

Information guidelines

All information provided in this document is subject to change without prior notice. Please ensure that you have received the latest version of this dossier as we are continually striving to improve the standards and quality of our tours and itineraries are subject to change. 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. There are a maximum of 20 participants travelling on this tour.

Partaking in an adventure tour in Africa involves covering hundreds if not thousands of kilometers in a truck, and our tours are as much about this journey as they are about the destinations we visit. Use your time in the truck to talk to your fellow travellers, play card games, have a drink, walk around, take note of the world passing by your window and make the most of this unique opportunity to step out of your comfort zone.

Some roads you travel on will be smooth and easy while others could take up to an hour to cover one kilometer. There is just no telling what could happen with road, weather, traffic and other conditions that may exist that will either increase or decrease the amount of time you spend on the road so take your watch off, put your iPad away, turn off your phone and just relax. An average day could take anything from 5 to 14 hours in the truck, it all depends on the day... and that's only an "average".

In this tour dossier you see an indication of a distance to be covered on a particular day. Please don't assume that your travel time will be equal to that which you can travel in your car on the autobahn... no, it will be much, much slower. We will stop for shopping, bathroom breaks, photo stops, activities and a whole lot more. If you are looking to only experience specific destinations and are not interested in the journey, perhaps adventure touring is not for you.

As circumstances change in the destinations that we visit, our tour dossiers do change from time to time as we constantly improve our offering based on feedback about these changes that we receive from our guests and guides on tour. Please ensure that you download this dossier again within a week of your tour departing to ensure that you have all of the correct information regarding the tour.

Did you receive your Pre Departure Information Booklet?

If not, please contact us and we will e-mail it to you - alternatively you can also download the document from our website at www.CheapAfricaTours.com or www.GoedkopeAfrikaReizen.nl

About this tour

Departure Point

This tour departs at **07:00 am** from Victoria Falls Rainbow Hotel – 278 Parkway Drive, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe – Tel: + 263 13 44583 / 42213-4 – <http://www.victoria-falls-rainbow-hotel.com>

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

End Point

Cape Town City centre: 40onBurg, 40 Burg Street, Cape Town, South Africa.
Tel: +27 (0)21 426 4338, www.40onburg.co.za

Countries Visited

Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia & South Africa

What's included

Meals as indicated on the itinerary (unless otherwise specified, all meals are prepared and served at the Overland truck), accommodation, registered guides and transport. We also include some of the highlights. These highlights are listed below in the day-by-day descriptions as "included highlights".

What's excluded

All items of a personal nature, alcohol, soft drinks, snacks, souvenirs, tips, activity package and optional activities (see list for an indication of prices).

Vehicle

Overland Truck

Climate

The African sun is very strong. Please use a factor 30 sunscreen and wear a hat. You should drink at least 3 litres of water per day to avoid dehydration. It can also get very cold during winter months on this route. Please see Pre Departure Booklet for detailed information.

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. For more information, have a look on our website under "Hotels and Transfers".

Arrival/ Departure

Please be sure to arrive at least 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will help avoid any unforeseen problems. We also highly recommend that you book your flights to depart at least one day after the tour officially ends.

I Want More

This tour will give you a good taste of what Southern Africa has in store for you. However, you can extend your adventure by adding more tour options... such as our 20 day South African Explorer (North) departing from Cape Town... or the shorter 7 - 15 day sections thereof...

Insurance (Compulsory)

All clients require adequate Medical Insurance. Activity providers can refuse participation of activities, if the correct valid Medical Insurance is not provided.

Currency and Banking

As your tour may pass through multiple countries, we have prepared information on the use of local and foreign currencies, ATMs and Credit Cards for each country. This information is available on our website under FAQ (frequently asked questions)

Health

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies or physical disabilities that you may have.

Vaccinations

A Yellow Fever Certificate might be required for this tour depending on your nationality. Please see the Pre-Departure Information booklet for detailed information on vaccinations in Africa.

