

# BAREFOOT SAFARIS & Adventure Tours

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## TRIP DOSSIER

### LESOTHO – ROOF OF AFRICA

#### REF: ROA

(4 DAYS LAND ONLY)

*Compiled May 2016*

#### **Lesotho.**

Lesotho is completely encircled by South Africa, so making a visit to the fabled mountain kingdom a very exceptional safari. Lesotho is called the roof of Africa because of its mountainous topography and the highest mountain in Lesotho and in southern Africa is Mount Thabana-Ntlenyana with 3482 meters. The lowest point is 1400 meter high, making it officially the planet's highest country. We start this safari, taking the more adventurous road over the Sani Pass into Lesotho. Sani Pass is the mother of all South African mountain passes. In every sense, it out distances, out climbs, and out performs all its competitors with consummate ease to have become the most iconic gravel pass in SA.

We will have the opportunity to meet some of the local people which are very generous: They might share a delicious polenta (mealie pap) and spinach dish with us, and also a maize-brew beer, which was admittedly a more acquired taste. A walk through the local Village let us experience a taste of Basotho village life.

The original inhabitants of the area now known as Lesotho were the San people. Examples of their rock art can be found in the mountains throughout the area.

A birders dream, the unique alpine birdlife of the Maluti Mountains, and other fauna of Lesotho, can all be spotted on this safari. Some of these include the rare Bearded vulture, Bald Ibis, Jackal Buzzard, Black Eagle, and Ground Woodpecker.

Mountains, valleys and rivers present unforgettable panoramas and good photo opportunities.

Ukwamukela Africa

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Grading: Anyone in good health with a sense of adventure should be able to take part. There's no real physical difficulty involved, but as in much of Africa – rough roads, limited facilities and basic accommodation may require you to adjust your levels of expectation.

Walking in the Maluti Mountains is graded moderate.

NB: Although it is our intention to operate this itinerary as printed and detailed below, it may be necessary to make some changes as a result of alterations to flight schedules, climatic conditions,

limitations of infrastructure such as accommodation, or other operational factors. As a consequence, the order or location of overnight stops may vary from those outlined. Included meals are indicated in the daily itinerary i.e. B LD - Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner).

### Day 1: Underberg

Depart from Underberg (or collection en-route, if applicable) in a four wheel drive vehicle at 08h00 and travel via the magnificent Sani Pass with a stop for early tea at Sani Top Chalet.

We then travel on to Black Mountain Pass. A short walk will take us to a vantage point for a spectacular view of Thabana Ntlenyana - the highest peak in Southern Africa at 3482m.

We then travel on to Mokhotlong via the stunningly beautiful Sehonghong Valley where we will stop at "10 Riverside" for an ethnic Basotho experience.

After a short drive we arrive in Mokhotlong (once billed as the remotest outpost in the British Empire) where we have dinner and overnight.



*Sani Pass*

Overnight: Mokhotlong.  
*Standard Room; 1 x night. (L, D).*

### Day 2: Katse

After breakfast we depart from Mokhotlong across the Roof of Africa and travel down the Moteng Pass to Liphofung a cultural and historical site of the San people and later, the Basotho. We continue on via Leriba (for good crafts) to Katse Lodge. We stop at Bokong Nature Reserve where beauty and serenity lie within the waterfalls.



*Bokong Nature Reserve*

Overnight: Katse Lodge  
*Standard room; 1 x night. (B, L, D).*

### Days 3: Katse/Sani Top

After breakfast we visit the Interpretive Centre and go on a tour of the Katse Dam wall. After the tour we travel via Thaba Tseka, Linakaneng and St James Mission to Sani Top Chalet (the highest pub in Africa) where we have dinner and overnight.



*Katse Dam*

Overnight: Sani Top  
*Standard room; 1 x night. (B, L, D)*

### Days 4: Sani Top/Underberg

We have a sunrise breakfast on the deck of Sani Top Chalet (weather permitting) overlooking Kwa Zulu Natal, before we descend the Sani Pass back into Underberg.

#### Price Includes:

- All Accommodation in standard rooms.
- Meals as described by B (Breakfast), L (Lunch), D (Dinner).
- Ground Transportation in 4 wheel drive vehicle.

- Services of a professional English speaking driver/guide.
- Game drives, sightseeing and excursions as described in the itinerary, inclusive of applicable entrance fees.
- Local taxes.

#### Price Excludes:

- International airfare.
- Pick up and Drop off Rates outside Underberg (5+ km).
- Meals not described in the itinerary above.
- Tips and gratuities to driver/guide; hotel/camp and restaurant staff; room service etc.
- Travel Insurance.
- Items of a personal nature i.e., telephone/internet usage, laundry, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, etc.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

##### Climate:

Temperate climate with well-marked seasons. Summer is the rainy season; 85% of rainfall occurs from October to April, especially in the mountains. Snow occurs in the highlands from May to September. The hottest period is from January to February. Lesotho is a land of clear blue skies and more than 300 days of sunshine a year.

Don't forget to check the weather in Lesotho before you come—knowing what to expect will help ensure you're wearing the right clothes. Also refer to our historical data at the end of this page.

##### Baggage:

- As per airline regulations. Soft duffel style bags travel better in Africa than the Samsonite

wheeled versions. It also looks cooler!

**Clothing and Footwear:**

- Pack for all weather conditions, Lesotho is a high country and can be subject to sudden changes of weather any time of year.
- Light raincoat.
- Trainers or sandals for relaxing.
- Sunhat & Sunscreen.
- Refer to our packing list for a comprehensive list of items to consider.

**Equipment:**

- Water bottle or hydration pack (at least 3 litres of water).
- Sunglasses, sunscreen and lip salve.
- Personal first aid kit.
- Binoculars.
- Camera.

