

Lesotho Road Trip

Self-Drive Guided Road Trips hosted by Platteland Tours

Duration: 7 Days/6 Nights

Dates: 7th to 13th March 2027 **Fully booked**
Sunday to Saturday

Depart: Total Petroport Heidelberg East on N3 Gauteng
OR at Kestell Hotel in Kestell, Free State

Return: Total Petroport Heidelberg West

Departure time: 08:00 (Route briefing and welcome **at 07:30**)
11:00 at Kestell Hotel

Tour price: R9300 pp sharing
R3500 single supplement

Distances: 1995 km. About 570 km on gravel roads.

Last updated: 2nd November 2026

Tour Details:

Travel in your own vehicle in a convoy through towns that you normally just sped past or don't know exist like Warden and Kestell and many more and smaller towns in Lesotho - Real 'Platteland dorpies'! (Small countryside towns) and then into Lesotho – the Mountain Kingdom.

We want to share with you're the back roads of this country, but you **don't** need a 4x4 vehicle. However, a vehicle with a high ground clearance is essential. Low profile tyres are not recommended.

We'll travel through rural Lesotho where horses, cattle and dogs roam freely. Visits to the Katse Dam and one of the highest waterfalls in Africa are included in the itinerary. You'll experience your neighbouring country like never before.

The scenery in this country, the waterfalls, rivers and nature will all mesmerize you. Discover this hidden gem without traveling too far.

We'll stop en route for sightseeing, snacks, road stalls, photo's, toilets, coffee/tea, tourist destinations and less familiar places. Enjoy the drive and ride in your own vehicle. At night and en route you'll have the opportunity to mix, mingle and have fun with fellow travellers.

There is a lot of photographic opportunities.

Departure & Return Location: Depart from Total Petroport Heidelberg East on N3 (near Vosloorus) and return to the same venue late afternoon on the last day. You can join and/or leave en route. Just inform us accordingly on the Booking Form. I.e.: If you are from KZN, the Free State or Mpumalanga we suggest you meet the group at the **Kestell Hotel** in the town of Kestell, between Bethlehem and Harrismith, on the N5 road.

Price includes: Accommodation for 6 nights (B&B), one dinner, a tour leader with his own vehicle, all administration and leading of the tour (including booking of accommodation, meals & excursions, etc.), high frequency two-way radio per vehicle to use during the tour, lots of relevant info, group safety by traveling together, an electronic travel report with pictures after the tour, daily briefings of the tour, limited vehicle breakdown support, fun, new friends & new routes.

Tour price excludes: Lunches & dinners, fuel & toll gates for vehicles, Comprehensive Travel Insurance, gratuities, entry fees to venues or places, drinks, breakdown recovery costs and personal expenses.

Accommodation: We overnight in good and interesting hotels and lodges, **including breakfast**.

Dinner: All other meals are optional, but budget for about R300+ pp/dinner.

Lunch: Enjoy your own snacks en route. We don't stop for official lunch breaks.

Booking: Complete the Booking Form and send it **with** your Proof of Payment (PoP) for the deposit to us. We'll confirm your booking in writing.

Deposit: At least 25% of the tour price with the booking, another 25% three (3) months before departure date and the outstanding balance by latest 6 weeks before departure date.

If booked within the 3 months period prior to departure of the Road Trip, 50% deposit is required.
If booked within the 6 weeks period prior to departure of the Road Trip, full payment is needed.

Take on tour (suggested): Your vehicle, your family & friends, pocket money, a smile and goodwill. Some other extras could include: Sneakers (walking shoes), a hat, binoculars, toilet paper, wet wipes, coffee flask, camera, torch and sunglasses.

Vehicle: Any 4 x 2, SUV vehicle or sedan with **high ground clearance**, for when traveling on the gravel roads, is suitable for the tour. We do not speed whilst on tour, but we expect all vehicles to travel at the speed set by the tour leader. Low profile tyres are not recommended.

Who should go on this tour: People who love travelling, enjoy back roads, singles, couples, those who have never been to Lesotho and would like to enjoy the natural beauty, history and friendliness of the people; people who are unfamiliar with driving at foreign places, people who'd prefer to travel

with other people in a safe environment, people who don't like getting lost, those who'd like to be well informed as they drive along, those who like driving their own cars, people who like sharing their lives, interest, knowledge, fun and care with others. People who enjoy life at an easy pace.

Who should not go this tour: Moaners, groaners, whiners, speedsters, hooligans, boozers, people who can't drive on a gravel road, etc. People talking about their illnesses, medicines and operations they've had!

VHF Radio: We provide each vehicle with a two-way radio for the duration of the tour in order to communicate with everyone. It charges on the vehicle's cigarette lighter. (Please make sure your vehicle's cigarette lighter is working **before** the tour starts).

