



SANLAM CAPE TOWN MARATHON 2026

First Major Marathon in Africa

Travel period: 21.05.2026 – 27.05.2026

The Sanlam Cape Town Marathon has always been committed to delivering the best possible experience for the runners. With the participant's race-day experience as a guiding principle, every decision made, aimed to elevate the event for the runners. Continuing the journey towards becoming Africa's first Abbott World Marathon Majors event, one of the most significant changes was shifting the race date to May.

The goal is to be Africa's premier marathon, and the month of May offers the optimal climate for that. The cooler autumn weather reduces the risk of overheating, allowing for faster performances. Statistically, May also has a lower likelihood of Cape Town's notorious south easterly winds, which have previously hindered runners from achieving their personal best.

Therefore, for 2026, Explore Travel from Bucharest, Romania is happy to become your Running partner, together with Dragos Pirnog, a marathoner himself, guiding you through the whole Cape Town experience.

Besides the main event, we put together, especially for you, a travel program for exploring what Cape Town and its surroundings have best to offer: Cape Winelands wine region, Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope, the penguin Boulders Beach, Table Mountain - the symbol of the city and one of the new 7 natural wonders of the world, and other memorable travel experiences.

Local Experiences:

- ✓ Admire Cape Town from Table Mountain
- ✓ Climb to the lighthouse at the Cape of Good Hope
- ✓ Visit the penguin colony at Boulders Beach
- ✓ Try Malay cuisine in the Bo-Kaap district
- ✓ Taste South African wines at one of the vineyards in the Cape Winelands

DAY 01 – 21.05.2026: WELCOME TO CAPE TOWN

After the arrival at Cape Town airport, you will be expected by the driver and transferred to the hotel. We need the flight details with 2 weeks before the arrival and you will have a shuttle transfer to the hotel with other runners that are travelling on the same flight details with you.

Check in at hotel at 15.00 and free afternoon to relax in the room, at the pool or for a walk around the hotel.

We will stay at President Hotel Cape Town because it is in Seapoint, an ideal place for runners and a safe area.. Seapoint and the entire promenade is used by the locals every day for running, walking, cycling and we will be able to run every day on the shores of Atlantic Ocean to adapt with the temperature and the route. Start and Finish area of the marathon are easily accessible from the hotel and our local team will take care of each runner on the marathon day. We will have morning transfer to the start and also a shuttle from the finish to the hotel for all the marathon runners. For the travel partners of the runners there will be a minivan and a local guide to transfer you in 2 places to catch the runners and also to show you some areas of the city.

In the evening, we'll meet in the hotel lobby, for the Marathon Briefing and extra information regarding the program in the following days.

Accommodation: [Hotel President Cape Town 4](#)*

Standard Room

Meals: -

Experience: welcome to Cape Town and marathon program briefing

DAY 02 – 22.05.2026: CAPE TOWN CITY TOUR

We start the day with a morning run. Our hotel is in Seapoint, a runner's paradise. Right in front of the hotel is the promenade and we will have a run on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean on a part of the marathon route. It is a local route that is used every day by the local runners and the area is safe and offers a great view of the city at sunrise.

After breakfast, we invite you to a tour of Cape Town. We pass by the Castle of Good Hope, the City Hall and make a stop in Company Gardens. Around these gardens are some of the most important buildings in the city: Parliament, the Planetarium and the National Museum of South Africa. We continue the tour with a visit to the colorful Bo-Kaap neighborhood, which belongs to the Muslim population of Cape Town. The specific architecture of this neighborhood and the stories surrounding these colorful houses make this neighborhood a place not to be missed during your visit to Cape Town.

District Six Museum will be on our list, too. The District Six Museum in Cape Town, is a powerful testament to the city's complex and often painful history. Once a vibrant, multicultural neighborhood, District Six

was declared a “whites-only” area during apartheid and its residents were forcibly removed, leaving behind a desolate and empty landscape.

