

THE BLUE TRAIN

CAPE TOWN TO PRETORIA



 **ITINERARY PAGE 4**

 **PRICING & INCLUSIONS PAGE 8**



**Safe
travels**

by


WORLD
TRAVEL &
TOURISM
COUNCIL

SOUTH AFRICA'S LUXURY BLUE TRAIN | CAPE TOWN TO PRETORIA

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please find full details of this itinerary in this dossier. If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

The Luxury Train Travel Company.

THE LUXURY TRAIN TRAVEL COMPANY

- www.theluxurytraintravelcompany.com
- enquiry@theluxurytraintravelcompany.com

☎ +44 (0)20 8191 0620

- ABTA member Y1699
- ATOL License 10287



CONTENTS

- 3 Map & Highlights
- 4 Day by Day Itinerary
- 8 Tour Dates & Pricing
- 10 ... Inclusions & Terms
- 11 ... The Train & Cabin Classes
- 27 ... Recommended Reading
- 28 ... Important information

ABOUT OUR COMPANY

Established as one of the UK's leading, independent and family owned luxury train tour specialists, our focus is on well thought through private and personally selected rail adventures. Our emphasis is very much on the right trip for you and we work closely with you in order to achieve this. We regard the rail journeys we offer as a trip of a lifetime and use our experience and knowledge to make it that for you.

ALL TOURS ARE FINANCIALLY PROTECTED

We are members of **ABTA** (Y1699) and our tours are **ATOL** protected (license 10287) giving you full peace of mind when booking with us both for monies paid to us as well as the code of conduct and high standards we are both delighted to and required to uphold.

SOUTH AFRICA'S LUXURY BLUE TRAIN | CAPE TOWN TO PRETORIA

WELCOME ABOARD THE BLUE TRAIN

As time meandered from the 19th Century towards the dawn of the new era, a dream was born. A dream of harnessing steam technology to link Africa's vast south to north, around the awe-inspiring mountain ranges that dot the continent, through the apparently arid desert landscapes, over untamed savannah grasslands teeming with wildlife. From the Cape all the way to Cairo... all of this on parallel lines of tempered steel.

It is from this dream that The Blue Train was born. Cairo was never to be, but the dreamers persevered and The Blue Train now traverses South Africa and its breath-taking scenery in a manner that befits the mystique that has grown around it.

Kings and presidents have indulged on this magnificent, moving five-star "hotel-on-wheels". From love-struck honeymooners, to adulated celebrities. And even ordinary folk who fantasise about a life of spectacular luxury, a life that has seemed tantalisingly out of reach. Until now...

Welcome aboard The Blue Train. Your unforgettable experience is about to begin...



[CLICK HERE TO EMAIL US](#)

DETAILED ITINERARY

The route between Pretoria and Cape Town is a 54-hour journey of 1 600 kilometres (994 miles), through some of the most diverse and spectacular scenery offered by the African sub-continent.

En-route to Pretoria there is a stop-over and an excursion in Kimberley, where we take a step back in time to the days of the diamond rush.

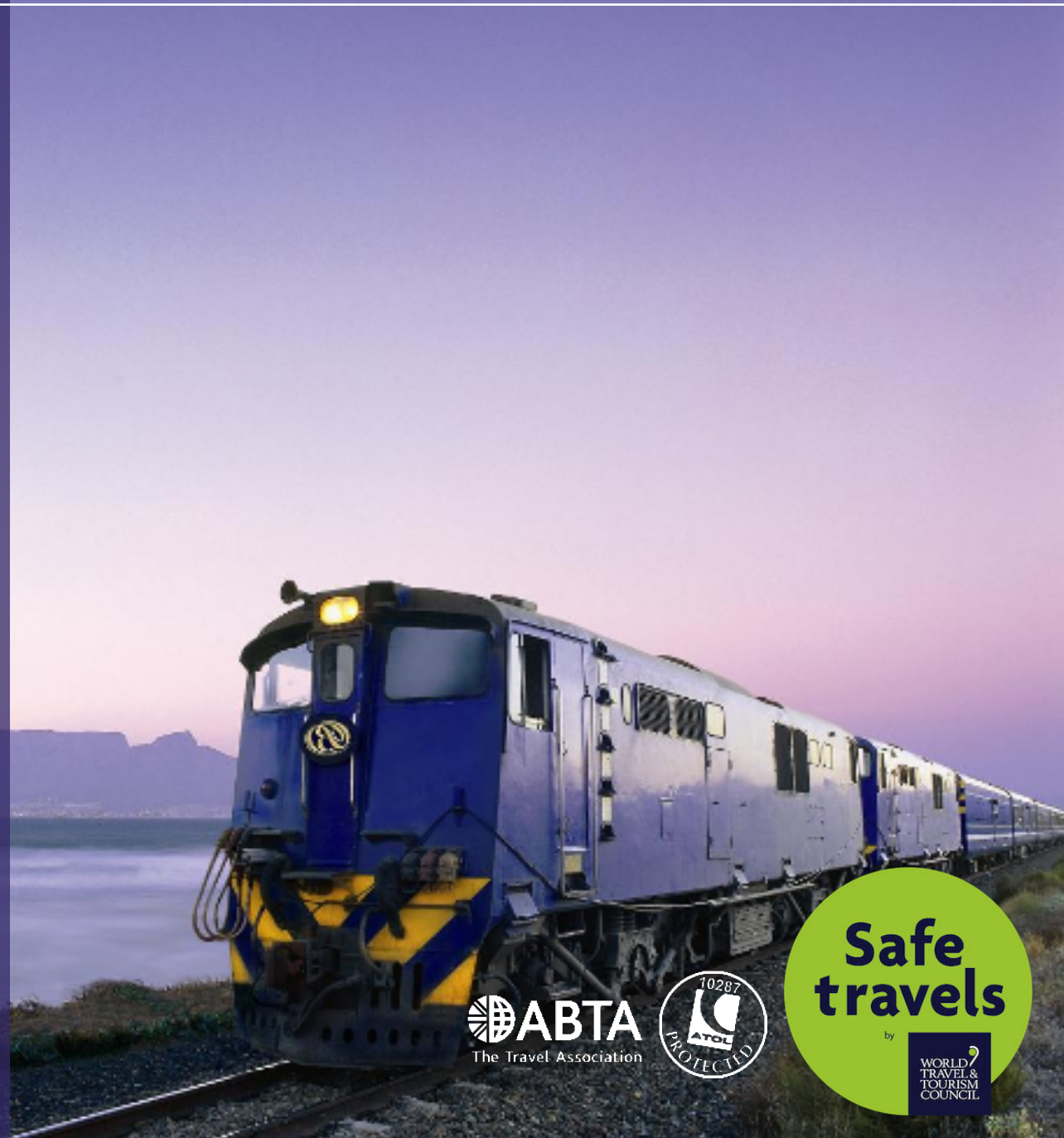
On the Northbound journey, the train leaves Cape Town at 12:00 and arrives in Pretoria at the Pretoria Station at 18:00.

