



HOLIDAY EXPERIENCES



**2 Nights Blue Train Experience, Pretoria to Hoedspruit, Mpumalanga
7 Nights at Stone Lodge, Lydenbyrg, Mpumalanga**

OBJECT OF DESIRE

31 December 2027 - 08 January 2028 (Couples)

10 Days of Teetering on Top of a Hill



The Blue Train offers a unique way of traversing some of South Africa's magnificent landscapes and landmarks. The word "luxury" is often inaccurately tossed around. However, on this train luxury assumes a new direction. On board, we indulge in fine cuisine accompanied by some of the best wines South Africa, if not the world, has to offer. Personal butlers are at back-and-call, to see to our every need, be it in the comfort of our private suites or at any one of the exquisite lounges. The strap line, "A window to the soul of South Africa", says it all.

Set on acres of farmland, with unbridled nature sweeping every viewpoint, Stone Lodge comprises a maze of an organic vegetable garden, young olive groves, lavender and rose abundance of hiking, biking, and meandering trails to explore to your heart's content. Each room has been beautifully appointed with the finest linens and furnishings, a gorgeous, grand farm-style country kitchen, copious entertaining and relaxing rooms, long terraces and cosy reading nooks, ample open fireplaces and a fabulous bar and billiards room. It's the perfect place for when the whole clan gathers together and lets the magic of those special get-together moments unfold.

Day 1: New Year's Eve Celebration on the Blue Train

Today we are chauffeur driven from our homes to Bosman Station in Pretoria.

After breakfast at Blue Crane Restaurant, Nieuw Muckleneuck, we head out to Bosman Station to board the iconic hotel on wheels, The Blue Train for our Mpumalanga journey.

We board The Blue Train for our New Year's Eve celebration as we journey to the Kruger National Park.

In the afternoon we enjoy a Black Tie 5-course gourmet New Year's Eve lunch paired with South African wines.

Later in the afternoon High Tea is served.

In the evening we enjoy pre-dinner drinks.

And then we have a five-course supper.



Day 2: Off-the-train Excursion



The Blue Train arrives at Numbi Train Station. We disembark and are transferred through Numbi Gate in open safari vehicles to sunrise game drive conducted by professional tour guides.

After the sunrise game drive, we enjoy a bush breakfast at an exclusive unfenced location inside the Kruger National Park.

After breakfast, we return to the Blue Train.

Later a five-course gourmet lunch is served in the Blue Train.

In the late afternoon we are transferred to Numbi Gate for a sunset game drive. The Sunset Game Drive takes place on the Nkambeni concession.

The Nkambeni concession represents an area of approximately 11 400 hectares and lies between the main entrance gates of Numbi and Phabeni and stretches past Shabeni Koppie near Pretoriuskop camp.



After the sunset game drive, we enjoy a spectacular boma dinner at Nkambeni Safari Camp before we are transferred back to The Blue Train where we enjoy post-dinner drinks, cognacs, and Cuban cigars in the before retiring to bed.

Day 3: Disembark the Blue Train



Today we spend the morning at leisure on the Blue Train with 5 course breakfast and lunch.

After lunch we disembark the Blue Train and take a two-hour road trip to Stone Lodge in Lydenburg.

Check in at Stone Lodge.

Supper at the Lodge.

Day 4: Sunday Chillas

Today we spend our morning at leisure at the lodge enjoy the facilities or do what one's heart desires.

Later in the afternoon its we get down for a Sunday Chillas with a fully stocked bar. The DJ is behind the decks dishing out our favourite tunes to our hearts' content.

Lunch and supper included.



Day 5: Blyde River Canyon Experience

This morning after breakfast we hit the road and go to the Blyde River Canyon, the world's famous for its natural beauty, breathtaking viewpoints and magnificent waterfalls.



During this tour we visit spectacular attractions along the way including the Lisbon Falls just outside the tourist town of Graskop. From there we catch the first glimpse of the 2km Blyde River Canyon as we travel alongside it to the Three Rondavels which provides breathtaking panoramic views of the Canyon and the Lowveld from a high vantage point.

We then make our way back along the Canyon to Bourke's Luck Potholes where the Canyon starts at the confluence of the Treur and Blyde Rivers.