Visas

As visa requirements vary considerably from country to country and nationality to nationality, please contact the various embassies or a visa service agent in your home country to re-check your visa requirements at least 4 weeks prior to travelling. Please note that visas are the responsibility of the traveller and that ShapShap Travel and its partners will not be held responsible for guests being denied entry should they not be in the possession of the relevant visas.

All travellers must be in possession of a valid onward/return air ticket or proof of other means of transport enabling the traveller to leave the country in which your adventure tour passes or terminates. You should also have proof of sufficient funds (e.g. credit card) to see you through your

time in the country. Should the adventure tour you are joining be re-entering a country, be sure to have a multiple entry visa that enables you to re-enter the country.

In some cases visas are available on entry into a country and may be cheaper to do so, however for peace of mind and to speed up the border crossing process, ShapShap Travel will always advise you to get your visas prior to your trip if possible.

Malaria

Malaria prophylactics are required throughout this route.

Accommodation providers

Accommodation providers are subject to change without notice, the accommodation listed in this dossier is our preferred supplier, but sometimes due to availability, we are unable to make use of the property listed in this dossier. If we cannot use the accommodation provider as listed we will substitute another property of similar standards, however, en-suite facilities are not always guaranteed.

Activity Package

This is an **optional payment** that covers what we consider to be 'essential activities' on our tours. Ideally we would include all of these, but not everyone can afford this. This payment is 100% transparent and is listed below. The best option is to pre-book and pay for the whole Activity Package when you book your tour. You can also book and pay for these activities while on tour, but it will be subject to availability and you will have to carry all that cash around with you.

If you are travelling as a single supplement guest and have purchased the single supplement, please note that the single supplement does not cover any Activity Package items which include accommodation. All items booked under the Activity Package are booked on a per person sharing basis and you will not be entitled to a single room during these activities.

Activity	Price
Rooibos tea farm visit	R 180
Guided desert walk with local expert	R 370
Makgadikgadi Pans excursion	R 400
Chobe National Park boat cruise	R 620
Chobe National Park game drive (safari)	R 620
	R 2 190

*** Okavango Delta Excursion Upgrade - Camping**

Included in the tour price is a full day excursion into the Okavango Delta. An upgrade package is

available for purchase, should you wish to spend 2 nights in the Okavango Delta.

Camping upgrade cost: R2800 per person

*** Detailed description of the Okavango excursion can be found after the itinerary**

This itinerary has been written with the Activity Package items included. If you wish to participate in all the activities listed, you will need to purchase the Activity Package.

Detailed itinerary

Day 1 - Victoria Falls

Today is your arrival day in Victoria Falls and you will be able to visit the spectacular Victoria Falls at your own leisure. The bustling adventure town of Victoria Falls also offers a range of optional activities for those wanting a dose of adrenaline. For the more relaxed traveller there are craft markets to explore and a delicious high tea is on offer at the Victoria Falls Hotel.

Accommodation	Victoria Falls Rainbow Hotel or similar: http://www.victoria-falls-rainbow-hotel.com
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-suite Bathroom Camping: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Optional Activity	Visit the falls, bungee jump, gorge swing, sunset cruise, helicopter flights, boma dinner experience, dinner cruise

Day 2 - Victoria Falls – Kasane

After breakfast we travel the short distance to the Botswana border, crossing into Botswana to set up camp on the banks of the Chobe River. For those who have purchased the activity package we begin our exploration in 4x4 vehicles and enjoy an afternoon game drive through the Chobe National Park followed by a boat cruise in the afternoon, which allows us an up close and personal experience with the many elephants that frequent the Chobe riverfront in the afternoon.

Accommodation	Thebe River Safaris or similar: http://www.theberiversafaris.com
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route	Victoria Falls to Kasane
Activity Package	Chobe National Park Game Drive (safari) and Chobe National Park Boat Cruise
Border Post	Zimbabwe: Kazangula Road, Open: 06h00-20h00 Botswana: Kazangula Road, Tel: +267 62 50330, Open: 06h00-20h00

Day 3 – Nata

Leaving Kasane early, we set off for Nata where we will overnight. Our activity package will afford us the opportunity to enjoy an afternoon guided excursion to the Pans and Nata Sanctuary to appreciate the spectacular view and a sundowner.