Guests are reminded that check-in time at the Pre-departure Lounges at both the Pretoria and Cape Town Stations is an hour prior to departure.

"I can't tell you how much we appreciate all the pre planning you helped us with. It was a trip of a lifetime experienced by few. Personally I feel privileged to have experienced this part of the world. Thanks again for all you did for us."

Gail & Cathy Schuneman

CAPE TOWN TO PRETORIA



**Safe
travels**

by

WORLD
TRAVEL &
TOURISM
COUNCIL

YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1

DATE TBC

CAPE TOWN

BOARD THE TRAIN THIS MORNING TO START YOUR TRIP

10:00 - Register and check-in at The Blue Train Lounge, Cape Town Station.

Guests enjoy pre-departure snacks and drinks.

11:15 - Boarding commences.

Butlers usher guests to their suites. Suite orientation done by butlers. Boarding concludes at 11:45

12:00 - The Blue Train departs from Cape Town Station. Canapés will be served. (The Train will depart earlier if all guests have checked-in).

13:00-14:15 - First sitting for Lunch

14:30-16:00 - Second sitting for Lunch

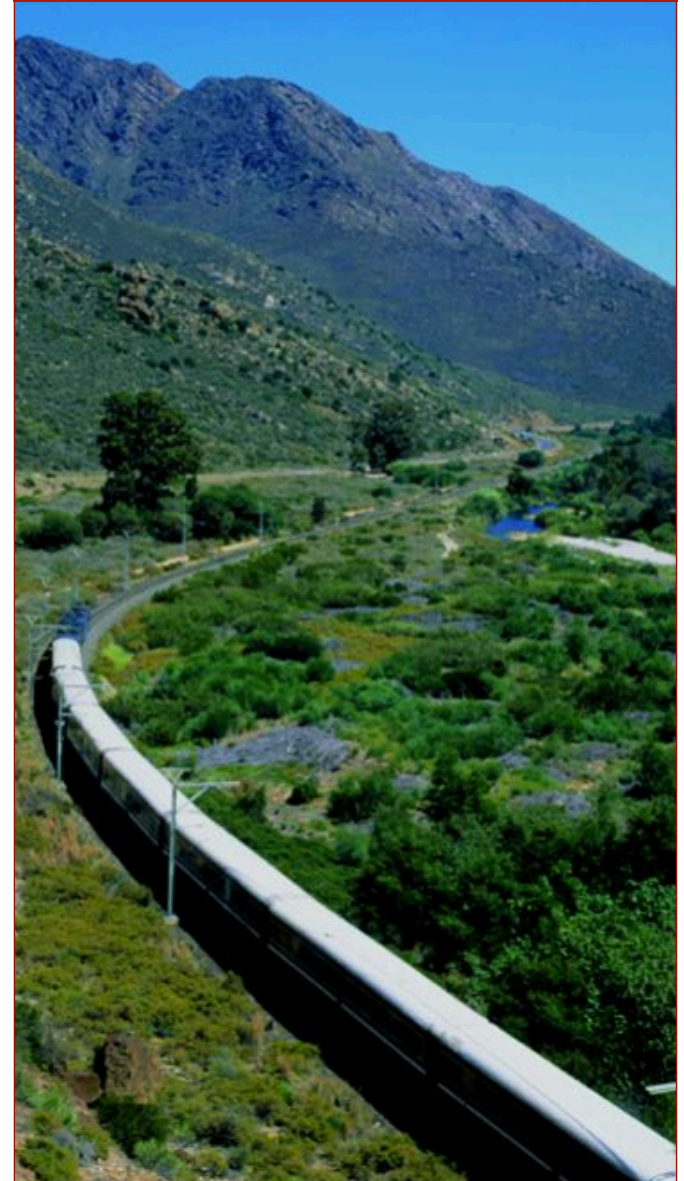
18:30-20:00 - First sitting for Dinner

20:15-22:00 - Second sitting for Dinner

(Please Note: Dinner is an elegant affair. Gentlemen are requested to at least wear a jacket / waistcoat). Guests enjoy post-dinner drinks, cognacs and Cuban cigars in the Club Car before retiring to bed.