Stop for lunch at Time Out Cape Town (lunch is not included) and after later in the afternoon, we pay a visit to Expo Marathon for the Kit collection.

We’ll be transferred back at the hotel.

Accommodation: [Hotel President Cape Town 4*](#)

Standard Room

Meals: -

Experiente: Cape Town city tour and visit EXPO MARATHON

DAY 03 – 23.05.2026: CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

After breakfast, a visit to Cape Point is not to be missed. Crossing the most spectacular route, past Chapmans Peak, we will arrive in the Cape Peninsula National Park. Here we will climb on foot to the old lighthouse in Cape Point. The day continues with a crossing of the charming town of Simon’s Town and a stop at Boulders Beach where we admire the penguin colony. Free time for lunch or a walk on the beach.

This is an easy day with some great places to be visited and only few steps to walk. Travelling by bus and short distances to walk will gave us a good realaxation before marathon.

Return in the afternoon to the hotel in Cape Town and prepare for next day 😊

Accommodation: [Hotel President Cape Town 4*](#)

Standard Room

Meals: -

Experiente: Cape of Good Hope

DAY 04 – 24.05.2026: MARATHON DAY

The long wait is over, Marathon Day is here! Let’s run the race, but not forget to enjoy the run.

We will all be transferred to the Starting Point.

After the beautiful and scenic Cape Town running route, we will be picked up by a private shuttle and transferred back to the hotel.

After a well-deserved resting time, in the evening we recommend an Optional dinner at Gold Restaurant, An Immersive African Experience. [GOLD Restaurant](#) in Cape Town offers an authentic African experience, So much more than just an African restaurant, a night at GOLD is an immersive experience that will take you on a 14-dish taste-safari paired with traditional Mali puppets and entertainment.

Accommodation: [Hotel President Cape Town 4*](#)

Standard Room

Meals: -

Experiente: Cape Town Marathon 2026

DAY 05 – 25.05.2026 - MEDAL MONDAY ON TABLE MOUNTAIN

Congratulations to all the runners!

Today, we invite you to visit Table Mountain, a symbol of the city, listed as one of the “New 7 Natural Wonders of the World”, it offers some superb views of Cape Town. We have included Fast Track Tickets, no standing in line to visit and we will use the cable car, as well.

IMPORTANT: please don't forget to bring the marathon medal with you.

Free leisure time in the afternoon. We recommend taking a stroll at the promenade area called Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. This is one of the main attractions of the city, being a place full of shops, restaurants and pubs, being also the safest area in the city.

Accommodation: [Hotel President Cape Town 4*](#)

Standard Room

Meals: -

Experiente: Table Mountain visit

DAY 06 – 26.05.2026 CAPE WINELANDS

Today we will take a trip to the Cape Winelands. The region is a combination of small historic towns and modern wineries, producing the highest quality wines that have transformed South Africa into one of the largest wine-producing countries in the world.

Located in the heart of this region, the city of Stellenbosch is the second oldest in the country and is one of the most picturesque cities, being a university center and has many historic buildings. We will see the picturesque Cape Dutch houses in Stellenbosch and we will make 2 stops at the beautiful vineyards of the region for 1 wine and chocolate pairing at Boschendal and another wine tasting at Verengenoegd Low Wines. Time for lunch at your own disposal in the town.

Return to the city in the afternoon.

Accommodation: [Hotel President Cape Town 4*](#)

Standard Room

Meals: -

Experiente: winetasting in Sout Africa

DAY 07 – 27.05.2026 SEE YOU NEXT TIME, CAPE TOWN!

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport. Goodbye and see you next time!

