

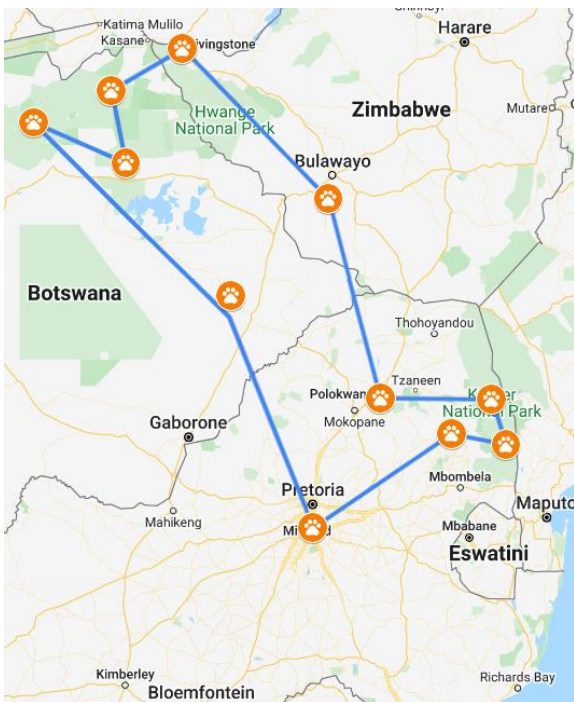


DETOUR AFRICA

Exploring Africa since 1999



# 14 Day Best of Southern Africa Accommodated Tour



## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Blyde River Canyon
- Kruger National Park
- Bakone Open Air Cultural Museum
- Chobe Sunset Cruise
- Chobe Game Drive
- Victoria Falls Visit
- Vic Falls Zambezi Sunset Dinner Cruise
- Motobo Nature Drive and Wilderness Walk
- Gweta Village Walk
- Okavango Delta Excursion, Mokoro/Walking Safari
- Khama Rhino Sanctuary



# TOUR ITINERARY

---

## 14 Days | South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana

Information is subject to change. Travel times and accommodation can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only.

### **DAY 1: PRETORIA - HOEDSPRUIT**

Departing from South Africa's administrative city, Pretoria, we drive across the scenic Mpumalanga province and enjoy the spectacular mountain vistas. We stop at the Blyde River Canyon to view the odd looking Three Rondavels rock formations perched at the edge of the Blyde River Canyon and enjoy the crisp air and picturesque views. The Blyde River Canyon is revered as an unusual sight because it is a 'wet' canyon, making it different from the wind-carved dry canyons found in desert regions elsewhere. After lunch we continue our journey making our way to our lodge for the night, set in attractive gardens approx. 1 hours drive from Kruger National Park. After dinner, relax and enjoy the first night on tour.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Nsele Lodge or similar: <a href="https://www.nselesafarilodge.co.za/">https://www.nselesafarilodge.co.za/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes

### **DAY 2: HOEDSPRUIT – KRUGER NATIONAL PARK**

Waking early, we board 4x4 game viewing vehicles for an intense but rewarding day in Kruger National Park. Your professional guide will point out areas of interest as we go. The park is home to over 505 species of birds and 148 species of mammals as well as good number of reptiles and abundant flora. The park has a good network of roads allowing relatively easy access - essential given its size - but has clear rules about encroaching on the animals' space. Ensuring conservation is a high priority, which perhaps helps explain why Kruger is held in such high regard amongst travellers worldwide. We game drive morning and afternoon with a break during the middle of the day to enjoy the peace of the rest camp and wait out the hottest part of the day (when wildlife is usually less active). If you have questions about the wildlife you see, or about the park itself, please ask your resident guide who will be happy to explain the ins and outs of animal behaviour and other interesting sights in Kruger. Eventually we leave the park to return to our accommodation for dinner and overnight.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Nsele Lodge or similar: <a href="https://www.nselesafarilodge.co.za/">https://www.nselesafarilodge.co.za/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Kruger 4x4 Game Drive

### **DAY 3: HOEDSPRUIT - POLOKWANE**

After breakfast we leave the Kruger area and travel across undulating countryside to the northern town of Polokwane. The journey takes us through beautiful scenic mountain passes and flourishing citrus plantations nestled along the valleys of the Limpopo Province. Previously known as the Northern Province, this is a land of myths and legends and is also highly rated as a Southern Africa Eco-tourism destination. Arriving in Polokwane, we head off to learn more about the local Bakone culture. This interesting open-air museum allows us to learn about traditional methods of the Bakone tribe who were settled in this area from historic times to the present day. Learn how they made fire, harvested, and prepared the staple mielie meal, and about the interesting decorations that adorn their dwellings. We later make our way to our accommodation nearby.