 **Meals Included:** Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT ON BOARD



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 2

DATE TBC

KIMBERLEY

REACH THIS FAMOUS MINING TOWN FOR OFF-TRAIN EXCURSIONS

07:00-10:00 - Breakfast is served on a first-come-first-served basis.

11:30-13:00 - First sitting for Lunch

13:15-14:30 - Second sitting for Lunch

15:00 - Guests arrive at the Open Mine Museum for a tour of the mine. Guests are first taken to view interesting and historical sites. Guests are also taken onto an enclosed ramp on the edge of the Big Hole.

17:00 - Guests depart from the Open Mine Museum for Kimberley Station

At Kimberly Station guests are greeted with a glass of sherry. The sherry glass engraved with The Blue Train logo as a memento for guests to keep.

18:30 - The Blue Train departs Kimberley Station for the northbound journey to Pretoria

After this exciting tour, guests are welcome to refresh themselves and enjoy aperitifs served at any one of our lounges.

18:30-20:30 - First sitting for Dinner

20:15-22:00 - Second sitting for Dinner. Gentlemen are requested to at least wear a jacket/ waistcoat). Guests enjoy post-dinner drinks, cognacs and Cuban cigars in the Club Car before retiring to bed.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT ON BOARD



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY • • • • •

DAY 3

DATE TBC

PRETORIA

LATE AFTERNOON ARRIVAL IN PRETORIA & THE END OF THE TRIP

07:00-10:00 - Breakfast is served on a first-come-first- served basis.

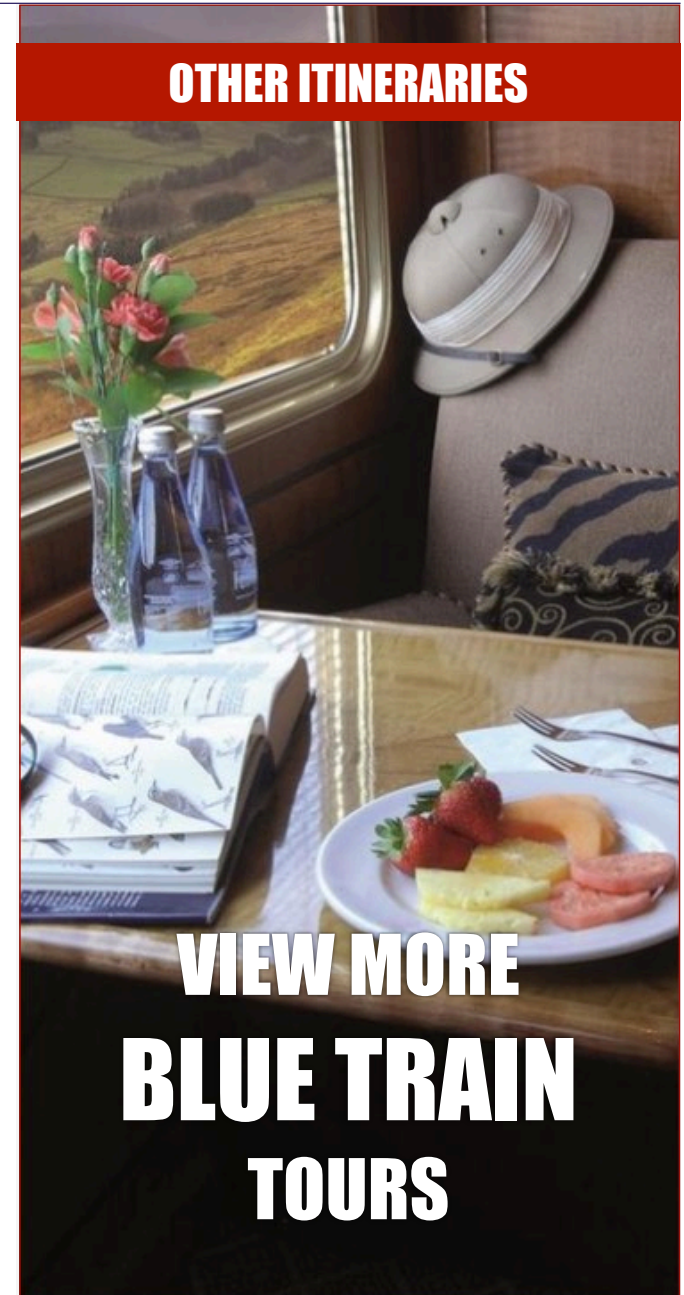
13:00-14:15 - First sitting for Lunch

14:30-16:00 - Second sitting for Lunch

18:00 - The Blue Train arrives at Pretoria Station. Butlers usher guests to the arrival lounge where this tour officially ends.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast & Lunch.

OTHER ITINERARIES



**VIEW MORE
BLUE TRAIN
TOURS**

2024

[CLICK HERE TO EMAIL US](#)

BLUE TRAIN - CAPE TOWN TO PRETORIA - DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN SOUTH AFRICAN RAND*

2024 Departure Dates		Luxury Suite Sharing	Luxury Suite Single	De Luxe Suite Sharing	De Luxe Suite Single
January	11th, 18th, 25th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
February	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
March	7th, 14th, 21st, 28th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
April	4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
May	9th, 16th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
June	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
July	11th, 18th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
August	8th, 15th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652
September	5th, 12th, 19th	ZAR 50,560	ZAR 75,840	ZAR 40,035	ZAR 60,052
October	10th, 17th, 24th, 31st	ZAR 50,560	ZAR 75,840	ZAR 40,035	ZAR 60,052
November	7th, 14th, 21st	ZAR 50,560	ZAR 75,840	ZAR 40,035	ZAR 60,052
December	5th, 12th, 19th	ZAR 41,380	ZAR 62,070	ZAR 32,435	ZAR 48,652

