

## **EXPLORE THE HINTERLANDS OF THE CAPE WITH MONTAGU AS YOUR BASE. A FIVE-DAY ITINERARY**

Make Montagu in the Breede River Winelands your base from where to see the Cape. Drive to the South towards Cape Town (2 hours) and you drive into the Boland. Drive to the North towards Barrydale (45 minutes) and you drive through the Fruit Pantry of in the Klein Karoo. Drive to Cape Agulhas (1 hour, 15 minutes) to the Southernmost Point of Africa, and you can watch whales in the Overberg (over the mountain) region and swim in the luxury of the Indian Ocean.

### **Itinerary for 5 days with Montagu in the Breede River Winelands as your base.**

#### **DAY 1: MONTAGU-WORCESTER-TULBACH-CERES-BURGER'S PASS**

Drive through Cogmans kloof, the natural gateway in or out of Montagu, today a declared national Monument. The tunnel, constructed by Thomas Bain, was completed in 1877. The historical British Fort built atop the tunnel in 1899 can be visited. an area of magnificent views, panoramic landscapes, towering cliffs, crystal-clear streams, and an abundance of trees and indigenous flora. Stop at the wineries Graham Beck and Rooiberg just after Robertson, for a wine tasting. Onto **Worcester**, Capital of the Breede River Valley, and largest of the Western Cape's three fruit and wine producing valleys. In Worcester you can visit the Kleinplasië Living Open Air Museum and experience life as the pioneers lived in years gone by. Each building is representative of an agricultural industry in the Western Cape during the period 1690 to 1900. Then drive to **Tulbagh**, a charming historical town with a wealth of Cape Dutch architecture. It was extensively damaged in an earthquake in 1969 and has been restored to its old-world splendor, with the largest concentration of National Monuments in South Africa. A walk down historical Church Street, with its many museums and antique shops and art and crafts is not to be missed. The next village we visit is **Ceres**. Oak trees and beautiful architecture abound. Back to Montagu through the magnificent Koo and Keisie valleys with breathtaking views as you drive down the Burger's Pass.

#### **DAY 2: ROBERTSON WINE ROUTE**

Drive the Robertson Wine Route with famous wine farms like **Springfield, Bon Courage, Van Loveren** and **Zandvliet**, to mention but a few. The **KWV Brandy Cellar**, largest of its kind in the world, offers cellar tours and brandy tasting. Enjoy a 1 hour boat trip on the Breede River at Viljoensdrift – with a picnic lunch on or off the boat.

#### **DAY 3: MONTAGU-SWELLENDAM-SUURBRAAK-BARRYDALE-MONTAGU**

Today we drive the scenic R60 to **Swellendam**, a charming town that was founded as a military outpost in 1745. Together with Tulbagh, it is the third oldest town in South Africa and has many beautiful Cape Dutch, Cape Georgian and Cape Victorian buildings dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century, including the old Drostdy, now part of the museum complex. The Bontebok National Park is 6km south of town. From Swellendam we drive through **Suurbraak**, a mission station, and over the magnificent Tradouw Pass with its pools and waterfalls to **Barrydale**, one of the prettiest villages on the Route 62. It offers unrivalled diversity of vegetation and within a 30km radius. The road back to **Montagu** runs through the fertile fruit growing area with magnificent mountain views.

#### DAY 4: MONTAGU-KEISIE WITH TRACTOR TRIP

On **Wednesdays and Saturdays** at 12h00 you could enjoy a traditional 'potjiekos'-lunch at the Burger's Farm followed by the world famous tractor trip to the summit of the Langeberg through the loveliest 'fynbos'. This is an internationally famous experience, therefore pre-booking is essential.

The tractor, pulling its load of sightseers, meanders its way up the Langeberg Mountain, reaching an altitude of 1500m above sea level. On the way up you will have a bird's eye view of the Koo Valley and, once at the top, you can look down into the Robertson Valley.

To get there from Montagu you drive 29 kilometers up the Burger's Pass (R318). Magnificent Koo and Keisie valleys with breathtaking views as you drive down the Burger's Pass.

#### DAY 5: MONTAGU- BONNIEVALE-STORMSVLEI-BREDASDORP-ELIM-AGULHAS-HERMANUS – BOTRIVIER – GRABOUW – VILLIERSDORP- WORCESTER - MONTAGU

Drive through **Bonnievale** and **Stormsvlei** to **Bredasdorp** where we visit the fascinating Shipwreck Museum. A visit to the nearby little mission station of **Elim** with its Moravian church and picturesque cottages is a must. The entire village is a National Monument and nobody may live there unless a member of the church. The old watermill (1833), the largest wooden water mill in SA was renovated in 1990 and is again to grind wheat. Onto **Agulhas** the Southernmost tip of Africa, where the needle of the compass shows no deviation between true north and magnetic north, and the Indian and Atlantic oceans meet. The lighthouse at Agulhas is the second oldest lighthouse in South Africa, built in 1849 to resemble the Egyptian Pharos-lighthouse at Alexandria.

Then drive on to **Hermanus**. The best land-based whale watching in the world is offered here. The Southern Right whales come to the peaceful waters of Walker Bay to mate and calve each year arriving in June and leaving in November. Because of the cliffs and the resulting deep water, they come as close as a few meters from spectators. The cliff path stretches for 12km from the one end of town to the other, and is well laid out with benches strategically placed along its entire length. This fishing village, established in the late 1800's is an extremely popular tourist destination. From Hermanus drive via **Botrivier**, **Grabouw** and **Villiersdorp** to Worcester, then back to Montagu.