Amsterdam. Arrive in South Africa and enjoy the wonders of Cape Town. As we begin our journey north, we will stop by our Oblate Mission in Koelenhof.

### July 18-19

Travel north in South Africa to Pella for the consecration of our new convent. Spend the day visiting Pella Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. This beautiful church is considered a marvel of architecture situated in the desert. It was designed and built by hand by the first Oblate Fathers as they founded the Oblate missions in South Africa. Their history can be viewed in Pella's museum.

### July 20-24

Travel into Namibia. Experience Oblate life in our missions. After participating in two Safaris, return to beautiful Cape Town and continue our tour of this lovely capital.



## July 15, 2015 – Arrive in Cape Town

Welcome to South Africa's beautiful harbor city.

Overnight: Protea Hotel Breakwater Lodge



## July 16, 2015 –Cape Town (BD)

This morning, we will take a tour designed to orient and introduce us to the extraordinary magic of Cape Town. We will take a cable car to the summit of the legendary Table Mountain – weather permitting – and from there, we'll be able to see the city and surrounding layout of this southernmost tip of Africa. We will visit the country's oldest building, The Castle, and a short distance away, the Company Gardens, both historically fascinating and well conserved. Our drive continues past Parliament Buildings, City Hall and the Slave Lodge, and we'll sense the depth of history via their distinctive architecture. The earliest buildings are colonial. The style moves to a more colorful architecture as we move up the cobblestoned hills to the Malay Quarter and marvel at the ice-cream colors of the quaint Bo-Kaap homes. The afternoon will be at leisure to explore on our own or visit a local mission.

Overnight: Protea Hotel Breakwater Lodge

## July 17, 2015 Cape Town-Springbok (BLD)

Leave Cape Town by coach this morning and begin the journey to the Northern Cape. We will go through very small towns and villages where we will be awed by the natural beauty.

En route, we will stop at Koelenhof, one of our Oblate missions. More than 750 children receive a free education here, thanks to the dedication and efforts of our Sisters and the generosity of our benefactors. We will stop en route at a local restaurant for lunch.

Arrive at Springbok, the largest town in the Namaqualand area in the Northern Cape. Namaqualand is most famous for its diverse flora and the incredible transformation that occurs here in late August/early September when the near lifeless scrub turns into a blanket of color from thousands of flowers.

Overnight: Okiep Country Hotel





## July 18, 2015 Pella (B)

We will leave Springbok and drive to Pella for the dedication of our Sisters' convent. During the afternoon we will tour the beautiful handcrafted cathedral and the museum. Pella is the home of fascinating date palms.

Overnight: 7de Laan Guesthouse



## July 19, 2015 Pofadder-Gabis (BD) NAMIBIA

After morning Mass celebrated by Fr. Don Rooney in our new convent chapel in Pella, we will leave for the overland drive to Gabis, Namibia. The drive will take us along the original path of our first missionaries, crossing the Orange River. We will encounter a

new aura of beauty all along our way. As we enter the area leading to Gabis, paved roads give way to simple dirt paths. This area is guarded by the countless donkeys who rule the land. As the mission of Gabis comes into view, we will be greeted by the sounds of the children who call Gabis home. Although one of our poorest Oblate missions, the little children of Gabis and their dedicated teachers will touch your heart.



Overnight: Grunau Country Hotel

## July 20, 2015 Granau-Matjieskloof (BD)

Drive to our Oblate mission in Matjieskloof, Northern Cape. The name of this mission comes from the bushes used to make huts for the habitants. We will visit our Oblate mission and school, St. Anna, where close to 130 young girls live and are educated. The girls' chorus of St. Anna has participated in competitions at the national level. We look forward to hearing their traditional African music.

Overnight: Okiep Country Hotel





### July 21, 2015 Matjieskloof-Cape Town (BD)

We will return to Cape Town and spend time continuing our tour of this lovely city.

Overnight: Protea Hotel Breakwater Lodge

### July 22, 2015 Cape Town-Aquila (BLD)

This morning's drive will take us to the Aquila Private Game Reserve. Aquila is located in the historic Touws River town, in a valley between the Langeberg and the Outeniqua Mountains in the Karoo. The reserve is a 7,500-hectare conservancy, and home to the Big 5 legends of the African wilderness - elephant, lion, buffalo, leopard and rhino. In addition, we will see many more fascinating animals who inhabit the region.

After lunch, we will head out on an afternoon game drive in the reserve. Have your game list handy, as well as your camera and your binoculars.

Overnight: Aquila Game Reserve



### July 23, 2015 Aquila-Cape Town (BLD)

We will enjoy an early morning game drive before breakfast, then, return to Cape Town to continue our tour.

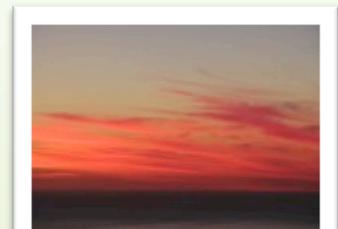
Overnight: Protea Hotel Breakwater Lodge



### July 24, 2015 Cape Town (B)

On our last day, we will visit those places in Cape Town that remain on our "must see" list. Our flight is in the evening so we will have the day to finish seeing this beautiful capital.

We will return via Amsterdam and will arrive at Dulles Airport the following day.



**Land and Air Per Person Prices in US Dollars**

Based on Twin Accommodations \$4,291.20 per person  
Based on Single Accommodations \$4,591.20 per person  
Based on Triple Accommodations \$4,191.20 per person  
Tour prices are based on 10-12 passengers traveling together.

**Land Only Per Person Prices in US Dollars**

Based on Twin Accommodations \$2,295.00 per person  
Based on Single Accommodations \$2,595.00 per person  
Based on Triple Accommodations \$2,195.00 per person



**Flight Itinerary**

Departure Flights

Depart July 14, 2015 Washington Dulles KLM Flight 652 at 5:45 PM  
Arrive July 15, 2015 Amsterdam at 7:30 AM  
Depart July 15, 2015 Amsterdam KLM Flight 597 at 10:00 AM  
Arrive July 15, 2015 Cape Town at 9:15 PM

Return Flights

Depart July 24, 2015 Cape Town KLM Flight 598 at 10:55 PM  
Arrive July 25, 2015 Amsterdam at 10:30 AM  
Depart July 25, 2015 Amsterdam KLM Flight 651 at 1:00 PM  
Arrive July 25, 2015 Washington Dulles at 3:30 PM



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**Tour Features Include:**

- Meet and Greet Assistance upon arrival and departure
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Value Plus accommodations with private facilities
- Full breakfast and dinner daily
- Two game drives at Aquila Private Game Reserve by lodge 4WD vehicles with experienced Ranger
- Transport throughout by air-conditioned motorcoach
- Accompanied by a qualified English-speaking guide
- Hotel taxes
- Customized Itinerary Booklet & Take Me With You Kit
- UTG Safari Delay Protection Coverage that includes flight and baggage delay, medical evacuation and 24-hour assistance (Trip Cancellation coverage is additional)
- 24-hour local emergency assistance



**We look forward to welcoming you to South Africa and Namibia and personally thanking you for your support of our missions.**

**Bon Voyage**