* The base price is in South African 🇿🇦 Rand (ZAR). We can quote and accept payment in 🇬🇧 GBP £, 🇺🇸 USD \$, 🇸🇬 Singaporean \$, Australian 🇦🇺 \$, Canadian 🇨🇦 \$ & 🇪🇺 Euros - [Contact us](#) for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

2025

[CLICK HERE TO EMAIL US](#)

BLUE TRAIN - CAPE TOWN TO PRETORIA - DATES & PRICES PER PERSON IN SOUTH AFRICAN RAND*

2025 Departure Dates		Luxury Suite Sharing	Luxury Suite Single	De Luxe Suite Sharing	De Luxe Suite Single
January	9th, 16th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
February	6th, 13th, 27th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
March	20th, 27th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
April	10th, 17th, 24th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
May	8th, 15th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
June	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
July	10th, 17th, 24th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
August	14th, 21st, 28th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495
September	11th, 18th, 25th	ZAR 56,625	ZAR 89,940	ZAR 44,840	ZAR 67,245
October	23rd, 30th	ZAR 56,625	ZAR 89,940	ZAR 44,840	ZAR 67,245
November	6th, 13th, 20th	ZAR 56,625	ZAR 89,940	ZAR 44,840	ZAR 67,245
December	4th, 11th, 18th	ZAR 46,345	ZAR 69,515	ZAR 36,325	ZAR 54,495

* The base price is in South African 🇿🇦 Rand (ZAR). We can quote and accept payment in 🇬🇧 GBP £, 🇺🇸 USD \$, 🇸🇬 Singaporean \$, 🇦🇺 Australian \$, 🇨🇦 Canadian \$ & 🇪🇺 Euros - [Contact us](#) for a confirmed quote in your preferred currency.

INCLUSIONS, EXCLUSIONS & TERMS

✓ **INCLUDED:** Accommodation; all meals; all beverages on board; room service; limited laundry; excursions with a qualified guide (where applicable); entrance fees as per itinerary; on-board historian, hairstylist and doctor; government tax. Off-train accommodation during the rail trip includes an overnight bag; meals, water, tea/coffee and breakfast juices; snacks and drinks on sunset cruise.

✗ **EXCLUDED:** Staff gratuities, Caviar, French Champagne and external telephone calls; personal expenses; visas; travel insurance; pre- and post-tour accommodation, flights and transfers. Off-train accommodation during the rail trip excludes all other beverages; meals at unspecified venues; laundry; personal expenses. Also excluded is International Airfare to / from the start / finish of the trip, visas - we can advise and partner with VisaCentral, Travel insurance to cover any medical treatment.



Past Blue Train guests include Nelson Mandela, Arch-Bishop Desmond Tutu, Imran Khan Naomi Campbell, Quincy Jones, Mia Farrow, Sir Nigel Mansell, Paul Simon, Earl & Lady Spencer, Leo Sayer, Neil Young, Sir Peter Ustinov, Sir Elton John, Danny Glover, Sir Tim Rice & Kylie Minogue!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- We regret that due to the intricate logistics of this tour, itinerary changes are sometimes unavoidable.
- On booking a non-refundable deposit of 10% plus any international flights we are booking for you. Full payment is required 60 days before the trip start date.

• Cancellation Terms:

Up to 61 days prior to departure:
deposit plus any flights

30 days or less prior to departure:
100% of total price

Any part of the program that is missed because of late arrival is non-refundable.

CLICK HERE TO EMAIL US

LEARN ABOUT THE BLUE TRAIN

The Blue Train in South Africa epitomises luxury rail travel. With opulent cabins, fine dining, and scenic routes, it's a captivating journey. Connecting Pretoria and Cape Town, it unveils dramatic landscapes, including the Karoo Desert and Wine lands. This historic train redefines elegance, offering a nostalgic and extravagant experience in Southern Africa.



