

# Cape Town to Victoria Falls Lodge Safari

Trip Code: CKD

Version: CKD Cape Town to Vic Falls - Cape, Kalahari & Delta



WILDLIFE



GUIDED GROUP



LEISURELY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Witness Africa's finest wildlife in Etosha, the Okavango Delta and Chobe National Park
- See the sunrise at the dunes of Sossusvlei and hike to the top of Dune 45 in Namibia
- Explore Cape Town, walk in the Cederberg and enjoy optional canoeing on the Orange River
- Travel by mokoro canoe, meet the Kalahari Bushmen in Botswana and experience Victoria Falls

## AT A GLANCE

- 21 days sightseeing with safari game drives and short walks
- Join at Cape Town, End in Vic Falls (Zimbabwe)

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 21 Breakfasts
- 16 Lunches
- 11 Dinners
- 5 nights Guesthouse
- 9 nights Lodge
- 3 nights Hotel
- 1 nights Cabin
- 3 nights Tented Lodge

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

# Introduction

A classic Southern African overland journey which starts in Rainbow Nation of South Africa and finishes at the 'Smoke that thunders', Victoria Falls, covering over 5500km of incredible landscapes teeming with some of the most impressive flora and fauna on the planet. Arriving into the cosmopolitan city of Cape Town, the familiar skyline of Table Mountain frames this beautiful city. Travelling in a custom built overland vehicle, we drive to Cape Town's Hout Bay, famed for its beauty and crayfish industry. Heading northwards, up the Atlantic Coast, we enter the raw and rugged terrain of the Cederberg Mountains before arriving at the dramatic land of contrasts, Namibia. From the sharp-ridged dunes of the Namib Desert to the spectacular wildlife, including the black rhino and elephants of Etosha National Park and from the seaside town of Swakopmund to the charms of Windhoek, Namibia provides one of the grandest and diverse of African experiences.

Whilst Namibia may sound like a hard act to follow, Botswana can satisfy even the most experienced safari enthusiast. Exploring the waterways of the Okavango Delta by a traditional mokoro canoe, allows us to get up close to the hippos and birdlife of this iconic waterland. A true land of wilderness, Botswana's Chobe National Park provides the stage for our final safari experience. Rich grasslands sustain a high concentration of wildlife as we seek out the hunter and hunted on land and by boat. Finishing in Zimbabwe at the thunderous Victoria Falls we complete this astounding African overland adventure.

If a lodge safari doesn't sound like your perfect trip, try our sister 21 day camping itinerary: [Cape Town to Victoria Falls Safari - Camping](#)

We also offer the first section of this itinerary only (from Cape Town to Windhoek, 14 days): [Highlights of Namibia](#)

If you would like further information on when to go to Southern Africa on safari and which trip suits you the best please refer to our detailed guide [Which safari is right for you?](#)

## Is this holiday for you?

Everything in Africa is on a big scale, and to cover the ground necessary your journey across Southern Africa includes several long drives accompanied by Africa's spectacular scenery. Such drives, including your game drives, can often be on dirt tracks, graded roads and also tar highways. The driving times are indicated on each day. These times do not include stops along the way. We ensure that regular comfort breaks are taken, and stops try to be scheduled to visit interesting towns or sights.

Included in the itinerary are a variety of walks. These walks can be on paved surfaces, uneven sandy dunes or rocky terrain and are always accompanied by your experienced guide. Each walk is paced with time for your guide to interpret the environment around you. On some walks, it is vital to keep within the group in case of an animal encounter.

The accommodation will range from chalet style through to permanent tented lodges with en-suite facilities. There may be a bar/restaurant available and some lodges may have a swimming pool. Many of the meals are prepared by the guides and it is good group etiquette to help with preparation and washing up on these days and this is usually done on rotation. This journey is suitable for the adventure traveller looking to experience some of Africa's most special safari experiences.

# Itinerary

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## DAY 1

**Meet at Cape Town Airport. Transfers to the group hotel are provided. Rest of day at leisure.**

Your holiday starts at the group hotel in Cape Town. Airport transfers to the group hotel are provided. Cape Town is one of the most picturesque cities in the world. This is a free day for you to explore the beauty of the Cape. You may wish to walk along the waterfront or admire the world-famous Table Mountain, or even take the Aerial Cableway to the top.



