

Journey to Southern
AFRICA

LUXURY SAFARIS | ROVOS RAIL | CAPE TOWN

SPONSORED BY



The Association
OF FORMER STUDENTS®
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

Traveling Aggies

APRIL 23-MAY 8, 2017



Inspiring Moments

A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides, lecturers and safari rangers whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

With these specialists at your side, become intimately engaged in the rhythm of life in southern Africa, adding another memorable chapter to the rich story of your life.

Above: Table Mountain, Cape Town

- ▶ Stalk elephants, big cats, rhinos and other majestic animals in their native habitat while on **safari in South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe.**
- ▶ Feel the power of thundering **Victoria Falls.**
- ▶ Immerse yourself in classic luxury during a three-night journey aboard **Rovos Rail.**
- ▶ Explore **Cape Town**, South Africa's oldest city.
- ▶ Walk in the footsteps of Nelson Mandela on **Robben Island.**
- ▶ Visit a youth center in **Soweto.**



The Association
OF FORMER STUDENTS®
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Traveling Aggies

Howdy, Ags!

We invite you to join us on an exciting trip to southern Africa, where we'll experience both the natural wonders of this special region, as well as the vibrant cities of Cape Town and Johannesburg.

Spend five nights on safari at two world-class wildlife parks, and marvel at up-close sightings of majestic animals in their native habitat. Feel the mist of Victoria Falls on your face, and stand at the Cape of Good Hope, once thought to be the southernmost point of Africa. Embark on a three-night journey aboard Rovos Rail, one of the most luxurious trains in the world. This journey is filled with unforgettable moments.

This exclusive program combines unbeatable value and luxury. Space is limited to 28 passengers to ensure maximum comfort, so we encourage you to make your reservation today.

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.
Director, Travel Programs
The Association of Former Students

AggieNetwork.com/Travel

800-633-7514

AggieNetwork.com/Travel

Cape Town





Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town

Discover the rich natural and cultural heritage of southern Africa. Cape Town is a showcase of Cape Dutch houses and inspiring landmarks, including Robben Island and St. George's Cathedral. Across the country, Soweto, once the main battleground in the war on apartheid, now offers opportunity and hope for a better future. No trip to southern Africa would be complete without a safari in its greatest parks and game reserves. Experience the thrill of up-close encounters with lions lazing in the grass after a kill or elephants quenching their thirst by a watering hole, and feel the power of thundering Victoria Falls.

CAPE TOWN SOUTH AFRICA

Sheltered by Table Mountain, South Africa's Mother City is one of the world's most beautiful cities. Centuries-old Cape Dutch houses and colorful gardens dot the cityscape. A bustling waterfront welcomes visitors with inviting cafés and boutiques set amid workaday harbor life.

ROBBEN ISLAND SOUTH AFRICA

Within sight of Cape Town, but still a world away, Robben Island was home to a prison that held Nelson Mandela and other political dissidents. From their remote prison, these prisoners helped draw attention to the injustices of apartheid. Today, former prisoners lead insightful tours of the prison.



Bo-Kaap, Cape Town

CAPE PENINSULA SOUTH AFRICA

In 1580, English navigator Sir Frances Drake described the Cape of Good Hope as the "fairest cape ... in the whole circumference of the earth." The peninsula is a part of the Cape Floral Region, considered to have the most diverse range of plant life in the world. At Cape Point, ascend the high sea cliffs by funicular to admire dramatic coastal views.



Cape of Good Hope



African penguins



Choir



VICTORIA FALLS

ZIMBABWE

Until the 19th century, the Zambezi River's great cascade was called Mosi-oa-Tunya, "the smoke that thunders," by the local Kololo tribe. "Discovered" in 1855 by Dr. David Livingstone and renamed for England's queen, Victoria Falls spans more than a mile. Twice the height of Niagara Falls, mighty Victoria Falls casts a veil of spray that at times can be seen up to 50 miles away.