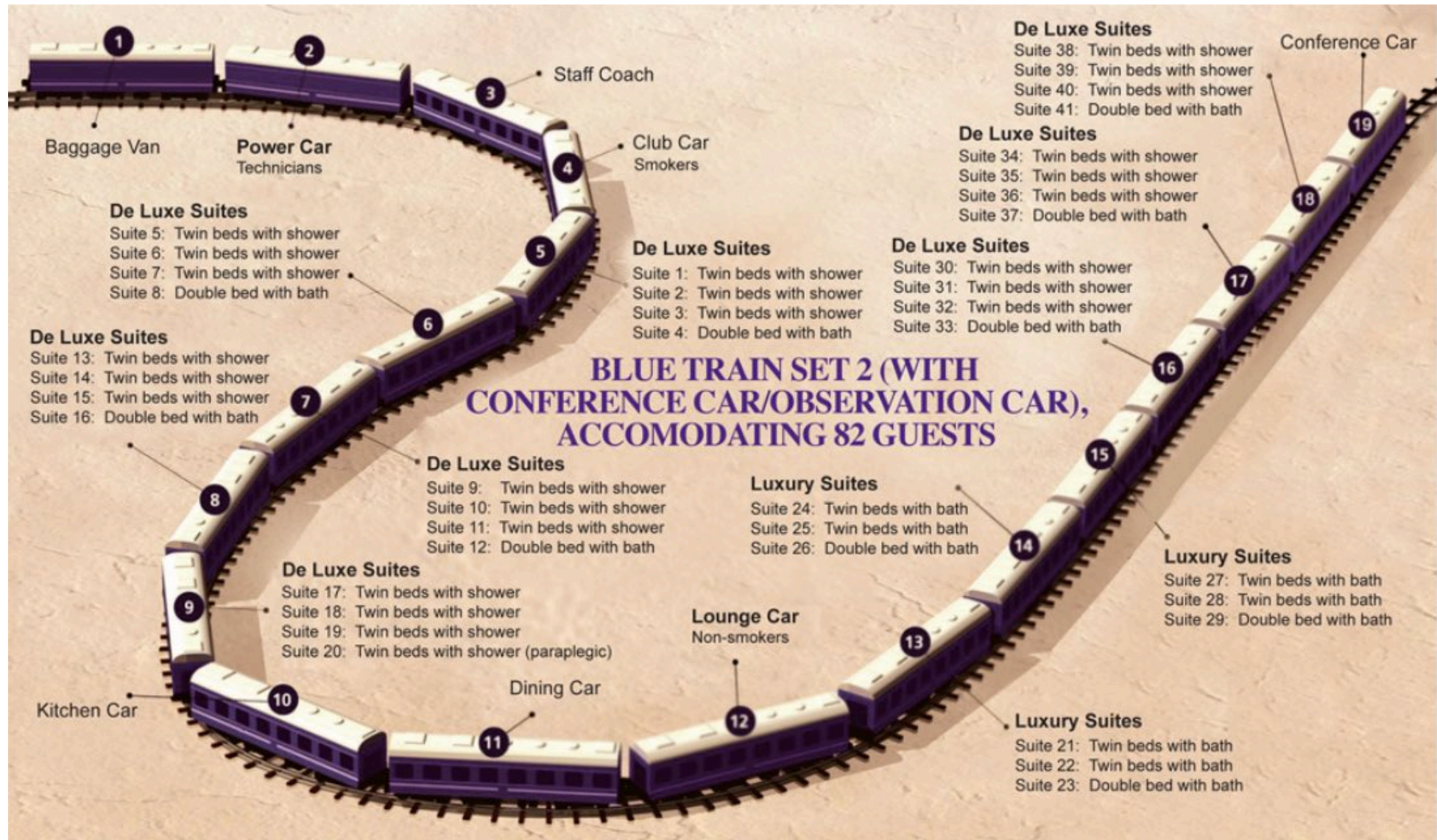
ABOUT THE BLUE TRAIN

There are two Blue Train sets – simply referred to as Train Set 1 and Train Set 2. Train Set 1 can accommodate a maximum of 54 guests and is available for use during charters. Each of the two trains consist of a Baggage Van, Power Car, Personnel Car, Club and Lounge Cars, Kitchen and De Luxe and Luxury accommodation coaches.



ABOUT THE BLUE TRAIN

Train Set 2 is the weekly “schedule” train running between Pretoria and Cape Town. It accommodates a maximum of 82 guests and includes a paraplegic suite and a Conference Car. Each of the two trains consist of a Baggage Van, Power Car, Personnel Car, Club and Lounge Cars, Kitchen and De Luxe and Luxury accommodation coaches.



ABOUT THE BLUE TRAIN

CLUB & LOUNGE CARRIAGES

In the event that you are able to whisk yourself away from your luxurious cocoon of comfort, The Blue Train offers two convivial spaces in which to build friendships over a beverage of choice.

The Club Car, ideally situated behind the train's engines offers the feel of a burnished, wood-panelled gentleman's club where you are free to enjoy a Cuban cigar which we serve after dinner to round off a perfect evening. Wind down and relax with cognac or any drink of your choice. Whether you're after a game of backgammon, chess or cards, the lure of the big screen or a tome from the library's selection, a fascinating chat with the barman or simply a solitary reverie of the star-lit skies, then the Club Car is your ideal setting.

The beautifully designed Lounge Car, conveniently situated in the middle of the train, is an ideal venue to enjoy the charming view of the countryside, with its windows perfectly framing the ever-changing panoramas and interrupted only by rare works from some of Southern Africa's finest artists – or an occasional gentle reminder from the barman that your glass needs topping up.

Breeze into the Lounge Car for afternoon High Tea... a traditional English ritual of taste and aroma that is enhanced by the classic, elegant opulence of this carriage, or wander in after your five-course dinner banquet for another glass of award-winning wine or a taste of fine Port to round off your perfect evening.



ABOUT THE BLUE TRAIN

DINING CAR

While The Blue Train lives up to its five-star reputation in every sense, its cuisine surpasses even the highest expectations. It could be said that dinner will be the most unforgettable experience of your adventure.

On board chefs regularly refresh their menus to intrigue and tantalise your palate, as they prepare their signature dishes using the freshest of local ingredients. From Karoo lamb, ostrich and venison, to Knysna oysters and other award-winning Cape cultivars. All artfully presented in delicate crystal or on fine china, all contributing to the ultimate experience.

Underscoring the Dining Car's atmosphere is a delightful selection of tasteful background music, ranging from smooth jazz to light classical to the mellow tones of the Soweto String Quartet.

As the sky darkens over the landscape, you adorn yourself in your finest silks and satins, diamonds and pearls, tuxedos and ties, as you prepare to relish a banquet glowing with the camaraderie of new friends or dine entwined in the subtle intimacy of a table for two – or even if you opt to dine in the privacy of your own suite – you become aware that every taste you're about to experience is a memory in the making, a tantalising highlight on a menu of magical moments.

And indeed, there's a menu for every taste. Whether you require Kosher or Halaal meals, or gluten-free vegan options, simply make your needs known at the time of reserving your passage. You'll also need to reserve your ideal dinner sitting. Our very elegant Dining Car comfortably accommodates 42 guests in a single sitting and, in the event of having more guests on the train, meals are served in two sittings to ensure all our guests experience utter luxury and decadence.