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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## DAY 2

**Cape Peninsula day: Hout Bay Beach, Cape Point Nature Reserve and African Penguin at Simon's Town.**

After breakfast and a welcome briefing from our guides, we set off to the Cape of Good Hope and explore the Cape Peninsula. This is a magnificent area which sticks out into the Atlantic and is covered in endemic fynbos and home to picturesque bays, beaches, rolling green hills and valleys; the views are awe inspiring with dizzy heights and magnificent panoramas over the ocean. Our first stop is Hout Bay before we continue down to Cape Point Nature Reserve. Here the rugged rocks and sheer cliffs drop from 200m into the sea and is an area of rich and varied flora and fauna including baboon, zebra and 250 species of birds. We walk to the lighthouse, originally built in 1859 to help sailors navigate the treacherous waters. We also walk down to the Cape of Good Hope with nothing but water between here and Antarctica. Returning we drive through the towns of Muizenburg, Fish Hoek and of course Simon's Town. Here we stop to visit the famous Boulders Beach and spend some time watching the totally fabulous African Penguin colony which thrives here. They are a joy to watch their funny little walk and you can't help but falling a little in love with them! We then return to Cape Town where we have another evening to enjoy the town and dinner. What a fantastic first day!

Meals: **B**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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**DAY 3****Drive to the Cederberg Mountains where we enjoy an afternoon walk.**

Leaving behind laid-back city life, we drive northwards to the Cederberg Massif which is a haven for walkers. It remains one of the most pristine areas in South Africa. The San and Khoi people that inhabited the area left behind a rich legacy of rock art of elephants and people painted on the rocks. The mountains glow red as the sun brings out the iron oxides colours of the rock. This afternoon we have a short walk to explore this raw and dramatic landscape, sculpted by the wind and rain. Depending on the local conditions we will walk for two to three hours to either a local viewpoint or waterfall. We return to our campsite to some of our first night skies. Approximate drive time: 3 - 4 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Cabin

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**DAY 4****Cross into Namibia and travel to the Gariep / Orange River.**

Arriving at the border with Namibia, we head to the welcoming banks of the Gariep River. Rising from the Drakensberg Mountains, the Gariep (also known as the Orange River), is the longest river in South Africa and never fails to impress! Well documented by explorers of a by-gone era, it continues to provide a tranquil and picturesque refuge for travellers passing through. Our perfectly placed lodge is a wonderful place to relax and chill out for the remainder of the afternoon, before our dinner in the evening. Approximate drive time: 7 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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**DAY 5****Drive to Fish River Canyon for exploration of weird and wonderful rock formations.**

Before departing our lodge, there is the option to take a guided canoe journey down the river (payable locally). We then leave for The Fish River Canyon, which is one of the most impressive natural sites in Southern Africa. With towering rock faces and deep ravines of up to 550m (making it the world's second largest canyon), we spend the morning driving to this geological wonderland, before heading into the canyon for the afternoon. Making our way, by vehicle, to one of the outstanding vantage points, we watch the dramatic change of colours as the sun plunges behind the canyon's rim. Approximate drive time: 4 hours.

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Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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## DAY 6

### The Namib Desert and the incredible dunes of Sossusvlei.

Moving through the ever changing landscapes we make our long drive north to the edge of the Namib-Naukluft National Park, the second largest game park in Africa (after the Central Kalahari), with a total area of just under 50000 km<sup>2</sup>. Here we find the iconic sharp-ridged Sossusvlei Dunes of the Namib Desert. Argued to be the highest dunes in the world, their ever changing colours make for wonderful photographic opportunities from sunrise to sunset! We arrive at our accommodation and have a swim to cool off and discover the true meaning of being 'star-struck' under African desert skies. Approximate drive time: 7-8 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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## DAY 7

### Explore Sossusvlei and Dune 45 in the Namib Desert, visit the Sesriem Canyon.

First thing this morning we have the opportunity to walk up Dune 45, it is absolutely stunning. Going down is a lot quicker and easier than going up! It also gives us a sense of scale and enormity as these dunes reach almost unbroken, from here to the Atlantic coast. Later we walk for around 3-4km to Dead Vlei (the place of the iconic Namibia photo). Time permitting we might be able to ascend the highest sand dune of the area - Big Daddy (approx. 325m..they change height with the winds). For those who do not want to walk, there are optional 4WD vehicles (operated on a shuttle service by the park and payable locally) that can drive you in to the bottom of the dunes. Walking in these dunes is a true experience and provides us with superb views up and down the Sesriem Canyon of the Tsauchab River. If we are lucky we may spot an ostrich or even a jackal. This afternoon we can visit the Sesriem Canyon, and it is a place of arid beauty. The dreamscape stretches from towering lunar rock formations through to a natural sphinx formation close to the canyon mouth. With ample time to catch the ever-changing colours of a Namib Desert sunset, we return to our accommodation for a second night of desert skies.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge



