

18 Day Southern African Adventure Camping Tour

Discover the allure of Southern Africa as you roam from the golden plains of the world-famous Kruger National Park and the awe-inspiring Victoria Falls to the watery wonderland of the Okavango Delta and the teeming game parks of Botswana. Whether it's spotting the Big Five, relaxing by dreamy lagoons, experiencing tribal village life or cavorting near raging waterfalls, this adventure tour will fill your memories with the wonders of the African south.



HIGHLIGHTS

Track rhinos on foot with an expert local guide in Matobo National Park and support local conservation efforts with a visit to Khama Rhino Sanctuary.

Immerse yourself in the ancient culture of the Venda people at a two-night village homestay in South Africa's Limpopo province.

Camping on a remote island in the heart of the Okavango wilderness is an experience you'll never forget. As the sun sets and night falls, the sounds of Africa come alive.

Explore the magnificent Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, some of the largest salt flats in the world. These mind-bending plains make for some magical photography.

Marvel at the unforgettable views of Blyde River Canyon. This spectacular gorge is up there with the world's largest and is probably the greenest of the lot.

ITINERARY

18 Days
South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe



It is our intention to adhere to the route described below but a certain amount of flexibility is built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary.

DAY 1 JOHANNESBURG

Sawubona! Welcome to South Africa.

You can arrive at any time on day 1 as there are no activities planned until the welcome meeting tonight at 6pm. Your leader will leave a note at reception telling you where this important meeting will take place.

Please ask a member of reception for this information. Your leader will check your passport and insurance details at this meeting. After the group meeting there is the option of joining the group for dinner.

Johannesburg is a sprawling city of remarkable contrasts: in the townships, mansions stand alongside tin shacks and there are as many green parks on the outskirts of the city as there are conglomerations of concrete in the city centre. This is a good place to spend a couple of days to get an insight into South Africa's history and it's a great base for exploring the rest of the country. Visit the Apartheid Museum for some interesting insight into the South African history or visit the cultural places of interest such as Newtown, Braamfontein and Maboneng.

Please make sure that if you explore Johannesburg on your own that you get local advice as to where it is safe to walk, especially in the evening.

Accommodation:

Hotel

Meals Included:

There are no meals included on this day.

DAY 2 KHAMA RHINO SANCTUARY

Leaving South Africa behind, we cross the border entering Botswana and travel toward the Khama Rhino Sanctuary.

Situated on the edge of the vast Kalahari Desert, the sanctuary is a result of locals' efforts to convert a former hunting area into a conservation project. Built to protect Botswana's only remaining populations of both black and white rhinos, the sanctuary is also home to other wildlife including zebras, giraffes, leopards, ostriches and wildebeest, which have all moved in and can be seen around the many natural waterholes.

Visiting this project benefits local communities as well as contributing to the protection of the highly endangered white rhinoceros.

We will head out on a dusk game drive to see the rhinos when they are at their most active.

Included Activities:

Khama Rhino Sanctuary – Open Safari Vehicle Game Drive

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)



Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Botswana

As we cross the border, we'll start to see villagers, cattle, donkeys and sheep along the side of the highway. Sometimes the donkeys and cows sit in the middle of the road and any amount of horn blowing won't get them out of the road. Independent since 1966, Botswana (formally a British protectorate) has three of the world's richest diamond mines and this has made Botswana quite a wealthy nation. Now 40 years old, it is known as the African success story. Politically stable and with the foresight to invest in education, healthcare, high economic standards and without the racial issues that have plagued other countries, Botswana has the best economy in sub-Saharan Africa. The government has employed a strategy of high income - low impact tourism. This is where they reduce the number of tourists entering any area of the country by charging a lot more than neighbouring countries, thereby making it more restrictive for the budget traveller.

