

# World Pilgrimage<sup>©</sup>

## South Africa:

Johannesburg – Pilanesberg National Park – Cape Town

August 29 – September 8, 2017



Experience the sights, sounds and cultures of South Africa with Jews, Muslims, Christians and Buddhists. Our journey in Africa starts with Johannesburg, the largest city and financial hub with an amazing history. Then we set out for a Safari in Pilanesberg National Park which lies inside a 1300 million year old volcanic complex, and offers a great diversity of plants and animals, including the “Big 5” (lions, leopards, elephants, buffalo and rhinos). We then jet off to Cape Town where the Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet. Explore both the beautifully picturesque city and the heartbreaking, yet inspiring Langa Township and Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned.



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*South Africa:*  
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While wildlife safaris are reason enough to visit this exquisite county, South Africa offers even more to see and do. We will start in Johannesburg, one of Africa's biggest and most vibrant cities. The city is a multi-cultural mix of traditional medicine shops and ultra-modern skyscrapers. In nearby Soweto, we will experience the Journey to Freedom Tour, which includes the Mandela House and the Apartheid Museum. The tour is an interactive voyage that will take us from the dark days of "white only" privilege through Nelson Mandela's historic release from Robben Island. We'll then leave the hustle and bustle of Johannesburg for the natural beauty of Pilanesberg National Park and a safari experience. (Don't forget your cameras!) After visiting with the "Big 5," we'll fly to Cape Town for its rich culture and cosmopolitan atmosphere. We'll visit Langa Township and Nelson Mandela's prison cell in Robben Island. Join us on this wonderful journey to gain greater understanding of nature, wildlife, human struggle and our own faiths.

All World Pilgrims<sup>®</sup> journeys have the same goals:

- To deepen the participants' personal faith by visiting some of the world's most sacred sites
- To gain an appreciation of the shared elements of the three religious traditions, as well as an understanding and respect for the differences
- To establish real friendships with pilgrims from many faith traditions, even with the complexities of today's world

All World Pilgrims<sup>®</sup> journeys operate from the same Guiding Principles:

1. A pilgrimage is a sacred journey—not a travel seminar or a tourist venture. We take time for personal and group reflection, meditation and sharing. Participants are asked to see these times as essential elements of the pilgrimage.
2. The journey will have a formal and very intentional structure. The purpose of this design is ensure that all participants achieve the goals of the pilgrimage. Each participant will be asked to make a commitment to follow the structure so that the shared goals can be met. This means exercising discipline and a willingness to place the interest of the group above the interest of the individual.
3. The focus is on understanding and accepting the other pilgrims and their traditions. During a pilgrimage, we discuss rather than debate, respect rather than judge, empathize rather than criticize. **We seek to understand each other not to change each other.**
4. As pilgrims on a common sacred journey, participants are expected to share personal thoughts, beliefs and experiences with each other, trusting the others to respect and appreciate their life stories.
5. Pilgrims are expected to make a commitment to continue their common experience after returning home.



### **Program Design**

1. Pre-departure: All participants are expected to attend an orientation session that includes the following elements:
  - a) Consideration of what it means to travel on an interfaith pilgrimage
  - b) Travel logistics and administration
2. Daily itinerary: The group will be together in South Africa for 10 days. Group programs scheduled for each day have been designed by the Group Leaders.
  - a) Daily meditation: Time will be set aside each day for group and personal meditation. The leadership for these sessions will rotate among the faith traditions.
  - b) Worship Services: Each of the three religious leaders will identify a time and place for the entire group to participate in a worship service. Special consideration is taken for worship connected to Muslim Jumah, Jewish Shabbat and the Christian Sabbath.



- c) Making Friends: Building friendships across faith traditions is central to the pilgrimage and is not left to chance. Therefore there is a formal structure to develop relationships, including roommate assignments, meal partners and seat mates during bus trips. It may seem to be an artificial way to get people together, but it works! The return home: Pilgrims join the ranks of alumni from the 22 previous pilgrimages, who gather for reunions, times of personal joy and sorrow and to address important issues in our greater community.