Accommodation	Pelican Lodge or similar. http://www.pelicanlodge.co.bw/
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Route Kasane to Nata
Activity Package Makgadikgadi Salt Pans (Nata Sanctuary)

Day 4 - Maun

Our journey today takes us across the northern reaches of the Makgadikgadi Pans and the road to Maun is lined with majestic views of the iconic Baobab tree. Upon arrival in Maun, you will have the opportunity to enjoy an optional scenic flight over the Okavango Delta (time and weather permitting – this could take place on day 6).

Note: Those guests who have pre-purchased the upgrade package – will be transferred into the Delta today and will re-join the group on the morning of day 6. *See description after the itinerary.

Accommodation Sedia Riverside Lodge or similar . <http://sedia-hotel.com/>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Nata to Maun
Optional Activity Scenic flight over the Okavango Delta

Day 5 – Okavango Delta

The most rewarding and enjoyable way to explore and experience the beauty and serenity of this intricate system of lily covered channels and lagoons is by mokoro. Heading out early, we will be transferred by safari vehicle to the poling station (approximately 1 hour transfer) where we will meet the polers who will be escorting us into the Delta. The polers will steer us through the serene area of narrow, reed lined channels which open out onto beautiful lagoons. Reaching one of the many islands, a nature walk may be taken with your poler. After the walk, we return by mokoro through the channels back to the poling station. While the mokoro trail is not primarily a game viewing activity, a variety of game may be encountered in this pristine wilderness area, including elephant, giraffe, kudu, impala and zebra.

Accommodation Sedia Riverside Lodge or similar . <http://sedia-hotel.com/>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Maun – poling station – Okavango Delta - Maun
Included Highlight Okavango Delta Day Excursion

Day 6 – Maun to Central Kalahari District

We travel to the Ghanzi district in the central Kalahari and this afternoon we enjoy a guided walk with our San hosts. This is an opportunity to learn more about the San culture and interaction with their Desert environment. Tonight we get a first-hand experience of the San culture, well known for its rich traditions of song, dance and story-telling. The nomadic San are hunter-gatherers that have passed down a rich knowledge of the plants and animals that play such an important part in their lifestyle

Accommodation Ghanzi Trail Blazers or similar. <http://ghanzitrailblazers.co.bw>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suites Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Maun to Ghanzi
Included Highlight San Evening Dance Performance/ Guided Walk with San Trackers

Day 7 – Ghanzi – Windhoek

We start early this morning as we continue west and cross the border into Namibia, travelling onwards to the capital city of Windhoek. Upon arrival in Windhoek, we will take a short walk through the city centre and have the opportunity to view some of its better known landmarks. (Our accommodation for the night is situated halfway between the city and the airport).

Accommodation	Heja Game Lodge or similar. http://www.hejalodge.com
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom Camping: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Route	Ghanzi to Windhoek
Included Highlight	Walk Windhoek City Centre with your Guide
Border Post	Namibia: Buitepos, Tel: +264 62 560 401, Open: 07h00-24h00 Botswana: Mamanu, Tel: +267 659 2013/2064, Open: 07h00-24h00

Day 8 – Windhoek

Leaving the city of Windhoek early, we have a full day of driving ahead of us and will reach the gates of Etosha National Park in the late afternoon. We begin with our first game drive as we enter the park and travel the short distance to our overnight rest camp for the night.

Accommodation	Okakuejo or similar. http://www.nwr.com.na
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route	Windhoek to Etosha National Park

Day 9 – Etosha National Park

Etosha is the venue for some of the most unique game viewing experiences in Africa. Today we have a full-day to explore the edges of the Etosha Pan in search of the abundant wildlife that occurs in the park. Our truck offers us an elevated platform and we will spend some time at the many waterholes dotted throughout the park.

Accommodation	Okakuejo or similar. http://www.nwr.com.na
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Included Highlight	Full-Day Game Viewing (safari) in overland truck

Day 10 – Kamanjab

We will rise early and enjoy our last game drive through Etosha as we make our way to the gates and exit the park. Sit back and enjoy the scenery of rugged mountains and dry river beds.