Please note that some group members may be starting their tour on this day.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Destiny Inn Lodge or similar: <a href="https://www.destinyinnlodge.co.za/">https://www.destinyinnlodge.co.za/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes (payable)
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Bakone Open Air Cultural Museum



#### **DAY 4: POLOKWANE – BULAWAYO, ZIMBABWE**

This morning we make our way north, crossing out of South Africa and into Zimbabwe. Immigration formalities at the busy Beitbridge border may be lengthy as this is South Africa's busiest land border. Once completed we continue to Bulawayo, a pleasant city with broad tree lined avenues and wide-open spaces. The area around the city offers much in the way of historical, geological, and natural interest. Several national parks are nearby including the well-known Matobo (sometimes written Matopos) which we shall visit. Our accommodation for the evening is in a quiet garden setting on the outskirts of town.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Travellers Guest House or similar: <a href="http://www.travellerszim.net/">http://www.travellerszim.net/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes

#### **DAY 5: BULAWAYO – MATOBO NATIONAL PARK**

Matobo National Park is located a short distance outside Bulawayo and knowledgeable guides will take us to this very impressive park. This reserve has the largest concentration of black and white rhino in Africa. Provided conditions are right, our guides will lead us on foot to some of the more concealed places in search of these magnificent animals. The park also has the densest population of leopard and black eagle in the world. We keep our eyes peeled high and low for these creatures. This half day tour will end after the walk and a vehicle will transfer you back to the camp for an afternoon at leisure.

Optional Full Day: The wind sculptured Matobo Hills are home to numerous Bushman paintings of which we get to visit on this optional full day tour. The hills are also home to the grave site of Cecil John Rhodes who chose this as his burial place owing to the intense natural beauty and startling views from the hills. His grave can be visited at World's View - a place of continual debate owing to his involvement in claiming the land and its people for Queen & Country in colonial times.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Travellers Guest House or similar: <a href="http://www.travellerszim.net/">http://www.travellerszim.net/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Nature Drive and Wilderness Walk – Half Day
<b>Optional Activities</b>	Upgrade to full day tour including historical tour and village tour for US\$55

#### **DAY 6: BULAWAYO – VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE**

Departing Bulawayo, we continue north to Victoria Falls. We usually arrive at Victoria Falls by early afternoon. This is a relatively small town built along the southern banks of the Zambezi River and is Zimbabwe's primary tourist centre. The Falls are only a short walk away and the town has a variety of markets, shops, cafes within easy distance. Your tour leader will arrange a briefing to explain the numerous optional excursions typically available here. We end our day joining a peaceful sunset dinner cruise on the Zambezi River. Soak up the African ambience with drink in hand as you cruise slowly up and down, looking out for elephant, buffalo, buck, hippo, and birdlife along the shallow muddy banks of one of Africa's great rivers. We return to our accommodation or try some of the local nightlife.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Shearwater Explorers Village or similar: <a href="https://www.shearwatervictoriafalls.com/stay/">https://www.shearwatervictoriafalls.com/stay/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Vic Falls Zambezi Sunset Dinner Cruise
<b>Optional Activities</b>	Bungee Jumping US\$170, Gorge Swing \$100, Helicopter Flights from US\$150 White water rafting \$130, Full day canoe \$150, Game walk \$120, Jet boating \$100, Birding ½ day \$160, Bike tour - 3 hours \$65 (Prices are guide only)

#### **DAY 7: VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE**

Rising early, we visit the Victoria Falls National Park itself to witness one of Africa's most enduring sights. Please take care when wandering along the pathways inside the reserve - the Falls are almost 100 metres deep and the drops are sheer! The rest of the day is at leisure giving you the opportunity to explore Victoria Falls. The Zambezi boasts one of the world's highest rated rivers for white river rafting with its many challenging rapids. Alternative options include canoeing, scenic



flights, bungee or (more relaxed) afternoon tea at the colonial styled Victoria Falls Hotel. Please note that some group members may be starting or ending their tour on this day.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Shearwater Explorers Village or similar: <a href="https://www.shearwatervictoriafalls.com/stay/">https://www.shearwatervictoriafalls.com/stay/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Vic Falls Visit
<b>Optional Activities</b>	See list on day 6