ABOUT THE BLUE TRAIN

OBSERVATION CAR

As The Blue Train's tracks roll inevitably into the distance, so life's course brings with it joys that must be celebrated. Graduations, engagements, weddings and honeymoons, anniversaries and milestone birthdays. All of these deserve a memorable venue, a special ambience, a reminder that you're going places.

The Blue Train can be chartered for such occasions. Just for you, it can meander along its standard routes, or on custom-made trips and cross-border excursions that last from a few hours to several nights. It's your sojourn, it's your train. It's our pleasure.

When not booked for use during a trip, the Conference Car is converted into an Observation Car that reflects and complements the amenities offered in the Lounge cars.

Whether you're rallying your sales force, rewarding outstanding performance, wooing potential clients or hosting your year-end function, stay on line. Keep on track. Navigate your way through the ever-shifting landscape of doing business in the 21st Century. Meet your challenges and celebrate your successes on the move by stepping onboard a world where business is pleasure.



LUXURY SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin

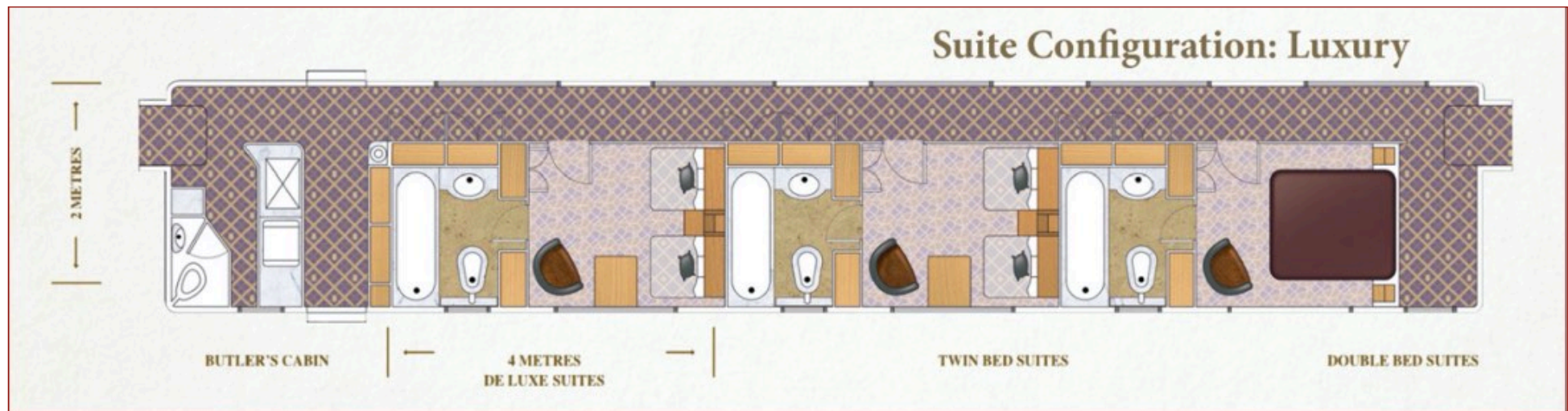


THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA

Your Luxury Suite will enchant you from the moment your personal butler ushers you aboard. It extends the offering from a De Luxe suite even further; by an extra metre of your domain, with twin or double bedded suites which offer you long and luxurious bath tubs and a private digital interactive entertainment system, with an inviting selection of music CDs and big-screen movies on Blue-Ray DVD. Luxury coaches have three Luxury Suites that each measure 5,13 by 2 metres and give you the option of twin beds or a double bed.

Your De Luxe or Luxury suites are your home-away-from-home lounges. Need to send an important email halfway across the world or make that urgent phone call? Relax in knowing that all suites are fitted with WI-FI service that is complimentary to all our guests. Use the telephone system in each suite to dial your butler, at no extra charge, for an apéritif or even call family and friends across the Atlantic and relay your Blue Train experience at a minimal fee.

An act of alchemy transforms your sitting area into a restful night-time sanctuary. Goose down duvets and pillows and 100 percent percale cotton bedding envelop you as you drift off after a soothing, scented soak or shower in your marble and gold-appointed bathroom, lulled by the rhythm of the whispering wheels.



