

Qolora Trail, South Africa

Itinerary

Discover the rugged and unspoilt natural beauty of the Wild Coast. Explore rocky headlands, rolling hills and vast tracks of superb golden beaches.

On this holiday you spend the first two nights at Kei Mouth, followed by two nights at Trennery's and then two nights at Wavecrest. Your last night is back at Kei Mouth. It is perfect for riders who want a more relaxed trail ride compared to the Wild Coast Adventure Trail. It is possible to ride different horses on the days you are staying at Kei River.

You generally ride for 2-3 hours in the morning and 1.5-2 hours in the afternoon, depending on the weather, sea tides and the wishes of the group.

Day One

Arrive at Johannesburg airport in the early morning, before taking an internal flight to East London to arrive mid-morning. The transfer to Kei Mouth is a journey of approximately one hour.

Meet your fellow riders at the Kei Mouth for a light lunch and to change into your riding clothes.

Enjoy a short introductory ride. You will go down to the river mouth and have the opportunity for your first canter along the beautiful beaches.



Overnight and dinner in Kei Mouth.

Day Two

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. When beach riding, the time of your departure each day is influenced by the tides.

Today you will explore the magnificent Morgan Bay cliff tops.



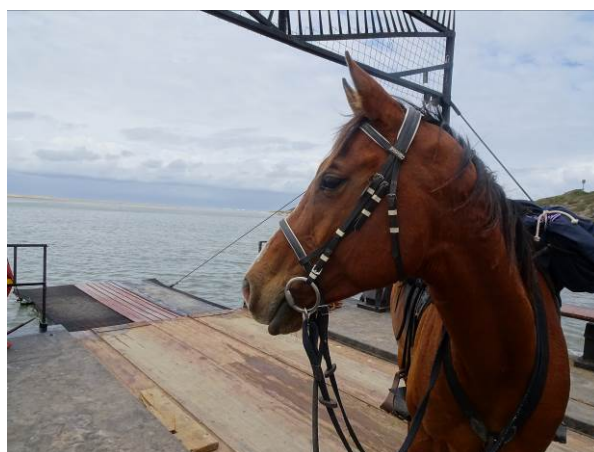
Then it is off to discover Yellowwood Forest – a favourite place for a wood fired pizza – and a place that inspires us to be eco-friendly, off the grid and recycle everything.

Finish the day with a canter down the Morgan Bay beach before heading back to the paddocks.

Overnight and dinner in Kei Mouth.

Day Three

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



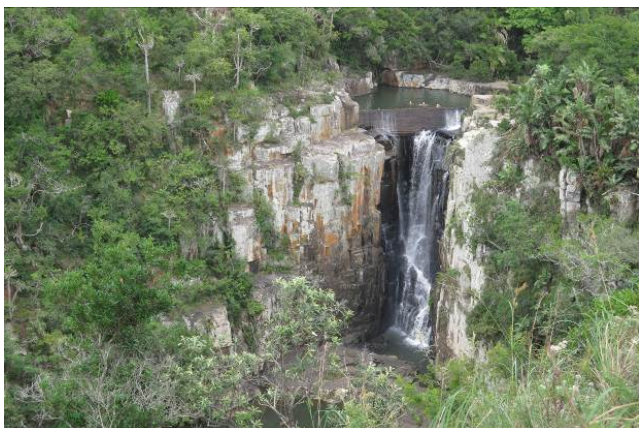
On arriving at Trennery's there should be time to stretch your legs on the beach or unwind with a drink by the pool before dinner.

Trennery's is a quaint, authentic guesthouse which remains relatively unchanged since its inception in the 1940's, thus providing a taste of traditional South African holidaying.

Dinner and overnight at Trennery's.

Day Four

During the morning, your trail will take you through a kaleidoscope of rural Xhosa villages, mysterious waterfalls, rolling hillsides and of course the mandatory beach canter.



After a picnic lunch by the waterfall (and maybe a swim), long canters over endless hillsides

Overnight and dinner at Trennery's.

Day Five

It is a stunning morning ride along the coast today. There is a good chance of spotting dolphins in the surf as you canter along the beaches and along the headlands.



Lunch could be a picnic along the way, or at your hotel, depending on the timing of the ride.

Arrive at your hotel in time for a non-riding activity.

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, maybe challenge one of your fellow riders or guides to a game of tennis.



Dinner and overnight at Wavecrest.

Day Six

The departure time this morning is dictated by the tide. It is a fantastic ride either up the beach and back across country through rolling hills and traditional villages, or the other way around, depending on the tides. Either way you get to ride on the hard, wet beach at low tide – the gallops are exhilarating.



Arrive back at the hotel in the afternoon, with the chance for a non-riding activity, or simply relax in beautiful surroundings.

Dinner and overnight at Wavecrest.

Day Seven

Depart from Wavecrest and journey back to your starting point. Meander through villages, dune forests and rolling hills, with a smattering of beach work to keep the adrenalin pumping!



Cross over to Kei Mouth and the trail draws to an end.

Depending on tides and the weather, lunch may be during the trail or back at Kei Mouth.



This evening, enjoy a farewell 'braai' (barbecue).

Overnight in Kei Mouth.

Day Eight

If time permits, there may be the chance for a final morning ride.



Later transfer to East London.

Accommodation

You stay at a range of interesting hotels and guesthouses. The accommodation is comfortable rather than luxurious, but the views more than compensate.

There are tea/coffee making facilities in all the rooms throughout.

Kei Mouth

Situated in the seaside village of Kei Mouth, and just a short walk from the beach, Kei Mouth overlooks the Kei River.



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



There are five twin/double en-suite rooms and a bunk room. 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.

Trennery's

This historic hotel has a decidedly "colonial" feel. The hotel is set among lush indigenous gardens and a

private beach is a short walk past the tennis courts. It has a swimming pool, bar and recreational facilities.



The rooms are comfortable twin or double rooms with en-suite bathroom. The food is good and wholesome.



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.