**DAY 3
MAUN**

Jump aboard the truck and head to Maun (approximately 8–9 hours). Here there will be an opportunity to stock up on any supplies you might need for the journey ahead. Maun is the gateway to one of the world's most renowned and complex ecosystems, the Okavango Delta. This place is unlike anything in the world – a 16,000 square kilometer maze of wetlands made up of meandering waterways, green islands, lush plains and prolific wildlife. You might see hippos, crocodiles, elephants and big cats. But it's not the animals that are the main attraction – it's the incredibly diverse ecosystem and atmospheric waterscapes and shimmering horizons will have you gazing for days. Tonight, you'll stay on the outskirts of Maun at a simple campsite with shared facilities, WiFi and optional upgrades.

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Okavango Delta

The Okavango Delta is the world's largest inland delta, a labyrinth of lagoons, lakes and hidden channels covering 17 000 square km. It originates in Angola - numerous tributaries join to form the Cubango River, which then flows through Namibia, becoming the Kavango River and finally enter Botswana, where it is becomes the Okavango. Millions of years ago the Okavango River used to flow into a large inland lake called Lake Makgadikgadi (now Makgadikgadi Pans). Tectonic activity and faulting interrupted the flow of the river causing it to back up and form what is now the Okavango Delta. This has created a unique system of waterways that supports a vast array of animal and plant life that would have otherwise been a dry Kalahari savannah.

There are an estimated 200 000 large mammals in and around the Okavango Delta. On the mainland and among the islands in the delta, lions, elephants, hyenas, wild dog, buffalo, hippo and crocodiles congregate with a teeming variety of antelope and other smaller animals - warthog, mongoose, spotted genets, monkeys, bush babies and tree squirrels. Notably the endangered African Wild Dog is present within the Okavango Delta, exhibiting one of the richest pack densities in Africa. The delta also includes over 400 species of birds, including the African Fish Eagle.

Many of these animals live in the Delta but the majority pass through, migrating with the summer rains to find renewed fields for grazing. With the onset of winter, the countryside dries up and they make their way back to the floodplains. This leads to some of the most incredible sightings as large numbers of prey and predators are pushed together. Certain areas of the Delta provide some of the best predator action seen anywhere in the world.

The Moremi Game Reserve can be found on the eastern side of the Okavango Delta; however many others smaller, private lodges can be found in other parts, each of which offers guests a unique and exclusive experience. The



favourite time of year to visit is during its dry season, just after the rains have fallen, as your days will be dry and warm (during the summer season the rains fall almost constantly, and the temperatures can soar above 40°C.)

DAY 4 OKAVANGO DELTA

Get right in the action today, jumping aboard a traditional mokoro – a dugout canoe steered by friendly local 'polers' – for an Okavango waterways experience. With some luck, you might spot some of the delta's unusual wildlife and exotic birdlife. Spend time exploring the maze of lagoons, lakes and streams on foot, led by experienced and knowledgeable guides. Tonight, you'll camp on a remote island in the heart of the wilderness. In this far-out spot, facilities are non-existent, so you will dig a bush toilet and go without a shower. It's all part of the Okavango experience. At night, fall asleep to the humming and buzzing of the African wilderness.

Included Activities:

Okavango Delta – Mokoro Safari

Accommodation:

Bush Camp – (no facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 5 OKAVANGO DELTA

Wake up early and venture out for a sunrise walk. Along the way, keep watch for some elephants. You might also come across some Cape buffalo, if the timing is right. These rather noble-looking creatures are more dangerous than they look, and their horns make for a kind of bone shield that's fittingly known as a 'boss'. Returning to camp for breakfast, take the rest of the day to relax. A refreshing swim, or perhaps a nap, is a good idea in the warmer part of the day. Alternatively, take another mokoro trip to soak up more of that delightful river atmosphere.

Included Activities:

Okavango Delta – Sunrise Walk

Accommodation:

Bush Camp – (no facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 6 MAUN

After taking down your camp, take the mokoro back to the poling station and then travel once again to Maun (approximately 2–3 hours). Today you'll visit a rural village and interact with some of the locals. This will give you an insight into daily life on the Okavango Delta and perhaps some background history on these awesome sprawling waterways that are the lifeblood of many. Tonight, you will camp on the outskirts of Maun at a simple campsite which has shared facilities. WiFi and optional upgrades are available. During the Okavango Delta dry season, we may not be able to visit the rural village as we stay at a different camp. The price of the optional scenic flights will vary depending on the number of passengers.



