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A Family Affair in Africa - 15 Days / 14 Nights

DAY 1

On arrival at OR Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg you will be warmly welcomed by our representative, and will drive you to AtholPlace Boutique Hotel. After a bawdy start as a tent and shanty town, today Johannesburg is the second largest city in Africa. The city owes its existence to the discovery of gold by prospector George Harrison. Harrison, who pegged the first claim on the reef, sold it for just £10 and disappeared without a trace! Known as the greatest gold-mining area on earth, this vibrant city is not just an industrial giant; it is the heart of South Africa's economy. From traditional 'muti' (medicine) shops to exclusive boutiques in upmarket malls, theatres, museums, cultural villages, restaurants, beautiful walks in indigenous gardens and more, Johannesburg is a diverse cultural melting pot, deserving of its name of 'iGoli', or 'City of Gold'.

The outstanding AtholPlace Boutique Hotel is nestled in an upmarket garden suburb of Johannesburg. The individually-decorated suites each boast a lovely ensuite bathroom with a separate bath and shower, an inviting bed adorned with percale cotton linen and duck-down duvets, air conditioning, underfloor heating, satellite television, a personal bar and a private balcony. Spend two nights at the AtholPlace Villa, which includes three deluxe rooms each with their own full bathroom, one ensuite junior room (perfect for children) and a superior living and dining area and accommodates a maximum of six adults and two young children. Your stay includes breakfast. Depending on your arrival time, you may meet your host for the next two days and set off to visit Liliesleaf Farm, scene of the infamous Rivonia Raid, where you will enjoy an introductory talk on South Africa and its history.

In the evening you may choose between dining at the hotel or going out for dinner. At the hotel, you have the option of enjoying your meal outside on the terrace or under the trees in the tranquil seclusion of the landscaped garden.

Complimentary pre-dinner drinks and canapés are served in the library or lounge.

DAY 2

After breakfast, Howard Geach will meet you in the foyer and you will set off on a full-day *Taste of South African History* tour. Listen to Howard's fascinating explanation of South Africa, its people and languages. Visit Johannesburg's oldest township, where you will tour a workers' hostel, sample local food and explore the colourful and vibrant culture of the area. Set off on a personalised guided tour of the Apartheid Museum, with exhibits that depict events leading up to and throughout this dark period in South Africa's history. Explore South Africa's modern Constitutional Court, one of the world's most sophisticated courtrooms.

If you prefer to pair your cultural activities with some outdoor exercise, you can choose to cut your historical tour short and combine it with a cycling tour through the streets of Soweto township, getting to know the different communities and their history, seeing a side of South Africa that escapes most tourists. Visit a former migrant workers' hostel for men. Travel through Meadowlands, a community infamous for the forced removals of people living in Sophiatown in the 1950s. Stop at historical landmarks commemorating the 1976 student uprisings and the memorial site for Hector Peterson, who was tragically shot by police while protesting against apartheid laws. Explore Vilakazi Street, where Nelson Mandela used to live (his former house is now a museum) and where Archbishop Desmond Tutu has his home. Sample a traditional lunch (Kota township burger) and finish the tour off with some home-brewed beer at the local shebeen, where you can also dance to local kwaito rap music. After a day filled with attractions, your host will drive you back to your hotel, where you will have a chance to freshen up before meeting up with him once again for dinner at Wombles Steakhouse Restaurant. Since 1984 Wombles Steakhouse Restaurant has provided customers with man-size portions of beef and other culinary delights. Owners Duncan and Yvette Barker opened Wombles restaurant in Parktown

North Johannesburg. Originally from Zimbabwe, then a short stay in Australia. A testimony to their success in Australia was winning the Gold Plate Restaurant Award, which is the highest honour a Restaurant can receive.

DAY 3

After a delicious breakfast, you will be driven to Lanseria Airport, where you will board a private charter flight to Madikwe Game Reserve. The aircraft will be a PC12, which carries a maximum of eight passengers. On arrival at the airstrip, you will be met by your ranger, who will drive you to the lodge in a game drive vehicle.