LUXURY SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



LUXURY SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



LUXURY SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



LUXURY SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



DE LUXE SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin

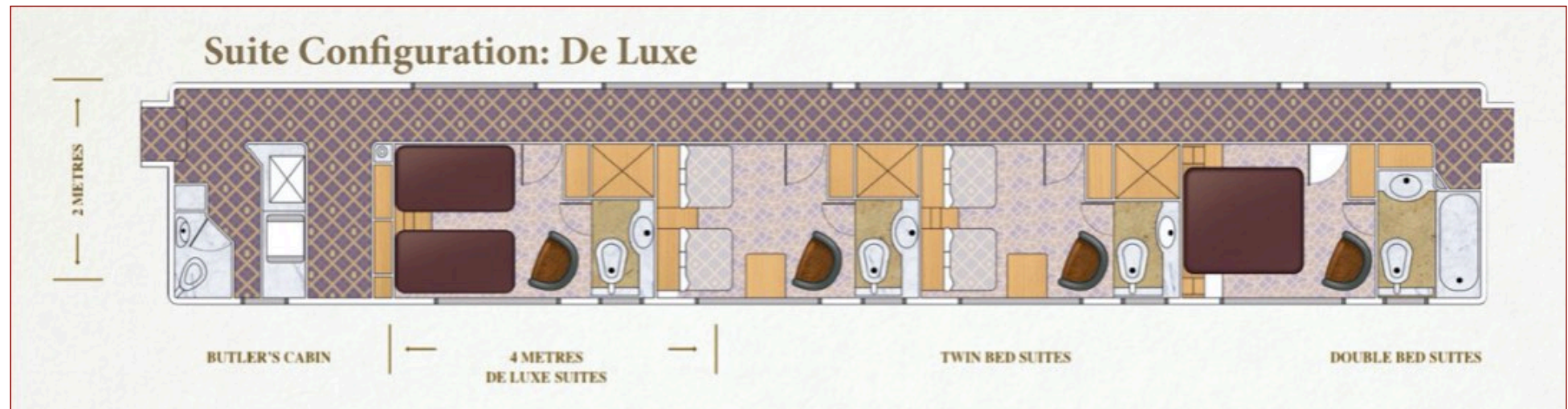


THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA

Your De Luxe Suite will forever alter your definition of what style and class entail. From your elegant and relaxing lounge during the day, it transforms into a subtly-lit bedroom of indulgence during the night, bedecked with goose-down and 100 per cent percale-cotton bedding, from your individually-controlled air-conditioning system, under-floor heating, opulent marble and gold-fitted bathroom, its scented bath salts and plush monogrammed towels, to the electronic entertainment options on offer.

And then, of course, all this accompanied by the ever-changing vistas of the countryside...

The De Luxe coaches each have four suites that measure 4 by 2 metres. One of these contains a double bed and a $\frac{3}{4}$ size bath tub with handheld shower, while the others have twin beds with showers.



DE LUXE SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



DE LUXE SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



DE LUXE SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA



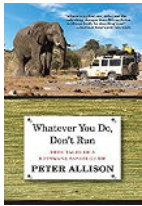
DE LUXE SUITE

Photos and illustrations are for guidance only and may differ to your actual cabin



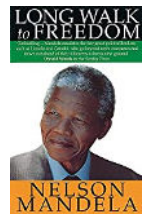
THE BLUE TRAIN
A WINDOW TO THE SOUL OF AFRICA





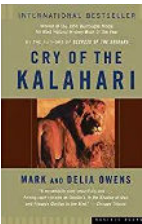
WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T RUN PETER ALLISON

This is a great read for anyone going on a safari. It shows how hard but funny the life of a safari guide in the African bush can be. It's very easy reading, with lots of interesting facts, and somewhat educational.



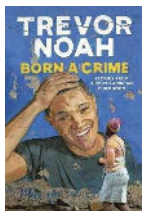
LONG WALK TO FREEDOM NELSON MANDELA

No trip to South Africa is complete without having read the autobiography of one of the country's greatest political leaders, Nelson Mandela.



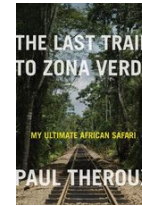
CRY OF THE KALAHARI MARK OWENS & DELIA OWENS

In the 1970s Mark and Delia Owens, two budding zoologists, set off into the desolate and unforgiving Kalahari Desert in Botswana to study wildlife. Deception Valley became their base and home for the next seven years. They lived alone in the wild, studying lions, brown hyenas, jackals, and other desert predators.



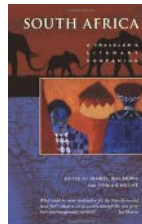
BORN A CRIME TREVOR NOAH

With unflinching honesty and humour, Noah recounts his life as a 'crime' – a coloured (South Africa's term for anyone of mixed race) baby born to a Black Xhosa mother and a white Swiss father – under Apartheid.



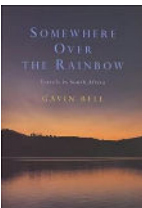
THE LAST TRAIN TO ZONA VERDE PAUL THEROUX

Following the success of the acclaimed Ghost Train to the Eastern Star and The Great Railway Bazaar, The Last Train to Zona Verde is an ode to the last African journey of the world's most celebrated travel writer.



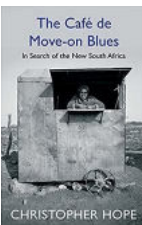
SOUTH AFRICA: A LITERARY COMPANION ISABEL BALSEIRO

Including short stories from some of South Africa's best and most renowned writers (Nadine Gordimer, J.M. Coetzee, and Alan Paton, to name only a few), this collection accompanies readers to a recent, but altogether different South Africa, reflecting perspectives of both the oppressed and the oppressors.



SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW GAVIN BELL

In his travels Bell found a country at odds with itself, swinging between hope and despair, buoyed by a sense of freedom and haunted by a fear of violent crime. It is a compelling portrait of a country in search of an identity.



THE CAFE DE MOVE-ON BLUES CHRISTOPHER HOPE

Framed as a travelogue, this is a darkly comic, powerful and moving portrait of South Africa - an elegy to a living nation, which is still mad and absurd.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR

HOW FAR IN ADVANCE DO I NEED TO BOOK ?

This train tour is an exclusive trip with very limited departures through the year. Consequently we strongly advise our clients to book as far in advance as possible to avoid disappointment. This particularly applies to the higher level cabins which there is strong demand for.

CAN YOU OBTAIN & ADVISE ON THE VISAS FOR US ?

Visas (if required) can be quite complex so we recommend using a specialist visa agent and have an arrangement with [CIBT Visa Central](#) who offer a reliable service for all the visas you will need for your trip. Of course, we provide all the necessary documentation which must accompany your application. Note that the onus is upon the client to ensure passports and visas, as may be required, are valid prior to departure for Africa. Passports must have at least five blank visa pages and must be valid for at least six months from your return-home date.