Included Activities:

Okavango Delta - Mokoro safari

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Optional Activities:

Okavango Delta – Scenic Plane Flight – From USD75 – USD390

Okavango Delta – Helicopter Scenic flight – From USD150 – USD450

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Maun

Maun, the fifth largest town in Botswana, is known as the tourism capital and the gateway to the Okavango Delta. It is an eclectic contrast of modern buildings and traditional huts. Now home to over 30 000 people, the town was founded in 1915 as the tribal capital of the Botswana people. It originally serviced the local cattle ranching and hunting operations of the area and had a reputation as a hard living 'Wild West' town. With the growth of the tourism industry and the completion of the tar road from Nata in the early 1990s, Maun developed swiftly, losing much of its old town character. However, it is still infamous for its infestation of donkeys and to lesser extent, goats. These animals can be seen wandering around freely as the local farmers arrive in the innumerable taxis to sell their wares on the kerbside.

With the influx of tourism dollars, the typical traditional rondavels (round huts) of the past have been replaced by square but modestly sized cinderblock homes roofed with tin, or sometimes tiles. It is not unusual to see mud rondavels with satellite dishes, attesting to the increasing affluence of Botswana, and the increasingly reliability of power and communications in the town. This striking contrast of the traditional and the modern is also evident in the multi-level air-conditioned shopping centres incongruously surrounded by potholes, dusty parking lots and lively marketplaces.

**DAY 7
NATA**

Get up early and hit the road for Nata (approximately 6–7 hours). This small town is situated just near the stunning Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, which are some of the largest salt flats on earth, covering some 12,000 square kilometres. This afternoon you will have the opportunity to explore the pans in an open vehicle. The pans are naturally dry and salty for a large part of the year. During this time the arid landscape has an eerie feel to it as heat mirages disorientate the senses. At other times they take on a layer of grass, and as soon as the rains hit, they become a refuge for migratory birds and animals. Your campsite tonight is situated on the edge of the pans. It has a restaurant, swimming pool, gift shop, ATM and bar/lounge area. Upgrades are also offered.

Included Activities:

Nata Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**DAY 8
CHOBE NATIONAL PARK**

Hit the road for Chobe National Park (approximately 6–7 hours). Botswana's first national park is perhaps best known for its high concentration of elephants, which can often be seen swimming in



the Chobe River. The river also attracts wallowing hippos, a variety of birdlife, crocodiles sunning themselves by the water's edge, and cheetahs and lions which come down to drink. Enjoy a sunset cruise on the Chobe River, a very relaxing way to spend the afternoon and toast another day in Africa. Your camp tonight has WiFi access and optional upgrades. It's also close to a supermarket, so you can stock up on supplies while you're here.

Included Activities:

Chobe National Park - River Cruise

Accommodation:

Camping (with shared facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast and Dinner

Chobe National Park

Chobe National Park, the second largest park in Botswana, covers 10 566 square km of northern Botswana. The Park forms part of the mosaic of lakes, islands and floodplains formed from the Kwando, Linyanti and Chobe River systems. The area is renowned for its vast herds of elephant and buffalo. The elephant population is currently about 120 000. The Chobe elephants are migratory, moving up to 200 km from the Chobe and Linyanti rivers, where they concentrate in the dry season, to the pans in the southeast of the park in the rainy season. They are Kalahari elephants, characterized by rather brittle ivory and short tusks, perhaps because of calcium deficiency in the soil. Due to their high concentration, there is a lot of damage to the vegetation in some areas. Culls have been considered but are too controversial and have thus far been rejected.