Money: A credit or debit card, plus some cash, will be needed.

Fuel & toilets: We'll stop regularly.

Clothing: Casual but it must include warm clothing & a rain jacket.

Passport: You do need a valid passport to enter Lesotho.

What to expect:

An orderly and well planned Road Trip, with a few surprises en route. Good food, a beautiful country, interesting roads and routes, tar and gravel roads, LOTS of mountain passes and small towns, cute shops and funky art places, friendly people and something new…

The natural beauty this time of the year is exquisite, whilst some of the gardens to be visited will take your breath away. Remember your walking shoes.

We are looking forward in welcoming you on this Road Trip.



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7th to 13TH March 2027
Sunday to Saturday

Itinerary:

Day # 1 **Sunday** **Johannesburg/Kestell to Afriski (Lesotho)** **403 km**

Welcome, briefing & handing out of 2-way radio's before departing via Warden to Kestell. Then via the border gate into Lesotho.

Today you'll experience some gravel roads and the never ending winding roads of Lesotho through hills, mountains and villages.

We overnight at the Afriski Resort, high up in the mountains. Dinner is included in your package.



Day # 2 **Monday** **Afriski Lodge to Lejone** **202 km**

After breakfast we depart for a lodge on the banks of the Katse Dam.

You'll travel through remote areas where few people live and where it is normally either cold or very cold! You'll see some diamond mines in the outback. People on horseback and covered in their traditional colourful blankets are regularly seen.

After arrival at the lodge one can undertake a scenic boat trip (about 60 minutes) on the Katse Dam (recommended). Learn more about the water that's flowing to Gauteng and the fisheries.

Tonight we sleep in a lodge that was previously a construction camp when the dam was built many years ago. Dinner is available at the venue. Try the local cuisine: Trout from the Katse Dam.



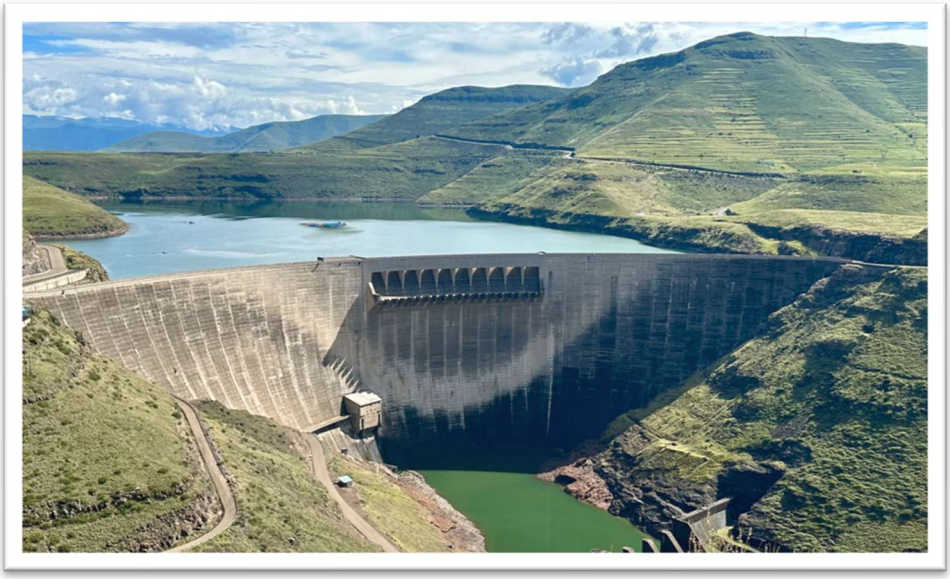


Day # 3 **Tuesday** **Lejone to Thaba Tseka** **197 km**

After breakfast we travel next to the river/dam to the Katse Dam wall. We'll visit the inside of the dam wall on a guided tour.

Then onwards via rural Lesotho to Thaba Tseka, a small town with little infrastructure but a nice lodge.

Dinner is available at the venue.



Day # 4 **Wednesday** **Thaba Tseka to Semonkong** **229 km**

We depart again after breakfast and although we'll travel only on tar today, the continuous mountain passes make it for slow driving before arriving at Semonkong, a small town near one of the most spectacular waterfalls of this country.

En route we'll visit a traditional kraal & homestead of the Basotho.

Late afternoon we'll settle in at the lodge for accommodation and dinner.





