

### **Cradle of Humankind – Half Day Tour. – R790.00 per person.**

Named Maropeng: meaning "returning to the place of our origins" in Setswana; The Cradle of Humankind is located within easy access from Johannesburg and Pretoria overlooking the magnificent Magaliesberg and Witwatersberg mountain ranges and in route to the popular resort of Sun City. {gallery}gallery-cradle{/gallery}

Our ancestors have lived in this area for more than 3-million years. By coming here, you are coming to the birthplace of humanity.

The Cradle of Humankind was declared a World Heritage Site in 1999 due to the area's exceptional contribution to the understanding of humankind's history and development over more than 3-million years. There are 15 major fossil sites in the Cradle of Humankind, of which the Sterkfontein Caves is the most famous. The fossils "Mrs Ples" and "Little Foot" were both discovered here, as well as thousands more fossils of hominids, which are human ancestors, as well those of plants and animals.

While in the tour, the underground boat ride takes visitors through a sensory immersion of the four elemental forces of nature: earth, fire, water and air. After having sailed past icebergs, volcanoes and braved curtains of water, molten lava, sheets of lightning and fire walls, you land on the other side, billions of year's back, to the very birth of our planet - in time for an expedition of discovery that brings the history of humankind alive.

#### **Note:**

Wear comfortable shoes when going to the caves and leave your handbags and other luggage behind. There are a number of tight spots and pathways to negotiate in the caves and it is not advisable to do the tour if you are claustrophobic. It is also not advisable for people who suffer from acute asthma or chest problems as there are a lot of stairs.

#### **Tour Details.**

Pick ups: Daily from Johannesburg and Pretoria City.

Duration: 4 1/2 Hours. (If combined with Sterkfontein Caves)

Combination Tours: Sterkfontein Caves; Rhino and Lion Reserve.

The tour at the Sterkfontein Caves start above ground and then take visitors deep into the caves runs every half hour, seven days a week.

The caves in this vicinity have produced nearly half of the world's hominid fossil discoveries dating back some 3.5 million years. The Maropeng Visitors' Centre will take you on a journey to follow in the footsteps of ancient man. Within the Cradle area are the Kromdraai Wonder Cave and the Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve.

For groups bookings please contact us directly on [info@southernjourneys.co.za](mailto:info@southernjourneys.co.za)