### **DAY 8: VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE – CHOBE NATIONAL PARK**

From Victoria Falls we travel the short distance to the Botswana border and cross into the small town of Kasane where we check into our accommodation. This afternoon we head out on a game drive and boat cruise in the Chobe National Park. Chobe is widely known for its populations of elephant, but the park also contains lion, leopard, hyena, giraffe and a host of antelope and birdlife. The Chobe floodplains and Chobe River provide a sensitive eco system which attracts much of the wildlife of the region, especially in the dry season when it is not uncommon to see between 500 and 2000 elephants on the floodplains at one time. One highlight of Chobe is the combination of wildlife, birdlife and reptiles seen along the banks of the Chobe River. We take the afternoon cruise for a unique perspective of river-side wildlife. This evening we relax and overnight at the lodge.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Thebe Safari Lodge or similar: <a href="https://theberiversafaris.com/">https://theberiversafaris.com/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Chobe 4x4 game drive and boat cruise

### **DAY 9: CHOBE NATIONAL PARK - GWETA**

Following breakfast, we depart for Gweta. Driving south we may be lucky to encounter elephant or buffalo alongside (or on) the road, often strays to the migratory herds which roam freely throughout the area in search of pasture and water. We stop in the small settlement of Nata for lunch before continuing to Gweta. Try the optional Baobab Forest tour to see these great natural giants. The night is spent at the lodge.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Gweta Lodge or similar: <a href="https://gwetalodge.co.za/">https://gwetalodge.co.za/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	No
<b>Optional Activities</b>	Baobab Forest Sundowners US\$40

### **DAY 10: GWETA - MAUN**

After an early breakfast we join a guided walk through a local Tswana village to learn about the life of the community, from schools and doctors to trading and traditions. We then depart and head west to Maun, the gateway to the Okavango Delta. Maun has experienced rapid growth in recent years and is a bustling provincial centre. Optional activities here include scenic flights, but our priority is to prepare for our excursion into the Okavango Delta. The afternoon is at leisure to relax with a cool beverage and pack for the Delta excursion for the following day.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Delta Rain's Sitatunga Camp or similar: <a href="https://www.deltarain.com/sitatunga-camp-2/">https://www.deltarain.com/sitatunga-camp-2/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes – Bar area only
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Guided village walk

### **DAY 11: MAUN – OKAVANGO DELTA**

Heading out early after breakfast we begin our excursion into the Okavango Delta. The first part of the journey is by 4x4 over rough sandy paths to the 'mokoro' station, where the river level reaches. Here we are introduced to the local Tswana 'polers', who will be our guides for the excursion. We transfer our luggage and equipment to the mokoros (dug-out canoes) and head off into the delta.



We travel by these shallow canoes amongst giant lily pads, tall grasses, and labyrinthine channels to our camp on the edge of the Okavango. From our camp we venture out on a guided walk in search of some of the prolific birdlife and larger mammals that inhabit the reserve. The whole area is a natural wetland spreading over some 1,600,000ha of northern Botswana offering a perfect habitat for the wildlife that roams here freely.

The Okavango River rises in Angola (far to the north) and flows south dividing repeatedly to form an intricate floodplain of channels and swamps which then spreads out into a broad flat inland delta - the only one of its kind in the world. We enjoy the afternoon wilderness experience and for many people the feeling of being at camp overnight is an unforgettable experience.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Elephant Camp or similar: no website available Two per pre erected tent with en-suite bathroom (basic-style bucket shower & toilet)
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	No
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Okavango Delta Excursion

### **DAY 12: OKAVANGO DELTA - MAUN**

This morning we explore the surrounds on a nature walk where you have the thrilling experience of being out in the natural wilderness. This is a great way to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of nature as it wakes for the day. After our walk we enjoy breakfast, we then pack our belongings and head back onto the mokoros, leaving nothing behind but footprints. Returning to our 4x4 and bidding our polers farewell, we return to Maun. The afternoon offers the opportunity to join the guide for a trip into town for a little shopping. Another popular activity here is an optional scenic flight over the 'Delta' for a bird's eye view of the wilderness you have just explored by mokoro and on foot. Prices depend on number of people interested. Seeing the vastness of the Okavango from the air gives a further appreciation of the beauty of this part of Africa. We return to our lodge for dinner and overnight.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Delta Rain's Sitatunga Camp or similar: <a href="https://www.deltarain.com/sitatunga-camp-2/">https://www.deltarain.com/sitatunga-camp-2/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes – Bar area only
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Okavango Delta Excursion
<b>Optional Activities</b>	Okavango Delta Scenic Flight per 5-seater plane - 45 min flight time from US\$650, Horse Riding (2 Hours) US\$65, Helicopter Scenic Flight per 3-seater chopper - 22 min flight time from \$450

### **DAY 13: MAUN – KHAMA RHINO SANCTUARY**

Another early rise for our long journey skirting the greater Kalahari. We may glimpse the vast salt pans of central Botswana as we head towards Khama Rhino Sanctuary which we normally reach by late afternoon.