Costs

- ✓ Runner in Double Room : **1650 Euro**
 - ✓ Runner in Single Room: **1950 Euro**
 - ✓ Travel Partner: **1350 Euro**
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Package includes

- Guaranteed entry for Cape Town Marathon 2026 (is not included for the travel partner)
- Medal for finishers
- Marathon T-shirt
- Transfers to the start and back from finish area to hotel
- Transfers and local assistance for travel partners on marathon day
- 06 nights accommodation in Cape Town at a 4-star hotel
- Meals: breakfast every day in Cape Town
- Guided tour of Cape Town
- Fast Track tickets to Table Mountain
- Excursion to the Cape of Good Hope
- Entrance tickets to visit the penguin colony at Boulders Beach and to Cape of Good Hope National Park
- Excursion to the wine region with 2 tastings at 2 different wineries
- All transfers and visits included in the itinerary with private luxury transport and flat water;
- Visits and excursions as mentioned in the program with a local English-speaking guide
- Guide services provided by Explore Travel
- Assistance in obtaining a South African visa

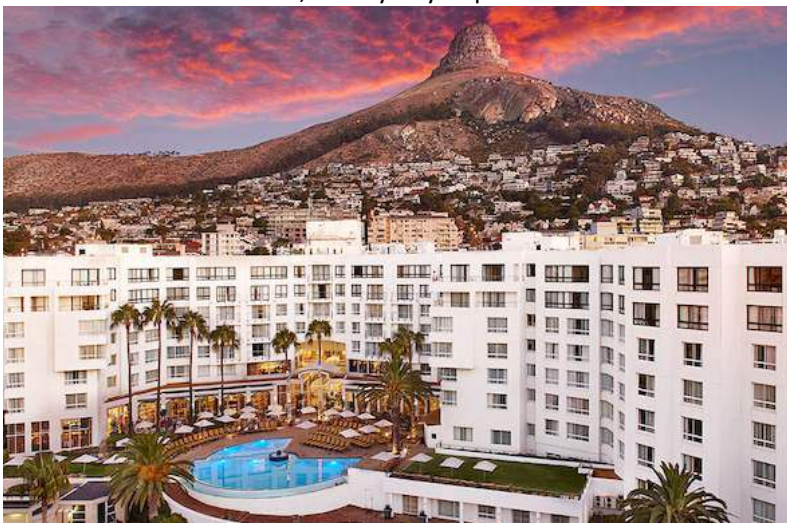
Package doesn't include

- Flight tickets to Cape Town
- Visa fee (depends on the nationality)
- Other meals other than those mentioned in the program
- Other optional excursions and activities
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers and hotel staff: 35 Eur / person, to be paid in cash to the group leader at the beginning of the stay.

Hotel

[President Hotel](#)

Adress: 4 Alexander Road, Bantry Bay Cape Town 8001



Featuring an infinity pool, President Hotel has a terrace bar with panoramic views of Lion's Head Mountain and the Atlantic Ocean. A 3-minute walk from Queen's Beach, it serves a full English breakfast.

Guest rooms are air-conditioned and contemporary in style. All rooms have a flat screen TV, semi self catering kitchenettes with tea/coffee making facilities, bar fridge and a microwave.

The Island Restaurant offers a buffet and a la carte menu options, in a casual setting. The Senate Bar offers cocktails and other drinks.

The President Hotel is 6 km away from Cape Town Stadium and the shops and attractions of the V&A waterfront. Cape Town International Airport is around 30 minutes' drive away.

Recommended flight options: Turkish Airlines, Qatar Airways and KLM

Registration Conditions

The payment method for the package is:

- Advance payment of 30% of the trip value at the time of registration.
- Second installment of 30% of the trip value by 15.11.2025 (after Cape Town Marathon Will be announced as Marathon Major in NY)
- Full payment no later than 60 days before the departure date.

Travel conditions: biometric passport valid for at least 6 months from the date of Travel

Cancellation Conditions

- No penalty if Cape Town fails to become Major Marathon (you can choose to still Travel and run or cancel without any penalties)
- Penalty 50% for cancellations between 120 and 60 days before departure
- Penalty 100% for cancellations less than 60 days before departure



Explore Travel

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