



Catalogue Grouptour: Guided Big 5 Safari Tour (September 2024 / Windhoek to Victoria Waterfalls)

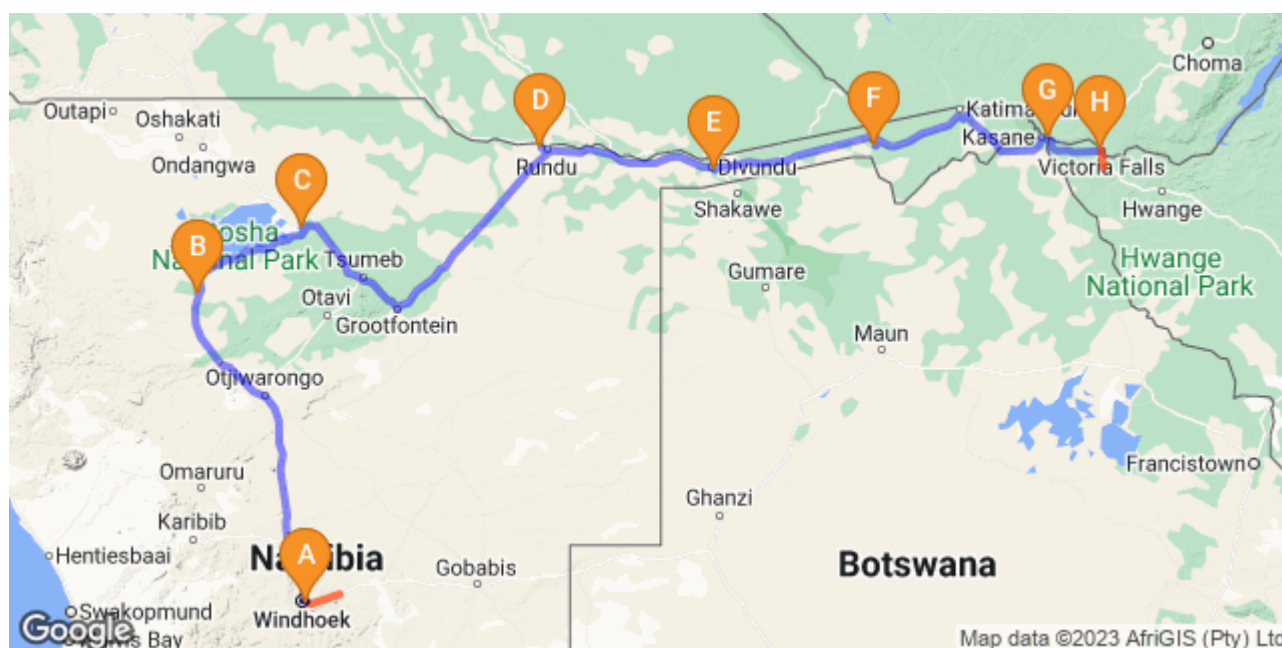
Windhoek - Etosha South - Onguma Game Reserve - Etosha National Park - Rundu - Divundu - Mahango Game Reserve - Caprivi East - Caprivi West - Chobe River Front - Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

12 Days / 11 Nights

Group Size: Groupsizes: 4 - 7 Persons

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Introduction

Guided Group Journey from Windhoek to Victoria Falls: Searching for the Big Five and More

Welcome to your exciting guided small group journey from Windhoek to the famous Victoria Falls! This trip promises an adventure filled with wildlife sightings, breathtaking landscapes, and unforgettable experiences. Our specially outfitted safari Land Cruiser with a pop-up roof allows for impressive animal viewing, accompanied by an experienced guide who will share their extensive knowledge of the wildlife and the region with you.

During your journey, you will explore numerous national parks in search of the Big Five and many other fascinating animals. Your days will be filled with exciting activities that enrich your itinerary and provide you with a deep understanding of the beauty and diversity of Africa.

The crowning moment of your trip takes place at the famous Victoria Falls, one of the most spectacular natural wonders in the world. Here, you can admire the tremendous cascading waters and conclude your journey amid stunning natural beauty. This guided small group journey promises unforgettable moments and a deep immersion into the fascinating world of African wildlife and nature.

Highlights and Description

- Small group with a maximum of 7 people
- Guaranteed window seat
- Travel in a safari vehicle with a pop-up roof
- Windhoek, Etosha National Park, Caprivi Strip National Parks, Chobe National Park
- Victoria Falls
- Numerous activities
- German- and English speaking tour guide

Your Choice, Your Adventure: Camping or Lodge

When booking your trip, you have the option to specify your preferences, whether you prefer the camping option or the lodge option. We want to ensure that your trip aligns with your desires and budget, and we offer you the following choices:

Lodge Option: The lodge option provides you with the luxury and comfort of top-notch accommodations. You will stay in selected lodges and guesthouses that offer amenities such as spacious rooms, excellent service, and outstanding cuisine. This option is suitable for travelers who value comfort and convenience during their safari.

Camping/Lodge Option: If you choose the camping option, you will be part of an exciting adventure in the heart of nature. We will provide you with camping equipment (small igloo tent, pillow, and air mattress) that will allow you to experience an authentic safari. Please bring your own sleeping bag. Certain nights of this trip will be spent in a tent under the African starry sky. The camping sites are always directly connected to the lodge, allowing you to enjoy the lodge's amenities. This option is perfect for adventurers seeking proximity to the wilderness and traveling on a budget. You will have meals with the rest of the group at the adjacent lodges. The tour itinerary will specify which nights you will spend in the tent.

Our priority is to ensure that your trip aligns with your expectations and style. Please inform us of your preferences when booking so that we can tailor your adventure to your wishes. Regardless of which option you choose, we will ensure that your safari is an unforgettable experience.

Your Safari Adventure - Inclusions that Make Your Adventure Unforgettable:

Daily Breakfast: Start your day fortified with a delicious breakfast at the lodge. Enjoy a selection of fresh fruits, hot dishes, and refreshing beverages as you prepare for the upcoming adventures.

Lunch Packs: To keep you energized and flexible during your safari, we provide you with a daily lunch pack. Perfect for taking with you on game drives or wilderness excursions. Enjoy your meal at a scenic spot in nature.

Dinner at the Lodge: At the end of an exciting day, return to the comfortable lodge and be surprised by the culinary delights prepared by our talented chefs. Look forward to a diverse dinner featuring local flavors and international dishes.

Water During the Drive: Your health and well-being are important to us. Therefore, we ensure that you are always supplied with sufficient water while on the road. Stay hydrated and enjoy your adventures without worries.

A Variety of Included Activities Awaits You: You can learn more about these activities in the itinerary.

Important Travel Information:

- The total price is based on a group size of 7 persons.
- The trip is guaranteed with a minimum of 4 participants.
- For a group size of 4-5 persons, there will be a surcharge of €400 on the tour price.
- If this trip does not meet your expectations, feel free to explore our self-drive tours by rental car.
- You are welcome to follow the Guide Vehicle with your rental car (Guided Self-Drive).
- Please take note of country-specific travel information as well as health and visa requirements.

