

# Down Under Quilts

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PATCHWORK MAGAZINE

## South Africa Crafts & the Quilt Fair Tour



### DISCOVER

the big 5 on safari and traditional tribal cultures



### GET TO KNOW

local women empowered through craft co-ops



### LEARN AT

several workshops at the South African Quilt Fair



Join this small group tour organised by Active Travel departing:

**24 June 2015**

**Your expert tour host: Sue Dennis  
Columnist for Down Under Quilts**



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## ITINERARY

**Day 1** | Arrive in Johannesburg and be transferred to your hotel. The afternoon is free at your leisure and you may like to visit the Nelson Mandela Square Craft Markets. In the evening enjoy a welcome dinner. (D)

**Day 2** | Today we visit the Kopanang Quilting Community Project on the outskirts of Johannesburg. This project empowers a group of over 50 women living in the townships of Tsakane and Geluksdal by giving them the opportunity to provide income for their families by creating and selling quilts and other handicrafts.

In the afternoon we get a glimpse of everyday South African life and culture on a visit to Soweto. (B)

**Day 3** | Today we visit the Mapula Embroidery Project, one of the most important community art projects in South Africa employing over 85 disadvantaged women. This cooperative is known world wide for their high levels of technical and visual artistry with topics that speak eloquently of history as well as the women's personal experiences. Looking at one of these embroideries is like looking into a window of African life and culture.

In the afternoon enjoy a city tour of the capital city Pretoria. (B)

**Day 4** | Today we drive to 'the kingdom between the mountains', Swaziland. After we cross the border we visit the Ngwenya Glass Studio where we witness glass blowing and will learn about the different techniques used to recycle glass into beautiful glass artwork.

In the afternoon we visit Baobab Batik, a textile project preserving the traditional ancient art of African batik. The workshop acts as a centre for training local women to revive these traditional techniques and apply them to a modern context. We will be able to observe them as they work and maybe even get the chance to try it for ourselves! (B/D)

**Day 5** | In the morning we visit the renowned Swazi Craft Markets where you have the chance to see and buy a range of traditional Swazi handicrafts including baskets, bowls, traditional masks, handmade candles and more.

We then travel to the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve, renowned for its large population of Rhinos where we will enjoy a game drive where you will get the chance to spot the 'Big 5' (Lion, Leopard, Elephant, Buffalo and Rhino.) For dinner we enjoy a traditional Braai (South Africa Barbeque) under the stars. (B/D)

**Day 6** | Soak up the safari life with a full day Game Drive in Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Game Reserve. (B/L/D)

**Day 7** | This morning we enjoy our last Game Drive before moving on to Shakaland (Eshowe) in Zululand.



On arrival we get an orientation tour of a traditional Zulu village where we learn about their culture and everyday life. In the evening we enjoy dinner with an exhilarating, interactive Zulu dancing show. (B/D)

**Day 8 |** Today we participate in Zulu cultural traditions where we will learn about the social systems, greetings, see spear throwing and fight formations and get to participate in a traditional beer drinking ceremony. A highlight is seeing the Sangoma (Traditional Healers) at work and handicrafts in the making including beadwork and pottery.

In the afternoon we drive to Umhlanga where we stay for the night. (B)

**Day 9 |** This morning we enjoy a leisurely tour of the Victoria Street Market in Durban with lots of time for shopping.

After lunch we visit the Hillcrest HIV Aids Centre which supports those affected by HIV/Aids by providing education, health services and income generation through handicraft and agricultural projects.

Afterwards we continue to Kearney College, our base for the next four nights at the Quilt Fair. (B)

**Day 10-13 |** These days are free at leisure to experience the South African National Quilt Festival. Hear a series of exciting seminars and participate in a range of workshops (workshops and classes cost extra). (B/L/D)

## SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL

**South Africa staged its first National Quilt Festival in Cape Town in 1988 and these have become biennial events which are looked forward to by quilters from across the country and around the world.**

**It is organised by quilters and planned with quilters in mind. A committee of dedicated quilters is working hard to ensure that the Creative Energy 2015 Quilt Festival is a memorable one – with classes to inspire, a quilt exhibition to blow your mind, shopping opportunities to blow your budget, a venue to calm your soul and accommodation to rest your weary bones. There will also be the opportunity to submit one of your own quilting masterpieces in their exhibition and competition with cash prizes to be won.**

**Day 14 |** A group transfer will be offered to King Shaka International Airport, Durban to meet flights home. You may wish to extend your stay in Africa, whether it is a stopover in Cape Town, or exploring as far north as Egypt or Morocco. Contact us for options. (B)

Read the detailed itinerary on our website:

[www.activetravel.com.au/Trips/south-africa-quilting-fair/](http://www.activetravel.com.au/Trips/south-africa-quilting-fair/)

## 14 Day Escorted Tour

DEPARTS: 24 June 2015

**\$4589** per person twin share

**\$770** single supplement

# Down Under Quilts

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST PATCHWORK MAGAZINE

Grab the latest issue of **DOWN UNDER QUILTS** magazine at your local newsagents!

## INCLUSIONS

- 13 nights accommodation
- Meals as indicated (13 breakfasts, 5x lunches 9 x dinners)
- Private sightseeing with entrance fees
- Private air-conditioned transport
- Multiple entry ticket to Quilt Festival in Durban
- Services of a local guide and Sue Dennis as your Australian Tour Leader

## EXCLUDES

- Workshops at the quilting fair
- Optional excursions during the quilting fair
- International flights
- Travel insurance



## Secure your place on this fantastic tour!

For bookings contact **Active Travel**, specialists in textile and craft tours for over 20 years!

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