



WAVERLEY
COLLEGE

2025 Blue & Gold Ball

**Johannesburg &
Rovos Rail, South Africa
(5 days)**

Prize 3

**THIS IS
AFRICA**

**TRAVEL WITH
EXPERIENCE**

Stay at a chateau-inspired 5 star estate in Johannesburg, then board a luxury rail journey from Pretoria to the coastal city of Durban. Enjoy a 'Big Five' game safari in the 20,000 acre Nambiti Conservancy, followed by a nature walk, or take a tour of an Anglo Boer War battlefield. Visit the famous Ardmore Ceramics Gallery, with artwork inspired by Zulu folklore, before arriving in Durban on this luxury package.





Fairlawns Hotel & Spa

Cost includes:
Rovos Rail

- 2 nights accommodation in a deluxe suite
- all meals and snacks
- all beverages on board
- room service
- guided excursions with a qualified guide
- entrance fees as per itinerary
- limited laundry
- government tax.

Fairlawns Hotel & Spa

- 2 nights accommodation in a grand chateau suite
- transfers as listed
- breakfast daily

Cost excludes:

- flights
- visas
- off-train beverages
- international sparkling wine
- visas and international flights
- staff gratuities and portage
- personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- telephone bill and any items of a personal nature

FI - fully inclusive of all meals, local brand drinks and excursions as listed.

B - Breakfast

South Africa - 5 day itinerary

Valued at AUD \$15,000 for two adults

Itinerary overview:

Day 1: South Africa, Johannesburg - Fairlawns Hotel & Spa

Day 2: South Africa, Johannesburg - Fairlawns Hotel & Spa

Day 3: South Africa, Pretoria to Durban rail journey - Rovos Rail

Day 4: South Africa, Pretoria to Durban rail journey - Rovos Rail

Day 5: South Africa, Durban train station - ends

Having represented African tour operators in Australia since 1995, the staff at This is Africa have over 50 years of combined knowledge and experience in promoting Africa. As a result, we offer creative and innovative itineraries which will make your African journey as enjoyable as your destination. We are an Australian-owned and Eastern Suburbs based company and an accredited member of the Council of Australian Tour Operators and an approved licensed agent with the Australian Federation of Travel Agents.

This is Africa is thrilled to donate three luxury African holidays to Waverley College in support of the school's Science and Innovation Centre fundraising initiative. This prize is valid for use until 16 December 2026. Additional days and destinations may be added at an additional cost.

Please note this is a land only package and excludes flights. This is Africa is a fully credited travel agent and can assist with all flights, travel insurance and additional services.

We would like to offer the Waverley College community a 10% discount on any African holiday booked directly with This is Africa (discount excludes flights). Visit us in our retail store at 51 Frenchmans Rd, Randwick.

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Day 1: South Africa, Johannesburg

Welcome to South Africa! On arrival at the airport, you will be met by a representative and road transferred to your hotel located in Sandton. After check-in, spend some time familiarizing yourself with your luxury accommodation and your facilities. **Fairlawns Hotel & Spa - grand chateau suite.**

Fairlawns Hotel & Spa

Conveniently situated in the Sandton suburb of Morningside Manor, Fairlawns is an award-winning boutique hotel. The conference centre, a large fully equipped gym, Balinese Spa and an excellent a la carte restaurant are available to ensure a full range of services are on offer. Once a private home, the property was originally bought from the Little Brenthurst Trust of Oppenheimer fame and consisted of 10 acres with horses and stables and rolling green lawns. Portions of the property have been sold off, but it has retained its stately, park-like ambiance with huge mature trees and prolific birdlife. Dining at the Fairlawns is designed to be elegantly smart casual. The candlelit tables and soft music give an enchantingly intimate and romantic atmosphere to the Italian influenced décor of the terrace restaurant. The restaurant boasts an exquisite menu, complemented with a Diamond Award Winning wine list

Day 2: South Africa, Johannesburg

Today is at leisure to relax and enjoy your hotel surrounds. After a lavish breakfast you may wish to join a Soweto tour, visit the Apartheid museum, or simply relax with a spa treatment at the wellness centre, ranked amongst one of the best spas in the world. For dinner consider dining at a restaurant in nearby Sandton or Rosebank, or dine in at Fairlawns (additional services are for own account). **Fairlawns Hotel & Spa - grand chateau suite (B).**

Day 3: South Africa, depart Pretoria

After breakfast and checkout you will be met by a representative in the hotel foyer and road transferred to Pretoria's Rovos Rail train station for a 10:00 am departure. (Please check-in a minimum of one hour before departure. Should you wish to visit the Rovos Rail museum, or do a site tour at Rovos Rail Station, it is recommended you arrive two hours prior to departure).

Rovos Rail

A trip aboard Rovos Rail is a journey like no other. Experience the opulent elegance of rail travel on one of Rovos Rail's exceptional journeys through the heart of Africa. Combining some of the most magnificent scenery with the glamour and excitement of the golden age of rail travel, Rovos Rail will delight the most discerning traveller. With discreet and friendly service, five-star cuisine and a selection of South Africa's finest wines, Rovos Rail harks back to a simpler, more elegant era – encompassing the timeless grace and high romance of African exploration.