The original inhabitants of the area were the San people, otherwise known in Botswana as the Basarwa. They were hunter-gatherers who lived by moving from one area to another in search of water, wild fruits and hunting grounds. The San were pushed out by groups of the Basubiya people and, around 1911, a group of Batawana moved to the area. In 1931 it was decided that a national park would protect the wildlife from extinction and attract tourists. In 1932, an area of some 24 000 square km in the Chobe district was declared a non-hunting area.

Over the years the park's boundaries have been altered and the people settled in the area have been relocated gradually and Chobe National Park was finally empty of human occupation in 1975. In 1980 and again in 1987, the boundaries were altered, increasing the park to its present size.

DAY 9
VICTORIA FALLS

Perhaps wake up early and see the Chobe National park from a different perspective, on an optional morning game drive.

Travel on to Victoria Falls today (approximately 2–3 hours). You will cross the border into Zimbabwe in time to have lunch on the banks of the Zambezi River. Then it's free time to experience the sight and sound of the mighty falls. This thundering curtain of water is about a mile wide, falling 108 meters into a narrow gorge below. In the wet season, the spray created can rise up an incredible 400 meters and the falls become an impressive raging torrent. In the dry season, the view of the falls is unobstructed by spray and you can see little islets in the river below. Your campsite tonight has WiFi, an ATM and optional upgrades.

Your leader will take you to a local activity centre where a range of activities will be on offer. We have not risk assessed all activities and only those listed in our trip notes are recommended. It is against company policy for leaders to facilitate the booking of any activities that have not been risk assessed or do not adhere to our company's Responsible Travel policy and ethos. This includes organising transport to and from these activities in our vehicles.



Victoria Falls entrance fee is not included in the price of the trip as it is mandatory for tour groups to have a local guide escort. We feel that seeing these waterfalls for the first time should be an uninterrupted sensory experience.

Accommodation:

Camping (with shared facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast

Optional Activities

Chobe National Park - Morning Game Drive in 4WD vehicle - BWP410

Victoria Falls - Sunset Cruise - USD50

Victoria Falls – Victoria falls Entrance Fee USD35

Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls, 1 700 m wide and 108 m high – is said to be the largest falls in the world. David Livingstone, the Scottish explorer, is believed to have been the first European to view the Victoria Falls and wrote: "It has never been seen before by European eyes, but scenes so wonderful must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight". The older, indigenous name of Mosi-oa-Tunya ('the Smoke that Thunders') is the name in official use in Zambia. Due to its immense power and size, the waterfall is surrounded by a rich mythology. The local Tonga people of the Zambezi believe that a river god, Nyaminyami, resides in the water in the form of an immense snake. When the Kariba Dam was built in the 1950s, the Zambezi River flooded three times, causing many deaths and much destruction. The local people believe Nyaminyami caused the terrible floods in his anger at the construction.

The unusual form of Victoria Falls enables virtually the whole width of the falls to be viewed face-on, at the same level as the top, from as close as 60 metres, because the whole Zambezi River drops into a deep, narrow slot like chasm, connected to a long series of gorges. Few other waterfalls allow such a close approach on foot.

The falls are formed as the full width of the river plummets in a single vertical drop into a chasm 60–120 m wide, carved by its waters along a fracture zone in the basalt plateau. The depth of the chasm, called the First Gorge, varies from 80 m at its western end to 108 m in the centre. The only outlet to the First Gorge is a 110 m-wide gap about two-thirds of the way across the width of the falls from the western end, through which the whole volume of the river pours into the Victoria Falls gorges.

There are two islands on the crest of the falls that are large enough to divide the curtain of water even at full flood: Boaruka Island (or Cataract Island) near the western bank and Livingstone Island near the middle. At less than full flood, additional islets divide the curtain of water into separate parallel streams. The main streams are named, in order from Zimbabwe (west) to Zambia (east): Leaping Water (called Devil's Cataract by some), Main Falls, Rainbow Falls (the highest) and the Eastern Cataract.