From there we head off to the legendary God's Window. Just one look down and one understands why it's called God's Window. With magnificent views canyons, rock formations, waterfalls, God's Window is truly

We take a pit stop for lunch at Blue Mountain Retreat.

After lunch we continue our Blyde River Canyon experience, this time from the river, by taking a scenic boat ride, and see the canyon from the angle it's supposed to be seen, at the base of towering mountains that form the breathtaking views.

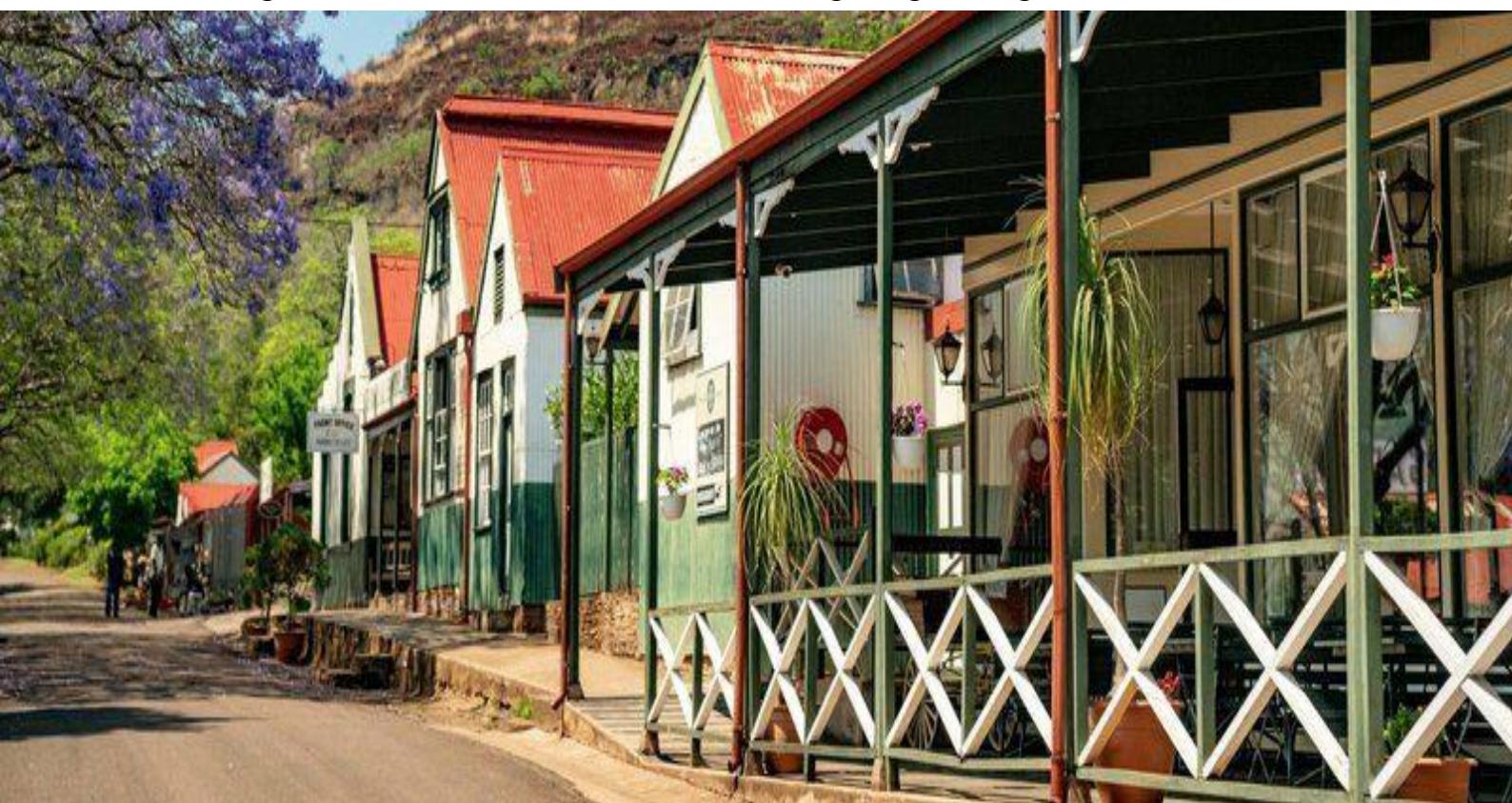
Later we return to the lodge for supper.



