

SOUTH AFRICA - WILD COAST - WILD COAST ADVENTURE TRAIL

ITINERARY

Day 1

We arrange airport transfers from East London. All transfers are payable in cash directly to the driver and so the cost is shared between all those travelling. The transfer to the guesthouse takes about 1 hour 15 minutes.

In order to join the introductory ride your flight should arrive into East London by midday on day one.

On the day of departure, a later flight departing East London at around 17:00 will normally allow time for a short final morning ride.

Meet your fellow riders at Kei Mouth for a light lunch followed by an afternoon ride to get to know your allocated horse. This first ride is approximately two hours over rocky headlands and along the beach.

Please note that the following is the planned itinerary, but local conditions such as weather or high waters can sometimes necessitate a change to the order of the rides and accommodation used. When beach riding, the time of your departure each day is influenced by the tides.



Overnight Kei Mouth Guest Lodge. The guesthouse is in the seaside village of Kei Mouth just a short walk from the beach.

The Kei River and ferry crossing are within walking distance, as are restaurants, pubs and the supermarket.

There are four twin/double en-suite rooms. The ground floor rooms each have a private entrance and patio area. Please note that if this particular guesthouse is full, alternative similar accommodation in the Kei Mouth area will be used instead.



One of the bedrooms at Kei Mouth Guest Lodge

Day 2

After breakfast, you venture across the Great Kei River, loading the horses onto the pontoon and riding onto the beaches of the Wild Coast.



The morning's ride will be an exploration of the local community lands, touring hidden-away trails, pools and waterfalls along the way.



After a picnic lunch, the afternoon's ride will take you along the beautiful coastline.

Later stretch your legs with a walk on the beach or unwind with a drink by the pool before dinner.

Overnight Seagulls. A family hotel which offers a peaceful stay by the sea. The rooms are clean and uncluttered, with the essentials you need during your stay.



A typical bedroom at Seagulls

Enjoy breakfast and dinner overlooking the grounds and out to sea.



Seagulls

Day 3

It's time to move on today with a distance of 40 km to be covered. The morning ride takes you further up the coast traversing rolling hills and sandy beaches and passing through rural settlements and holiday villages.



After a picnic lunch you continue riding along breath-taking and unspoilt beaches. Tides permitting, there will be opportunities for some faster paced riding on these almost deserted beaches, eventually making your way to the Mazeppa Bay hotel.



Overnight Mazeppa Bay Hotel. Mazeppa Bay is characterized by its own Island. Depending on the tide, this is sometimes only accessible by a quaint suspension bridge, which joins the Island to the main beach.



Looking towards Mazeppa Bay Hotel

The hotel boasts a tennis court, full size snooker table, beach volley ball, table tennis, a trampoline for the children, DSTV in the communal TV lounge, and two bars in which to enjoy sundowners after a long day on the beach and rocks. The rooms range in size from standard rooms to suites and all have an en suite bathroom.



One of the bedrooms at Mazeppa Bay Hotel

Day 4

Today is a shorter ride. You head inland and soon reach the big Kob Inn river. This crossing will be timed for low tide and you may cross in canoes (with the horses following) when the water is too deep.

Once across the river you have a lovely ride through the villages and hills with some great views before arriving at Kob Inn in time for lunch.



This afternoon you have an opportunity to rest and relax. With a pub on the rocks overlooking the wild seas and sheltered private beaches on either side, this is a place in which to kick back, relax and truly embrace 'Africa time'.

Overnight Kob Inn Hotel.



The Kob Inn

Set right on the sea front, this comfortable guesthouse is flanked by sheltered beaches. The spacious rooms have en-suite facilities. Good food is synonymous with Kob Inn, with fresh fish and seafood being a regular feature on the table menu.



A typical bedroom at Kob Inn Hotel

Day 5

After having had the opportunity to relax a little yesterday, you should be fresh and ready for a full day in the saddle. Today's ride will take you along sheltered beaches, into hidden coves and beautiful lagoons.



Enjoy a picnic lunch in a sheltered spot before heading back to the Kob Inn.

Overnight Kob Inn Hotel.

Day 6

Today you head back down the coast. As on previous days, the timing of the day's riding will be dependent on the tides as you cross rivers, climb hills and speed along beaches on your way to Wavecrest.



After a ride of around 30 km, you may choose to indulge in a little pampering at the Wavecrest spa (treatments are payable locally).



Or perhaps you prefer to explore the rare mangrove forests by either boat or canoe, or challenge one of your fellow riders or guides to a game of tennis.

Overnight Wavecrest. Wavecrest has a stunning setting on the banks of the Nxaxo River estuary.

The sand dune forests, beaches, mangrove trees and ecology of the area is breath-taking. The rooms are all en-suite and overlook the river, beach and sea.

They have recently been re decorated and have a comfortable “African” feel to them.



One of the bedrooms at Wavecrest

Day 7

Today you depart from Wavecrest and journey along beautiful beaches back to your starting point. If conditions allow, there will be plenty of chances for faster riding.



Today's lunch might be at Seagulls or Trennerys or if the weather isn't so good you might decide to ride all the way back to Kei Mouth for a late lunch.

Finish your unforgettable week with a farewell 'braai' (barbecue) at Kei Mouth or enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight Kei Mouth Guest Lodge.

Day 8

If time permits you may have the opportunity for a final morning ride.