

# Travel Itinerary

7 night Discover St Helena Island  
Secret of the South Atlantic



## Saturday

On arrival you will be met by your guide, Aaron and transferred to your hotel, passing through some of the small villages en route. The volcanic nature of the island is immediately apparent in the rugged coastline scenery. After check in, explore Jamestown on a town walk with Basil George, a descendant of one of the Boer prisoners of war who decided to remain on the island after the declaration of peace. Basil is a hugely experienced guide and a local poet with a wicked twinkle in his eye who will keep you entertained with his vast knowledge of the island and its inhabitants. Visit the Castle with its tropical garden, St James Church (the oldest Anglican Church in the Southern Hemisphere), the famous Jacob's ladder which ascends 699 steps above the town and the Court House.

Return to your hotel for evening at leisure

## Sunday

After breakfast meet with Aaron at 9.30 for an orientation of the island by 4x4. Stop at Deadwood Plain which was the camp site of Boer prisoners of war during the Anglo Boer War of 1900-1902 before a short walk to Flagg Staff which gives you wonderful panoramic views across the island. Visit Fisher's Valley where Napoleon rode his horse during his exile on the island and Levelwood, home to the Bell Stone – a rock which when struck rings like a bell. Wind your way to the south west point of the island for incredible views over the Atlantic Ocean, which stretches unbroken for 2700 kilometres in every direction. Drink in hand as the sun sets, it's the perfect end to the day.

Meals included today: Breakfast, Lunch

## Monday

This morning, after breakfast, a highlight of the island awaits as you join your skipper for a boat cruise off the island. Home to huge schools of Pan-Tropical dolphins, Bottle-Nose dolphins and Rough-Toothed dolphins, as well as turtles, Devil Rays and Whale Sharks (in season January – March), the deep blue waters are teeming with life. The tour gives you a scenic view of St Helena's coastline and allows you to view a few of the old fortifications and outposts that still stand.

Return to port with the afternoon at leisure, although you may like to arrange with your skipper to snorkel this afternoon as a separate excursion. This can be arranged and settled directly with him: there are a number of good, safe snorkeling spots near the harbor.

Meals included today: Breakfast

## Tuesday

---

Set off this morning with Aaron for the south of the island, stopping at the St Helena Coffee Plantation en route. A highlight of the day is Sandy Bay, which isn't sandy, but is dramatic in its beauty and jagged cliffs, and where you'll enjoy a picnic lunch on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean.

As you head back to Jamestown, a private tour of the Governor's residence, Plantation House awaits. Built in 1792, it has always been home to the island's governors, although the current governor, Lisa Phillips, is the first female. Perhaps an even more famous inhabitant though is Jonathan the tortoise, a 184 year old giant tortoise who lives on the grounds and is the world's oldest living animal. Visit St Paul's Cathedral and Knoll Fort on your return to the hotel.

Meals included today: Breakfast, Lunch

## Wednesday

---

Today is at leisure to explore at your own pace. Highly recommended is the very well curated Museum of St Helena which not only traces the varied history of the island, but also has artefacts from the number of wrecks that dot the coastline over the last 500 years. You may also like to book another optional boat cruise, or swim in the Atlantic – or in the public Olympic-sized swimming pool that sits near the harbor and is a great place to meet local islanders.

This evening, dinner has been arranged with a local family to experience some local cuisine and learn about local island life – which often involves not so confidential stories about neighbours and family members!

Meals included today: Breakfast and Dinner

## Thursday

---

This morning set off for Diana's Peak, the island's only National Park. Experience the micro and macro life in a cloud forest, from the many endemic plants and invertebrate species, to the breath-taking views of the island. It is a four hour tour to the high central ridge.

You will be driven to Cabbage Tree Road to start your walk up the path to the highest point on the island, Diana's peak at 823 m (Walkers need to have a reasonable level of fitness as there is an ascent of 175m) Have your picnic lunch on the peaks.

In the afternoon, stop at Farm Lodge for tea. Built in approximately 1670 as an East India Company planters house, Farm lodge is set in its own grounds of 10 acres with lawns and lush tropical gardens and entertaining hosts.

Meals included today: Breakfast and Lunch

## Friday

---

Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled to St Helena in 1815 and died on the island 6 years later. This morning we visit Longwood House, owned by the French government, where he lived and died. It is one of the best Napoleonic museums in the world, with original furniture and over 900 artefacts.

Have your picnic lunch on Longwood Green and after lunch take a fifteen minute stroll to see Napoleon's tomb and the beautiful heart shaped waterfall, before stopping at the St Helena Distillery on your return.

Meals included today: Breakfast and Lunch

## Saturday

---

After breakfast you will have time for a last look around Jamestown before your transfer back to the airport and onward flight to South Africa.

Meals included today: Breakfast