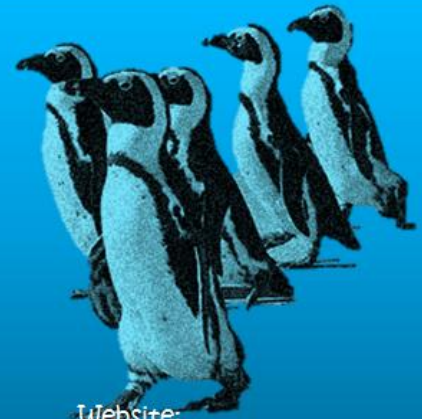




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## **ABOUT PENGUIN PATROL**

The Penguin Patrol tour has been put together by the team at Raggy Charters for tourists and locals alike to learn about and enjoy our resident animals. With Port Elizabeth being home to the largest breeding colony of African penguins in the world and the new Algoa Bay Hope Spot initiative launched in December 2014 by Mission Blue and the Sustainable Seas Trust, making the endemic and endangered African penguin its iconic species, it only feels right that the penguins should be Nelson Mandela Bay's main attraction!

## **RAGGY CHARTERS**

The Penguin Patrol starts at 8:15am with a boat cruise into Algoa Bay with Raggy Charters. Experience an exciting boat cruise out to St Croix Island to see the largest breeding colony of African penguins in the world. Watch these comical birds slipping and sliding as they get in and out of the water. And watch them fly through the water as they show off their amazing underwater adaptations. Guests get to see these loveable birds in the wild and in their natural habitat! Now endangered, the African penguins in our bay lost 70% in 7 years, and could become rapidly extinct without intervention. Raggy Charters has been assisting Dr Lorien Pichegru since 2008, with her vital research to help explain and reverse this trend. During this cruise there is also a good chance of seeing bottlenose, common and humpback dolphins, Southern right, humpback and bryde's whales, Cape fur seals, sharks, and various seabirds. With the only license for boat-based whale and dolphin watching in the bay we can get you that once-in-a-lifetime close encounter with these extraordinary animals.

## **SAMREC**

On their return from the boat trip guests will get to enjoy lunch in the Port Elizabeth harbour before being taken to SAMREC. This marine rehabilitation centre is a vital resource in keeping our penguin population going and guests will get to see the good work they are doing. Guests will be taken on a tour around the centre and will learn about the desperate need for such centres in conserving marine species, and will get to experience nature through sight, sound and touch. Visitors can experience the hospital and see the volunteers in action helping to save our environment, in

particular the endangered African Penguin. SAMREC has a few permanent residents which cannot go back into the wild, which help the volunteers at the centre educate the public about the penguin's plight. After a tour of the centre guests will be treated to a nice tea/coffee break with some cake at The Flying Penguin Cafe.

## **BAYWORLD**

The final stop will be at Bayworld Oceanarium and Museum, an establishment devoted to public education, as exhibits are aimed at stimulating a greater awareness of the need for conservation of our natural and cultural heritage. Guests will get to see both the Seal and Penguin Presentations where they will learn about each species and about the individual animals. The resident seals and penguins at Bayworld were rescued and could unfortunately not be released. Thankfully, though, Bayworld has set up a captive breeding programme for the penguins, which could be vital for the world's population if these endangered birds continue to decline. There will then be time to enjoy the spectacular marine displays in the rest of the oceanarium, including turtles and various fishes. And guests are welcome to explore the museum which blends cultural and natural history. The Marine Mammal Collection is reported to be the third largest and one of the most diverse in the world, as currently there are more than 3,090 specimens collected mainly from the Indian Ocean.

## **CONSERVATION**

The African penguins in Algoa Bay alone lost 70% of their population within 7 years, and have thankfully stabilised since. A percentage of the profits generated by the Penguin Patrol goes towards marine conservation and research in Algoa Bay. The aim is to assist with penguin and marine conservation by supporting research, initiating beach clean-ups and educating the public, especially school children, as well as other projects. Raggy Charters, Bayworld and SAMREC have been contributing towards the conservation of the African penguin for many years and the Algoa Bay Hope Spot has been launched with similar aims. Penguin Patrol will help raise funds for these organisations, as they work towards the greater good and in saving the African penguin from extinction.

## **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

Boat trip with light snacks on board, lunch in the harbour, entrance to SAMREC, tea/coffee and snack at The Flying Penguin Café, entrance to Bayworld, transportation between activities.

## **WHAT TO BRING**

For the boat trip: sea sickness tablets are recommended if anyone is concerned, and dress warmly/with waterproof jacket.

## **PRICE PER PERSON**

R1450 for adults and R950 for children under 12, discounts for groups of 10+

## **BOOKINGS**

Bookings are essential, and the trip is weather dependent so confirmation can only be given the day before.

## **LOCATION**

Guests are to meet the Raggy Charters team at 8:15am at the Algoa Bay Yacht Club in the Port Elizabeth harbour.



## **CONTACT**

Raggy Charters on +27 (0)73 152 2277

Office Hours: 8am until 6pm

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