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA

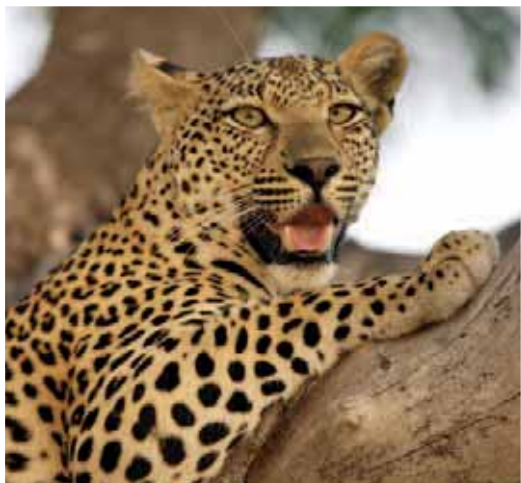
If tranquil Cape Town is the country's oldest and most genteel city, Johannesburg is its rambunctious brother. In 1886, the discovery of a huge lode of gold triggered a gold rush. Today, Joburg, as it is often called, is the country's financial center, and many people come here to enjoy the fast-paced lifestyle.



SOWETO

SOUTH AFRICA

Soweto, an abbreviation for South Western Townships, is no longer just a collection of shantytowns built to house black mine workers away from the center of Johannesburg. The fight to end apartheid began here, and it produced two Nobel Peace Prize laureates: Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. With a brave spirit, the residents of Soweto are embracing new opportunities and challenges presented to them.



LIFE ON SAFARI

Each day on safari begins with new discoveries and ends with a reinvigorated respect for nature. With an expert tracker leading the way, see exotic animals in their natural habitat, and watch the drama of their day-to-day struggle for survival.

On this luxury safari, discover the landscapes and ecosystems of three different parks.

CHOBE NATIONAL PARK

BOTSWANA

The Chobe River gives life to the northeastern corner of Botswana and provides the opportunity to take a safari cruise! From your boat, observe predators and prey gathering at the river's edge to quench their thirst. You may even see elephants frolicking in the water. More than 70,000 of these giants live in the park, home to dozens of other species, including the rare African wild dog. You also have an excellent game-viewing spot at your lodge. Built along the river, the elevated Chobe Boardwalk is 820 feet long. At the end is the Far Deck, where you can enjoy a drink while watching animals doing the same below.

HWANGE NATIONAL PARK

ZIMBABWE

During your train journey, stop at Hwange National Park for a game drive at The Hide, a private concession within the park. Explore the savannah and acacia forests in search of elephant, zebra, lion, kudu and other wild residents. The Hide's water hole serves a wide area, so many animals come in for a drink.

THORNYBUSH NATURE RESERVE

SOUTH AFRICA

This private game reserve is home to the Big Five: lions, elephants, leopards, Cape buffalos and rhinos. As the sun peeks over the horizon, climb into your safari vehicle, which has stadium seating to ensure unimpeded views. The day is beginning for the reserve's diurnal animals, who are on the prowl for breakfast as the nocturnal residents wrap up a night of hunting. Return to the lodge for a hearty breakfast and time at leisure to relax by the pool, or pamper yourself with a treatment at the spa. Later in the day, return to the trails to look for giraffe, zebra, hippo, impala and so many more majestic beasts.



Rovos Rail

The Pride of Africa

Discover the glamour and romance of the golden age of train travel during a three-night rail journey from Pretoria to Victoria Falls aboard the luxurious Rovos Rail, the Pride of Africa. Ride in vintage carriages, restored to mint condition and impeccably appointed. Suites are decorated in late Victorian and Edwardian style. Spend your days in the observation car or mingle with your fellow travelers in the lounge. Enjoy attentive service and a touch of formality at dinner, as passengers dress for the occasion. Expertly prepared cuisine showcases local ingredients and regional specialties, and all beverages are included. Each morning, take in the scenic splendor of the passing landscapes during a sumptuous breakfast. Three-course lunches and dinners, announced by a gong, include a selection of excellent South African wines. For your accommodations, choose between a Pullman Suite with joined twin beds or a double bed that converts to a sofa, and a Deluxe Suite with a choice of twin or double beds and a lounge area. Each air-conditioned suite features a minibar and a private bathroom with shower.





