



South Africa

Activities Information & Fact Sheet 2021/ 2022

Uthando (Love) South Africa : Philanthropic Cultural Tour

BOOKING NOTES / LOGISTICS

Uthando generally only runs one tour / experience per day with limited seating, thus requested dates are ALWAYS subject to availability. PLEASE do not promise the client a place on a tour until Uthando has confirmed availability.

Scheduled tours are generally in the morning from approx. 8.30am / 9.00am to 1pm / 1.30pm. We will confirm the exact collection time with the client the night before the tour, exact timing for collection will depend on how many other guests are on tour and where they are staying.

If an afternoon tour is requested and we are able to accommodate it, the time is from approx. 1.00pm / 1.30pm – 5.30pm.

Collection time depends on how many people will be on tour and where they are being collected from.

Exact collection time is advised the night before the tour by leaving a message at the hotel.

Uthando can accommodate up to 12 guests on a scheduled tour. (this will obviously change due to Covid 19 protocols to be implemented)

Private Tours are subject to availability. The private tour rate is expensive as we only run one tour per day and thus cannot afford to have an empty vehicle. Remember Uthando is a NON profit organisation and one of our primary sources of income is the tours.

Tours run Monday to Friday :

We can accommodate special requests for a tour on a Saturday, but this is the exception rather than the rule.

We never run tours on a Sunday as projects are not operating at all.

Tours are not run on weekends due to the fact that many of the educational and other community projects do not operate on weekends.

Transfers :

Scheduled Tours

Generally we only collect at hotels in the city bowl / Greenpoint / Sea Point vicinity. Guests staying outside of this area need to meet us at a hotel in the city centre. This restriction is due to traffic and time constraints when collecting guests from several collection points in the morning.

Private Tours

Collection of guests at the hotel in the Cape Town area.

If possible please provide Guest Code of Conduct to be provided to guests by email from tour.

Group Tours

We can comfortably accommodate groups of up to 100 people.

Because Uthando is working with such a broad spectrum of community projects we enjoy taking out special interest / focus groups : Women, garden, farmers, social works, educators, youth development, political and many more special interest groups.

Language : Tours are conducted in ENGLISH only unfortunately. Guests wishing to have a translator guide on board would need to book a private tour and provide the language specific guide to accompany them on the tour.

VOLUNTEERING

Uthando does not offer volunteer experiences as such. Volunteering by visitors is very well intentioned but it is mostly incredibly disruptive for community projects which are under enormous stress from a staff and resources point of view. In addition, volunteering is a whole different ball game from a legal point of view, especially if children are involved.

As part of the Uthando Tour, we can for example include working in one of the many amazing vegetable gardens either at the seniors centre or at a primary school. We can also recommend a morning of tree planting or planting indigenous fynbos through an organisation called Greenpop.

The Uthando Tour offers truly meaningful, interactive and engaging experiences which are respectful and very importantly beneficial to all parties, both visitors and local community projects.

DESCRIPTION - UTHANDO (LOVE) SOUTH AFRICA PHILANTHROPIC CULTURAL TOUR

Uthando (Love) South Africa is an award winning Fair Trade in Tourism certified non profit organisation that is creating a unique link between tourism and community development projects.

Our tours offer meaningful, authentic, engaging, non invasive and respectful visits to a broad range of innovative and inspiring community projects while also bringing enormous benefits to the local communities being visited. During our visits we shine a light on the remarkable and courageous community activists driving social change in their communities. Our tours reflect a heartfelt desire to showcase the best of South Africa, the positive, impactful and very often untold stories of triumph over adversity.

The tours take place in the expansive “townships” located on the eastern part of the city known as the Cape Flats. While driving from the city bowl to the townships, our expert guides provide an indepth overview to the history of South Africa and particularly the role that apartheid and institutionalized discrimination and inequality played in creating these communities. Once in the townships the guide will discuss in detail the challenges confronting the locals with reference to issues such as healthcare, education, social, political and economic challenges.

The focus of the tour however is the visits to broad range of inspiring and innovative community projects. We visit three or four projects on every tour. Guests will meet ordinary people doing extraordinary things. They will hear the inspiring and remarkable stories of these community builders. Guests have an opportunity to interact with the locals at these projects, find out about the inspiring work they are doing. The projects showcase their work and lives to the visitors.

Tours are fully escorted and conducted by registered guides either James Fernie or Xolani Maseko James is the founding director of Uthando and has been guiding since 2008 Xolani joined Uthando in November 2012 and does the majority of tours

GUEST EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS :

- Historical overview of South Africa particularly the recent apartheid history;
- Visiting 3 or 4 very inspiring and innovative community development projects;
- Meeting and engaging with local community activists in a mutually respectful manner;
- Indepth discussion on up-to- date political, social, economic issues and other current challenges facing South Africans.

