

# 35<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

27 AUGUST - 4 SEPTEMBER 2016 | CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA



PRE 4

## Karoo transect

**TOUR LEADER: Roger Smith and  
Bruce Rubidge**



Basin development, palaeolandscapes and depositional sedimentary environments along a 100 My transect through the Karoo Supergroup with superb three-dimensional exposures containing tetrapod and plant fossil assemblages, therapsid and dinosaur trackways, and the End-Permian and End-Triassic mass extinction events. Return journey to Cape Town is along the scenic Garden Route.

**Field Trip Leaders: Roger Smith and Bruce Rubidge**

**Start: Cape Town**

**End: Cape Town**

**Dates: 9 days, Friday 19th to Saturday 27th August 2016**

## ITINERARY

DATE	ROUTING
19 Aug 2016	Matjiesfontein - Lord Milner Hotel or Similar
20 Aug 2016	Fraserburg - Herberg Country Inn or Similar
21 Aug 2016	Beaufort West - Lemoenfontein Game Lodge or Similar
22 Aug 2016	Graaff Reinet - Drostdy Hotel or Similar
23 Aug 2016	Aliwal North - Umtali Country Inn or Similar
24 Aug 2016	Barkly East - Mountain Shadows Hotel or Similar
25 Aug 2016	Addo Area - Kuzuko Lodge or Similar
26 Aug 2016	Wilderness - The Wilderness Hotel or Similar
27 Aug 2016	Return to Cape Town
	END OF TOUR

<b>19-Aug-16</b>	<b>Friday</b>	At 09h00 you will be met at the CTICC by your driver, who will transfer you to Matjiesfontein. At 13h00 you will check in at the Lord Milner Hotel, and you will enjoy lunch as a group in dining room. After lunch at 14h00, you will be transferred to Laingsburg - Stop 1: Gats River bed arr. 14h30 Walk river bed Dwyka diamictites, PA shale dropstones, Collingham turbidites, tuffs and eurypterid tracks. At 17h00 you will be transferred back to the Lord Milner Hotel in Matjiesfontein, where you will enjoy dinner at 19h30.
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<b>In :</b> <b>19-Aug-16</b>	<b>Out:</b> <b>20-Aug-16</b>	<p><b>Overnight at Lord Milner Hotel</b>  <b>- Historic Hotel Classic Room / Douglas Garden Cottage or Similar</b>  <b>Includes:</b> Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner  <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities</p>
		<p>This 120-year-old establishment, with its fine dining, the Laird's Arms Pub, an eclectic mix of bygones &amp; museums, and the renowned Coffee House, cater to the taste of the modern day explorer and history enthusiast alike. The surrounding 3000ha farm is accessible to hotel residents for veld walks, trails and mountain biking. Along with the Karoo's blood-red sunsets, remarkable fauna and flora and its age-old traditions, Matjiesfontein and the Lord Milner Hotel give itself over to the ultimate tranquil escape.</p>

<b>20-Aug-16</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	At 09h00 you will be transferred to Sutherland via Verlatenkloof - Stop 2: Channel sandstones in Verlatenkloof Pass. From here you will continue to Sutherland - Stop 3: Amphibian Trackway surface onto observatory. From 13h00 – 15h00 you can enjoy a picnic lunch and walk around the visitor centre at the Astronomical Observatory, where you could possibly enjoy a guided tour of SALT. From here you will continue on to Fraserburg - Stop 4: 16h00 - 17h00 Tapinocephalus Assemblage Zone (AZ) dinocephalian and dicynodont trackways and crevasse splay palaeosurface features. At 17h00 you will be transferred to the Herberg Country Inn in Fraserburg, where you will enjoy dinner at 19h30.
		<b>Includes:</b> Picnic Lunch SALT Guided Tour at Sutherland Astronomical Observatory

<b>In :</b> <b>20-Aug-16</b>	<b>Out:</b> <b>21-Aug-16</b>	<b>Overnight at Herberg Country Inn – Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Dinner and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
		The country-style accommodation is simple yet elegant with all bedding provided. The rooms are furnished with antique furniture and have that country-living feel. Guest can relax on the patio, take a dip in the swimming pool or simply take a stroll through the small town.