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**DAY 8****Drive to the laid back Atlantic coastal town of Swakopmund.**

Leaving our desert tracks behind, we head for the coastal resort of Swakopmund. Along the way we drive on an interesting salt road for the nearby salt mines and pass by Walvis Bay for a stop to look at the splendid flamboyance of flamingos. Cool breezes, palm-lined streets and an ambiance reminiscent of a small German village, Swakopmund offers a distinct and refreshing Namibian experience for us to explore on our free day tomorrow. Approximate drive time: 5 hours.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Hotel

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**DAY 9****Free day to relax or try out one of the many adventure activities Swakopmund has to offer.**

Arguably Namibia's premier holiday resort, the town of Swakopmund was founded in the last decade of the nineteenth century, as the principal deepwater port of German South West Africa. Today Swakopmund is a rather unusual place, with a quaint and atmospheric feel, sandwiched as it is between the Namib Desert and the cold Atlantic Ocean. It is as if a piece of 1950's Bavaria has somehow been cast ashore on the harsh Skeleton Coast. Amongst the distinctly Germanic architecture, an eclectic community have made Swakopmund their own, from artists to world travellers and big-game fishermen to stately African tribesmen, all contribute to Swakopmunds' distinct character. We spend the day at leisure in this wild and whacky port-town. There are lots of activities that can be arranged locally, such as boat trips, dune-boarding and even scenic flights over the Namib and along the Skeleton Coast - these are entirely optional and payable directly. Alternatively, you may choose to take it easy, visit the Crystal Gallery, do a township tour or stroll along the beach. We spend a second night at our Swakopmund accommodation.

Meals: **B**



**Accommodation**  
Hotel

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**DAY 10****Cape Cross Seals and drive into Damaraland, the Brandberg Massif and the White Lady painting.**

We drive along the coast, just south of the famous 'Skeleton Coast' and stop to see the seal colony at Cape Cross. This is the largest breeding colony of Cape Fur Seals in the world. We then head into the

area of Damaraland we see the ever-changing landscape of Namibia. We get a real taste of a prehistorical land in the area which has ruggedly beautiful, untamed, stark plains, petrified forests and peaks of the Brandberg Massif. The name Brandberg means 'fire mountain' which refers to the glowing red colour of the rocks, seen at sunset. With a dense concentration of San Bush art, dating back several thousand years, we walk with a local guide to view the famous 'White Lady' rock painting. Along this route we may see evidence of wildlife through leopard tracks in the sand and Acacia trees destroyed by passing elephants. Approximate drive time: 6 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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### DAY 11

## **Drive through the wilds of Northern Namibia to the sublime experience of Etosha National Park.**

We set off this morning with our goal of the Etosha National Park. This is Big Game country. Four of the Big 5 are found here: lion, elephant, leopard and a healthy population of black rhino. Just the buffalo are missing. The central feature of the Park is the Etosha Pan, a 6000 square kilometre salt-flat, which can manifest itself either as a parched white desert or as a lush green land of plenty according to the season. Many of the rare animal species manage to survive here, such as the black rhino, the roan antelope and black-faced impala, which we may be fortunate to see on our afternoon game drive into the park. Etosha is, without doubt, Africa's most distinct National Park. Approximate drive time: 5 - 6 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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### DAY 12

## **Day of safari game drives across the pans and waterholes of Etosha National Park.**

During infrequent flooding, the pan attracts thousands of flamingos and other wading birds, although the water is so mineral-rich that it is undrinkable. The key to life here is the occurrence of underground springs which form waterholes on the edge of the pan. Together with the savannah grassland that they nourish, these springs enable more than 110 species of mammals to exist in an otherwise forbidding environment. One of the highlights in dry season will be the chance to view big cats and game gathering at one of the many waterholes. The rainy season at Etosha extends from November into March and April. This is a season of plenty, when grazing animals and their predators are widespread across the park as they seek out better grazing. Regardless of the season, your experienced leader, will endeavour to seek out the best of Etosha's wildlife during your game drives.



