

Lesotho's 5 passes in a Nutshell

If you're daunted by having to many things to do, or have only limited time – like only one lifetime – this must see - must do list of Protea Safari Tours is the place to start.

Based in the Drakensberg Mountains, The Sani Pass is a steep, zigzagging pass that climbs to an altitude of just under 3 000m and offers official access to the "Roof of Africa". This will be our first pass which is considered a must-do for both South African and International 4x4 enthusiates. The Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho offers several spectacular mountain passes that's on our, to do list for the weekend. Also on our list is places like: The Highest Pub in Africa, Katse Dam tour and Clarence to name just a few.

It is here that you'll find what people travel from all over the world to see – the most incredible panoramic views of the Drakensberg Mountain range. Cristal clear streams and waterfalls, with some luck – SNOW!

Getting there is not for the faint-hearted that said with your 4x4 and Jannie Rykaart your guide for the weekend you should have no problems. We'll be pushing our 4x4's to a reasonable limit, whilst at the same time observing caution for safety.

This trip is a must-do for all 4x4 and Nature Enthusiasts alike – it's a brilliant weekend away and is guaranteed to leave you with plenty of stories to talk about with your friends & family. Ideal for Photographers who yearn to capture the endless open spaces of the Drakensberg.

The itinerary for the 4x4 Weekend is as follows:

Day 1 (7 August 2014)

The group will meet at 17h00 at the Sun Lounge of the Sani Pass Hotel for evening drinks. Get to know your safari companions better. Accommodation will be in the newly renovated 1958 Hotel. Dinner will be served at the Sani Pass Hotel dining room.

Day 2 (8 August 2014)

After an early-morning Breakfast at the Hotel, it's time to explorer the Midlands and the beauty of this famous area. Dinner will be at the newly renowned old Lady of the Berg – Sani Pass Hotel.

Day 3 (9 August 2014)

After an early breakfast at the Hotel our journey starts as we travel deep into the Mountain Kingdom. First we tackle the famous 14km Sani Pass. Scaling the pass is not a race to the top but a leisurely cruise to take in the breathtaking scenery of the rolling Drakensberg with several stops at the viewpoints to enjoy the unfolding scenery below you.

Once we have conquered Sani Pass, we will stop at the Sani Top Pub, the highest pub in Africa, for refreshments to celebrate your victory.

Our next pass will be Black Mountain Pass that is over 3 200m above sea level. This will be the second of three Passes that we plan to conquer on the day. Remember to pack a picnic bag and refreshments for the trip.

The Orion Katse Hotel will be our destination. We will meet at the Hotel Lounge to swop out stories of the day. Dinner and breakfast will be enjoyed here.

Day 4 (10 August 2014)

After breakfast we go on a guided tour of the Katse dam's dam wall. The weather conditions will determine which road we will take from here to Fouriesburg. We have two options with both offering exceptional mountain passes.

The night will be spent on a guest farm on route to Clarence. At the town of the year – Fouriesburg we can relax at a local steakhouse and view the lovely sandstone buildings that made this town famous. After a lekker kuier we go to Oranje Guest farm.

Day 5 (11 August 2014)

This is our last day of the adventure. What about a breakfast at the pictures town of Clarence before you start the journey back home? If you have time, stay a night.

To whet your appetite for this 4x4 Weekend, follow the links below:

Sani Pass - winter Katse Dam Clarens Mafika Lisiu Pass

Space is limited to only 8 couples, book now to avoid disappointment.

The fee includes:

- Hotel/Guest Farm Accommodation.
- Dinner, Bed and Breakfast is included.
- Guide fees and assistance.

- All entrance fees to listed destinations.
- Recovery equipment.
- 2 way radio's for each vehicle.
- Full itinerary of the weekend.
- Border assistance.
- Weekend preparation assistance.

The fee excludes:

- Road & border taxes.
- Any refreshments.
- Fuel.

Weekend Cost:

R7 950-00 per person sharing, children under 12 years will be paying 25% less for the weekend and children under 3 years will be free. None sharing people will be paying 50% more.

A 50% non-refundable deposit will be required with your booking to secure your reservation. The balance will be due 30 days prior to our departure date.

Please feel free to contact Jannie Rykaart (4x4 Trails & Overland Guide - GP5097) your host for the weekend to assist you with any questions concerning information or the planning of your Weekend Outing. The outing is subject to a minimum number of bookings.

E-mail: info@protea4x4.co.za or contact me on my cell phone at 083-268-0566.

Download the **Booking Form**

You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough with Jannie.