**Medicine:**

- Basic personal first aid kit.
- Any perscription drugs required.
- Female sanitary products.
- Malaria prophylaxis (area considered moderate risk).

**Visas and Permits:**

- Please see the link below for visa info. Generally it is reccomended that you obtain a visa prior to arrival, however there are exceptions.
- Source:  
<http://www.golesotho.co.za/embassies.html>
- Contact a reputable travel agent for the latest information.

**Vaccinations & Health Advice:**

Vaccination requirements & other health advice can change, so please check with a specialised travel clinic for up to-date information before you depart. For useful advice you can visit The Medical Advisory

Service for Travellers Abroad

[www.masta.org](http://www.masta.org) or the CDC

website:

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/lesotho>

**Food:**

Although every effort will be made to accommodate any dietary requirements. Any special dietary requirements should be explained to us as early as possible. Gluten free flour should be brought with you if required.

**Local Costs:**

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included as per itenary. You must pay for all other meals yourself (you can eat very well for 10 USD a day). Approximate costs are given for guidance only and may vary widely according to location and type of establishment.

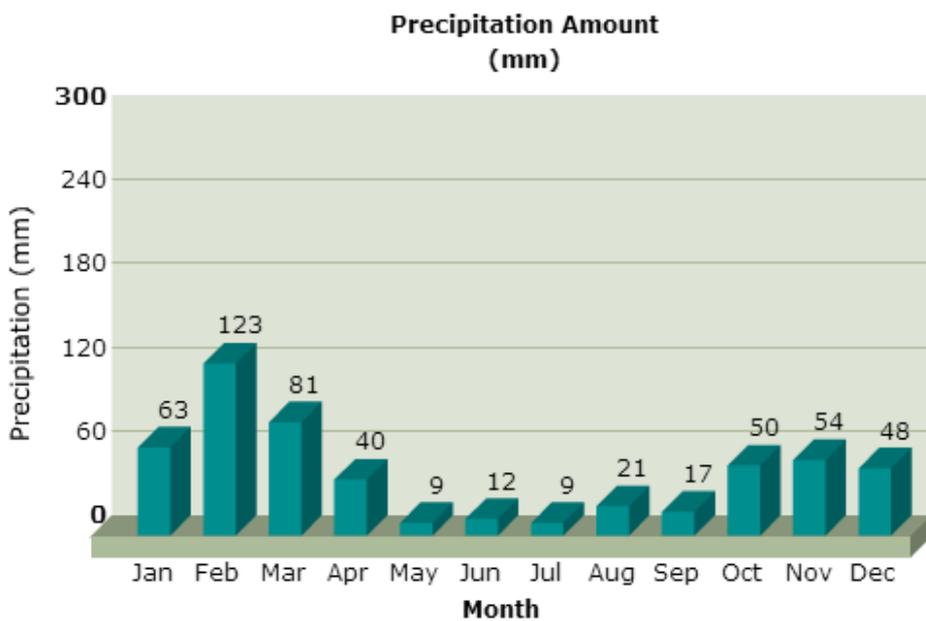
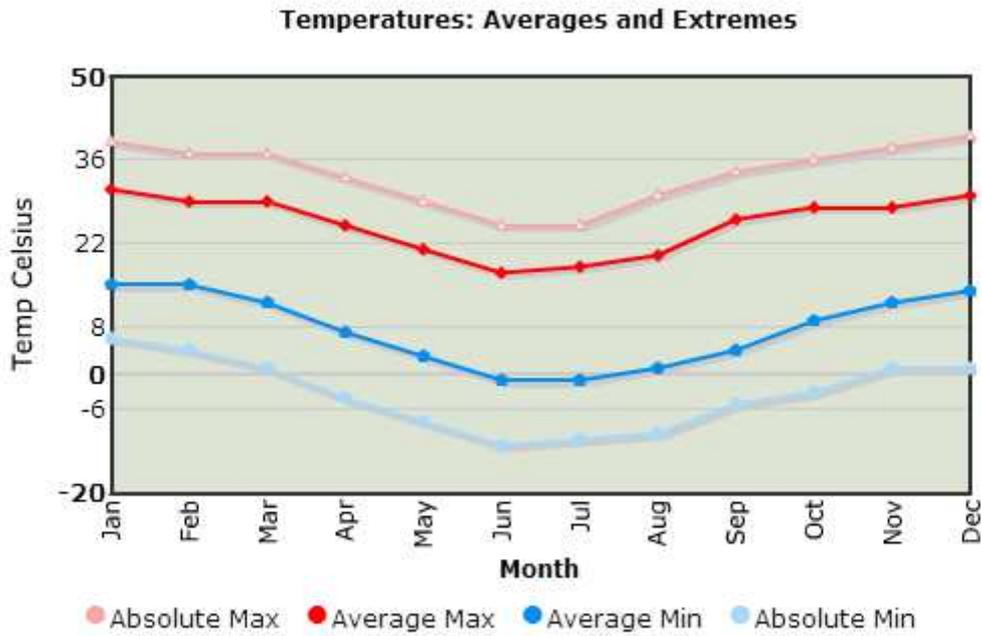
Coffee/tea	USD	3.00
Soft drink	USD	1.50
Medium beer	USD	2.00
Bottle of wine	USD	6.50
Local snack lunch	USD	5.00
3-course dinner*	USD	10.00

\* Reasonable mid-range restaurant.

**Weather:**

Scroll down for historical data.

WEATHER FORECAST



Source:

<http://www.myweather2.com/Holiday-Destinations/Lesotho/Maseru/climate-profile.aspx>