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Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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### DAY 13

#### **Drive to Namibia's cosmopolitan city of Windhoek. Free afternoon.**

Located in a basin between the Khomas Highlands and Eros Mountains, Windhoek's charm is its fusion of African and European cultures. With a cosmopolitan atmosphere, we drive from African bush into the heart of a Germanic colonial era. More of a town than a bustling capital city, Windhoek's friendly centre, makes for easy exploration. On arrival we have the opportunity to spend some time seeking out souvenirs, or to simply admire the city's Neo-Baroque cathedral spires and colonial architecture. We have dinner together at a local restaurant. Windhoek is a wonderful city break within this safari adventure. Approximate drive time: 7 hours.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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### DAY 14

#### **Cross the border into Botswana to meet the San Bushmen in the Kalahari.**

Departing from the dreamland of Namibia we cross into the beauty of Botswana and head for the heart of the Kalahari. A desolate but mesmerising landscape, the territory of the Bushmen spans across most of Southern Africa with significant differences across each of the tribes. The San Bushmen host us in their traditional grass huts, and take us for a walk to learn more of their ancient and fascinating way of life. Approximate drive time: 7-8 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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### DAY 15

#### **Depart the dry Kalahari to the wetlands of the stunning Okavango Delta.**

We bid farewell to our San hosts and drive onwards to the Okavango Delta. Every year, over 11,000 cubic

kilometres of water flows from the Angolan Highlands into the Delta, making it the world's largest inland Delta. Okavango's diversity stretches across 10,000 square miles and provides one the finest arena's to experience Botswana's wild side. Our remote lodge is located on the waters edge with splendid views for evening drinks and breakfast in the morning sun. Our time here with consist of trips out on the water and exploring the area on foot. The delta is a wildlife bonanza because of the lure of the water, and we can see elephant, giraffe, zebra, possibly rhino and many bird species to mention just a few possible sightings.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Tented Lodge

## DAY 16

### Exploration of the Okavango Delta by Mokoro (dug-out canoe) and walking safari.

The best time of the day in Africa is the early morning and with the sounds of the dawn chorus all around us we set out in the relative cool on a nature walk to explore this wonderful wetland. We meet our local guides with their mokoro's, traditional dug-out canoes and enjoy a journey on the river being poled along with the chance to spot the wildlife. We return to our accommodation in the heat of the day. In late afternoon we continue our exploration on foot. Before the walk our guides will give a safety briefing. We may encounter elephants or even lions on the walk and it is important to listen to the briefing and to follow the instructions of the guides. We enjoy a traditional African 'sundowner' at our lodge before settling down for our second night in the delta accompanied by the soundtrack of croaking frogs.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Tented Lodge

## DAY 17

### Transfer to Maun on the edge of the Okavango.

Driving out of the delta we may be lucky enough to encounter some wildlife en-route to the town of Maun. Here we have some free time. You may wish to relax and take a dip in the pool or explore this capital town of Ngamiland. Alternatively there is the option to take a light aircraft flight over the Okavango Delta at your own expense. This can be booked locally and is not included in your KE holiday. Maun has a wonderful laid back atmosphere and also provides a chance to participate in a spot of shopping for local handicrafts, as we prepare to depart the delta region of Botswana. Approximate drive time: 5 hours.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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## DAY 18

### The Makgadikgadi Salt Pans.

Leaving Maun we travel east to the shimmering salt pans of Makgadikgadi (pronounced ma hadee hadee), which provide a glorious illusion of an endless plain. During the wet season (when the pans transform into a valuable refuge of grassland), herds of wildebeest and flamingos flock here, which we may be lucky enough to encounter! In the last couple of years the Zimbabwe catchment area for the pans has had above average rainfall which has not subsided during the dry season meaning that it maybe slightly wetter than usual. Although very little flora exists within the pans, Baobab trees thrive in this environment and have become very useful landmarks, when navigating across this barren land. One of the trees has even been named after the 19th century explorer James Chapman, whereby explorers would leave unofficial messages for each other. Approximate drive time: 4 hours.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Tented Lodge