Health Information:

- No mandatory vaccinations are required for travel to Namibia.
- In certain areas of Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe, there is a risk of malaria. Before your trip, please consult your family doctor or a tropical institute to discuss appropriate measures.

Start	Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Duration
Day 1	Naankuse @ Utopia	Windhoek	D	1 Night
Day 2	Etosha Safari Lodge Gondwana Collection Namibia	Etosha South	FB	1 Night
Day 3	Onguma Bush Camp	Onguma Game Reserve	FB	1 Night
Day 4	Hakusembe River Lodge Gondwana Collection Namibia	Rundu	FB	1 Night
Day 5	Shametu River Lodge	Divundu	FB	2 Nights
Day 7	Mukolo Camp	Caprivi East	FB	2 Nights

Day 9	Big 5 Chobe Lodge	Chobe River Front	FB	1 Night
Day 10	Nkosi Guest Lodge	Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)	FB	2 Nights

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

D: Dinner

FB: Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Price

Arrival at Windhoek International Airport: September 3, 2024

Departure from Victoria Falls International Airport: September 14, 2024

Prices for Lodge Tour (for a group size of 6-7 guests)

Per person sharing a double room: €3,999

Per person in a single room: €4,399

Prices for Mixed Camping/Lodge Tour (for a group size of 6-7 guests)

(8 nights in ground tents, 3 nights in lodge rooms)

Per person sharing a double room: €3,299

Per person in a single room: €3,499

Surcharge

For bookings with a group size of only 4 to 5 people, there is a surcharge of **€400** per person.

Included

- A diverse journey to the key highlights of Namibia
- Small group with a maximum of 7 people
- Guaranteed departure with a minimum of 4 people
- Guaranteed window seat
- Drinking water during the journey
- Travel in a safari vehicle with a pop-up roof
- Experienced guide
- Accommodations as described
- Numerous activities included
- Meals as specified
- National park entrance fees
- Comprehensive travel package

Excluded

- Visa fees
- Unplanned activities

- Tips or gratuities
- Personal expenses
- Beverages or drinks
- International flights

Day 1: Naankuse @ Utopia, Windhoek

Windhoek

Windhoek is the capital of Namibia, where the incredible ethnic mix of the country comes together, and reflects the diverse influences of Ovambo, Caprivian, Kavango, Damara, Nama, San, Herero and European peoples in its wide range of architecture, restaurants and cultural attractions. It is nice and safe to stroll in the city center. The most recognized landmark of the capital is the 'Christuskirche', but a visit to the Old Brewery and its arts and crafts center is also recommended.

Day Itinerary

Your Arrival in Windhoek: A Warm Welcome and Time to Relax

You will be eagerly awaited at the International Airport near Windhoek. Please note that our guide will pick you up according to the flight times of Euro Wings. If you have chosen a different flight, please organize and pay for an alternative airport transfer. We are here to assist you in making these arrangements in advance.

Our experienced guide will then accompany you to a cozy guesthouse in Windhoek. Here, a warm "Meet and Greet" will take place, during which we will discuss your entire journey in detail and provide you with all the necessary travel documents.

The rest of the day is yours to explore Windhoek at your leisure. You can explore the city, do some shopping for the tour, or relax by the pool to unwind from the rigors of the journey.

Windhoek, the charming capital of Namibia, offers a wealth of restaurants, shops, and accommodation options. The city is known for its cleanliness and organization. Windhoek's attractions include the imposing Christ Church and the historic Ink Palace.

In the evening, the group will gather for a communal dinner at the guesthouse's restaurant. This is an opportunity to share excitement for the upcoming journey and end the day in a convivial atmosphere.

Overnight: Naankuse @ Utopia

The modern N/a'ankusê@Utopia establishment has allied with the neighboring Pension Bougainvilla and offers serene rooms and luxurious suites situated amid beautiful, green lush gardens. The hotel is conveniently located in the tranquil suburb of Klein Windhoek.

Utopia combines business and leisure in a modest manner, simultaneously welcoming modern travelers and tourists in need of relaxation. Boasting 14 standard rooms, 7 luxurious suites and 1 executive suite, N/a'ankusê@Utopia creates an ideal hideaway.



Basis
Dinner

Day 2: Etosha Safari Lodge Gondwana Collection Namibia, Etosha South

Etosha South

The **Etosha National Park** is a nature reserve in northern Namibia and one of the most important game reserves in Africa. It is by far the best-known national park in Namibia. Today the park covers an area of almost 22,300 km² and is completely fenced off, to protect the game!

In the park lies an approximately 5,000 km² large salt pan, which was formed by the drying out of the inland delta of the Kunene River and its shifting of the river bed about 2 million years ago.

By fencing the Etosha National Park, the animals living there are dependent on the available water and food supply. That is why the water supply takes place through water holes, some of which are of natural origin but are also supplied artificially.

Day Itinerary

The Beginning of Your Unforgettable Journey

Your adventure begins in Windhoek with an exciting morning as your personal guide picks you up from the guesthouse. Together, we set off and follow the well-paved roads heading north to the southern entrance of Etosha National Park – Namibia's most famous national park.

Our guide is happy to make stops for you to capture the beauty of the landscape as the sun reaches its zenith. Around midday, a delicious lunch pack awaits you, which you can enjoy at one of the stops.

In the afternoon, we finally arrive at the enchanting lodge that provides your comfortable accommodation. Here, you can relax and unwind for the remainder of the day, preferably with a refreshing drink by the pool.

The Etosha Safari Camp, located just 10 km from Anderssons Tor, the southern entrance of Etosha National Park, awaits you with uniquely designed safari bungalows. These bungalows are set on the first hill of the Ondundozonanandana Mountains and impress with artistically painted floors and metal furniture created by talented Namibian craftsmen. Each bungalow features an inviting veranda with comfortable tables and chairs that stretch along its entire length. Dense vegetation and a canvas roof provide pleasant shade, allowing you to enjoy the surroundings in moderate weather.

The evening promises culinary delights as we enjoy a delicious dinner together in the lodge's restaurant. Let yourself be seduced by the flavors of Namibia and look forward to a night of relaxation and anticipation of the adventures to come.

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Overnight: Etosha Safari Lodge Gondwana Collection Namibia

Etosha Safari Lodge is located 10 km south of Andersson Gate on the C 38 (Etosha National Park). Sip on a drink while watching the ruby sun dip into the mopane woodland. Perched on a hill with expansive views, this stylish lodge offers 65 chalets that provide a peaceful base from which to explore the animal bounty of Etosha National Park. A shuttle service operates between Windhoek and Etosha Safari Lodge and Camp (on request).



Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 3: Onguma Bush Camp, Onguma Game Reserve

Onguma Game Reserve

Situated east of Etosha, bordering Fisher's Pan, **Onguma Game Reserve** is one of Namibia's best-kept secrets. The reserve offers visitors the opportunity to experience Africa in all her beauty and diversity. Onguma Game Reserve features over 34000 hectares of protected land scattered with a variety of wildlife including plains game, black rhino, kudu, giraffe, zebra, lion, cheetah, leopard and more than 300 bird species.

The seasonal rains attract thousands of migrating birds to the Fisher's Pan wetland area. The neighbouring Etosha National Park is home to a rich array of wildlife, including four of the Big 5. Visitors can enjoy game drives, guided walks and rhino research drives within the private reserve as well as wildlife safaris into Etosha National Park to view abundant game in the largest national park in Namibia.

Day Itinerary

A Day of Exploration in Etosha National Park

Today, a special adventure awaits us - a full day of exploration in the majestic Etosha National Park. Our journey takes us through the Anderson Gate in the southern part of Okaukuejo, where we will experience the beauty of southern Etosha.

The day starts early because wildlife observation requires patience and dedication. In Etosha National Park, we encounter thousands of animals of various species that often gather at the waterholes. Depending on the season, there can be a lot of activity, and you might suddenly find yourself surrounded by hundreds of springboks, zebras, and elephants.

Wildlife observation is an art of patience. We drive leisurely from one waterhole to another and linger there to observe the behavior of the animals. Our safari vehicle with a pop-up roof provides the perfect platform for photography and observation.

Around noon, we enjoy our lunch packs at one of the picturesque picnic spots in the park, refueling for more exciting wildlife encounters.

In the late afternoon, we exit the park at Namutoni and head to our beautiful lodge, located in close proximity to the park in the idyllic Onguma Game Reserve. Here, you can look forward to well-deserved relaxation and comfort as you reflect on the impressions of this exciting day.

Included Activity: Safari drive through Etosha National Park

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Overnight: Onguma Bush Camp

Onguma Bush Camp is ideal for families who would like to have a base from which they can explore Etosha National Park. Upon your return, relax and cool off around the swimming pool while watching a spectacular sunset... and the children can run around on the lawns as this is an enclosed camp. Dinner is served in the dining area overlooking a large waterhole. Here you will be treated to an excellent combination of European and traditional African cuisine while watching the game coming to drink. The new water-level hide will provide hours of game viewing opportunities for guests. Onguma Game Reserve now offers an opportunity to start a safari from the moment guests touch down at the private airstrip!



Activities

Etosha National Park

Etosha National Park

Situated in northwestern Namibia, the **Etosha National Park** offers a premier game viewing experience. The park's diverse vegetation ranges from dense bush to open plains attracting a variety of wildlife. Located in the heart of the park is the Etosha Pan - a shallow depression that covers an area of 5000 square kilometres. Dry and shimmering for most of the year, the pans fill up with water after seasonal rains, making it the perfect habitat for wildlife. In the dry season, the wildlife is attracted to the perennial springs and waterholes that makes for excellent game viewing. Visitors can look forward to world-class game viewing including a variety of large mammals such as lion, elephant, leopard, rhino, zebra, giraffe, a diversity of birdlife such as flamingoes and pelicans.

Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 4: Hakusembe River Lodge Gondwana Collection Namibia, Rundu

Rundu

Rundu is a city and the economic center of the Kavango-East region in the northeast of Namibia. It has a large population growth, making it the second largest city in Namibia after Windhoek. Rundu lies at 1095m above sea level on a scenic hill on the south bank of the Okavango River in the otherwise flat foothills of the northern Kalahari basin.

The Okavango river forms the border to the Republic of Angola in the north and is the stream of life for the Kavango people who live from fishing and agriculture.

Rundu has a slight Portuguese influence due to its proximity to Angola. The next largest cities are Katima Mulilo (approx. 500 km east) and Grootfontein (250 km southwest). This remote location and the beautiful lodges in and around town make Rundu an important stopover for refueling on the way out or into the Caprivi strip.

Rundu is also renowned for its local woodcarvers market as well as the numerous woodcarvers' huts dotting the side of the road.

Day Itinerary

Heading to the Okavango River

Today, we bid farewell to the awe-inspiring landscape of Etosha National Park and embark on an exciting journey along tar and gravel roads. The view from your window will be dominated by the ever-changing scenery as we approach the border with Angola.

We reach our lodge situated along the picturesque Okavango River, where nature unfolds in all its glory. After settling into our comfortable accommodations, we embark on an afternoon river cruise. The majestic landscape of the Okavango River and its rich wildlife will captivate you. Keep an eye out for the first signs of life – crocodiles, hippos, and a fascinating variety of birds populating the sky above you.

Included Activity: Sunset boat cruise on the Okavango River

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Overnight: Hakusembe River Lodge Gondwana Collection Namibia

Hakusembe River Lodge is located 16 km west of Rundu on the B 10 (Okavango). A lush green oasis on the banks of the Okavango River. Absorb river peace from one of the 20 chalets, hop aboard the Hakusembe River Queen, stroll to the cultural village or just relax on the deck listening to the soft symphony of feathered friends.



Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 5: Shametu River Lodge, Divundu

Divundu

Set roughly 200 kilometres east of Rundu on the southeastern banks of the great Okavango River, the small village of **Divundu** is known for its excellent location for exploring the river, game parks and national reserves of the area.

Take fishing or bird watching boat safaris, or visit the Mahango Game Park, filled with herds of elephants, as well as hippo, buffalo, giraffes, antelope, and many other animals.

The spectacular Popa Falls is a must-see. They are in fact a series of cascades that tumble through the split rocks. Divundu makes a wonderfully idyllic base for exploring Botswana and the Okavango Delta.

Day Itinerary

Adventure in the Caprivi Strip and an Oasis Called Shametu Lodge

Today, your journey takes you deep into the Caprivi Strip, specifically near Mahango Park. Along the way, you have the opportunity to visit the impressive Popa Falls.

Shametu Lodge, your accommodation for today, awaits you in close proximity to these fascinating waterfalls. Here, you can look forward to relaxation and comfort surrounded by picturesque scenery.

Your journey promises exciting adventures and beautiful nature experiences in the heart of the Caprivi Strip.

Included Activity: Boat trip to the Popa Rapids

Relax and enjoy a peaceful boat trip to the idyllic Popa Rapids at sunset. This activity is included in the tour price and provides you with the opportunity to explore the natural beauty of the surroundings at your leisure.

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Overnight: Shametu River Lodge

Shametu River Lodge enjoys luxurious solitude on the edge of the Okavango river with a magnificent view of the unique Popa Falls. The lodge is halfway between the major gems of Southern Africa, the Okavango Delta and the Victoria Falls, making it an ideal stopover to unwind during your journey. However it should not only be seen as a stopover, Shametu River Lodge is in a close proximity of a few of Namibia's untamed National Parks the Buffalo core area inside the Bwabwata National Park and Mahangu National park. We will be offering affordable Chalets and Tented chalets with breathtaking views of the unspoilt Okavango river and the thundering Popa Falls. A true African experience! There are 4 luxury chalets, 4 luxury tented chalets and 7 standard chalets. All units have electricity, hot water showers and Wifi. Shametu River Lodge is already known for their "five star" camping experience with green grass and shaded trees. There are eight campsites each with their own ablution blocks offering hot water, kitchenette, wifi and electricity facilities.