Day 6: Gold Rush

Breakfast

This morning after breakfast we visit the historic mining village of Pilgrim's Rest.



Today we journey back to the days of the gold rush with a visit to the old mining town of Pilgrim's Rest. We tour museums and historic sites to learn about the quest for gold in this part of South Africa during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The town's origins dates back to 1873 when gold was discovered by a miner. Following an additional discovery by a second prospector, hordes of people flocked to the area and the town quickly grew.

Pilgrim's Rest extends along one main road and is lined with shops, restaurants, museums and hotels.

We make your way to Alanglade House Museum, the former residence of the mine manager. We walk through rooms that have been furnished with period items from the early 20th century.

We also visit the Old Cemetery and look for the tombstone that face in a different direction to all the others. This is the grave of an unnamed robber who was chased out of town after being caught stealing. His body was found a few days later.

Just outside of town is Diggings Site Museum, where we witness gold-panning demonstrations and see machinery from the early mining days.

We stop by the neo-gothic Methodist church and the Anglican church, which were built in 1884. There is also a Catholic church with a German organ from 1846.

There are plenty of places to eat and drink at Pilgrim's Rest, we have a drink in the Royal Hotel. Its bar was once a Roman Catholic chapel of a school in Cape Town.

Lunch at Graden Shed Restaurant.

Return to the lodge for supper.

Day 7: For the Adrenalin Rush



Today after breakfast we head out to Graskop Gorge Lift Company for a full day of adventure, entertainment and fun. Activities here include:

- The Lift which takes us 51m down the face of the gorge into the indigenous forest below. At the forest we enjoy a walk in the Afromontane Forest, where a trail of elevated walkways and suspension bridge await.
- The Zipline gives a bird's eye view of the gorge.
- The Big Swing is all about adrenaline rush. Freefall 70m into the forest under 3 seconds.
- The Suspension Bridge requires one to hold one's breath and venture across 52m suspension bridge, 70m above the gorge.

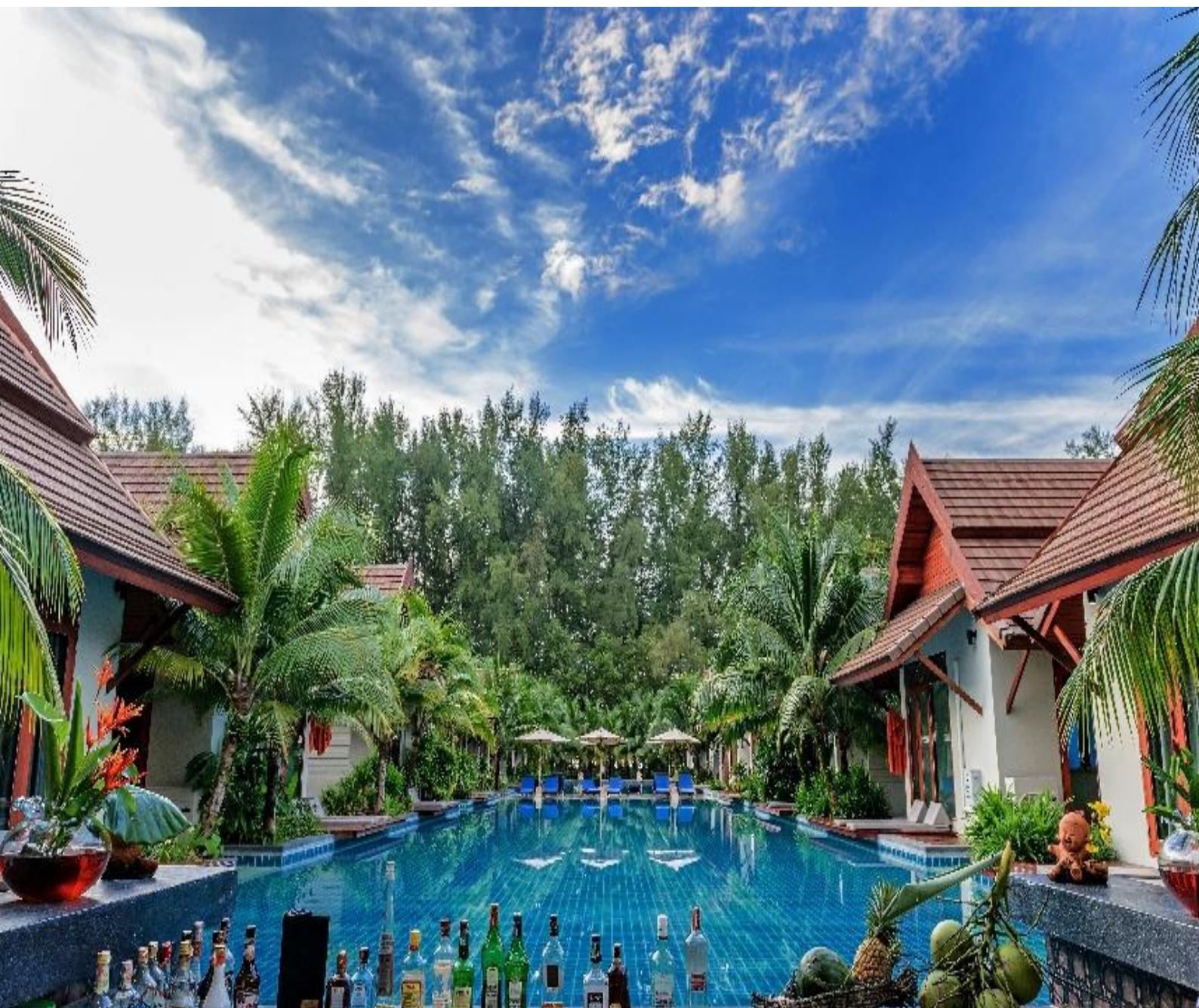
For lunch (own account) there is a choice of two cafés: Swing Café – a laid back chill zone that invites one to Get Delicious, Real Quick! Enjoy flame grilled chicken and more at the Lift Café which is a spacious and inviting restaurant and bar with the most spectacular views.