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## DAY 19

### Continue north to Chobe National Park.

This morning we travel north to Chobe National Park. The Chobe River is a stunning feature of our time in Chobe and is a crucial lifeline to one of the greatest concentrations of wildlife in Africa. Chobe is famed for herds of elephant which reside in the National Park. During the year the elephant population can vary from 500-50,000 and are most likely to be found on the banks of the Chobe, cooling off. Owing to its year-round supply of water, Chobe provides a permanent source of water for the elephant population of Kalahari Elephants, known for their short brittle tusks due to calcium deficiency in the soil. An optional (payable locally) game drive or boat cruise is available this afternoon. Approx drive time: 3 hours.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

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## DAY 20

## Chobe National Park, early morning game drive, rest of the day on a boat for a river safari cruise.

This is a fabulous day. We start with an early morning game drive in the park. These early morning safari drives can be packed full of exciting sightings. After our game drive we board our boat, where we spend the rest of the day on the Chobe River enjoying a safari cruise. This optimises our chances to meet herds of majestic animals and wildlife lazing on the shores in the heat of the day. We have lunch on board, and there is a lounge and sundeck for you while away the afternoon with amazing game viewing. We return to our lodge for a final evening in Botswana.

Meals: **B**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

### DAY 21

## Cross the border to the thundering experience of Victoria Falls.

Heading for our fourth and final country, we cross the border into Zimbabwe and listen out for next and final calling point! Most likely to hear The mighty Victoria Falls before seeing it, the falls span 2km and plunge 108m into the gorge below. Exploring the 'Smoke that Thunders' can almost be a deafening experience! Approaching our vantage point on foot we have excellent views of Victoria Falls in her full glory, including the iconic Victoria Falls Bridge, commissioned by Cecil John Rhodes in 1900, which spans this immense gorge. With ample time to explore the falls we stay in a nearby hotel within the town of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Approx drive time: 1 hour.

\*Please note, depending on season, water levels of the falls will vary (late November to early April is the wet season, with the remainder of the year being dry).

Meals: **B**



**Accommodation**  
Hotel

### DAY 22

## Departure day. Victoria Falls.

Your holiday ends after breakfast in Victoria Falls. Depending on your flight time you may have time to have one last glimpse of the falls or enjoy the last of the African sun by the hotel pool. Airport transfers can be arranged on request.

Meals: **B**

# Holiday Information

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## What's Included

- Two professional and qualified guides
- Airport transfer on Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- National Park entrance fees
- All activities/excursions mentioned except where specified as 'optional'

## What's not Included

- Travel Insurance
- Visas (if applicable)
- Airport transfer on Day 22 of the Land Only itinerary
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional
- Tips for local staff
- Miscellaneous personal expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the group hotel in Cape Town.

On arrival transfers are provided on arrival from Cape Town Airport to the group hotel.

The holidays ends in Victoria Falls. On departure transfers are not included, but possible to either Victoria Falls Airport or Livingstone Airport.

We can provide private transfers at an additional cost. Taxis are also available and are often cheaper.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

## Meal Plan

21 breakfasts, 17 lunches and 12 dinners are included in the price of your holiday. Non-included meals are in Cape Town, Swakopmund, Windhoek, Maun, Nata and Chobe where we try out the lodge or a local restaurant. We recommend you budget £10-15 for each of these meals.

## Food & Water

Many places on this holiday have drinkable water from the tap to fill your personal water bottles. Please check with the leader at the various locations. Please take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a [Water-To-Go bottle](#)) for days when drinking water out of the tap is not available. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

The majority of the meals are provided. Breakfast will be cereals and yoghurt, with coffee, tea, toast and the occasional cooked breakfast. Lunch will typically be picnic style - cold meats, cheese, salads, bread, rolls and fruit. Dinner will be potjies (traditional stews), braais (barbecue), stir fries, pasta dishes, curries etc. Very often cooking will be on an open fire. Fresh produce will be used wherever possible and fruit squash, tea and coffee will be served with breakfast and dinner. Many of the meals are prepared by the guides and it is good group etiquette to help with preparation and washing up on these days and this is usually done on rotation. Some meals are taken at the accommodation or in local restaurants. Special dietary requirements (vegetarian or allergies) can usually be catered for, but it is essential that this information is received on booking. There is one cool box available for the group to put your own drinks in. Stops at supermarkets are regular to pick up supplies such as alcohol and soft drinks.

## Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your diet with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

## Accommodation

This holiday has 21 nights staying at variety of different guesthouses, lodges, chalets, tented lodges, tented/fixed camps and cabins. Often they have an African style to them with colourful traditional blankets, ornaments and smiling friendly staff. The rooms are twin/double and mainly with en suite facilities. Some of the guesthouses and lodges have a bar and a swimming pool.

Cabins / chalets are used in remote areas or national parks. These are simple structures with basic rooms and shared ablutions.

When at a tented lodge you will stay in a classic canvas safari tent with twin beds, en suite facilities. It is built on a permanent base (concrete or wood platform) and might have a thatch roof. There is usually a main lodge area with a bar, and possibly a swimming pool and small shop. A fixed camp is a similar arrangement, but it's more likely to have a canvas roof on the tent and less likely to have a bar or swimming pool.

When at the cabins, chalets, tented lodges and fixed camps there is a shared kitchen and dining area which will be used by the group and the guides during meal times.

All accommodation is subject to change without prior warning.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. A limited number of single rooms are available for a supplementary cost. If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group hotel are available on request.

### SAFARI TRUCKS

Years of safari experience into the design of the trucks. The trucks are built to comply with the latest South African transport and safety regulations. Your comfort is catered for with individual seats (with safety belts), ample legroom and large vertical sliding windows for unobstructed viewing and photography.

There are roof hatches for excellent "open" views and an integral cab and passenger compartment so contact with the driver is easy. Each truck also has large packing compartments, a built in kitchen, freezer, drinking water tank, interior lights and a gas stove (to minimise use of wood and destruction of forest areas). There is also a pullout set of steps into the passenger compartment, making access for clients easier. There is usually a bank of plug sockets in the vehicles. These plugs are the South African 3 round pin or 2 round pin with a hexagonal base. We also use minibuses for some small group safaris. All of our vehicles are bought new and serviced by Mercedes and Toyota agents, thus ensuring trouble free touring with backup support in practically every town in Southern Africa.

Where road conditions allow, such as South Africa, Namibia and parts of Botswana we may also use minibuses. On 5% of tours we may use minibuses with 12 seats and air conditioning (with trailer for equipment and baggage). The safaris often have several long days of travel providing for a beautiful journey on the way to exciting and varied destinations.

In the Okavango Delta we use 4WD vehicles.



## Group Leader & Support Staff

Group leaders are the key to any successful safari. On this adventure safari, you will travel with two qualified and experienced, registered field guides (FGASA). Two guides as crew, not a guide and a driver, adds up to an informative and interesting small group holiday. Our guides have a passion for Africa, her people and wildlife, and they love nothing more than sharing their knowledge with you.

## Spending Money

We estimate that a total of around £400-500 per person (or equivalent in euros/dollars) should be allowed for personal spending. This amount should be sufficient to cover non-included meals and miscellaneous expenses, including tips to local staff. If you are intending to buy expensive souvenirs, considerable quantities of soft drinks / beer or undertake additional activities or excursions, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect). There will be the opportunity to change money into local currency on arrival at the airport (which we advise you to do) and your local leader will advise further places to change money en-route and at borders. Additionally, you will be able to get currency from bank ATMs in many of the towns that we will visit.

Many small traders will accept US\$, Euro or GBP. Your notes should be clean and undamaged. And please avoid USD\$100 and old issue 'small head' US\$ notes as they might not be accepted.

## Guidance on Tipping

Your tour leader also works extremely hard to ensure that your holiday runs smoothly and that you are happy. We suggest that a tip of £2-5 per client per day for your tour leader is reasonable. When it comes to tipping the guides that we sometimes use for various activities (e.g. game walks, polers in the Okavango Delta etc) we suggest that a tip of £1-3 per client per ½ day activity, or the local currency equivalent, is acceptable. As in all cases with tipping, the final decision of the amount tipped is up to the individual. It is up to you to decide if you thought the service was poor, or exceptional, and the amount tipped should reflect that. The amounts quoted above are guidelines for you to get an idea of what to tip.

## Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Your baggage will travel in the gear compartment of the truck with the group, and there is a finite amount of space. Please keep the weight of your main luggage to 12kg. You should bring a soft bag as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicle.

## Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status and so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

## **Group Members**

We sell this holiday in conjunction with our local operator in Southern Africa. This enables us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get the holiday up and running quickly. For this holiday the minimum age is 12 yrs, however it is unusual to have people under 16yrs.