A diverse combination of bushveld and semi-arid Kalahari scrub, the malaria-free Madikwe Game Reserve boasts the Big Five, as well as the endangered African wild dog. Madikwe is famed for Operation Phoenix, the world's largest game translocation exercise, successfully reintroducing more than 8 000 animals of 28 species, including lion, elephant, buffalo and white rhino. It is also home to more than 350 bird species, several endemic to the Kalahari. The Madikwe region is rich in history, having seen the passage of the famed warrior Mzilikazi, as well as explorers, traders and missionaries that included Dr David Livingstone and Sir Cornwallis Harris. Renowned South African writer Herman Charles Bosman celebrates the area in many of his books.

Spend two nights at Morukuru River House. An exclusive safari villa set on the tranquil banks of the Marico River, the villa offers three double bedrooms, each featuring large tree-shaded private decks. The spacious bathrooms have deep tubs with bush views and indoor as well as outdoor showers. The separate family room can easily accommodate up to four children and features a satellite TV, Playstation, computer and DVDs. Your stay includes accommodation, private and exclusive use of the house, all meals, all drinks, water, non-alcoholic drinks, local house wines and local spirits, private butler, private chef, your own ranger and tracker, private game drive vehicle, private game drives and nature drives, private bush walks (16+ years), sundowners, picnics, transport within Madikwe Game Reserve, entrance fees / reserve gate fees, return transport between Morukuru and Madikwe airstrip, laundry service and medical emergency response and evacuation.

DAY 4

Take advantage of your private vehicle and dedicated guide and tracker team to set the pace for your own adventure. Pick and choose from the following to make up an ideal day at Madikwe Game Reserve.

Set out on game drives that explore the beautiful landscape and search for the exceptional wildlife that makes it their home, including all the members of the Big Five, as well as the rare African wild dog. Enjoy a change of perspective as you set out on bush walks that explore the intricate details of the African landscapes, from insects and plants to birds and small wildlife. Try your hand at catch-and-release fishing in the river. Cool off with an afternoon spent water tubing at the nearby Molatedi Dam (seasonal activity). Indulge your taste buds in some local favourites with a cooking lesson from the villa's personal chef. Get a glimpse of authentic local life with a visit to the Molatedi village and school. Imbibe the sounds and scents of the African night as you spend a night in the lodge's secluded hide. Learn the rhythms of Africa as you take part in a drumming session beneath open African skies (available at an additional cost). Delight to the athletic displays and colourful traditional costumes of a group of local dancers (available at an additional cost).

DAY 5

After breakfast, you will be driven back to Madikwe Airstrip where you will board a private charter flight to &Beyond Phinda Private Game Reserve. On arrival at the airstrip, you will be warmly welcomed by your ranger, who will drive you to your home for the next three nights, &Beyond Phinda Homestead. Set within easy reach of the Indian Ocean coastline and the famous iSimangaliso / Greater St Lucia Wetland Park in northern KwaZulu-Natal, &Beyond Phinda Private Game Reserve is known for its abundant wildlife, diversity of habitats and wide range of safari activities. Thanks to its coastal rainfall pattern, the reserve enjoys a lush green environment that contains seven distinct ecosystems and is often referred to as Seven Worlds of Wonder. This fascinating variety of landscape and vegetation shelters an abundance of wildlife, including not only the Big Five but many rarer and less easily spotted species, such as the elusive cheetah and the scarce black rhino. With only a handful of lodges sharing an area of 23 000 hectares (56 800 acres) and expert rangers and trackers in search of prime wildlife sightings, guests are assured an exclusive game viewing experience. Adding to Phinda's wildlife charms, the marine diversity of nearby Sodwana Bay on the coast is easily accessible, with scuba diving, swimming with whale sharks and even turtle watching only some of the adventures available from Phinda. Situated in the north of the reserve, overlooking a busy pan and surrounded by dense bushveld, Phinda Homestead is an exclusive sole-use safari villa. The lodge boasts four spacious and luxurious suites, which are distanced from each other to allow for privacy and serenity. In the heart of the home is a grand sitting area that is

beautifully furnished with uniquely African artefacts, from Zulu beads and woven basket ware to wooden picture frames holding African inspired images. Guests can mingle with their private chef as he prepares their favourite meals in the interactive kitchen. With a dedicated ranger and tracker, as well as a private 4x4 safari vehicle, guests can set their own game drive times. &Beyond Phinda Homestead is the ideal place for families or friends to relax and reconnect. Spend the next three nights at Phinda Homestead. Your stay includes all meals, soft drinks, house wines, local brand spirits and beers, teas and coffees, scheduled safari activities, private vehicle, refreshments on game drives, nature walks accompanied by experienced armed trackers, emergency medical evacuation insurance, laundry and VAT.