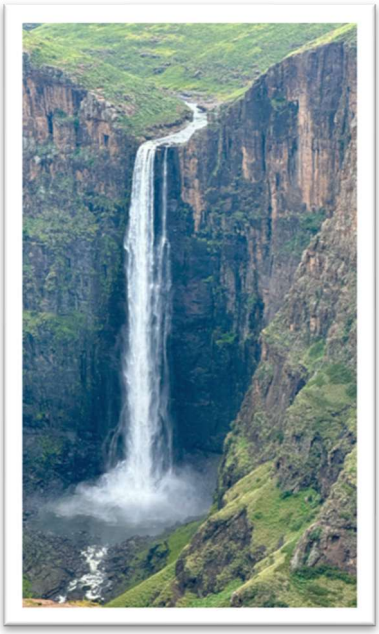
Day # 5 **Thursday** **Semonkong to Underberg** **298 km**

After breakfast we'll visit the spectacular water falls before continuing with our journey.

Today's route takes us through rural Lesotho to Quachas Neck and Underberg. The scenery en route is to be enjoyed.

You'll cross the Orange River (in Lesotho) a number of times.

We overnight for two nights outside Underberg and enjoy dinner as well.



Day # 6 **Friday** **Underberg** **110 km**

Today you have the opportunity visit Sani Pass and to traverse it (optional). This is a trip not to be missed.

Dinner at a close by restaurant.



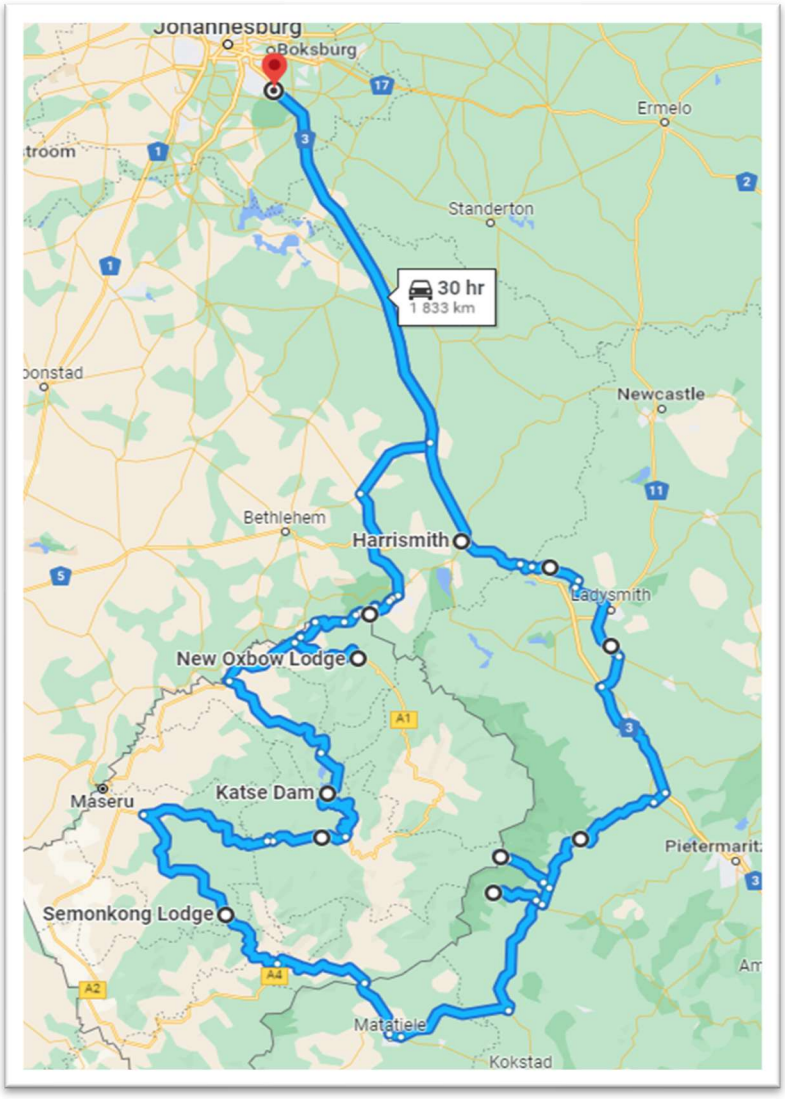


Day # 7 **Saturday** **Underberg to Johannesburg** **541 km**

Although it is the last day on tour, we'll keep on touring up to the last minute. En route to Johannesburg we'll visit some historical places and cross the Drakensberg not via Van Reenens Pass (!) before arriving at a final arrival point late afternoon.



Map:
It is very likely that we'll deviate from the map below. It is only an indication of routes to be followed! We normally visit more places than shown on the map.



PHOTOs of some of the places to be visited and/or seen:


























Mapeleng 14
Katse Dam 22
Matsoku Tunnel
Outlet 700 m