Accommodation	Toko Lodge or similar. http://www.tokolodge.co/
Facilities	Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route	Etosha to Kamanjab
Included Highlight	Morning game drive in overland truck as we exit the park

Day 11 – Brandberg White Lady

The Brandberg (Burning Mountains) are regarded as the highest in Namibia and home to the famous

White Lady, one of more than 45,000 rock paintings in the area. After reaching our destination for the day, this afternoon we will make the 1-hour hike to visit the painting that is said to be around 2,000 years old. (Please be advised that the hike does traverse rough terrain along the gorge of the normally dry Tsisab River).

Accommodation Brandberg White Lady Lodge or simliar. <https://www.brandbergwllodge.com>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Route Kamanjab to Brandberg
Included Highlight Brandberg White Lady hike

Day 12 –Swakopmund

The massive granite formations of Spitzkoppe tower 700 metres above the desert plains below and the presence of rock art indicates their significance to the San people who lived here many years ago. We will enjoy a walk with a local guide and have the opportunity to view some examples of the San's rock art before setting off for the seaside town of Swakopmund. Swakopmund is well known for its many adventure activities, coffee shops and rich German influence. This evening you will have the opportunity to book some of the many exciting activities on offer and we end the day with dinner out at a local restaurant.

Accommodation Haus Garnison or similar. (no website available)
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom

Route Brandberg to Swakopmund
Included Highlight Guided Walk at Spitzkoppe

Day 13 - Swakopmund

Today is a free day to enjoy adventure, explore Swakopmund or simply enjoy a great bake at a local coffee shop. Swakopmund offers all the conveniences of a little city and there is something to keep everyone busy. This welcome brush with civilization is the perfect launching pad as we venture to the Namib Desert tomorrow morning.

Accommodation Haus Garnison or similar. (no website available)
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Optional Activity Dolphin Cruise, Sky Diving, Sandboarding, Quad Biking and more:
<http://www.namibiadesertexplorers.com>

Day 14 Swakopmund – Namib Naukluft

Leaving behind the charms of Swakopmund we continue our journey to Southern Namibia and the Namib Desert. We make a short stop in Walvis Bay this morning before turning east towards the heart of the desert. Our afternoon will be spent with a local guide who will introduce us to the wonders of the desert environment. An early night is advisable as tomorrow will see us up as the dawn breaks.

Accommodation Solitaire Country Lodge or similar . <https://www.solitairenamibia.com/>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions

Route Swakopmund to Solitaire
Activity Package Guided Desert Excursion with Local Expert

Day 15 – Sesriem and Sossusvlei

Rising at first light we travel to Sesriem, the gateway to the Sossusvlei dune fields. We enter the park early and make a stop to climb the famous Dune 45. Having stretched our legs we continue deeper into the Dune fields and take a 4x4 transfer to the marvels of Sossusvlei. We take time to visit both Sossusvlei and Deadvlei, before bidding the dune field farewell. Our final stop before continuing to our camp is the interesting Sesriem Canyon, a remnant of much wetter times in this dry region.

Accommodation Sollitaire Country Lodge or similar: <https://www.solitairenamibia.com/>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Included Highlight Hike up Dune 45, visit to Sossusvlei / Deadvlei and the Sesriem Canyon

Day 16 – Quiver Tree Forest

We turn east and head for Keetmanshoop, where we will spend our afternoon meandering through the quiver tree forest. Contrary to belief, the quiver tree is not really a tree, but a plant that can grow to between 200 – 300 years old.

Accommodation Maritz Country Lodge or similar. <http://www.maritzcountrylodge.com.na/>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Solitaire to Keetmanshoop
Included Highlights Quiver Tree Forest

Day 17 – Giants Playground and Fish River Canyon

Our exploration continues with a visit to the Giants Playgrounds, named for the way in which the massive dolerite boulders have been placed on each other- creating rock formations and a series of mazes. We board the truck and travel south on the gravel byways of Southern Namibia on route to Ais-Ais. Famed for its hot springs the resort and its hot pools are the perfect tonic to ease away the dust of the Namib. The Fish River Canyon is one of the largest in the world and this afternoon we take a walk along the rim of the canyon and end our day with a memorable sunset on the canyon edge.