Activities

Popa Falls

Popa Falls

Based on the banks of the Okavango River, the Popa Falls is a scenic series of cascades in the village of Divundu, Namibia. This 4-metre high waterfall serves as a picturesque setting for sundowners, boat cruises and dinners. Situated just 15 kilometres from Mahango Game Park, the falls is a ravishing rest stop to the park's astonishingly scenic landscape of perennial rivers, dense woodlands, lush forests, floodplains and reed-lined waterways. The region is teeming with birdlife namely egrets, cranes, herons, pelicans, storks, Pel's Fishing Owl and Montagu's Harrier. Popa Falls Game Park is the smallest in Namibia, still, it offers spectacular sightings of various animals such as elephant, hippo, buffalo, Nile Crocodile, red lechwe, reedbuck, as well as roan, sable, and sitatunga antelope.

Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 6: Shametu River Lodge, Divundu

Day Itinerary

We Embark on the Safari Adventure!

Today, we set out on an exciting safari adventure. With our specially equipped safari vehicle, featuring a pop-up roof for optimal viewing, we explore the fascinating wildlife of Mahangu Park. Together, we experience unforgettable encounters and discover the wonders of the African wilderness. It promises to be a day full of adventure and wildlife sightings!

Included Activity: Safari drive to Mahangu National Park

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Activities

Mahango Game Reserve

Mahango Game Reserve

Bordering Botswana, the small **Mahango Game Park** provides a convenient stopover between Rundu and Katima Mulilo. It forms part of the beautiful Bwabwata National Park.

The park's landscape is characterised by woodlands, vast floodplains of the Okavango River basin known as Omurambas and the Kavango River. It is home to a reported 99 species of including a large number of elephants, lion, leopard and a variety of antelopes including the red lechwe, sable and roan. This park is an excellent destination for avid bird watchers boasting over 400 species and provides the perfect spot for visitors to catch a glimpse of crocodile and hippo in the Kavango River.

Other popular activities include: night game drives, wildlife safaris, and watching the African sunset over the floodplains.

Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 7: Mukolo Camp, Caprivi East

Caprivi East

Situated on the northern edges of Namibia, East Caprivi or Itenge is situated in the corner of the Namibian panhandle known as the Caprivi Strip. This off-the-beaten-track destination is made up of vast floodplains, sparkling lakes and lush swamplands dotted with diverse wildlife and an array of bird species. Caprivi East is mostly river country, bounded by the Kwando, Zambezi, Linyanti, and Chobe rivers. The best time to spot a variety of game is the dry winter months of June to October when visitors can spot elephants, buffalo, hippo, zebra, kudu and impala, as well as crocodile, baboon and warthog. Caprivi East is an excellent destination for bird lovers to spot plovers, egrets, herons, and cranes.

Day Itinerary

Traveling on Straight Roads from Divundu to Kongola

Our journey takes us through the captivating Caprivi Strip, a region rich in diversity and natural beauty.

After a day of travel, relaxation awaits you at your accommodation, located directly on the Kwando River. Whether you choose a lodge or to relax by the pool, you can look forward to well-deserved rest. Reflect on the day's experiences and savor the tranquility and beauty of this unique environment in the heart of Africa.

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Overnight: Mukolo Camp

With an exquisite view of the Kwando River floodplains, the Mukolo Camp is situated on the Zambezi strip of Namibia. Accommodation consists of a variety of campsites and self-catering cabins. Each campsite has a braai area and bathroom. The cabins feature a fully equipped kitchen and a private bathroom. Other amenities include an outdoor swimming pool, a bar and internet access.



Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 8: Mukolo Camp, Caprivi East**Day Itinerary****A Day by the Kwando River: Exploring Bwabwata National Park and the Horse Shoe**

Your day along the Kwando River promises not only exciting wildlife sightings in Bwabwata National Park but also an exploration of the fascinating "Horse Shoe." With our safari vehicle, you'll embark on an exciting game drive, providing you with the opportunity to observe a remarkable variety of wildlife, including majestic buffalo.

After this thrilling safari, you'll explore the "Horse Shoe," a special place where large herds of elephants often gather to drink and bathe. This natural spectacle is a breathtaking sight and offers you the chance to witness these majestic creatures in their natural habitat.

Your day along the Kwando River promises unforgettable wildlife encounters and nature experiences in one of the richest wildlife conservation areas in this region.

Included Activity: Safari Drive to Bwabwata National Park

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Activities

Bwabwata National Park

Bwabwata National Park

Stretching over 6200 square kilometres in northeast Namibia, the Bwabwata National Park includes the Caprivi Game Park and the Mahango Game Reserve which extends along the narrow Caprivi strip. The park functions as a wildlife sanctuary and practices community-engaged conservation. Dubbed the 'People's Park', the local Caprivian people live in harmony with the land and the animals. With an ever-growing wildlife population, the park is home to many animals including, elephant, leopard, lion, buffalo, wildebeest, crocodile, as well as red lechwe. Avid birdwatchers will be thrilled to find over 330 bird species in the area. Visitors can look forward to excellent game viewing, boat safaris, nature walks and camping under the Namibian night sky.

Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 9: Big 5 Chobe Lodge, Chobe River Front

Chobe River Front

The Chobe River forms the northern boundary of the **Chobe National Park**, renowned for its diverse and abundant game viewing opportunities. This section of the park is best known for its dense concentration of wildlife including elephant and hippo populations, but the waters attract all manner of game including large herds of buffalo and the lions that prey on them. A visit to this area guarantees close encounters with an array of African wildlife. Visitors can look forward to some exciting activities such as: driving along the game-dotted river banks in a 4WD; cruising along the river in a motorboat, spotting rare birdlife and for a unique, luxury safari experience, hire a houseboat.

The park is widely known for its large elephant population, estimated to be around 50,000. Elephants living here are Kalahari elephants, the largest in size of all known elephant populations. They are characterized by rather brittle ivory and short tusks, perhaps due to calcium deficiency in the soils. At dry season, these elephants sojourn in Chobe River and the Linyanti River areas. In the rainy season, they make a 200-kilometre migration to the south-eastern stretch of the park. Their distribution zone however outreaches the park and spreads to north-western Zimbabwe.

Day Itinerary

Crossing the Border, Drive through Chobe National Park, and Afternoon Boat Cruise on the Chobe River

Today, your journey takes you across the border into Botswana, which is usually a smooth and quick process. After crossing the border, we continue our drive on a paved road through the impressive Chobe National Park. Be cautious, as you may encounter elephant herds or other wildlife at any moment.