DAY 10
VICTORIA FALLS

Today is a free day. There are many activities and sights to do and see around Victoria Falls. This evening we have a meeting at 6pm where new travelers will join the group.

If you are interested in the Optional Helicopter flight (12 minutes or 25 minutes) we endorse the following operator only: Zambezi Helicopter co CAA Zimbabwe. Your leader can help you arrange this activity.

Accommodation:

Camping (with shared facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast



Optional Activities

Victoria Falls - Canoe trail (full day) - USD185
Victoria Falls - Flying fox - USD50
Victoria Falls - Gorge swing - USD103
Victoria Falls - Victoria Falls entrance - USD35
Victoria Falls - Helicopter flight (25 mins) – USD299
Victoria Falls - Helicopter flight (12 mins) - USD165
Victoria Falls - Village & township tour – USD60
Victoria Falls - Whitewater rafting (full day) - USD130
Victoria Falls - Whitewater rafting (half day) - USD130

**DAY 11
HWANGE NATIONAL PARK**

Leave Victoria Falls behind and head to Hwange National Park (approximately 5 hours, depending on traffic) via the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust. Here you can learn about the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife, human-wildlife conflict and their role in anti-poaching. There may also be a chance to meet any rescued or orphaned wildlife currently in their care. At Hwange National Park, you will explore this stunning wildlife arena in an open 4x4 vehicle. It became the royal hunting grounds of the Ndebele warrior-king Mzilikazi in the early 19th century and was set aside as a national park in 1929. Today, Hwange boasts a tremendous selection of wildlife with over 100 species of mammals and nearly 400 bird species. The elephants of Hwange are world famous – here you'll find one of the largest elephant populations in Africa. At tonight's camp, there is WiFi as well as optional accommodation upgrades (subject to availability).

Included Activities:

Hwange National Park – Open Safari Vehicle Game drive
Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust visit

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**DAY 12
MATOBO NATIONAL PARK/BULAWAYO**

Leave Hwange in your dust as you make tracks for Matobo National Park (approximately 5 hours). Shortly after leaving Hwange, stop at the Painted Dog Conservation Centre. The loss of quality habitat and poaching are driving the painted dog (also known as African wild dog) towards extinction. Learn about how they protect and increase the range and numbers of painted dogs in Zimbabwe and the Hwange ecosystem as a whole. Then it's onto Bulawayo – Zimbabwe's second-largest city. Take a stroll through the streets lined with old colonial buildings and stop in at a local cafe or restaurant for lunch before heading to your camp for the next two nights. Home to a large population of black and white rhinoceros that can be tracked on foot, Matobo National Park is also the site of the grave of Cecil John Rhodes, the founder of Rhodesia and the De Beers diamond company. The Matobo area has great spiritual and cultural significance to the local people and there are many sites within the park where important ceremonies still take place. Your campground tonight has shared facilities, wi-fi access and optional upgrades.

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast and Dinner



DAY 13
MATABO NATIONAL PARK/BULAWAYO

This morning, have a unique experience tracking rhinos on foot with the help of your guides. Here there will be the chance to spot other game – the park is home to klipspringers, leopards, warthogs and springhares, among others. You can also learn about the various local plant and trees, wild pear and paperbark among them, while discovering San paintings and intriguing rock formations of the park. After a cold lunch, venture to nearby African village and meet some of the local people.

Included Activities:

Matobo National Park – Rhino Tracking, 4 x4 Park visit & San Rock Paintings

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Bushman (San) people

The San people, formally known as Bushmen, are indigenous to Southern Africa and have lived here for over 30 000 years. It is truly an incredible experience to get an understanding of what Africa was like in the past and how these people survived in the desert conditions, living in harmony with nature. It is said that the word 'San' meant 'wild people who can't farm', however historically they didn't have a collective word for themselves. They now call themselves Ncoakhoe meaning 'red people' but the term 'San' is still predominant. They were nomadic people – primarily hunter gatherers, moving to where the food and water could be found. It is estimated that there are only 55 000 San people left, with 60% of them living in Botswana and the rest in Namibia and northern South Africa. Many examples of their expressive and remarkable cave paintings can be found dotted around Southern Africa, tracking their historical movements. Sadly, nowadays their traditional lifestyle has been eroded by colonial influence and they can be found in 'squalid alcohol plagued settlements' or on farms and cattle posts.