DAY 6 & 7

Take advantage of your private vehicle and dedicated guide and tracker team to set the pace for your own adventure. Pick and choose from the following to make up the ideal two day at Phinda Private Game Reserve. Set off on game drives that explore the reserve's diverse landscapes in search of the Big Five, as well as the elusive cheetah and the rare black rhino. Choose to relax or join the children as they set off on fishing and tracking expeditions with your dedicated ranger or unleash their creative side by painting the game drive vehicle. Enjoy a half-day outing to the vast sandy beaches of the nearby coastline. Soak up the sun, splash in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, play beach games, take a leisurely stroll along the coastline or snorkel in the balmy waters of a protected marine reserve. If you are visiting between November and February, set off on a thrilling night-time adventure along the beaches of Sodwana Bay in search of the enormous leatherback and loggerhead turtles that emerge from the Indian Ocean to lay their eggs in the sand. Delve deep into the bush on foot on a tracking adventure that teaches you how to follow animal tracks, recognise middens and scratching posts and read the signs of the bush. Explore a nearby Zulu village and gain insight into how the local people combine the modern way of life with rural traditions. Come face to face with a rhino as you assist in a notching procedure that sees this majestic beast tranquilised from a helicopter, while a team of conservation workers and veterinarians mark his ears and take samples (subject to availability).

DAY 8

After breakfast, you will be driven back to the airstrip, where you will board a private charter flight to Cape Town International Airport. Your flight will stop at King Shaka International Airport in Durban to re-fuel.

A member of the &Beyond team will be waiting to welcome you and help you on board a helicopter for the final leg of your flight to Franschhoek. Take off from Cape Town International Airport, soar over the famous Victoria & Alfred Waterfront and fly above the famous beaches of Clifton and Camps Bay. Enjoy magnificent views of the Twelve Apostles and enjoy aerial views of the coastline from Llandudno to Hout Bay. Fly above famous Chapman's Peak and admire the landmarks of Noordhoek, False Bay and A Family Affair in Africa 2016 – Rack – 2016-10-25 Cape Points before landing at Franschhoek.

This valley of Franschhoek, tightly hemmed in by mountains, was settled by a small band of French Huguenots who fled Europe in 1688 to avoid religious prosecution. Although their original skills as winemakers have been somewhat exaggerated, they did have in their midst the de Villiers and du Toit brothers, who taught them a thing or two about viticulture. The settlers soon developed impressive vineyards and homesteads, which to this day bear their original French names. With the impressive Huguenot Memorial, museum and rose garden at its heart, the town of Franschhoek has just one main street, which is lined with antique shops, cafés and restaurants.

You will spend the next two nights in a Colonial Villa at La Cle des Montagnes. Your stay includes accommodation, a continental breakfast, a luxury evening turndown, a welcome drink on arrival, butler service and concierge service. La Cle Des Montagnes consists of four private villas situated on a working wine estate in the heart of the beautiful Franschhoek Valleys. Uniquely themed and each boasting their own sophisticated style, the villas are scenically positioned in the middle of picturesque vineyards and plum orchards. The rich patterns and fabrics of Le Colonial Villa pay homage to a fusion of east and north African aesthetics. Patterned fabrics, Moroccan tiles and African art lend the space a tasteful vibrancy and dynamism. Le Colonial's panoramic views of the Franschhoek vineyards and mountains combine with the contemporary African feel to create a truly memorable experience.

You will have the rest of the afternoon at leisure. Choose one of the many excellent restaurants in Franschhoek as a venue for dinner that night.