Your beautiful lodge awaits you right on the banks of the Chobe River. Here, you have the opportunity to observe elephant herds, hippos, and crocodiles with a bit of luck, all while enjoying the natural beauty of this environment.

In the afternoon, another highlight awaits: a relaxing boat safari on the Chobe River. As you glide on the water, you can observe wildlife in their natural habitat and experience the fascinating impressions of this unique river ecosystem.

Included Activity: Boat Cruise on the Chobe River

Accommodation Choice

Tonight on our safari journey, you have a choice! Spend the night either in the cozy igloo tent at the lodge's campsite, experiencing nature up close, or indulge in the luxury and comfort of a spacious room in the lodge. Regardless of your choice, all meals are served in the lodge, allowing you to fully focus on exploring the wilderness.

Please let us know when booking the trip whether you would like to book the camping option or prefer the lodge option.

Overnight: Big 5 Chobe Lodge

Big 5 Chobe Lodge's offers more affordable accommodation in the Chobe region of Botswana. It offers breathtaking views over the mighty Chobe River onto the Impalila Island. The wonderful hospitality will make you feel right at home and you will enjoy very comfortable accommodation in bungalow-style rooms. All rooms of Big 5 Chobe Lodge are en-suite, with coffee and tea facilities, overhead fans or air-conditioner and a choice of twin or double beds. The campsites are equipped with private ablutions, powerpoints, hot/cold showers, wash basins and fire places. Big 5 Chobe Lodge is situated on the bank of the Chobe River in the far Northern corner of Botswana at the place where

four African countries meet. Across the Chobe River is Namibia, to the east across the Zambezi River is Zambia and to the south is Zimbabwe. The area is called Kazungula and Victoria Falls is 70km away by road. A few minutes drive to the west brings you to the town of Kasane and gateway to the Chobe National Park, which is one of the major game viewing areas of Botswana.



Activities

Chobe Safari Lodge Boat Cruises

Chobe Safari Lodge Boat Cruises

Chobe Boat Cruises are a wonderful way to experience the Chobe National Park. Herds of elephants can be seen crossing the Chobe river into the island which is a spectacular sight to witness. Other animal species such as hippos and crocodiles can be seen lounging in the sun by the riverside. The boat cruises are available in a number of different options. The standard cruise boards approximately 30-40 people. The bigger boats feature a bar on board for refreshments while the smaller boats are perfect for bird watching. Boat cruises depart from the town of Kasane at either the morning or afternoon departures. A private boat cruise can be arranged for alternate times.

Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 10: Nkosi Guest Lodge, Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

Victoria Falls is one of the world's most impressive waterfalls. It is set on the magnificent Zambezi River which creates the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. These spectacular falls can be easily visited and viewed from the Zimbabwean side. Considered to be the world's widest waterfalls, Victoria Falls measures an impressive 1708 metres in width. The small town of Victoria Falls, which lies adjacent to the waterfalls, serves as a great base from which to explore the many attractions this area of Zimbabwe has to offer. The surrounding area provides a wide range of adrenalin-filled activities for adventure lovers. Visitors can look forward to an array of wonderful activities including: scenic flights, micro lighting, white water rafting, bungee jumping, kayaking, and once-in-a-lifetime expeditions into the incredible Chobe National Park.

Day Itinerary

Border Crossing into Zimbabwe and Arrival in Victoria Falls Town

Today marks your journey across the border into Zimbabwe, a thrilling drive through the border region. After crossing the border, you continue your journey and eventually arrive in Victoria Falls Town.

Here, you will encounter the world-famous Victoria Falls, one of the most spectacular natural wonders on Earth. Those who wish can explore the renowned Victoria Falls Bridge with an e-bike, providing an exciting and eco-friendly way to experience this impressive bridge.

Furthermore, there is an opportunity to admire the breathtaking Victoria Falls from a bird's eye view during a helicopter flight. This experience offers an entirely new perspective on this natural wonder and will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression on you.

Alternatively, you can relax at your lodge and fully embrace the majestic surroundings of Victoria Falls. This day offers you the freedom to decide how you want to spend your time in this stunning environment.

Overnight: Nkosi Guest Lodge

Welcome to Nkosi Guest Lodge, a serene retreat nestled in the heart of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Immerse yourself in the natural beauty of this awe-inspiring destination while enjoying the unmatched comfort and convenience our lodge offers.

Our spacious rooms are meticulously designed to provide you with the ultimate relaxation. Indulge in the luxury of large en-suite bathrooms featuring spacious showers and luxurious bathtubs. Modern amenities like hairdryers, tea/coffee making facilities, and secure safes are provided for your convenience.

We take pride in our commitment to inclusivity, offering wheelchair-compliant rooms and facilities for all guests to enjoy a comfortable and accessible stay.

Start your day with a delicious breakfast served in our charming dining area. Our dedicated housekeeping team ensures your room is impeccably cleaned and refreshed daily.

Unwind at our inviting bar or take a refreshing dip in our swimming pool, providing a tranquil oasis to escape the African heat.

Discover the perfect blend of serenity, luxury, and convenience at Nkosi Guest Lodge. Book your unforgettable stay today and let us create an extraordinary experience as you explore the wonders of Victoria Falls.



Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 11: Nkosi Guest Lodge, Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

Day Itinerary

The Final Day in Victoria Falls

Your last day in Victoria Falls promises an unforgettable conclusion to your journey. In the morning, you will explore the Victoria Falls Rainforest National Park accompanied by your experienced guide. Here, you will have the opportunity to discover the fascinating flora and fauna of this unique rainforest and admire the majestic Victoria Falls up close.

In the late afternoon, another highlight awaits you: a dinner cruise on the mighty Zambezi River. As you glide on the river, you can savor a delicious dinner and refreshing drinks while the sunset bathes the scenery in a magical light. This dinner cruise forms a beautiful conclusion to your trip, allowing you to fully experience the beauty and enchantment of this region.

Included Activity: Visit to the Rainforest National Park and Dinner Cruise Boat Ride on the Zambezi River

Activities

Victoria Falls Rainforest

Wild Horizons Malachite Dinner Cruise

Victoria Falls Rainforest

The Victoria Falls Rainforest is a lush, emerald oasis nestled on the edge of the iconic Victoria Falls in southern Africa. This enchanting rainforest is perpetually misty, thanks to the towering plumes of spray created by the immense waterfall. It's a haven for biodiversity, featuring unique plant species and vibrant birdlife.

Wild Horizons Malachite Dinner Cruise

As the sun begins its descent, guests step on board the Wild Horizons Malachite Dinner Cruise for an exceptional evening on the Zambezi River. Like the exquisite bird after which it was named, 'Malachite' is one of the Zambezi

River's crowning gems. Powered by two 60HP four stroke marine motors, this beautifully crafted double deck 'floating restaurants' silently slices across the surface of the river.