<b>21-Aug-16</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	At 09h00 you will be transferred via Oukloof Pass - Stop 5: Wilgeboschkloof – fossils of Tropidostoma AZ walk from roadside quarry to Diictodon – rich outcrop. Stop 6 Picnic lunch at Eunosaurus locality in Oukloof Pass. 14h00 -15h00 Drive to Putfontein Stop 7 Walk circular route on beautifully preserved crevasse splay sandstone palaeosurface at base of Poortjie member 16h30 – 17h00 drive through Beaufort West to Lemoenfontein Game Lodge. 19h30 Dinner
		<b>Includes:</b> Picnic Lunch

<b>In :</b> <b>21-Aug-16</b>	<b>Out:</b> <b>22-Aug-16</b>	<b>Overnight at Lemoenfontein Game Lodge – Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Dinner and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages, Gratuities and Game Drives
		Set in the vast expanse of the South African Great Karoo, this beautiful homestead/lodge dates back to 1850. Built slowly and soundly to the exacting standards and architectural style of the time, the building remains unchanged with characteristic high ceilings, original wooden floors and wide verandas which offer guests a sweeping panoramic view of the Karoo landscape. The homestead is a haven for the world weary traveller, and for those who want to escape city life and experience the beauty, silence and unassuming simplicity of the vast open spaces.

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<b>22-Aug-16</b>	<b>Monday</b>	At 09h00 you will be transferred via Beaufort West to Graaff – Reinet. At 11h30 you will check in at Drostdy Hotel, where you could make use of the restrooms and enjoy a quick cup of coffee. At 12h00 you will continue up the Ouberg Pass to Doornplaats. From 13h00 – 14h00 - Stop 8: Picnic Lunch at the house before walking along riverbed behind the house up to waterfall - back along track looking at Cistecephalus AZ strata and fossils. From 16h00 – 17h00 you will be transferred back to the Valley of Desolation - Stop 9: Dolerite/Camdeboo overview, and sundowners. At 17h15 you will be transferred back to the Dodsty Hotel, where you will enjoy dinner at 19h30.
		<b>Includes:</b> Picnic Lunch Camdeboo National Park Entrance Fee Sundowners

<b>In :</b> <b>22-Aug-16</b>	<b>Out:</b> <b>23-Aug-16</b>	<b>Overnight at Drostdy Hotel – Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Dinner and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
		Drostdy Hotel is situated in the beautiful town of Graaff-Reinet which was established in 1786 and is South Africa’s fourth oldest magisterial district. The town contains over 220 heritage sites which is more than any other town in South Africa and has examples of magnificent Cape Dutch, Victorian and Karoo architecture.

<b>23-Aug-16</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	At 09h00 you will be transferred to Wellwood. At 10h00 - Stop 10: Tour of Wellwood Fossil Museum and farm. At 11h00 you will continue up old Wapadsberg Pass. At 12h00 - Stop 11: PTB walk through a mass extinction. From 13h00 – 14h00 enjoy a Picnic Lunch on the boundary / weather permitting. At 14h00 continue on to Middelburg – Burgersdorp - Stop 12: Burgersdorp Fm sandstone/mudstone section in roadcut. Stop 13 Steynsberg Cynognathus Zone Silicified Triassic logs in churchwall. At 15h30 you will be transferred via Burgersdorp and on to Aliwal North, where you will arrive at Umtali Country Inn at 17h50. You will enjoy dinner at 19h30.
		<b>Includes:</b> Picnic Lunch

<b>In :</b> 23-Aug-16	<b>Out:</b> 24-Aug-16	<b>Overnight at Umtali Country Inn – Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Dinner and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
		The Umtali Country Inn has been welcoming friends, business professionals, families, travelers and adventurers for more than 60 years. Situated half-way between Bloemfontein and East-London, it is the perfect base to take a break, explore the surrounding area and participate in a variety of outdoor activities. The Umtali Country Inn offers well apportioned rooms, conference venues, a swimming pool and secure parking in relaxed, quiet surroundings that exude old-world charm. The Umtali Country Inn takes pride in the friendliness of their staff, the comfort and cleanliness of their rooms, and their hearty meals.

<b>24-Aug-16</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	At 09h00 you will be transferred to Lady Grey. From 09h00 - 10h00 Stop 14: Molteno Fm roadcut section – sedimentology of a humid braid plain. From 11h30 – 13h00 you will be transferred to the top of Barkly Pass (Mountain Shadows Hotel). You will enjoy a Picnic Lunch from 13h00 – 14h00. At 14h00 continue on to the base of the pass. Stop 15: From 14h30 -17h00 Slow walk up Barkly Pass – lower Elliot to Upper Elliot to Clarens – spectacular fluvial redbed succession culminating in aeolian dunes with conchostracan strewn playa facies and Drakensberg volcanics. From 17h00 – 17h30 you will be transferred to Mountain Shadows Hotel, where you will enjoy dinner at 19h30.
		<b>Includes:</b> Picnic Lunch

<b>In :</b> 24-Aug-16	<b>Out:</b> 25-Aug-16	<b>Overnight at The Mountain Shadows Hotel – Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Dinner and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
		The Mountain Shadows Hotel is situated amongst the picturesque mountains of the Southern Drakensberg Mountains, in the heart of the Eastern Cape. The hotel is at the top of the Barkly Pass with a height of 1990 meter above sea level. In the Drakensberg range, each season has its own beauty and sandstone formations form part of the environment.