## **DAILY ITINERARY** *(tentative, specific plans and activities may change)*

### **DAY 1 Tuesday, August 29: Atlanta to Johannesburg**

Delta flight #200, departing ATL at 7:55pm. We will gather at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport at 5:30pm.

### **DAY 2 Wednesday, August 30: Johannesburg**

Upon arrival in Johannesburg, we will be picked up and transferred to our hotel. Dinner and overnight Johannesburg

### **DAY 3 Thursday, August 31: Johannesburg, Soweto**

After breakfast at the hotel, we travel with our guide and coach on the Journey to Freedom Tour beginning at the Hector Pieterse Museum before visiting the Mandela Family Museum. The next stop is the Regina Mundi Church, the largest Roman Catholic Church in South Africa and the site of many of the underground meetings of the then-banned political parties. Lunch at Sukhumzi outdoor Restaurant on Vilakazi Street near African vendors. The highlight of the day - a visit to the legendary Apartheid Museum, an interactive voyage of discovery. Dinner and group meeting at our hotel. Overnight Johannesburg

### **DAY 4 Friday, September 1: Johannesburg, Sandton**

After breakfast at the hotel, bus to the Nelson Mandela Foundation, followed by a visit to the Helen Suzman Foundation –to understand the friendship between these two giants meant to each other. Lunch on our own. Tour and conversation before Jumah services at the Masjid. Conversations and Shabbat Service (and dinner nearby) at Beit Emanuel, a progressive Jewish congregation who welcomes everyone. Overnight Johannesburg.

### **DAY 5 Saturday, September 2: Johannesburg**

After breakfast at the hotel, our bus / guide takes us on a tour of the City of Johannesburg, including visits to Constitution Hill, Art on Main and the Muboneng District. Lunch on our own in the area at the Canteen Restaurant or one in the area, Dinner and overnight Johannesburg

### **DAY 6 Sunday, September 3: Johannesburg, Pilanesberg National Park (Safari)**

After breakfast at our hotel, attend African Church service, before the two-hour ride to the Pilanesberg National Park and the Bakubung Bush Lodge, which offers guests the “Big 5 “viewing (lion, leopard, black and white rhino, elephant and buffalo) in one of Africa’s beautiful parks -which is malaria free year-round. The site overlooks a hippo waterhole, and will be in charge of our safari schedule. Meals and overnight, Bakubung Bush Lodge.

### **DAY 7 Monday, September 4: Pilanesberg National Park, Cape Town**

Awake early for a morning safari before returning to the lodge for a large breakfast./brunch. Afterwards we will be met by our guide for the road transfer to Johannesburg to board the flight to Cape Town. On arrival, our local guide takes us to our hotel. Dinner and overnight Cape Town.

### **DAY 8 Tuesday, September 5: Cape Town, Robben Island**

After breakfast at the hotel, tour of townships,, including an Hizmet school in Cape Town. Travel to the V&A Waterfront for free time for lunch before visiting Robben Island. Dinner with Hizmet Turkish families. Overnight Cape Town.

### **DAY 9 Wednesday, September 6: Cape Town**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will visit the Desmond Tutu Foundation. Afterwards, enjoy a day of leisure. You will receive a two day Hop on, Hop off City Sightseeing Bus pass with which to explore Cape Town. It provides the easiest and most convenient way to visit the Table Mountain Cableway and it offers a great introduction to Cape Town’s City Bowl as well as Camps Bay and the Atlantic Seaboard. There are 11 bus stops. The total tour takes 90 minutes, and you can get off and stay anywhere at the stops and join the next bus to move on. Gala closing dinner at Maresol Restaurant and overnight, Cape Town

### **DAY 10 Thursday, September 7: Cape Town, Johannesburg, Atlanta**

After breakfast at the hotel, enjoy leisure time, until we board the bus for trip to airport to board flight to Johannesburg. Transfer to Delta flight # 201, departing JNB at 7:55pm.