On the upper deck, guests are offered a glass of sparkling wine to sip as they settle into the plush cushioned furniture and relax before the journey along the Zambezi River begins; all the while looking out for the various birdlife and animals there are to be seen, and then watching as one of Africa's famous sunsets erupts in the sky. A barman and three intuitive waiters anticipate guests' needs, serving a selection of lively cocktails and imported premium spirits throughout their journey.

After the sun has sunk below the river line, dinner is served on the lower deck of the vessel exemplifying the hallmarks of exquisite cuisine prepared on board by two chefs. The rich aroma of locally sourced, fresh ingredients wafts around diners as the dishes are plated.

A captain completes the crew and their combined experience promises an insightful and memorable evening.

Basis

Full Board - Dinner, Bed, Breakfast and Lunch

Day 12: End of Itinerary

Day Itinerary

Day of Departure

On your final day in Victoria Falls Town, you'll enjoy a leisurely breakfast with your group. It's a time to reflect on the incredible journey you've had together. After breakfast, you'll bid farewell to your fellow travelers, exchanging contact information and memories.

As part of our service, we will provide a transfer for you to Victoria Falls Airport, ensuring a smooth and convenient departure. This transfer is included in your package, allowing you to relax and focus on your journey home.

We hope you've had a remarkable adventure exploring the wonders of Africa with us, and we look forward to welcoming you back for more exciting experiences in the future. Safe travels!

Basis

Bed and Breakfast

Transport

Transfers

Date	Company	Pick Up	Drop Off	Time	Vehicle
		Hosea Kutako International Airport [WDH]	Naankuse @ Utopia		Transfer
		Nkosi Guest Lodge	Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA]		Transfer

Urgent Contact Numbers

Company Name	Telephone	Email Address	Contact Person
Meine Namibia Safaris	+264 (0)61 304 713	info@explore-africa-travel.com	
Explore Africa Travel (Pty) Ltd.	+264 (0)61 304 713	info@explore-namibia.com	Explore Namibia Windhoek
Explore Africa Travel (Pty) Ltd. - Emergency Contact	+264 (0)81 473 1416		

Travel Information



Located in southwestern Africa, Namibia boasts a well-developed infrastructure, some of the best tourist facilities in Africa, and an impressive list of breathtaking natural wonders. Visitors can explore the capital of Windhoek and discover the lovely coastal town of Swakopmund boasting remnants of the country's German influence, reflected in the architecture, culture, cuisine and the annual Oktoberfest celebrations. To properly appreciate this extraordinary country, you will have to venture out of the cities to explore the remarkable natural landscapes Namibia has to offer. These include: the impressive Fish River Canyon; the vast Etosha National Park teeming with abundant wildlife, such as lions, desert-adapted elephants and the Hartmann's Mountain Zebra; the hauntingly beautiful Kalahari Desert; and of course the Namib Desert stretching for over 2000 km along the magnificent Atlantic Coast. Namibia is an ideal destination for travellers seeking an unforgettable African experience in a uniquely beautiful untamed wilderness.

Entry Requirements

Passport and driving licence

A journey can only start with a valid passport. Do check if the passports of all participants are valid for 6 more months from the date that you again depart from Namibia or Botswana.

Attention: When flying over and staying in South Africa and/or Botswana with children under 18 years it is required to have a unabridged birth certificate with you for these children. When a child travels with only one parent mentioned on the birth certificate it is required to have a written letter of consent with you of the parent not joining.

When one wants to rent a car the renter has to show a valid driving licence. Valid driving licences are: international drivers license, European Union driving licence, any national driving licence in English. National driving licences without mentioning in English "driving licence" must be accompanied by an officially certified translation in English. A driver needs to be at least 25 years old to be allowed to hire and drive a car.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Namibia uses the Namibian Dollar (N\$) this is linked on a one to one exchange with the South African Rand. The Rand is legal tender in Namibia, but the N\$ cannot be used in South Africa.

If you are wishing to purchase currency before arriving in Namibia, it is easiest to buy Rand as the Namibian Dollar is seldom available in banks outside of Namibia.

Banking

Banks are found in most towns, and are generally open from 09h00 to 15h30 on weekdays and 08h30 to 11h00 on Saturdays. Closed on Sundays and public holidays. Most of them offer foreign exchange services - with cash, bank and credit cards as well as travellers cheques.

You can also obtain cash from many of the ATMs. Several international banks have branches in main city centres. Always advise your bank that you are travelling outside of the country as they might block your purchases if they have not been informed.

Money matters

Master and Visa credit cards are in general accepted in Namibia. For money withdrawals at ATM's at the different banks (except Bank Windhoek) you can use the normal debit cards (Maestro).

In Botswana the Visa credit card is mostly accepted. Money withdrawals with normal debit cards are usually not possible. For Botswana it is recommended to take USD and/or EUR cash. For crossing the border of Zimbabwe and a visit to the Victoria Falls you will need USD.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Namibia is geared towards the needs of the local populace, and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Namibia's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

It is easy to travel around Namibia by car, and a 4WD vehicle is perfectly adequate both tarred and gravel roads. However, long distances, poor mobile phone coverage outside of main towns and infrequent petrol stations that only accept cash mean that planning ahead is vital.

There are major airlines that fly into Windhoek and Swakopmund. Other destinations are reachable by car or charter flight.

Namibians drive on the left and all signposts are in English. Seat belts must be worn at all times and talking in a mobile phone while driving is prohibited. The general speed limit is 100km/h on tarred roads outside of towns and 80km/h on gravel roads. In built up areas, the speed limit is 60km/h.

Health and Medical Information

Travel healthy

Beside taking the normal 'travel pharmacy' it is important to get informed about the necessary vaccinations. The DTP vaccination (Diphtheria, Tetanus en Polio) and Hepatitis A vaccination are recommended. The Hepatitis B en typhoid vaccination are only necessary depending on the nature, duration and length of the stay. A Yellow fever vaccination is only mandatory when travellers come from a yellow fever area.

During summer (December – April) the risk of getting malaria is higher than during wintertime (May – October). When you visit the far north of Namibia, the Caprivistrip, the Okavango Delta and/or the Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, it is certainly recommended to take malaria prophylaxis. Also take necessary preventions, such as wearing protective clothes, and using anti-mosquito remedy, preferably with the ingredient DEET.

For professional advise contact your doctor or travel clinic.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Traditional Namibian cuisine is rarely served and so the food at restaurants tends to be European in style and is, generally, of a very high standard.

Namibia is very meat-orientated, and many menu options will feature steaks from various animals. However, there is usually a vegetarian and seafood section offered by most camps and restaurants.

In the supermarkets you'll find pre-wrapped fresh fruit and vegetables (though the more remote the areas you visit, the smaller your choice), and plenty of canned foods, pasta, rice, bread, etc. Most of this is imported from South Africa.

The water in Namibia's main towns is generally safe to drink, though it may taste a little metallic if it has been piped for miles. Natural sources should usually be purified, though water from underground springs and dry riverbeds seldom causes any problems. However, filtered and bottled water are readily available in most towns and all camps, lodges and hotels.