<b>25-Aug-16</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	At 09h00 you will be transferred via Grahamstown to the Addo National Park region. There will be some geology, but mainly touristic activities. Arrive at Kuzuko Lodge, where you will enjoy an evening game drive and dinner.
		<b>Includes:</b> Lunch on route Evening Game Drive at Kuzuko Lodge

	<b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
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<b>In : 25-Aug-16    Out : 26-Aug-16</b>	<b>Overnight at Kuzuko Lodge - Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Boma Dinner, and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities <b>Activities Included:</b> Evening and Morning Game Drive  *Minimum 8 guests required for a Boma Dinner
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	Located just to the north of the malaria-free Addo Elephant National Park in South Africa's Eastern Cape Province, Kuzuko Lodge is set in a 15 000ha private concession with uninterrupted views of the plains below. Between exhilarating game drives, guests can relax around the sparkling swimming pool, on the viewing decks or indulge in a beauty or spa relaxation treatment at the wellness centre. The on-site restaurant serves up delicious meals and pastries and meals are enjoyed on the outdoor decks.
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<b>26-Aug-16            Friday</b>	Enjoy an early morning game drive at Kuzuko Lodge. After breakfast, you will be transferred to Wilderness. Touristic things on the way ie Tsitsikamma Forest Storms River Bridge, Natures Valley, and visit to Knysna Heads. Upon your arrival at The Wilderness Hotel, enjoy a stroll along the pristine white-sand beach, followed by a sundowner before your dinner.
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	<b>Includes:</b> Morning Game Drive at Kuzuko Game Lodge Lunch on route Tsitsikamma National Park and Nature's Valley Entrance Fees  <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
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<b>In :                    Out: 26-Aug-16            27-Aug-16</b>	<b>Overnight at The Wilderness Hotel – Standard Room or Similar</b> <b>Includes:</b> Dinner and Breakfast <b>Excludes:</b> Beverages and Gratuities
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	The Wilderness Hotel is situated about 45 minute's drive to both Mossel Bay and Knysna on the Garden Route. The hotel is steeped in tradition and it's got a warm, old-style charm, but it's also a modern hotel with all the facilities a traveller might need. The property boasts a beauty spa, two swimming pools, a bowling green, two tennis courts and a squash court.
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<b>27-Aug-16            Saturday</b>	After breakfast you will be transferred to the CTICC in Cape Town via Kleinmond, Bettys Bay, Gordons Bay. Enjoy your last Picnic Lunch overlooking the sea at Gordons Bay or Rooi Els. At 15h00 continue on to Cape Town, where you will arrive at the CTICC at 17h00.
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	<b>Includes:</b>
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**Meal Key**

BB	Bed and Breakfast
DBB	Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
DBB+	Dinner, Bed and Breakfast plus one additional activity
DBB++	Dinner, Bed and Breakfast plus two additional activities
FB	Full Board (includes 3 meals per day)
FB+	Full Board (includes 3 meals per day) plus one additional service
FB++	Full Board (includes 3 meals per day) plus two additional services
FI	Fully Inclusive (includes all meals and local drinks), plus all activities

**Minimum Persons 14****Maximum Persons 30****COST INCLUDES:**

- 01 Night accommodation at Lord Milner Hotel on a FB basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at Herberg Country Inn on a DBB basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at Lemoenfontein Game Lodge on a DBB basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at Drostdy Hotel on a DBB basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at Umtali Country Inn on a DBB basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at Mountain Shadows Hotel on a DBB basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at Kuzuko Lodge on a DBB++ basis or similar
- 01 Night accommodation at The Wilderness Hotel on a DBB basis or similar
- 09 x lunch (Picnic Lunches or Lunches en-route)
- 08 x dinner
- Transport in private touring vehicles
- Local English speaking driver on all transfers
- Driver meals & accommodation where necessary
- Entrance fees to sightseeing venues as stated in the itinerary above

**COST EXCLUDES**

- All airfares, air reservations and airport taxes
- All other accommodation
- All other meals
- All beverages
- All other transport
- All portage
- All other sightseeing
- Personal expenses such as tips for meals, gratuities for guides & drivers, all alcoholic and other beverages, telephone calls and laundry
- Any other services not mentioned above