DAY 09

This morning you will set off on an unusual tour of the picturesque Cape Winelands. You will be chauffeured to the beautiful town of Stellenbosch, where you will select a bicycle and helmet. From there, set off on a leisurely cycle tour of

the area, stopping at the exquisite wineries and a renowned brandy distillery. Experience decadent and daring pairing combinations as you visit one of the smallest estates in the valley, sample local meats and cheeses while looking out at beautiful views of the vineyards A Family Affair in Africa 2016 – Rack – 2016-10-25 find the ideal combination of gourmet pizza and wine and try the unusual pairing of chocolate with some of the finest brandies in the world. Return to your hotel in Franschhoek, tired but satisfied with the day's activities.

DAY 10

Today, you will be collected for your journey to beautiful Hermanus, in the renowned Cape Whale Coast region, stopping en route at the enchanting Hemel en Aarde Wine Valley. Here, you can embark on an off-the-beaten track, wine tasting experience amidst the spectacular Cape Whale Coast. The beautiful destination of the Hemel-en-Aarde (Heaven on Earth) Wine Route, offers a wonderful alternative to exploring South Africa's first-class wines, away from the hustle and bustle of the main wine routes of Stellenbosch and Franschhoek. Surrounded by towering mountains that stand vigil over a tranquil landscape, this must-visit destination produces some of South Africa's best bottles of chardonnay and pinot noir. You will then end your adventure with a delectable lunch at the sublime Creation winery.

Following your exploration of the Hemel and Aarde Wine Valley, you will be driven to the lovely Thatch House, situated in Hermanus.

Famous for its incredible sightings of southern right whales, every year between June and December, the friendly and quaint town of Hermanus is considered the world's best land-based whale watching destination. With its spectacular combination of ocean and ancient mountains, Hermanus offers a rich biodiversity with over 1 600 different species of fynbos that can be found in the nature reserve behind the town. Hiking and birdwatching are popular activities, along with shark cage diving, quad biking and abseiling. There are also numerous superb vineyards in the area, making Hermanus a great base for a wine tasting tour.

You will spend the next two nights at The Thatch House. Your stay includes accommodation, all meals, local beverages, complimentary personalised wine tasting session, tea and coffee.

Cocooned between the ancient Cape Fold Mountains and the sparkling waters of the Hermanus Lagoon, The Thatch House is the perfect holiday for travellers in search of solitude and absolute exclusivity.

This luxurious villa consists of four beautiful family suites and two luxury garden suites, each offering a flat-screen digital television, complimentary Wi-Fi connection, 100% percale linen, an extra-length kingsize bed and a separate dressing room. Large ensuite bathrooms come with heated towel rails and separate toilets and bidets. All suites open up to a private terrace with picturesque views of the lagoon, the garden or the mountains. For dinner, you can choose from one of the many excellent restaurants in Hermanus or opt to stay in and prepare a meal for yourself in the beautiful, fully-equipped kitchen; alternatively, we can arrange for a qualified chef to take care of all your culinary requirements.

DAY 11

Today, after tucking into a wholesome breakfast, you will set off for an exhilarating ocean experience. The day offers the opportunity to choose between an unforgettable whale watching activity and a thrilling shark cage diving experience; however, if the choice is too difficult you can opt to do both!

Whale Watching:

Whales won't be the only things you'll see on this exceptional 2½ hour adventure. Your boat will launch in the quaint harbour of Kleinbaai, in Gansbaai, which will make its way toward the Pearly Beach area — which is home to the southern right whale. Afterwards, you will venture towards renowned Dyer Island for excellent penguin and seabird viewing, and then to Geyser Rock to view the curious antics of Cape fur seals. Between these two islands is the notorious "shark alley" where you may be fortunate enough to view the spectacular great white shark.

Shark Cage Diving:

This adventure is ideal for thrill-seekers and nature enthusiasts alike. You can experience the excitement of being face-to-face with a shark, inside the protection of a submerged cage. Your day begins early in the quaint coastal village of Gansbaai, at the Great White House. Safety is paramount. Guests will sit down to a brief introductory talk with a marine biologist, before being fitted with lifejackets. Snacks, soft drinks, wetsuits and waterproof jackets are included. After your excursion/s, you will have the option to spend the rest of your day exploring your surrounds with a choice of additional adventures such as boat cruising, 4x4 trails and sea kayaking. For dinner, you can choose from one of the

many excellent restaurants in Hermanus or opt to stay in and prepare a meal for yourself in the beautiful, fully-equipped kitchen; alternatively, we can arrange for a qualified chef to take care of all your culinary requirements.