Accommodation Ai-Ais or similar. <http://www.nwr.com.na/index.php/resorts/ai-aishotspings-spa>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Keetmanshoop to Ai-Ais
Included Highlight Visit Giants Playground / Visit to the Fish River Canyon / Ais-Ais Hot Springs

Day 18 – Orange River

As dawn breaks we head out making our way to the Orange River and our final stop in Namibia. Our last night in Namibia is spent on the banks of the Orange River and the best way to experience the Orange River is by canoe. This afternoon you will have the opportunity to partake in an optional canoe trip on the river.

Accommodation Felix Unite or similar:
http://www.felixunite.com/accommodation_namibia/group_camping
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom

Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Ai-Ais to Orange River
Optional Activity Half-Day Canoe Trip

Day 19 – Orange River – Cederberg

A final border crossing sees us enter South Africa this morning as we travel through the desert landscapes of Namaqualand on our way to the Cederberg region. If you are fortunate enough to be travelling in the spring months (July to September) you may encounter the wild flowers that have made this region famous. No matter the time of year though, the strange desert vistas offer a unique backdrop to this day's travel. Tonight we enjoy a traditional meal and celebrate the many memories we have made.

Accommodation Marcuskraal or similar. <http://www.marcuskraal.co.za/index1.html>
Facilities Accommodated: Two per Room with En-Suite Bathroom
Camping: Campsite with Shared Ablutions
Route Orange river to Citrusdal
Border Post Namibia: Noordoewer, Tel: +264 (0) 63 297 122, Open 24 hours
South Africa: Vioolsdrift, Tel: +27 (27) 761 8760, Open 24 hours

Day 20 – Cederberg – Cape Town

The Cederberg region not only boasts spectacular mountains and orange farms, but it is also the home of the Rooibos bush and this morning we will visit a working Rooibos tea farm and see the plants of Rooibos and Buchu that occur naturally in the wild. Indigenous to the mountain slopes of the Cedarberg, this herbal beverage has earned an international reputation as a healthy and refreshing alternative to regular tea. Nearing Cape Town, you will notice Table Mountain appear in the distance and we will stop to look at Table Mountain from across Table Bay. Your tour ends upon arrival in Cape Town city centre.

Accommodation Own Arrangements / Post tour accommodation can be booked through us.
Route Citrusdal to Cape Town
Activity Package Rooibos tea farm visit

* Itinerary for the Okavango Delta excursion - Camping

Day 1 – Maun – Okavango Delta

Upon arrival in Maun you will be met at the lodge by a representative and will be transferred to the mokoro station. Upon arrival at the poling station, you will meet your guides and polers who will be accompanying you into the Okavango Delta for the next 2 days. After a short safety briefing, we board the mokoro's and travel by the waterways to our overnight stop on one of the islands.

Accommodation Afro Treks Safaris.
<http://www.afrotreksafaris.com/mokoro-3-days-2-night-trail-safari/>
Facilities Two per dome tent with rustic ablutions
Route Maun into the Okavango Delta

Day 2 – Okavango Delta

You will be woken up at sunrise for tea and coffee before we depart on a bush walk. Returning to

camp after our walk, brunch will be served. The afternoon is spent relaxing around the camp and enjoying the sights and sounds of the bush. In the afternoon, your polers will take you out on the mokoros to explore the area around camp, before returning to camp for sundowners.

Accommodation Afro Treks Safaris.

<http://www.afrotreksafaris.com/mokoro-3-days-2-night-trail-safari/>

Facilities Two per dome tent with rustic ablutions

Route Okavango Delta

Day 3 – Okavango Delta to Maun

After a leisurely breakfast you will be returned to the mokoro station where a vehicle will be waiting for you. Upon arrival in Maun, you will be re-united with your fellow travellers and overland truck

There are more optional activities being created every day – we have listed only the most popular. If there is something specific you would like to do then speak to your guide as they will be able to assist you if possible.