DAY 14
MAKUSHU VILLAGE

Get up nice and early for a day of travel. You'll cross a very busy border post, the only direct border crossing between Zimbabwe and South Africa. The drive is about 400 km long (approximately 6–8 hours). Your destination today is Makushu – a small village in the Limpopo Province of South Africa. Upon arrival to Makushu, you will be met by a local village guide, who will ensure you are well taken care of. You will be staying with homestay host mothers in their family homes. With your own room within the family home, you will get a true feeling of what it's like in the village – certainly a unique and memorable experience for travellers.

Accommodation:

Homestay (1 night)

Meals Included:

Breakfast and Dinner

Special Information

At your homestay tonight, each room is fitted with a double bed. Some of the homestay hosts have two or three guestrooms, ideal for family travels. On arrival to your home and meeting your host, you will receive a home stay kit. Each kit is fitted with clean linen (duvet, pillow, towel, face cloth, sheet), a roll of toilet paper, hand sanitiser, mosquito repellent, tea, coffee, cup, sugar and milk. No bathroom is conventional, which also applies to the setup in Makushu. True South African long drops situated outside of each home are available. These facilities are clean and well kept. Homestay hosts supply guests with hot water every morning and evening via portable bucket baths.



DAY 15
MAKUSHU VILLAGE

Rise and shine to the sounds of local village life – enjoy a day with your hosts in Makushu. As with any small town, no day is the same, but you will be involved in traditional village activities, depending on what tasks are required on that day. Some things you may get up to today include traditional floor making, beading, dancing, beer making and cooking. Today is a true opportunity to interact with the local villagers and learn of traditional Venda ways.

Included Activities:

*Makushu Homestay - Beading, Cooking or Dancing
Makushu Homestay – Morning hike*

Accommodation:

Homestay (1 night)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

DAY 16
KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Journey to Kruger National Park (approximately 8–9 hours). There will be an opportunity to stop at a shop or market for any supplies you might need. One of the largest game reserves in Southern Africa, Kruger National Park is home to over 500 bird species, 100 species of reptile and 150 mammal species, including the Big Five and the endangered African wild dog. Your wildlife experience begins as soon as you enter the park. You will head straight into prime game viewing areas, glimpsing anything from antelopes and eland to cheetahs and rhinos. Your campground, situated within the park itself, has shared facilities, hot and cold water, and optional upgrades.

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Optional Activities

Kruger National Park Night 4 x 4 Game Drive – + - ZAR 440

Special Information: *On occasion, especially during the peak months of May, June, July & December we are unable to secure campsites within the Kruger National Park. In this instance we will camp outside the park.*

DAY 17
KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Rise early and have a light breakfast of coffee and rusks before embarking on a full-day game drive in the truck. Most of the day will be spent game viewing, bird watching and stopping at various waterholes and viewpoints. Depending on the season, you might catch sight of a saddle-billed stork with its distinct red beak, or the blue waxbill which is commonly found foraging for seeds in the scrub. In the afternoon when it's warm, take some time out to relax. Later on there is an optional night drive with the park guide to spot nocturnal animals and perhaps even a night-time predator or two.



Included Activities:

Kruger National Park – Game Drive

Accommodation:

Camping (with facilities)

Meals Included:

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Optional Activities

Kruger National Park – Night 4 x 4 Game Drive – + - ZAR 440

Kruger National Park – Sunset 4 x 4 Game Drive - + - ZAR325

Special Information: On occasion, especially during the peak months of May, June, July & December we are unable to secure campsites within the Kruger National Park. In this instance we will camp at a backpackers outside the park

DAY 18 JOHANNESBURG

It's time to head to Johannesburg (approximately 9–10 hours). There's plenty of time to stop and explore along the way. You will take in amazing vistas at the viewpoint over Blyde River Canyon and Bourke's Luck Potholes. This trip finishes on arrival in Johannesburg at the finishing point hotel. No accommodation is provided for tonight, but this can be arranged when you book this trip. If you're wanting to catch an outgoing international flight, it's important to book it for 10 pm or later, to allow for delays that your group may encounter.