We take a game drive to catch sight of the rhino with guides often pointing out interesting facts about the local fauna and flora. Our last night on safari is spent at the Stevensford private nature conservancy situated on the Limpopo River in Botswana's Tuli Block. At 3500 ha, this reserve is home to many species of antelope, crocodile, hippo, zebra, giraffe, and a plethora of bird species.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Stevensford Game Reserve or similar: <a href="http://sgrbw.com/accommodation/">http://sgrbw.com/accommodation/</a> Two per room with en-suite bathroom
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
<b>WIFI</b>	Yes
<b>Included Highlight</b>	Game drive in Khama Rhino Sanctuary

### **DAY 14: MARTINS DRIFT – PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA**

Our last morning sees us joining the main route along Martin's Drift border post. Crossing the mighty Limpopo River into South Africa, we take in the scenic views and notice changes to vegetation, infrastructure, and populated areas.

We arrive in Pretoria where our tour ends normally by mid to late afternoon.

<b>Accommodation</b>	Not Included
<b>Meals</b>	Breakfast



# TOUR INFORMATION

---

## Pre-Departure Information

Once booking has been confirmed we will send you a full and detailed pre-departure Booklet to help you prepare. Below is some basic tour information.

## joining information

This tour starts in Pretoria. The pre-departure meeting is held at 18:00 on the evening prior to departure. The tour departs at 07:00 am on Day 1 and ends in Pretoria on Day 14.

## Tour departure point

Please ensure you arrive at the departure point at least 30 minutes before the scheduled departure time

Tour start time: 7:00 am

Court Classique Suite Hotel

743 Francis Baard Street

Pretoria, 0007

Tel. +27 (0) 12 344 4420

[reservations@courtclassique.co.za](mailto:reservations@courtclassique.co.za)

## Tour ending point

Tour ends late afternoon on Day 14

Court Classique Suite Hotel

743 Francis Baard Street

Pretoria, 0007

Tel. +27 (0) 12 344 4420

[reservations@courtclassique.co.za](mailto:reservations@courtclassique.co.za)

## PCR Testing / Requirements

All guests participating in this tour should adhere to and be familiar with any mandatory covid-19 vaccine requirements or PCR testing requirements of the country/countries being visited. All costs associated with PCR testing will be for the guests' own account.

## Maximum Number of Passengers

With a maximum group size of 8 to 12 passengers, you benefit from a small group experience. Minimum age on this tour is 8 years old.

## Tour Style

To allow for the highlights and experiences packed into this tour, some long distances need to be covered. To minimise the impact travelling inevitably will have on a tour of this nature, we have allocated some days as longer driving days than others. Our intention is to cover the necessary ground as quickly and safely as possible with minimal delays. Border crossings, in particular at Beitbridge (day 4) can be tedious, as are the number of police road checks currently in place in Zimbabwe. We ask that you remain patient throughout. Africa is a wonderful continent to explore but there are occasions when it helps to remember that we are guests here and that when travelling sometimes things will take longer than we would like or expect at home.

## Arrival / Departure

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will avoid any unforeseen problems. We also highly recommend that you book your flights to depart the day after the tour officially ends to allow for delays and changes.

## Pre and Post Tour Accommodation

If you require accommodation before or after your tour, we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers – contact your Detour Africa travel agent to make these bookings.



## What's included

All tour highlights, twin share accommodation as indicated, services of an English-speaking driver / tour leader, all road and vehicle taxes, all ground transportation, meals as indicated.

## What's excluded

Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport transfers, optional activities, laundry, gratuities, passport & visa fees, items of a personal nature. Meals not included are purchased en-route for lunches, and in restaurants for dinner when in towns. Please ensure you budget for these.

## Local Payment (Safari Pass)

The mandatory Local Payment (Safari Pass) is paid to your tour leader at the beginning of the tour in USD cash, US dollars in clean, un-torn post 2008 edition notes (or pre-paid by arrangement at the time of booking). It is separate and in addition to the Tour Price and covers the cost of selected park entries, activities, and excursions as well as some accommodation along the way. The purpose of the separate payment is to ensure local suppliers benefit directly from your visit at the time of travel.

