

## Southern Africa

### KwaZulu-Natal Battlefields Extension



**BEAT ABOUT THE BUSH TOURISM SERVICES**

**Website:** [www.beataboutthebush.co.za](http://www.beataboutthebush.co.za) **E-mail:** [safaris@beataboutthebush.co.za](mailto:safaris@beataboutthebush.co.za) **Tel:** +27 83 442 0652

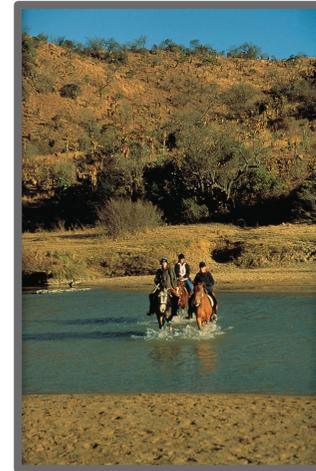
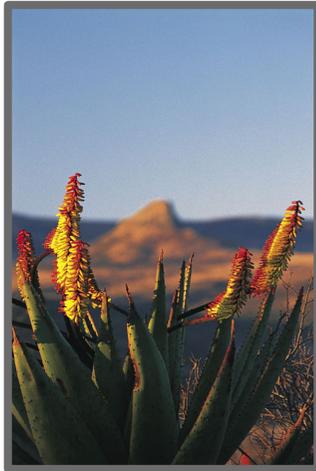
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Duration: 4 Days, 3 Nights

Experience fascinating historical tours as you delve deep into the heart of KwaZulu-Natal's picturesque battlefields, with their poignant reminders of the dramatic conflicts of the war between the local Zulu tribe and British colonial forces.



### Battlefields of KwaZulu-Natal, Rourke's Drift

The KwaZulu-Natal Battlefields are a beautiful yet eerie place. The natural beauty of this region seems to clash with the fact that there has been so much bloodshed here. It is indeed amidst these picturesque hills, knotty rock formations and valleys of this vast terrain that the ferocious wars between the British, Boers (Dutch-speaking farmers) and mighty Zulu nation took place over 70 years ago.

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Today what appears to be little more than wind-swept plains littered with the remains of stone forts, graveyards and little else to indicate strife, bore witness to fierce battles. First between the Boers on their way to the hinterland in a bid to escape the British rule of the Cape Colony, and the fierce Zulu kings, who believed that this beautiful land that lay between the Drakensberg Mountains and the Indian Ocean was their own 'heaven on earth'. This same area of land then witnessed further clashes between the British Empire, battling to gain control over land across the Tugela River, and the Zulu nation in the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879, encompassing the famous battles at Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift. Just two years later, the British were at war again in South Africa in what became known as the First Anglo-Boer War, pitting the Boers and British against one another, with numerous battles ensuing across this same area of land.

Today this beautiful and somewhat fragile region forms the heart of a Battlefields Route that one can do as part of a tour or as a self-drive experience. The guided KwaZulu-Natal Battlefields tours recount, with chilling realism, the atmosphere of each battle, supported by in-depth information of the military strategies and tactics used. These tours allow visitors to immerse themselves in this turbulent history that has left the landscape imbued with the echoes of battle. You can also enjoy guided walks through beautiful scenery, horse-riding, fly-fishing and visits to the Rorke's Drift Arts and Crafts Centre and Talana Museum.



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