More optional activities which can be booked on this tour

Country	Area	Activity	Guideline
Botswana	Okavango	Tips for Polers - Per Day Per Person	Clients Discretion
Botswana	Ghanzi	Craft Making	P240 - P300
Botswana	Ghanzi	Rope Making & Trap Setting	P240 - P300
Namibia	Orange River	Half day canoe adventure (Min 4 Clients)	R250 - R300
Namibia	Swakopmund	Quadbiking	R650 - R750
Namibia	Swakopmund	Sandboarding	R350 -R 450
Namibia	Swakopmund	Skydiving	R2300 - R2800
Namibia	Swakopmund	Dolphin Cruise (incl transfer & light lunch)	R700 - R800
Namibia	Swakopmund	Dinner at local restaurant	R150- R300
Namibia	Windhoek	Dinner at local restaurant	R150 - R300
Botswana	Ghanzi	Bushman Walk	USD15 - USD25
Botswana	Maun	Scenic Flight minimum 5 pax (group rate)	USD600 - USD800
Botswana	Kasane	Photo safari	USD120 - USD360
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Entrance to Victoria Falls	USD35 - USD40
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Full Day white water rafting	USD150 - USD170

Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Helicopter Flights (Min 3 guests)	USD160 - USD180
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Zambezi Sunset Cruise (incl transfers)	USD100 - USD110
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Bungee jump	USD160 -USD190

More about this tour

MEALS ON TOUR

Breakfast: As breakfast is served very early in the morning (if there is driving or activities to be done) it is a simple but filling breakfast: Tea and coffee, breads and spreads, cereals, yoghurts, fruits and on occasion, when there is time for a later breakfast, guides will serve a hot breakfast of scrambled eggs, porridge, bacon or beans.

Lunch: Lunch is generally served at a picnic spot next to the road en route to a destination. As the guides only have approximately 45 minutes to get everyone off the truck, prepare lunch and then get everyone back on the truck again, lunches consist of sandwiches and salads (rice salad, pasta salad, tuna salad and green salad) which are quick and easy to prepare but which are quite filling. Guides have meal plans which they should stick to, to ensure that there is variety on a day to day basis.

Dinner: This is when the guides get time to prepare a delicious meal and they focus on a substantial protein, vegetable and carbohydrate dinner. We serve traditional cuisine consisting of braais (BBQ), potjie (stew), bobotie (mince), spaghetti and fish and chicken dishes. All meals (on both accommodated and camping tours) that are included as per the dossier are prepared at the full service adventure truck. This is a unique adventure in itself where you get to dine under the stars with your new found friends and experience the real sights and sounds of Africa!

TIPPING ON TOUR

Southern Africa: In general tipping in restaurants is expected and is around 10% for good service, more if you have received exceptional service, and, feel free not to tip at all if you received poor service. Tipping taxi drivers etc is really at your own discretion and not always expected. If in doubt please ask your guides. It is expected to tip porters and car-guards etc. Ask your guides how much is appropriate in local currency.

Our guides do work hard but they are also paid at (and often above) industry levels for this work. Our Crew can be tipped if you feel that they have done a good job and/or gone above and beyond the call of duty. The best way to arrange tips is to elect one person in the group to collect the money. We recommend USD1-2 (or about R10-R20) per day per person, per guide as a fair tip. So if you have 3-crew on a tour, we would recommend that 3 envelopes are used and each crew member's name written on one. Place what you feel is fair into each envelope and the elected person can give these to the crew at the end of the tour. If you do not feel that the crew deserve a tip, please, do not tip

them. You must remember that tipping is only for exceptional service and is not at all compulsory or expected.

Countries visited

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is an incredibly beautiful, land-locked nation in the centre of Southern Africa. Despite its political and economic struggles, it remains a country of breath-taking beauty and lush landscapes. Famously bordering on the magnificent Victoria Falls and stunning Zambezi River, this is a country of astounding beauty and is by no means short of attractions and activities.