Each train carries up to 72 passengers in five-star luxury and each suite is assigned a dedicated butler. Days on board offer ample time to gaze at the passing scenery, enjoy fascinating excursions with professional guides and to socialize with fellow travellers. Evenings are an elegant affair with dinner prepared by on-board chefs. Meals are complemented with first-class wines, followed by drinks at the club bar.

Pretoria to Durban train journey

This journey from Pretoria to Durban departs during the summer months and includes a game drive, a battlefield tale with a world-class historian and a look at colourful and unique African ceramics. Experience the Nambiti Conservancy – a 'Big Five' private retreat set on 20 000 acres of malaria-free bushveld in KwaZulu-Natal.





The conservancy has incredible biodiversity including savannah, grasslands, thornveld and tall acacia trees. Situated on an expansive game farm, Spionkop Lodge – which adjoins an 11 000-acre nature reserve – it is the perfect base for exploring the region. Ardmore Ceramics is a story about the Zulu people whose sense of rhythm, colour, dance and song, as well as the spirit of the African imagination, is exerting its influence on the other continents of the world. Visit this charming centre in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands before travelling the Valley of a Thousand Hills to Durban.

Rovos Rail journey

Depart Rovos Rail Station, Pretoria. Travel southeast across the Highveld and the goldfields of the Witwatersrand towards Heidelberg, site of the first Rand gold strike, and Balfour, a small mining town in Mpumalanga. Guests may freshen up in their suites before joining fellow travellers in the lounge car and observation car.

Lunch is served in the dining cars at 1.00 pm. The train continues through the Drakensberg Mountains, which were named by the Voortrekkers who thought the unbroken chain of heavily weathered peaks reminded them of the spines on a dragon's back, hence the name 'Dragon Mountain' or Drakensberg in Afrikaans.

Afternoon tea is served in the lounge and observation cars at 4.30 pm. The train climbs to Majuba Hill – site of the decisive battle that ended the First Anglo Boer War – then passes Newcastle, which has what is reputed to be the largest cella-dome Hindu temple in the southern hemisphere.

At 7.30 pm dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Elandsplaagte. The train passes Glencoe, site of the first battle of the Anglo Boer War, which is now the centre of the province's coalfields. **Rovos Rail - deluxe suite (FI).**

Day 4: Rovos Rail journey - Nambiti & Spionkop

Rise early for breakfast served in the dining cars until departure. Enjoy a game drive in the Nambiti Reserve, a private 'Big Five' (lion, leopard, rhino, elephant and buffalo) bush retreat set on 20 000 acres of malaria-free bushveld with incredible biodiversity, including savannah, grasslands, thornveld and tall acacia trees.

At 11.30 am brunch is served in the dining cars. Afterwards you transferred to (±30 minutes) to Spionkop Lodge for the afternoon. Here you have a choice of two excursions available:

1. Hear the historic tale of the Battle of Spionkop while overlooking the reserve OR
2. Enjoy a nature drive in the 11 000-acre reserve.

At 7.30 pm dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Estcourt.

Shortly after passing through Chieveley, on the right of the track, stands a memorial to Winston Churchill who was captured here in November 1899 while trying to free an armoured train trapped by a Boer ambush. Spend over-night on board. **Rovos Rail - deluxe suite (FI).**

Day 5: Rovos Rail journey - Ardmore Ceramics

Breakfast is served in the dining cars from 7.00 am until 10:00 am. The train descends the escarpment to Lions River. Visit the famous Ardmore Ceramics Gallery. Here, artists are encouraged to express their imagination based on nature and Zulu folklore and tradition.

Lunch is served in the dining cars at 1.00 pm.

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The train traverses the spectacular Valley of a Thousand Hills. At 4.00 pm the train arrives at journey's end at Durban Station. A number of museums and cultural sights, the beautiful botanical gardens and the superb shark-protected beaches are but a few of the city's many charms. Disembark the train. **(B). Ends.**

Important information:

- Departure and arrival times are approximate and cannot be guaranteed.
- Smart casual dress is appropriate during the day, however at night formal wear is required. For gentlemen a jacket is a minimum requirement; for ladies evening wear is appropriate.
- It is the responsibility of the client to be at the correct departure point at the time assigned by Rovos Rail.
- On completion of the journey, flights must be booked taking into consideration the estimated time of arrival.
- It is the responsibility of the client to have all necessary documentation, including a valid passport, visas and inoculation certificates relating to this tour if necessary.
- Rovos Rail may re-route the itinerary or change your cabin category in rare cases of non-availability, or if local conditions restrict accessibility. The itinerary listed is provided as a guide only - a detailed Rovos Rail itinerary will be presented on check-in.
- Rovos Rail reserves the right to change the number of carriages on each departure.
- Children aged 2 years and younger are to share a suite with parents or a responsible adult in consisting bedding configurations. No special meal menus are available for children. A strict child policy is applicable and must be signed by parents or guardians prior to booking. Please ask us for details.
- It is advisable to pack an overnight bag for the journey as only a limited amount of luggage can be stored in the suite. Butlers will store additional luggage in the Luggage Car. Luggage / baggage stored in the Luggage Car is limited.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.
- Prices for flights, airport taxes, fees and applicable government taxes and levies may be changed without prior notice. Any change is beyond our control and any increase levied will be passed on.
- Prices may vary when booking seasons overlap. Bookings over Christmas, New Year and Easter incur holiday supplements. Please ask for a date-specific quote for travel during these dates.