Included Activities:

Panorama route – God's Window Viewpoint

Panorama route – Bourke's Luck Potholes

Meals Included:

- *Breakfast*

Tour Information

Is this trip right for you?

- Camping on a remote island in the heart of the Okavango wilderness is an experience you'll never forget. However, there are no facilities. Dig a bush toilet and go without a shower, it's all part of the Delta experience.
- Wildlife viewing requires some sacrifice, like getting up before day break for dawn game drives. However, the lack of sleep is worth it for the exhilaration and excitement of spotting your first lion or rhino!
- We use our purpose-built overland vehicles for the duration of this trip. This multi-purpose truck allows for great game viewing with large sliding windows. As such the trucks do not have air-conditioning and conditions can be dusty and hot.
- The going can be slow over the long distances and often bumpy roads. A little bit of patience will go a long way towards your enjoyment of this beautiful land.



- This is a participatory camping trip. You will be expected to set up and take down your own tent as well as assist with food preparation and cleaning.
- As the early bird catches the worm, the early camper sights the animals. There will be many early starts either to make use of the better safari time or to beat the morning traffic on long travel days.
- Please note that this is a combination trip – two or more smaller trips linked together to make a longer adventure. That means your leader and group composition may change in Victoria Falls.

Pre Departure Information

Once booking has been confirmed we will send you a full and detailed pre-departure trip info and preparation document to help you prepare, below is some basic tour information.

Joining point

Holiday Inn Rosebank
The Zone Phase 2, 187 Oxford Rd
Johannesburg
Johannesburg
2196
SOUTH AFRICA

Joining point description

The Holiday Inn Rosebank is a comfortable modern hotel conveniently located just a short walk from the Rosebank Train Station and Zone Shopping Centre. The hotel facilities include an outdoor pool, a well-equipped gym and nearby golfing facilities. Guest rooms are fully air conditioned, include a TV with satellite channels, ensuite, tea and coffee maker and free WiFi. The Holiday Inn Rosebank is located 25kms from Johannesburg's O. R. Tambo International Airport.

Joining point Instructions

We recommend that if this is your first time to Jo'burg or if you are travelling alone, that you pre book an arrival transfer.

If you have pre-booked a transfer, your driver will be waiting for you in the arrivals area near the point you clear customs. Please look for our driver who will be holding a card with your name on it. The driver will wait for an hour after your scheduled arrival time.

If you want to make your own way from the Airport to our hotel in Johannesburg, the Gautrain is a fast and inexpensive option. Please note that the train only operates between 05:30am and 20:30pm daily. The train journey from O.R Tambo International Airport to Sandton takes 15 minutes. From Sandton train station you will need to catch another train just one stop to Rosebank Station. A oneway fare costs approximately 162.00ZAR. During Peak hours the trains depart every 12minutes (05:30-08:30 & 16:00-19:00).

Johannesburg is a very spread out city and depending on the time of day and traffic conditions, a transfer or taxi may take anywhere from 30 to 60 minutes to cover the 35 km from the airport to the Hotel. Please ensure you leave enough time.



Finishing point

Holiday Inn Rosebank
The Zone Phase 2, 187 Oxford Rd
Johannesburg
Johannesburg
2196
SOUTH AFRICA

Accommodation

Camping (with facilities) (12 nights), Camping (with basic facilities) (2 night), Bush camp (no facilities) (2 nights), Homestay (2 nights) Hotel (1 night)

Accommodation on this trip is mainly in two-person canvas dome tents with camping mattresses supplied.