**BELMOND MOUNT
NELSON HOTEL** CAPE TOWN



CHOBE GAME LODGE
CHOBE NATIONAL PARK



54 ON BATH
JOHANNESBURG



THORNYBUSH GAME LODGE
THORNYBUSH GAME RESERVE

Our travel experts have selected these luxury properties for your comfort. The hotels' prime locations put the cities at your doorstep, and the game lodges sit in the heart of game-rich parks, allowing you to immerse yourself fully in the safari experience. Details in the design and décor celebrate the local culture and enhance the ambience of each hotel and lodge. Their restaurants feature menus of elegantly prepared local and international cuisine. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to maximize the enjoyment of your stay.



**FASCINATING
OPPORTUNITY**



| **ELECTIVE** |
PRE-TRIP EXTENSION IN CAPE TOWN

Enjoy more of Cape Town with a two-night extension in this beautiful, vibrant city. The extension features a full-day tour of the Cape Winelands. Visit a premier wine estate for a wine tasting followed by lunch. Continue to Stellenbosch and Franschhoek, two delightful and historic towns in South Africa's wine country. During your free time, stroll on the waterfront or dine at one of Cape Town's world-class restaurants.

This extension includes two nights at the Mount Nelson Hotel, two breakfasts, one lunch, a guided Cape Winelands tour, guide and meal gratuities, baggage handling at the hotel and all taxes and service charges.

\$795 USD per person, double occupancy | \$1,130 USD per person, single occupancy

Reserve your trip to Southern Africa, today!

Trip #:12-23138W

Send to: The Association of Former Students
 Attn: Traveling Aggies
 505 George Bush Drive
 College Station, TX 77840-2918
 Phone: **979-845-7514**
 Fax: **979-845-9263**
 Toll Free: **800-633-7514**



Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

Guest 1: _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Guest 2: _____
Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Home: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____

Sharing with _____ (Form sent separately.)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) _____ Class Year

(2) _____ Class Year

Two-Night Pre-Trip Extension in Cape Town, South Africa.

Please make _____ reservations for me (us) on the Elective Pre-Trip Extension in Cape Town.

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Cabin Category Desired: **1st choice** _____ **2nd choice** _____

I/we reserve the Land Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Cape Town, South Africa, with a return from Hoedspruit, South Africa, to depart from:

_____ Departure City

- Please contact me regarding air options.
- Please send me information on upgrading my flights.

Land Only Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

- I prefer single accommodations at an additional cost (limited availability).
- I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are to be paid in full by **February 7, 2017** (75 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is exclusively arranged by AHI Travel, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60631. No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Enclosed is a deposit of _____ (\$600/person required) to reserve _____ place(s).

- Accept my check made payable to **AHI Travel**.
- Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card # _____

Expires _____ / _____

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI International constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

NOT INCLUDED:Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas, entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL: The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION: The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. **VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.** Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE: Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS: On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

RESPONSIBILITY: AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

CANCELLATION: All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person; 75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. **TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE.** All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. **CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS:** Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

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LAND PROGRAM

April 25-May 7, 2017

	Full Price	Special Savings	Special Price
B-Pullman Suite (75 sq. ft.)	\$7,045	\$250	\$6,795*
A-Deluxe Suite (120 sq. ft.)	\$7,845	\$250	\$7,595*

*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel.
VAT is an additional \$495 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy (unless otherwise stated).
The Pullman Suite single supplement is an additional \$2,695. The Deluxe Suite single supplement is an additional \$3,695. There is limited availability for all single accommodations.

