



### **TOUR: Johannesburg – Cape Town**

**Time:** 28.2.2009 until 16.3.2009

**Driver:** Mr. G. Burnett

**Section 4:** From Twee Rivieren to Springbok

### **Day 7: Twee-Rivieren - Upington**

Approx. 270 km. The road from the Kgalagadi Park leads through typical Kalahari landscape. It is tarred throughout and gives no problems.

The town of Upington, 70,000 inhabitants, lies directly at the Orange River. Economic and traffic centre of the Northern Cape and gate to the Kalahari. Predominantly Afrikaans. Wine and fruit farming under irrigation. All service facilities - petrol stations, guesthouses, restaurants, supermarkets - available.



**Attractions:** Kalahari Oranje Museum; Kalahari Dried Fruit & Coffee Shop; Sakkie se Arkie River Cruises; wine route along the Orange River, wine tasting; palm avenue on "Die Eiland".

### **Recommended Accommodation:**

**La Bohème Guesthouse (5 Star)**

B&B. Beautiful, tranquil position. Aircond. rooms ensuite.

TV; pool; big garden. The hostess is Swiss.

Rates: B&B approx. 650 Rand pp

Address: 172 Groenpunt Rd, Upington 8801

Tel: 0027 (0)54 338 0660

Contact: Evelyne Meier

Email: [laboheme@mweb.co.za](mailto:laboheme@mweb.co.za)

**Three Gables Guesthouse (4 Star)**

B&B. Charming house in food position near the river; quiet ensuite rooms with air-condition. TV; pool; big garden.

Rates: B&B approx. 450 Rand pp

Address: 34 Bult Street, Upington

Tel: 0027 (0)83 2642982

Contact: Lana Schmidt

Email: [lane.schmidt@mweb.co.za](mailto:lane.schmidt@mweb.co.za)

Further accommodation and travel information for Upington:

<http://www.southafrica-travel.net/kalahari/e6kala01.htm>

There is also a campground in Upington, on "Die Eiland" at the southern banks of the Orange. Usually they still have stands available.

**Restaurant Recommendation:** O'Hagan's Irish Pub + Grill in the centre of town, 20 Schröder St, where one can get real Guinness and hearty food including the traditional South African Potjie, a stew prepared in an ironpot over fire. From the terrace view over the Orange river.

**Special Hint:** Drive to the airport of Upington, about 9 km north of town, and book a scenic flight in a Cessna or a helicopter for late afternoon or next morning. Or contact Johan Kriek who organises these flights. Tel 083 3218707 or 082 8208305. The Kalahari Desert in a bird's-eye view and the Orange River seamed by greenbelts on both banks is well worth the 500 to 1000 Rand, which the memorable experience costs.

### **Day 8: Upington - Au-grabies Falls National Park**

Approx. 12 km. Good road. Drive along the N14 in the direction of Keimoes and Kakamas. From there to Alheit. Turn right and continue for another 30 km. Access is sign-posted.

The National Park extends over 50,000 hectares. Dramatic ravines and one of the highest waterfalls in South Africa. Animal species: Mountain zebra, giraffe, oryx, springbok, kudu, eland, leopard.



**Activities:** Game watching; visit to the waterfall, hiking (short trails or some days long).

**Accommodation:** Overnight in the National Park itself (chalets or camping). The park is usually not crowded and accommodation still available. To be on the safe side: Tel. 0027 (0)54 4529200. Fax 0027 (0)54 451 5003. Central reservations: [augrabiesres@sanparks.org](mailto:augrabiesres@sanparks.org)

**Catering & Service:** Restaurant open daily. Small shop. Swimming Pools..

### **Day 9: Au-grabies Falls – Springbok**

Approx. distance 380 km. Drive back to Kakamas and then on the N14 to Pofadder and Springbok. Good and hardly used road through semi-desert landscape.

Springbok on the N7 is the economic centre of Namaqualand and the main stop-over for the Cape Town - Namibia traffic. About 20,000 inhabitants. All service facilities available like petrol stations, restaurant guesthouses, supermarkets etc.



**Attractions:** "Klipkoppie" a small park with succulents on a granite hill in the centre of town.

**Restaurant Recommendation:** Tauren Steak Ranch in Hospital Street.

### **Recommended Accommodation:**

**Annie's Cottage (4 Star)**

B&B. Tranquil; aircond. ensuite rooms. TV. Pool. Shady garden.

Rates: B&B approx. 400 Rand pp

Address: 4 King Street, Springbok

Tel: 0027 (0)27 7121451

Contact: Pet Trümpelmann

Email: [annie@springbokinfo.com](mailto:annie@springbokinfo.com)

**Naries Namakwa Retreat (4 Star)**

27 km from Springbok near Kleinsee. Country house amidst scenic mountain landscape. Dinner, B&B, pool, hiking, relaxing.

Rates: B&B + Dinner approx. 690 Rand pp

Tel: 0027 (0)27 7122462

Contact: Fanie & Helena van Rooyen

Email: [reservations@naries.co.za](mailto:reservations@naries.co.za)

Springbok also has a campground, on the R355 road, about 3 km south of the town centre. Not too alluring. Tel.: 0027 (0)27 7181584.