The type and variety of accommodation is determined by conditions on each of our routes. Each route is different - on some we use a mixture of campsites and wild camps; on others we also use hotels. In Africa it's not usually practical to camp when staying in towns and cities so we use hotel accommodation and eat out in local restaurants.

There may be the occasional night stop, when we stay in the grounds of a hotel or at a campsite which may also have rooms/cabins available. In this case there may be a choice of camping or upgrading to a room. Rooms cost approximately USD60 per room per night for a twin room and cannot be pre-booked. The day by day itinerary advises when upgrades may be possible (subject to availability).

Keep in mind that if we are staying in dormitory accommodation, you may have to share with other passengers or be split into same sex rooms.

KRUGER PARK CAMPSITES:

On occasion, especially during the peak months of May, June and July we are unable to secure campsites within the Kruger National Park. In this instance we will camp at a backpackers outside the park.

TRANSPORT

Overland vehicle, 4 x4 safari vehicle, Mokoro

Our trucks are purpose-built, self contained safari vehicles. Our fleet of vehicles varies depending on your group size, trip route and style. In Southern Africa some departures may use vans and luggage trailers subject to group size and vehicle availability. It is also important to note that our overland vehicles are not air-conditioned, but all vehicles have windows that can be opened to allow for fresh air.

African conditions are extremely tough on vehicles. While we fastidiously maintain our vehicles at our workshops, you should not expect Africa to be your traditional touring experience. While it's certainly our aim to avoid them, it's important that you set off on your trip knowing that the occasional breakdown can happen and are best treated as part of the African adventure. Due to wet weather there may be times when we have to take an alternative route which will mean longer travel times.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

A selection of optional activities are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This isn't an exhaustive list and should be used as a guide only. Prices are approximate and are for entrance only and don't include transport to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. All activities are subject to availability and



it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. Where activities are considered medium or high risk, we work with operators whose safety and credentials we have sighted and assessed. This means that it is possible that you may find the same activity cheaper with another operator on the ground, however we cannot vouch for the safety or quality of that operator. Activities not listed above have not been assessed by us and as such our staff and leaders are unable to assist you with booking these activities. The decision to partake in any activity not listed is at your own discretion and risk.

MEALS:

If you have any dietary requirements please tell us at the time of booking, and also remind your crew at your welcome meeting.

A typical camp breakfast might be toast with spreads, cereal, something hot such as eggs or pancakes, as well as tea and coffee. Lunch is almost always a sandwich with healthy salad and assorted fillings, sometimes with fruit to follow. There may be a chance on occasion to buy your lunch. Dinner might be a BBQ, rice dish or pasta dish and there is always the chance to try some African food such as ugali and stew.

One thing is sure - you definitely won't go hungry or lose weight on your safari! When you aren't camping you will have the freedom to decide where, what and with whom you eat.

MEALS NOT INCLUDED

Breakfast, dinner and most lunches are included while camping on our overland safaris.

For lunches not included, a budget of USD10 to USD15 per meal will be more than sufficient.

For dinners not included, your leader will normally recommend options and restaurants where you can safely try the local specialties of the region. Expect meals to cost between USD12 to USD25 for a main. These are indicative prices only. If you are in a tight budget and are happy to try local food, you can eat cheaper than this.

IMPORTANT NOTES

This is a combination trip and the composition of your group may change in Victoria Falls

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend that you check your government's advice in relation to the areas you will be visiting for their latest travel information before departure and ensure that your travel insurance covers you for all areas your itinerary covers.

Luggage

We advise clients to be as light as possible when travelling through Africa. It is not a destination where you want to lug suitcases and heavy bags around. Lodges rarely have suitcase ramps meaning wheels are sometimes more of a hindrance and also impact on the case fitting in the lockers. On booking the pre-departure info will have a packing guide to help you prepare.



Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact us on the below details.

General Enquiries & Reservations	- info@detourafrica.co.za
Toll Free US/Canada	- 1-800-287-0823
Toll Free UK	- 0-808-134-9963
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