## Countries Visited

South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe

## Accommodation

Twin share accommodation with en-suite facilities as indicated. We mainly use accommodation situated in comfortable and picturesque locations with a pool, restaurant, and bar.

Please note that whilst every effort has been made to select accommodation of a consistent standard throughout the tour there are areas where this is difficult to achieve. We have not designed the tour with international standard hotels in mind but instead have sourced privately owned properties more suited to the environment and our philosophy of helping local benefit from tourism. For that reason, accommodation, hotel facilities and service levels may vary from area to area between and within countries. To a degree this reflects local infrastructure, tourism development, and of the communities whose areas we are visiting. At times you may find lapses in service frustrating, but we ask your patience and that you consider it part of the African experience. Naturally your tour leader will do all he/she can to rectify any problems that may arise as the tour proceeds and although we ask that you accept that not everything on tour is under their or our control.

## Transport

Minibus, custom-built vehicle, 4x4 open safari vehicle, river cruise boat, mokoro (please note vehicles are not air conditioned).

## Game Park visits

To maximise the quality of game driving and to comply with local authority rulings, some of our National Park visits and game viewing is carried out using services provided by local African ground handlers. As well as enhancing our experience using local guides and smaller vehicles it also allows us to contribute at a 'grassroots' level to local economies from which local people benefit.

## Optional Activities

To give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (in USD unless otherwise stated). All prices subject to change.

Activity	Price (US\$)	Activity	Price (US\$)
<b>Botswana</b>		Bike Tour – 3 hours	\$65
Okavango Delta Flight (5-7 Seated plane and 45 min flight time) – price per plane	From \$650	White-water Rafting	\$130
Baobab Forest Sundowners	\$40	Gorge Swing	\$100
Okavango Scenic Helicopter Flight per 3 seater chopper – 22 min flight time	From \$450	Full Day Canoe	\$150
<b>Zimbabwe</b>		Helicopter 12 Min	\$150
Matobo NP full day tour upgrade	\$55	Jet Boating	\$100
Vic Falls Bungee (single/tandem)	\$170	Birding ½ day	\$160



## Visa requirements

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
South Africa	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Zimbabwe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Botswana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes

**NB: The above is a guide only. Please check all visa requirements at least one month in advance of travel. Most nationalities do not need to obtain any of the above visas in advance. They are available at the border entry points and payable in US\$ cash.**

## Travelling with children

Please note that South Africa and Botswana Immigration requires for all children under the age of 18 to travel with an unabridged birth certificate to enter this country. Specific requirements apply if the minor is not travelling with both parents listed on the certificate.

## General

All information is subject to change without prior notice, changes would always be in consideration of your safety first and a better-quality experience. This would be where we are able to make improvements, sometimes last-minute decisions due to the nature of the tour/event. Travel times and campsites can change depending on road or weather conditions, or any unforeseen circumstances. These are used as a guideline only. On our longer tours it is possible that your crew, truck and fellow travellers will change due to our unique tour linking system.

## Special Requirements

Please confirm to us in writing if you are a vegetarian or if you suffer from any allergies (i.e nuts, milk, fish) (i.e. vegetarian), allergies (i.e. nuts, milk, fish). Where possible our guides do try and accommodate clients with intolerances (i.e. gluten, lactose), however we cannot guarantee the availability of speciality foods en-route and we therefore recommend you to bring these items with you or purchase them prior to departing on your tour.

## Luggage

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg luggage limit. A large soft holdall or backpack and a smaller day pack is ideal. On this tour you will need a mixture of lightweight cool clothing for the day and warm clothing (i.e., fleece, long trousers, scarf, and hat) for mornings and evenings as it can be cool on game drives and cold in winter (May-Aug). Pack a light rain jacket. It is advisable to bring mosquito spray throughout the year. A money belt / pouch that can be worn comfortably beneath your clothing is recommended. Please avoid bringing unnecessary valuables. A power bank is recommended to charge electronic devices. A full 'What to Bring' list is included in our pre-departure booklet, issued when you book.

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

**General Enquiries & Reservations:** [info@detourafrica.co.za/](mailto:info@detourafrica.co.za/)

**Website:** [www.detourafrica.co.za/](http://www.detourafrica.co.za/)

**Phone:** + 27 21 424 1115

**WhatsApp:** + 27 64 722 3617

**Telegram:** @DetourAfrica





# Safari Njema – Enjoy your trip!

---

Keep posted by following us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We post updates on relevant African travel news, special offers and other interesting travel tips and information.



We are member of SATSA (#1802) so you can be confident when booking with us that your money is safe and protected.

---

