

THE BLUE TRAIN FACT SHEET



The Blue Train combines five-star accommodation with the charm and romance of train travel. Take a journey into a timeless world of grace and elegance, where breath-taking scenery stirs your imagination and luxurious comfort soothes body and soul. Sit back and enjoy being pampered on South Africa's "Blue Jewel".

Location

The Blue Train runs between Cape Town and Pretoria in both directions throughout the year and also does trips between Pretoria and Hoedspruit (in either direction). The train can also be chartered for incentives or corporate functions such as product launches.

Guest Services & Facilities

- The Club Car Lounge, situated at the front of the train, is the only area on the train where smoking is permitted. The lounge boasts a well-stocked bar, coffee table books, magazines and board games.
- The Lounge Car is a non-smoking lounge in which to relax and enjoy High Tea and snacks.
- The Dining Car seats 42 people and serves meals in two optional sittings.
- The Observation Car at the rear end of the train has windows on three sides for maximum enjoyment of the passing scenery (available on most departures).
- Shop selling souvenirs and gifts.
- A limited on-board laundry and valet service.

New for 2019

The Blue Train continues to 're-invent' itself and in 2019 will be offering even more value to guests. On the Cape Town to Pretoria (or vice-versa) route, guests will now enjoy two night's accommodation as opposed to one night on board.

Limited delays will be experienced with the new departure and arrival times, as the train will depart during off-peak hours (4pm & 6:30pm respectively). Guests can now book flights or other forward arrangements on the day of The Blue Train's arrival in either Pretoria or Cape Town (without the possible anxiety of missing these due to train delays).

Accommodation

Comparable to the world's finest hotels, each suite on board the train offers five star luxurious accommodation with private en-suite bathroom facilities. The luxury element on board the train is accentuated by the personalised butler service.

The Blue Train operates 2 train sets. Train set 1 comprises **17 coaches** and can accommodate **70 guests** (used mainly for charters). A new observation car has also recently been added.

Train set 2 (used on a regular basis) is longer (455m) and comprises **19 coaches** and accommodates a maximum of **82 guests**. Set 2 also has the original Observation Car at the rear of the train and one suite that is adapted for wheelchair users.

De Luxe Suite

De Luxe suites offer twin beds with showers (most suites on the train offer this option) or double bed with three-quarter sized bath.

Luxury Suite

Luxury suites have an extra m² of space, a Blu Ray player and offer twin beds or double beds with full-sized baths.

Room Amenities

- En-suite bathrooms - elegantly decorated with Italian marble and gold plated fittings
- Fully remote controlled facilities – blinds etc.
- Fully soundproofed
- Air-conditioning & Under-floor heating
- Personal butlers offer 24-hour room service
- GPS system and TV monitor track the train's progress and share the driver's view
- Wi-Fi connectivity & Entertainment system
- Goose-down and 100% percale-cotton bedding
- Safe

For more information contact



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Complimentary Services

With the exception of Caviar, French Champagne and external telephone calls, everything else on-board The Blue Train is included in the all-inclusive rate.

Check in/out Times

Check-in is from 14:30 and the train leaves the station at 16:00 on the Cape Town to Pretoria departures. The train arrives at Pretoria Station at 10:30 two days later.

Check-in is from noon and the train leaves the station at 18:30 on the Pretoria to Cape Town departures. The train arrives at Cape Town Station at 10:30 two days later.

Off Train Excursions

Guests depart the train at Kimberley Station for a 2½ hour excursion taking in the Kimberley Open Mine Museum and the Big Hole.

Dress Code

In keeping with tradition it is a compulsory custom to dress for dinner. Evening wear is elegant and gentlemen are required to wear a jacket or waistcoat. During the day dress code is smart casual.

Wheelchair/Special Needs

One train set has a suite that is adapted for wheelchair users. A customised wheelchair on-board The Blue Train has been specifically designed to negotiate the train's corridors. A butler will be on hand to assist guests should they require.

Contact Details

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Highlights of a Stay

Sipping bubbly in the bath and watching the changing vistas through the panoramic window as the train makes its journey through wide open farmlands, rugged mountains, semi-arid desert, dams pink with flamingoes, Cape Winelands, gold and diamond mining landscapes, an abundance of wildflowers and of course Table Mountain.

Dining

The Blue Train prides itself on the fine cuisine it offers its guests with meals that are accompanied by a wide selection of South African wines sourced only from boutique vineyards. The wine list has for a number of years secured the Annual Diner's Club Award of Approval.

On board chefs prepare their signature dishes using the freshest of local ingredients. From Karoo lamb, ostrich and venison, to Knysna oysters and other award-winning Cape cultivars. There's a menu for every taste. Whether you require Kosher or Halaal meals, or gluten-free vegan options, simply make your needs known at the time of reserving your passage.

Breakfast is open seating. Lunch and dinner are served in two sittings.

Accolades & Awards

Africa's Leading Luxury Train 2018 World Travel Awards (winner for 10th consecutive year).

Child Policy

Children 5 years and younger sharing a bed with their parents travel free of charge (up to a maximum of two children per suite). Children between 6 and 11 pay 50% of the adult rate, in a separate suite. Children 12 years and older pay the full adult rate per person sharing and will be accommodated in a separate suite.

Please contact us for the full child policy terms & conditions.

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