Climate and Weather

Partially covered by the Namib Desert, one of the world's driest deserts, Namibia's climate is generally very dry and pleasant – it's fine to visit all year round. Namibia only receives a fraction of the rain experienced by countries further east. Between about **December to March** some days will be humid and rain may follow, often in localised, afternoon thunderstorms. These are more common in the centre and east of the country, and more unusual in the desert.

April and especially **May** are often lovely months in Namibia. Increasingly dry, with a real freshness in the air, and much greenery in the landscape; at this time the air is clear and largely free from dust.

From **June to August** Namibia cools down and dries out more; nights can become cold, dropping below freezing in some desert areas. As the landscape dries so the game in the north of the country gravitates more to waterholes, and is more easily seen by visitors. By **September and October** it warms up again; game-viewing in most areas is at its best, although there's often a lot of dust around and the vegetation has lost its vibrancy.

November is a highly variable month. Sometimes the hot, dry weather will continue, at other times the sky will fill with clouds and threaten to rain – but if you're lucky enough to witness the first rains of the season, you'll never forget the drama.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

Namibians have a somewhat relaxed attitude to dress codes. A jacket and tie is very unusual. In fact, long trousers and a shirt with buttons are often quite adequate for a formal occasion or work wear. A pair of sensible shoes, jeans and a t-shirt is recommended.

During the day it is generally hot, so pack light weight loose fitting clothes in natural fabrics, such as linen or cotton, that will keep you cool and are easy to wash and dry.

Keep in mind that the 'winter'-month will require you to take a warm set of clothes for the cold evenings.

Internet Availability

Telecom Namibia offers a service called wi-space. You purchase a wi-space voucher that allows you to connect to WiFi wherever you see the wi-space logo (about 40 locations in Namibia).

Alternatively good WiFi access is available at most holiday accommodation venues across the country (free / paid).

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets in Namibia are Type M (SABS-1661). If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into. If it's crucial to be able to plug in no matter what, bring an adapter for all types.

Electrical sockets in Namibia usually supply electricity at 230 volts AC / 50 Hz frequency. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 230 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need. If your appliance isn't compatible with 230 volts, a voltage converter will be necessary.

General Guidance

Securities

Explore Namibia is an official member of the NTB (Namibian Tourism Board). This is a government institution that oversees the quality of the tourism industry in Namibia. Furthermore, Explore Namibia is a member of the TASA

(Tourism Association Southern Africa). This organization monitors the observance of all kinds of rules in tourism in southern Africa.

At the moment of booking a 25% deposit is required. The outstanding amount is due 6 weeks prior to arrival in Windhoek. An official invoice will be send to you. This can also be used for arranging a travel and cancellation insurance.

Payment can be done directly on to our European bank account.



Situated in the southern reaches of Africa, Botswana is renowned for its pristine wilderness areas characterised by deep lagoons, wetlands, lush palms, rugged hills and desert plains. The country's primary tourist drawcard is undoubtedly the vast red expanse of the Kalahari Desert and its remarkably beautiful Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta in the world. These natural wonders provide a tranquil haven for an abundance of African wildlife to thrive. Other highlights include the impressive Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, where visitors are privy to massive zebra migrations during the flood season; the Savuti plains, which host a significant pride of lions; and the Tsodilo Hills, where 4500 rock paintings form a unique record of human settlement over many millennia.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Botswana's currency is Pula (which means 'rain' in Setswana). It is divided into 100 thebe (which means 'shield' in Setswana). Travellers' cheques and foreign currency may be changed at banks, bureaux de change and authorised hotels.

The US dollar, Euros, British Pound and the South African Rand are the most easily convertible currencies (and accepted by some establishments - but, generally, then an inflated rate of exchange will be applied).

Banking

Seven main commercial banks, as well as a number of foreign exchange bureaux, operate in Botswana. Operating hours are Monday to Friday 08h30 to 15h30 and Saturday 08h30 to 10h45.

Full banking services are available in major towns, although ATMs are sprouting up all over the country. Most credit cards are accepted at hotels and restaurants. Cultural sites and community art and craft outlets usually only accept cash.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Botswana is geared towards the needs of the local populace and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Botswana's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

Driving off the main roads in Botswana is only recommended to experts in 4x4 vehicles, that are equipped correctly. Most lodges offer transfers or they can be arranged. If, however, you will be driving in Botswana: your home driving licence will be accepted (with an official English translation if necessary; driving is on the left side of the road; and the national speed limit is on tarred roads is 120km/h and 60km/h in towns and villages.

Be sure to watch out for wild animals on the roads!

There are major airports in Maun, Kasane and Gaborone, while smaller charter flights are used to get to the other top attractions and camps.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Safari lodges and camps serve international-style cuisine, generally of an extremely high standard, along with local beer and imported wine and spirits. Good restaurants and bars can be found in main towns, often within hotels. Beef and goat are very popular meats. Elsewhere, food is more basic: millet and sorghum porridge are the local staples.

Tap water is considered safe to drink, although outside main cities and towns, visitors are advised to check first and sterilise water if in any doubt. Bottled water is available in most tourist centres. Filtered water is available at most camps and shops offer bottled water - it is advised to be well stocked of bottled water if you are travelling off the beaten track. Milk is pasteurised, and dairy products, local meat, poultry, seafood, fruit and vegetables are generally safe.

A discretionary five-to-ten-percent tip is typical for restaurant bills. In many places, a service charge is automatically added. It is customary to tip the game guide and lodge staff while on safari.

Climate and Weather

Botswana's climatic pattern is typical of southern Africa, although its rainfall is less than countries further east. The rains in Botswana come mostly between December and March, when average minimum temperatures are in the low 20°s. Some days will be bright and sunny, some will have afternoon thunderstorms, and some will just be grey.

As with Namibia, April and May in Botswana are generally lovely, with the sky clear and the landscape green. Night temperatures start to drop during these months, especially in the Kalahari. Note that places in and around the Okavango tend to have less extreme, more moderate temperatures than the drier areas of the Kalahari.

From June to August the night-time temperatures in drier areas can be close to freezing, but it warms up rapidly during the day, when the sky is usually clear and blue. It's now very much 'peak season' for most safari areas: the land is dry in most areas so the animals congregate around the few available water sources.

This continues into September and October, when temperatures climb again, drying the landscapes and concentrating the game even more. This is the best time for big game safaris – although October can feel very hot, with maximum temperatures sometimes approaching 40°C.