ARE YOUR TOURS FINANCIALLY PROTECTED ?

Yes! All our trips come with financial protection either through our ATOL if the trip includes a flight or insurances which comply with the UK package travel regulations for any trip that does not include a flight. In addition our ABTA membership means we must adhere to their strict code of conduct.

CAN YOU BOOK INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS FOR US ?

Absolutely! Our ATOL license means that we can book international or indeed internal flights. We get particularly good access to the best deals on British Airways as we are an appointed operator.

CAN YOU BOOK FURTHER TRAVEL FOR US ?

Yes! We can offer extensions to further explore the destinations at either end of the trip. Just ask us for details.

ALL INCLUSIVE RATE

With the exception of staff gratuities, Caviar, French Champagne and external telephone calls, everything else onboard is included in the rate.

BEDS

The beds fold out of the panel concealing the seats under it. Should guests require their bed to be made during the day, please ring for a Butler.

BUTLERS

Each coach has a Butler whose pleasure it will be to ensure that guests enjoy a memorable experience. Butlers are available 24 hours a day for the duration of the journey.

BEDS

The beds fold out of the panel concealing the seats under it. Should guests require their bed to be made during the day, please ring for a Butler.

CHECK-IN

Check-in is between 06:30-07:00, boarding gates close at 07:45. Guests are requested to check-in at least one hour prior to departure. Check-in takes place in The Blue Train VIP lounges situated at Cape Town and Pretoria stations.

CHILDREN

Children aged 5-years and younger are to share with parents or a responsible adult. No special meal menus are available for children. A strict children policy is applicable on board the train.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR

DINING

All meals and room-service snacks are included in the rate. Should guests require a snack the butler can be contacted. Lunch and dinner are usually served in two sittings and cater for 42 guests per sitting, while breakfast is served between 07:00 and 10:00 at guests leisure.

DISABILITIES

One train set is compatible for disabled persons. Customised wheelchairs on board The Blue Train have been specifically-designed to negotiate the train's corridors. A Butler will be on-hand to assist guests should they require.

DOUBLE BEDS

Due to the limited number of double beds it is advisable that guests specify their preference upon making a reservation.

DRESS CODE

In keeping with tradition it is a compulsory custom to dress formal for dinner to match the sheer elegance of The Blue Train. Evening wear is elegant for ladies and gentlemen are requested to wear a jacket and tie. During the day the dress code is smart casual. No shorts and flip-flops are allowed in the Dining Car.

DRINKING WATER

Bottled water is supplied in suite. The butler will provide more water on request.

ELECTRICITY

The electricity supply on-board is 220 volts. Lights switches are located at the door and the bedside table.

FIRST AID

Trained first aid personnel are on-board at all times. In the event of an emergency, doctors can be contacted at the various stations en-route.

GIFTS FOR GUESTS

Post their overnight Blue Train trip, every guests receives a Blue Train miniature gold clock and a certificate that 'authenticates' their experience and certifies them as the official Blue Train "Ambassadors". These clocks are not for sale and are only handed to travelling guests.

GRATUITIES

To show appreciation at the end of the journey, guests may leave a gratuity in the box located in the Club Car. Gratuities are shared amongst The Blue Train personnel on board.

LAUNDRY

A limited on-board laundry and valet service is available and is included in the rate. Please contact a butler for assistance.

DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Kindly specify any special dietary requirements at the time of booking. The Blue Train is happy to accommodate all culinary requests.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE TOUR

LOUNGE CARS

The Lounge Car is designed as a meeting place for Aperitifs and afternoon High-tea and is a no smoking area. The Club Car is ideal for post-dinner Cognac or hand-made Cuban cigar. The bar opens as soon as the train commences its journey and closes when the last guest departs.

ROOM SERVICE

Room service is available 24-hours, free of charge.

SAFES

Safes are provided in all suites. While every precaution is taken, The Blue Train cannot be held liable for loss of valuable items left unattended in suites.

SMOKING

Smoking is only permitted in the Club Car. All suites, the Lounge and Dining Cars are strictly smoke-free zones.

WHAT DISTANCE DOES THE TRAIN TRAVEL?

1660 km (904 miles).

HOW LONG IS THE TRAIN ?

Long train – 399 metres; short train – 294 metres.

HOW LONG HAS THE TRAIN BEEN RUNNING?

The Blue Train was launched and has been in existence since 1946.

HOW MANY CARRIAGES DOES THE TRAIN HAVE?

Long train – 19 carriages; short train – 14 carriages.

IS THERE A DOCTOR ON BOARD?

Trained first aid personnel are on-board at all times. In the event of an emergency, doctors and emergency personnel can be contacted at the various stations en-route. Please note that The Blue Train personnel are not allowed to administer any medication to guests.

CAN WE OPEN THE WINDOWS?

For safety reasons, The Blue Train windows are double-glazed and cannot be opened. The Blue Train is fitted with a centrally-controlled air-conditioning system. All private suites are fitted with individually-controlled air-conditioning systems.

ARE CHILDREN ALLOWED?

Children are allowed on board. Children aged 2 years and younger are to share a suite with parents or a responsible adult. No special meal menus are available for children. A strict Children Policy is applicable and must be signed by parents or guardians prior to boarding.

ARE GRATUITIES INCLUDED?

The fare does not include gratuities. Our guests are not obliged to give the staff gratuities. However, should guests at their own discretion wish to do so, guests are encouraged not give gratuities to individuals, but to rather use the gratuity box located at the entrance of the club (smoking) car. Gratuities are then shared equally amongst all the staff (including the kitchen staff) at the end of each trip.