DAY 12

Today, you will travel to Cape Town in style as you are picked up in a chauffeur-driven vintage World War II motorcycle with a sidecar. Revel in magnificent views of the Cape as you are driven to your hotel at Cape Town's Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. With Table Mountain – one of the most spiritual places on earth – at its heart and two oceans at its feet, the city of Cape Town, strategically situated at the south-western tip of Africa, has been famed for centuries as the Tavern of the Seas. Vibrant, cosmopolitan and an eclectic mix of old and new, this laidback city is as much at home with its 17th century castle – whose cannons have *never* been fired in anger – as it is with its sleek skyscrapers and trendy malls. Home to South Africa's first mosque, oldest wine farm, a 350-year-old garden and timelessly beautiful beaches, it's no surprise the legendary Flying Dutchman and his spectral ship have spent eternity sailing the city's shores.

Check into The One Above Penthouse at the One&Only Cape Town, where you will spend your last three nights in South Africa. Your stay includes accommodation, breakfast, evening canapés, local nonalcoholic beverages, transport to Cape Town International Airport, 24-hour butler service, a private chef and Wi-Fi.

Situated on the top floor of the elegant One&Only Cape Town, The One Above Penthouse is a luxurious private villa that looks out onto the popular V&A Waterfront. Sprawling over two stories, the penthouse boasts four spacious bedrooms decorated in a style that is modern and clean while retaining an aura of sheer indulgence. Elegant living and dining areas feature wraparound terraces that look out onto panoramic views over the city, as well as the iconic landmarks of Robben Island and Table Mountain. The penthouse offers an outdoor bar and entertainment area, as well as a rooftop pool. Spend the rest of the afternoon enjoying your villa, which includes two private swimming pools, a gym and a sauna, as you make the most of the magnificent views it offers. This evening dinner will be at the Cape Colony Restaurant at the Belmond Mount Nelson Hotel. You will enjoy a welcome cocktail at the stylish *Planet Champagne and Cocktail Bar*, a four-course dinner menu, a chef's apron for each guest, a signed menu from the Executive Chef and tea and coffee with friandise.

DAY 13 & 14

A thrilling selection of family adventures is available for you to choose from: Explore the scenic city of Cape Town on a family adventure that begins with a ride on the revolving cable car up to the top of iconic Table Mountain. Marvel at spectacular views over the city and the entire Cape Peninsula as you stroll along its flat top or, if the weather is not favourable, explore the smaller peak known as Signal Hill. Get kitted out with a wetsuit and snorkelling gear and spend the afternoon in the water, frolicking with Cape fur seals. Don't forget your camera for plenty of unforgettable shots! Head into the dunes to master the basics of sand boarding (or bum boarding for the very little ones) and then set off on an off-road quad bike adventure (younger children can travel safely on the back of a parent's bike). The trail twists and winds through sand and bush, offering climbs, descents, technical sections and flat out straights. Head to the Bo-Kaap, the oldest Malay settlement in South Africa, where brightly coloured houses vie for space with mosques and shops. Lunch and dinner is at the Bo-kaap Kombuis Restaurant, where spicy and fragrant dishes are savoured over spectacular views of Table Mountain and the city below. Ride a horse along the beach, keeping an eye out for diverse bird species, lizards and even dolphins. Explore the spectacular landscapes of the West Coast riding a powerful quad bike along designated trails.

DAY 14

After breakfast you will be driven to the V&A Waterfront, where you will board a luxury yacht for a half-day cruise on the ocean waters. Cruise the beautiful Cape coastline, marvelling at rich marine life and magnificent views of the shore, with its golden beaches and soaring mountains. Be spoiled by a full crew and a dedicated stewardess serving a selection of snacks, as well as local wines and beers. Enjoy your last night in Africa by having the chef at your villa prepare your favourite local meal or enjoy dinner at the restaurant at the One&Only.

DAY 15

After breakfast, a chauffeured luxury vehicle will take you back to Cape Town International Airport, where your adventure with us will end.