Later we return to the hotel for supper.

Day 8: Pool Party

We wake up this morning for breakfast and spend the morning at leisure to recuperate from last night's festivities.

Later in the afternoon we put on those swimming costumes and shorts for a Pool Party with spit braai lunch and supper, fully stocked bar and music entertainment.



Day 9: Home Sweet Home

This Morning after breakfast we say goodbye to Mpumalanga as we take a three and half hour's road trip back home.

We take a detour in Dullstroom for lunch at Mrs. Simpson.

Lunch is followed by whiskey tasting at Wild About Whiskey. This bar claims to have the second largest whiskey selection in the world and the largest in the Southern Hemisphere. They offer 50 different tastings along with gin, brandy and other spirits.

Thereafter we take the last mile of the road as we hit the road again for Gauteng.

On arrival in Gauteng we are chauffeured to our respective homes.



Travel Bucks™

Your accommodation includes two nights on board the Blue Train and seven nights at Stone Lodge

Accommodate Type	Travel Bucks™ Sharing
Blue Train and Stone Lodge	582 149TB

Booking Terms and Conditions:

Very Important:

David Saint cannot guarantee that the information relating to pricing, itineraries and availability will remain unchanged after publication on this website.

The following is a summary of the salient components of the terms and conditions. Visit our website for full and detailed Terms and Conditions.

1. Bookings:

- Bookings are confirmed on condition that at the time when a booking is made, there is a minimum balance of 70% in the Travel Bucks™ Account.

- b) Travel Companions will be advised at the time of booking as to the Travel Bucks™ required for the said booking.
- c) The balance in respect of Travel Bucks™ in the Travel Bucks™ Account must be accumulated no less than eight weeks prior to departure.

2. Price fluctuations:

- a) The cost associated with the travel arrangements are not always stable, and currency movements can fluctuate. It is therefore impossible to predict these movements in advance. David Saint therefore reserves the right to pass on any fluctuations and surcharges to Travel Companions until the full value of the booking is covered by Travel Bucks™ in the Travel Bucks™ Account.
- b) Airfares are subject to the prices and conditions quoted by the particular airlines and cannot be guaranteed by David Saint.

3. Flight and Other Travel Timings:

- a) Flight timings are provided by airlines and are subject to Air Traffic Control restrictions.
- b) All means of transportation are subject to weather conditions, the need for constant maintenance, and the ability of passengers to check-in on time.