November is difficult to predict, as it can sometimes be a continuation of October's heat, whilst sometimes it's cooled by the first rains; it's always an interesting month.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

In summer, lightweight, lightcoloured cottons are preferable. Avoid synthetic materials and black clothing, as they increase perspiration and discomfort. In winter, wear trousers, longsleeved shirts / blouses and jerseys. From May – August, night temperatures can fall below zero degrees celsius, so warm jerseys and jackets are vital, especially on morning and evening game drives. Garments of neutral colours that blend with the bush and forest are advisable for

safaris and game viewing. Bring a lightweight jacket and/or jersey for unexpected temperature changes or rain. Closed, comfortable walking shoes or gym shoes are a must in all seasons. Special attention should be given to protection from the sun. Bring a sunhat, good quality sunscreen, sun lotion and polarised sunglasses. Wide brimmed sun hats are essential.

Internet Availability

Some hotels, lodges and guest houses offer internet access or WiFi (free or paid), and there are internet cafe's in Gaborone and Maun. Internet access in more remote rural areas is often hard to come by.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana are the 'Type M' South African SABS1661 ('Large' 15 amp BS-546) sockets. This is actually an old British standard. The 'Type M' South African plug and socket is not to be confused with the 'Type D' Indian plug and socket. In pictures, they look very similar, but the South African type is much larger than the Indian type, and they are physically incompatible. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into.

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana usually supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 220-240 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need.

But travel plug adapters *do not change the voltage*, so the electricity coming through the adapter will still be the same 220-240 volts the socket is supplying. If you need to use appliances that are not compatible with 220-240 volt electrical input, you will need a voltage converter.



A nation of spectacular natural beauty, friendly people and rich culture, Zimbabwe's status as one of Africa's leading safari destinations was dampened for years by its political instability. But now that the country is transcending its strife and returning to a state of equilibrium, it is once again emerging as a vacation highlight of the continent. Victoria Falls – known to locals as 'The Smoke That Thunders' – is one of the seven natural wonders of the world and the sheer power of this massive body of water plunging into the Zambezi Gorge is awe-inspiring and unforgettable. Lake Kariba, with its game-rich shores and islands, is an idyllic safari spot featuring mind-blowing sunsets; Hwange National Park is known for its huge herds of elephants; and a kayak trip down the Zambezi through the Mana Pools National Park will appeal to the intrepid traveller, providing close encounters with crocodiles, hippos and a host of other wildlife.

Banking and Currency

Currency

US dollars are universally accepted as well as South African rands, euros and pounds sterling.

The official currency of Zimbabwe is the Zimbabwe dollar (ZWL). This currency is in the form of *Bond Notes and **RTGS (real time gross settlement). The currency consists of bond coins and banknotes, with denominations including 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 bond coins, as well as 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 dollar banknotes. The currency was reintroduced in 2019 and even though the Zimbabwean dollar is still accepted and in circulation, the US dollar is the dominant currency.

It's important to note that exchange rates and the use and value of the Zimbabwean dollar can fluctuate, so it's advisable to check with official exchange bureaus, banks, or financial institutions for the most up-to-date information and rates for travel to Zimbabwe.

Banking

Banks in Zimbabwe are open for business Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 08h00 to 15h00, on Wednesdays from 08h00 to 13h00 and Saturdays from 08h00 to 11h30. They are closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Only VISA and MasterCard are accepted in Zimbabwe, however it should be noted that very limited facilities will have credit card machines, and the connection is not always reliable so it is advisable to carry cash as back up.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Taxis are safe and reliable, and can be booked through your hotel front desk. Taxis in cities travel within a 40km radius of the city. Always take a taxi at night.

Major airlines fly into Victoria Falls, Harare and Bulawayo. Charter flights are available to most attractions and camps.

Zimbabwe has a good road infrastructure, by African standards, although potholed. Between major towns, there are frequent road blocks. Traffic drives on the left side of the road.

If you are driving yourself around Zimbabwe, be sure to check on fuel availability in advance. If you are covering long distances within the country, ensure you carry extra fuel in 5 or 10lt metal containers in case of emergency. Fuel is generally available, but supply can fluctuate. Fuel is only available for cash.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Zimbabwe's native cuisine is based on sadza, a cooked porridge made from ground maize which is normally accompanied by some tasty relish, perhaps made of meat and tomatoes, or dried fish. Safari camps will often prepare sadza if requested, and it is almost always available in small restaurants in the towns.

Camps, hotels and lodges that cater to overseas typically serve a variety international fare, and the quality of food prepared in the most remote bush camps is usually excellent.

If you are driving yourself around and plan to cook, then get most of your supplies in main towns. There are a number of South African shopping chains operating in Zimbabwe which will generally have all that you will need.

Water in the main towns is usually purified.. The locals drink it, and are used to the relatively innocuous bugs that it may harbour. If you are in the country for a long time, then it may be worth acclimatising yourself to it. However, if

you are in Zimbabwe for just a short period of time, then try to drink only bottled, boiled, or treated water available in towns and from all camps, lodges and hotels.

Climate and Weather

In Zimbabwe, the rains come principally in **December, January, February and March**; the further north you are, the earlier the precipitation arrives and the later it leaves. Zimbabwe's higher eastern areas usually receive more rainfall than the lower-lying western ones.

By **April and May** most of the rain is gone, leaving a verdant setting, which is starting to dry out. Especially in more southerly and higher locations, the night-time temperatures start to drop.

The nights in **June, July and August** become much cooler, so don't forget to bring some warmer clothes, in case you want to spend an evening outside; the days are still clear and warm. For Zimbabwe, this is the start of the 'peak season'— days are often cloudless and game sightings continually increase.

Into **September and October** the temperatures rise once again: Zimbabwe's lower-lying rift valley – Mana Pools – can get very hot in October. During this time, you'll see some fantastic game, as the Zimbabwe's wildlife concentrates around the limited water sources.

November is unpredictable; it can be hot and dry, it can also see the season's first rainfalls – and in this respect it's a very interesting month, as on successive days, you can see both weather patterns.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

When in Zimbabwe the cardinal rule is to wear casual, comfortable clothes during the day as temperatures can get very hot. It is advisable to wear light loose-fitting clothing, such as cotton or linen, as they are cool and easy to wash. Warmer clothes are advised for the evenings and rainwear for the wet season.

A brimmed hat and sunglasses are a good idea year-round. Long-sleeved shirts and long trousers will also guard against the scorching sun rays. It is recommended you wear light shoes, especially if your itinerary entails a lot of walking.

For safaris, please remember to wear appropriate clothing and shoes. Earth colour clothes, such as browns, greens and tans are advisable.

Internet Availability

Internet availability is very limited especially outside of the major cities.

Most holiday accommodation venues offer internet and/or WiFi (free or paid) to their guests but there are often disruptions in service.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets in the Republic of Zimbabwe are Type G (BS-1363) and Type C (CEE 7/16 Europlug) and Type D (BS-546). If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into. If it's crucial to be able to plug in no matter what, bring an adapter for all types.

Electrical sockets usually supply electricity at 230 volts AC / 50 Hz frequency. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 230 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need. If your appliance isn't compatible with 230 volts, a voltage converter will be necessary.

Terms and Conditions

Itinerary Terms and Conditions

Execution guarantee from 4 persons.

Changes reserved by the organizer.