Zimbabwe, previously known as Rhodesia during its colonial days, has been the focus of many explorers during the last few centuries. It was Rhodes that orchestrated the building on the first railway line through the country which stretches across the entire African continent, and David Livingstone was the explorer to hear the thunderous sound and say the spray of the world's largest natural waterfall, the Victoria Falls; named after his sovereign Queen Victoria.

Zimbabwe received its independence in 1980 and has struggled to maintain a democratic state ever since. However, despite its unstable economy and the fragile political state, thousands of tourists make their way to the country every year, wishing to explore its African roots and be spellbound by its beauty.

Zimbabwe has a unique landscape, atmosphere, community and culture which set it apart from its fellow Southern African nations. The beauty of this country will easily allow you to forget its complicated structure; indulge yourself in the magnificent Victoria Falls, astounding structures of Motopas, observe the African wildlife and take yourself back in time to the Great Zimbabwe Ruins.

Botswana

Botswana is a Southern African landlocked nation, surrounded by Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, Namibia and is one of Africa's most popular inland tourist destinations. Despite being quite a large country, Botswana remains to be one of the world's smallest communities with just over two million people calling themselves citizens. Most of the locals can be found working in the nation's capital city, Gaborone, however many others work on game reserves and with the country's tourism industry.

Botswana's Okavango Delta is the world's largest inland delta and is alive with vibrant bird species and wildlife. In comparison to the vast Kalahari Desert, the delta is lush and green; a true magical world where life is simple and relaxation is unavoidable.

Botswana is truly a unique country with a landscape and beauty unlike any other; from deserts to delta, bushveld to grasslands, savannas to salt pans, Botswana is a true joy to explore and offers a world of adventure to all tourists.

Namibia

Namibia is Southern Africa's most westerly nation and is home to some of the most beautiful desert plains and sand dunes. This nation has a truly unique landscape; completely unlike Angola, South Africa and Botswana which are its neighbours. Namibia is also one of the largest countries in African, covering 824000 square kilometres. While it covers a seemingly endless amount of space, at every turn you'll find yourself facing a truly magnificent sight and rugged beauty.

Although Namibia's deserts may look lifeless, they're in fact buzzing with life and activity. Home to the African wildlife that tourists travel miles to observe, as well as their very own wild horses and snakes, Namibia has several game reserves for their visitors to visit. The most popular and established being the Etosha National Park where guests can either choose to camp or stay in luxurious accommodation.

If you're planning an adventure into this beautiful and inspiring country, make sure you land up in Swakopmund, visit the Fish River Canyon, Damaraland and the Kaokoveld. A trip to the Skeleton Coast will show you the beauty of a desert meeting a coast.

The capital city of Namibia is Windhoek, a city which is heavily influenced by Namibia's previous colonial ruler, Germany. Today, however the country has close ties to South Africa; its currency linked to that of the rainbow nation.

South Africa

South Africa is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Africa, as it offers truly magnificent views and has an abundance of activities to enjoy. This Southern African country is rich with culture and traditions; with every citizen having a unique heritage, culture and story to tell. Here, guests will find themselves enchanted with a unique vibrancy and absorbed in the freedom of every citizen. The combination of the beauty of the landscape and friendly nature of the locals makes South Africa a truly inspiring and exciting country to explore.

Since the 17th century and the arrival of its very first settlers, South Africa has been claimed, to be one of the most beautiful destinations in the world. Not only is the weather warm and mild throughout the year, but locals and visitors enjoying an endlessly beautiful scenery and diversity in landscapes. Undoubtedly, South Africa's main attractions are its beautiful mountain and coastal views, however its cities also attract more than enough tourist attention.

In 2010, South Africa hosted the FIFA Soccer World Cup, putting on an incredible show and proving themselves as one of the world's leaders in the hospitality industry. Guests were made to feel welcome and encouraged to participate in local celebrations and enjoy the sights of each region; a factor which surely contributed to the Mother City of South Africa, Cape Town, being voted by TripAdvisor to be the most desired tourist destination in the world.

Enjoy your adventure of a lifetime!