



GWAQWA
CULTURAL IMMERSION CAMINO
IN THE EASTERN FREE STATE



About Our Guide

Sabata is passionate about showcasing the beauty and culture of his hometown to visitors and locals alike. With his background in performing arts and his newfound love for tourism, he hopes to not only contribute to the economic growth of the area but also preserve the heritage and history of QwaQwa for future generations. Sabata is dedicated to making a positive impact in his community through his business ventures and is excited about the potential for growth and development in the tourism industry in QwaQwa



THE QWAQWA CULTURAL CAMINO covers a visit to the **BaKoena ba Mopeli** royal family, and palace, story-telling, hiking trails, educational tours and traditional Basotho culture and cuisine.

Overnights at **Witsieshoek Mountain Lodge**, and hikes in the spectacular **Tugela Valley** with a choice of the well-known **Sentinal Peak**, **Beacon Buttress Gully**, or **Gudu Trail** hiking trails.

You will experience sleeping at the **Bothobapelo Country Lodge** which includes a hike to the historical **Bashoeshoe Caves**, educational tours, traditional food tasting and donkey car rides.



Visit well-known dams and historic heritage sites in the area and to end it off on a high note, enjoy a guided tour at the **Basotho Cultural Village**.

Dinner, bed and breakfast is included.

“ THE WORLD REVEALS ITSELF TO THOSE WHO TRAVEL ON FOOT ” -Werner Hertzog



About Phuthaditjhaba (Originally Witsieshoek)

It is a town in the Free State, located in a section of the Drakensberg Mountains (Maloti in the Sesotho language). It borders the province of KwaZulu-Natal to the south east and the independent country of Lesotho to the south west. The town was capital of the Bantustan, or homeland of QwaQwa. When apartheid ended, the town became part of the Free State province.





QWAQWA CULTURAL CAMINO

4 Days | 5 Nights

GROUP SIZE: 6-10

*Includes Bed, Breakfast and Dinner, Guide, and Travelling to all route destinations.

*Shared Accommodation. *Surcharge for single rooms (on availability)*

Parking is available for your vehicles for the duration of your Cultural Camino Experience.





ARRIVAL DAY

Arrival by 12h00 at the **Pink Tricycle Tea Room** for a light lunch (provided), and briefing meeting shortly thereafter with information being shared about this once in a lifetime experience.


Pilgrims are transported to overnight at **Witsieshoek Mountain Lodge** in Phuthaditjhaba at 14h00.

Dinner is served at **Witsieshoek Restaurant** from 7pm.



Shuttle to **Witsieshoek Mountain Lodge**

 **SINGLE & DOUBLE BEDS
BEDDING PROVIDED**

 **DINNER: SIT DOWN
BREAKFAST: SIT DOWN**

Accommodation depends on group size, and sharing preferences.

ACTIVITIES



DAY ONE


Breakfast is at 07h00. After breakfast your group departs for guided walk. There is a choice between 2 routes: Our adventurers will hike to the **Tugela Valley**, (13.13 kms) where you have a choice of going the chain route (12kms) to **Sentinel Peak**, or up the **Beacon Buttress** gully (17.16kms).

A guide can only be made available for one of the routes and not both.

An alternative route is available for pilgrims with a fear of heights. **The Gudu Falls** (6.87kms), is a beautiful and scenic trail that is enjoyed by all nature lovers.



 **SINGLE & DOUBLE BEDS
BEDDING PROVIDED**

 **DINNER: SIT DOWN
BREAKFAST: SIT DOWN**

ACTIVITIES



DAY TWO


Another buffet-style breakfast is served in the restaurant from 07h00. Pilgrims then hike from **Witsieshoek Mountain Lodge** all the way to the **Metsi Matsho Dam** (14.3kms).

Our pilgrims are then transported from the **Metsi Matsho Dam** to overnight in Phuthaditjhaba at either **Epic Den Lodge** or **Up 2 Date Guest House**.

Enjoy a traditional dinner at **HaMagriza's Indigenous Restaurant & Co-Working Hub**.



 **SINGLE & DOUBLE BEDS
BEDDING PROVIDED**

 **DINNER: SIT DOWN
BREAKFAST: SIT DOWN**

ACTIVITIES





DAY THREE

An interesting Educational Tour of *Phuthaditjhaba* (14.16kms) starts after breakfast at **HaMagriza's Indigenous Restaurant & Co-Working Hub**. Discover more about the rich *Basotho* culture and history while visiting the associated sites.

After the tour, pilgrims will be transported to the **Bothobapelo Country Lodge**, where they will overnight at this charming lodging establishment where you will experience true African culture, nature and hospitality. Dinner is served in the dining room.



SINGLE & DOUBLE BEDS
BEDDING PROVIDED



DINNER: SIT DOWN
BREAKFAST: SIT DOWN

ACTIVITIES



DAY FOUR

After breakfast, pilgrims will have an option of walking along 2 trails. Either, a hike of 15.03kms, or a shorter route of 6.87kms, to the historical **Bashoeshoe Caves**.

After the hike, a cultural tour will be given at the **Bothobapelo Country Lodge**, an educational experience focused on indigenous plants. The use of plants in a medicinal capacity will be explained and can be tasted, including indigenous food tasting. Donkey car rides round off the tour.

Pilgrims will enjoy dinner and overnight again at this beautiful, welcoming and friendly Lodge.



SINGLE & DOUBLE BEDS
BEDDING PROVIDED



DINNER: SIT DOWN
BREAKFAST: SIT DOWN

ACTIVITIES



DAY FIVE

To end this unforgettable experience of the QwaQwa Cultural Camino on day 5 on your way back to the **Pink Tricycle Tea Room** in Paul Roux, there is a pit stop at the **Basotho Cultural Village**. A guided tour is provided where you will discover authentic Sotho Hospitality, aesthetics and tradition. Visitors are also invited to sample the local beer, which is brewed on site. Items for sale at the village include pottery, fabrics, beadwork, grass hats, mats and baskets, crafted using traditional techniques. Depart from Paul Roux or overnight at **Dunlin B&B**, (bookings for their own expense).



Shuttle to Pink Tricycle in Paul Roux



SINGLE & DOUBLE BEDS
BEDDING PROVIDED



DINNER: SIT DOWN
BREAKFAST: SIT DOWN

PAUL ROUX VILLAGE

ACTIVITIES





WHAT TO PACK

Water bottle
Hat
Sunblock
Warm jacket
Comfortable walking shoes
Sandals/easy shoes (evenings)
Adaptor (cell phone charger)
Washing powder (small)
Toiletries
Toilet paper
Binoculars

Magnesium supplements:
*Assists with sore muscles and
minimises cramps.*



The QwaQwa Cultural Camino Experience will allow you the opportunity to slow down, experience the upliftment of nature with hikes in tours, and get first-hand experience of the Basotho culture.




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