AHI FLEXAIR

April 23-May 8, 2017

Our personalized air program allows you to select your flights, routing, class of service and dates of travel in consultation with one of our experienced Passenger Service Representatives. Airfares will vary, depending on airline, routing and class of service. In most cases, transfers between the airport and hotel will be included on arrival and departure days. Your Passenger Service Representative will provide you with all of the details you need to guarantee your transfer. Book your air with us to ensure assistance in the case of schedule changes or delays that may impact your air travel plans. AHI FlexAir participants automatically receive flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms. In case of delay or cancellation of a flight, AHI will assist you in adjusting your travel arrangements.

| UNESCO |

Three of southern Africa's UNESCO World Heritage sites are featured in this comprehensive program:

1. **Robben Island**, South Africa
2. **Cape Floral Region Protected Areas**, South Africa
3. **Victoria Falls**, Zimbabwe



Cape Floral Region

| ITINERARY |

- Day 1** Depart Gateway City✈
- Day 2** Arrive in Europe | Depart for Cape Town, South Africa✈
- Day 3** Arrive in Cape Town
- Day 4** Cape Town
- Day 5** Cape Town
- Day 6** Fly to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe | Transfer to Chobe National Park, Botswana
- Day 7** Chobe
- Day 8** Transfer to Victoria Falls | Rovos Rail
- Day 9** Rovos Rail
- Day 10** Rovos Rail
- Day 11** Pretoria | Johannesburg
- Day 12** Fly to Hoedspruit | Transfer to Thornybush Nature Reserve
- Day 13** Thornybush
- Day 14** Thornybush
- Day 15** Transfer to Hoedspruit | Fly to Johannesburg✈
- Day 16** Arrive in Gateway City

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.

✈ Provided for AHI FlexAir participants



Victoria Falls

800-633-7514

AggieNetwork.com/Travel

ACCOMMODATIONS

- Three nights in Cape Town, South Africa, at the Mount Nelson Hotel.
- Two nights at Chobe National Park, Botswana, at Chobe Game Lodge.
- Three nights aboard Rovos Rail.
- One night in Johannesburg at 54 on Bath.
- Three nights at Thornybush Nature Reserve at Thornybush Game Lodge.

TRANSPORTATION & PORTERAGE

- Flights from Cape Town, South Africa, to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, and Johannesburg, South Africa, to Hoedspruit.
- Train from Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, to Pretoria, South Africa.
- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the land program, including baggage handling.

MEALS

- Enjoy an extensive meal program, including 12 breakfasts, 10 lunches and eight dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner. All beverages are included aboard Rovos Rail.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception.
- Gather for a Farewell Dinner.

AHI TRAVEL EXPERTISE

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- ▶ **TRAVEL CONSULTANTS** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- ▶ **PASSENGER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **TRAVEL INFORMATION** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to fully prepare you for your journey.

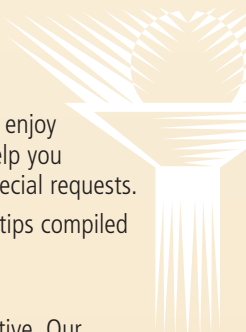
Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. Our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ▶ **TRAVEL DIRECTOR** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **EXPERT GUIDES** | We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides, who understand the needs of our educated, curious travelers. The knowledge of top-notch rangers and trackers enhance your safari experience.
- ▶ **LECTURERS** | A local lecturer opens your eyes to history and current events, and a local naturalist shares expert knowledge about the region's flora and fauna. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.

YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM

- **Informative educational programs**, presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- Tipping of Cape Town and Soweto excursion guides and drivers.
- **All excursions:**
 - Take a scenic drive on the Cape Peninsula and visit an African penguin colony.
 - See the highlights of Cape Town.
 - Explore Soweto.
 - Feel the power of Victoria Falls.
 - Marvel at African wildlife during game drives at Thornybush Nature Reserve, South Africa; Chobe National Park, Botswana; and Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe. Ride in a safari vehicle outfitted with stadium seating so you can enjoy unimpeded views.
 - Experience a safari cruise at Chobe National Park (conditions permitting).





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505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840-2918

SAFRICA17 37

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Local woman, Victoria Falls



Explore vibrant Cape Town, and see exotic animals on luxury safaris!

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational educational and cultural travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and customization.
- Safety and security.



**Please call or refer to our
website for the most current
program information,
discounts and pricing.**

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