### **DAY 11 Friday, September 8: Atlanta**

6:18am Arrival Atlanta

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**COST:** \$4,250 per person, double occupancy

Application with a deposit of \$1,000 is due with application. , Additional payments of \$1,000 are due on May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>. Final payment is due no later July 15<sup>th</sup>. Please make all checks payable to ICI/World Pilgrims or pay online at [www.interfaithci.org](http://www.interfaithci.org)

**AIR FARE:** Round trip economy class out of Atlanta via any IATA/ARC carrier is included based on applicable fares. Current airfares used and subject to change as well as increases for fuel surcharges. Once airline tickets are issued they are non-refundable.

**MEALS:** Breakfast and dinner are included daily.

**SIGHTSEEING:** As per attached program. The schedule may have to vary the sequence of the tour or to make substitutions, if necessary. All transfers and sightseeing by private motor coach.

**BAGGAGE:** The bus has space for one suitcase and one carry on per person. Please limit your luggage. ICI/World Pilgrims is released from any liability whatsoever, from loss, damage, theft, weather, delay in transit to any baggage, luggage, hand piece, etc., of the participant during any and all portions of this tour. Hotel and airport portage is included.

**TIPS/TAXES:** All service charges for group meals and hotels are included. Tips for the drivers and guides are not included, and are at the discretion of the traveler/group.

**CANCELLATION:** No cancellation fee if cancelled more than 90 days prior to departure, except a \$100 administrative fee; cancellation fee of \$1,000 per person if cancelled 89-46 days prior to departure; cancellation 45 days or less prior to departure has a cancellation fee of 100%.

**NOT INCLUDED:** Items of a personal nature such as in-room service, laundry, telephone, special food or drink, lunches and additional checked baggage costs

**PASSPORT/VISA:** It is the responsibility of the traveler to have a current passport that is still valid six months after the end of the Pilgrimage. US Citizens currently do not need a visa for South Africa. This is subject to change.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

**ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY:** I HEREBY ASSUME ALL OF THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN ANY/ALL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PILGRIMAGE/IMMERSION including by way of example and not limitation, any risks that may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, maintained, or controlled by them, or because of their possible liability without fault. I certify that I am physically fit, have sufficiently prepared or trained for participation in this activity, and have not been advised to not participate by a qualified medical professional. I certify that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in this activity. I acknowledge that this Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form will be used Interfaith Community Initiatives, organizers of the activity in which I may participate, and that it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said activity.

In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in this activity, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows:

(A) I WAIVE, RELEASE, AND DISCHARGE from any and all liability, including but not limited to, liability arising from the negligence or fault of the entities or persons released, for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft, or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from this activity, INTERFAITH COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, INC. (ICI) and/or their directors, officers, employees, volunteers, representatives, and agents, and the activity holders, sponsors, and volunteers; (B) INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE the entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made as a result of participation in this activity, whether caused by the negligence of release or otherwise.

I acknowledge that ICI and its directors, officers, volunteers, representatives, and agents are NOT responsible for the errors, omissions, acts, or failures to act of any party or entity conducting a specific activity on their behalf.

I acknowledge that this activity may involve a test of a person's physical and mental limits and carries with it the potential for death, serious injury, and property loss. The risks include, but are not limited to, those caused by terrain, facilities, temperature, weather, condition of participants, equipment, vehicular traffic, lack of hydration, and actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, monitors, and/or producers of the activity. These risks are not only inherent to participants, but are also present for volunteers.

I hereby consent to receive medical treatment which may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this activity.

I understand while participating in this activity, I may be photographed. I agree to allow my photo, video, or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by ICI.

The Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law. I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

ICI/World Pilgrims  
669 East Side Avenue, SE  
Atlanta, GA 30316

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL JAN SWANSON AT 404-906-7109**

### About Interfaith Community Initiatives

Interfaith Community Initiatives, Inc has the mission to transform the Atlanta metropolitan area into a model community for interfaith understanding and collaboration. We do this by developing and leading innovating, inviting programs that inspire deep engagement and interfaith appreciation. We are committed to developing long-term interfaith relations and collaborations through programs like World Pilgrims<sup>®</sup>, Interfaith Immersions, Interfaith Contemplative Groups, and the Atlanta Interfaith Leaders Fellowship.

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