RATES

- Uthando is financially supporting all community projects visited. We incorporate contributions to all projects visited into our tour costs.
- An invoice will be generated prior to the tour and payment can be made online to secure the booking. Online payment is quick, safe and secure.
- Pre-payment of the tour invoice is essential as we only run one tour / experience per day with limited capacity.
- The Uthando Tour is not a begging bowl route and guests are not made to feel uncomfortable about money while on tour. At no point is money ever requested from guests.
- Extra donations to specific projects are of course welcome but NOT EXPECTED, projects do not expect donations while on tour.
- We have a list on the Uthando website called “Pack for a Cause” should you wish to bring anything. Once again this is also not necessary.

CHILD POLICY

There is no child rate since Uthando has limited capacity daily.
It is recommended that families with children under 5 years of age book a private tour so as to prevent possible disruption to other guests on tour.

SAFETY and SECURITY

SA does unfortunately experience high crime levels thus vigilance and caution are advised.

Safety and security of our guests is a priority for Uthando and we have procedures in place to ensure this aspect of the tour.

To minimise any risk, please leave in the hotel any unnecessary valuables like jewellery, wallets with credit cards and excessive amounts of money etc

Certainly bring some cash for purchases of local crafts in the township if you are so inclined.

Kind regards

James Fernie

March 2019

List of Community Projects and Social Entrepreneurs

Abalimi Bezekhaya “Farmers of Home”	Urban agricultural / micro farming
Amy Foundation (Formerly Amy Biehl)	Youth Development
Beauty for Ashes	Prisoner rehabilitation for women
Betterchoice Gumboot Dance	Youth Development through dance
Brave Rock Girl	Youth Development
Cape Town Opera Outreach	Youth Development through music
Cart Horse Protection Association	Animal Welfare
Christel House South Africa	Education
Dance for All	Youth Development through dance
Ekhaya Ekasi “Home in the Hood”Centre	Women Skills Development
Eziko “fireplace” Cooking School	Catering Training Centre / skills development
Girls Matter	Girls Empowerment
Greater Commission United (GCU)	Youth Development sport / academic support
Greenpop	Environmental Project (Tree planting)
Hanover Park Cricket Club	Youth Development through sports

HNO “Hlanganani Ngothando”	“Coming together with love” Rural Development
Home from Home	Home based care for orphans living wit
Hout Bay Music Project	Youth Development through music
Ikhaya “home” Garden Isikhokelo School	Micro Farming
IMAD	Institute for Music & Indigenous Art Development
Isibane Se Afrika “The light of Africa”	Youth Development / CHOIR
Isiseko “The Foundation” Centre	Early childhood development (ECD)
James House	Cater for destitute and vulnerable children
Jikeleza “Turn Around” Dance Project	Youth development through dance / music
Khayelitsha Art School & Rehabilitation Centre	Township Theatre
Khumbulani “to remember” Centre	ECD / Health, Education, Resource Centre
Kiddies Educare	ECD Early Childhood development Centre
Kronendental Music Academy (KMA)	Youth Development through music
Learn to Earn	Skills development for unemployed people
Luleki Sizwe	Support for LBGTQ community
Major Voices Choir	Youth Development / CHOIR
Makukhanye “let there be light” Art Room	Township Theatre
Masibulele “gratitude” Educare	ECD (Early Childhood Development)
Masiphumelele Creative Hub	Youth Development
Masizakhe Youth Art Project	Youth Development through dance / music
Mdzananda “distemper” Animal Clinic	Animal and pet welfare
Moya we Khaya “Spirit of Home”	Urban Agriculture / micro farming
NOAH (Neighbourhood Old Age Homes)	Care for elderly
Nonceba “concern” Foundation	Family Counselling Centre
Philisa Abafazi Bethu	Youth Development / Women protection and care
Rosmead Central Primary School	Education
SEED	Ecological Literacy, Skills Development, Education
Sinovuyo “We are Happy” Seniors	Care for elderly
Siyathandwe “we are loved”	Care for elderly
Siyazama “We are Trying” Garden	Community Allotment Garden Association

The Alcardo Andrews Foundation	Youth Development
The Darling Trust	Education, Skills and Health
The Pebbles Project	Early childhood Development Project
Thokozani “Rejoice” Together	ECD / Youth Development / Choir
Ulwazi Educare	ECD
Young Guiding Stars Band	Youth Development using music
Zama Dance School	Youth Development through dance
Zanecebo Foundation	Support for people with HIV / AIDS
Zizamele “just do it” Educare	ECD (Early Childhood Development)

Social Entrepreneurs

4roomed Ekasi	Restaurant
Lavender in Lavender Hill	Environmental and greening project
Macassar Pottery	Pottery studio
Original T-Bag Designs	Empowerment project, production of products from dry tea bags
Quirky30	Skills development through coding / IT systems
The Big Issue	Employment Creation Initiative
The Spinach King	Bakery