## **South Africa Indemnity Form**

As a member of the South African Tourism Service Association, our ground agent in South Africa may require you to complete an indemnity form at the start of your holiday, which you will need your insurance details for. As a client of KE Adventure Travel, your rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangement Regulations (2018) are unaffected and KE Adventure Travel will remain liable for the actions of our suppliers.

# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.**

Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

### Visa Zambia

British passport holders do not need a visa in advance and can obtain a visa on arrival. The Government of Zambia recently announced the removal of all visa fees for British passport holders. However implementation of the policy has not yet been confirmed and British nationals may still be charged \$25 on arrival.

Other nationals should check details online to see if they need an e-visa.

**Important Note for Victoria Falls:** Please check your itinerary and your arrival/departure flights. If your accommodation and flights are from a different side of the falls you may need both a Zambian and a Zimbabwe visa. The town of Victoria Falls is in Zimbabwe, and the town of Livingstone is in Zambia.

Additionally If you visit the falls (on the border) and wish to cross the bridge to the other side you will require a visa for both countries.

A KAZA UNIVISA for Zimbabwe and Zambia is cheaper than purchasing the two visas for Zambia and Zimbabwe separately. The visa is valid for 30 days as long as you remain within Zimbabwe and Zambia. It is also valid for day trips to Botswana crossing over the Kazungula borders. It will not be valid if you overnight in Botswana.

It's available at the international airports in Lusaka and Livingstone and at the land borders at Livingstone (Zimbabwe border) and Kazungula (Botswana border). You can also apply online. It costs US\$50 and it is valid for 30 days.

**Please note:** The Government of Zambia recently announced the removal of all visa fees for British passport holders. However implementation of the policy has not yet been confirmed and British nationals may still be charged \$25 on arrival. This may affect your decision to purchase a Kaza Univisa.

UK nationals do not normally need a visa to enter Botswana for stays of up to 90 days.

### Travelling with children under 18yrs - Botswana

Parents travelling with children under 18 years will be asked to show the child's full unabridged birth certificate. If the child is travelling with one parent, with another adult or unaccompanied, the parent or parents who aren't present will need to provide an affidavit giving their consent for the child to travel. Please note that they are very strict and they do not accept photocopies of birth certificates or short versions. This is also applicable if you are transiting through Botswana. For further details please see FCO website <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/botswana/entry-requirements>

## Visa South Africa

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays. You must have 2 blank pages in your passport.

Rules on **travelling with children under 18 years** have been relaxed. Visa exempt children entering South Africa only need passports, and not birth certificates as previously required. This applies if the child is travelling with both parents, one parent or an adult who is not a biological parent, and school groups. There are some different requirements for unaccompanied children, and children who do not have UK passports or visa exempt passports. For full details please see the FCDO website.

## Visa Zimbabwe

A visa is required. This is obtained on arrival and is \$55 single entry and \$70 for double. Payment must be in cash and you should take small denomination notes for this.

**Important Note:** Please check your itinerary and your arrival/departure flights. If your accommodation and flights are from a different side of the falls you may need both a Zambian and a Zimbabwe visa. The town of Victoria Falls is in Zimbabwe, and the town of Livingstone is in Zambia.

Additionally If you visit the falls (on the border) and wish to cross the bridge to the other side you will require a visa for both countries.

## Visa Namibia

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays. You should carry a photocopy of your passport with you at all times when in Namibia for identification.

### Travelling with children under 18yrs - Namibia

Parents travelling with children under 18 years will be asked to show the child's full unabridged birth certificate. If the child is travelling with one parent, with another adult or unaccompanied, the parent or parents who aren't present will need to provide an affidavit giving their consent for the child to travel. Please note that they are very strict and they do not accept photocopies of birth certificates or short versions. This is also applicable if you are transiting through Namibia. For further details please see FCDO website.

## Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

## VACCINATIONS

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you specific require any vaccinations or other preventive measures. You should be up to date with routine courses and boosters as recommended in the UK e.g. diphtheria-tetanus-polio and measles-mumps-rubella), along with hepatitis A and typhoid. Malarial prophylaxis are required. A certificate of yellow fever vaccination is required if travelling from countries with risk of yellow fever transmission and for travellers having transited for more than 12 hrs through an airport of a country with risk of yellow fever transmission. On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dentist check up. A good online resource is [Travel Health Pro](#).

## Currency

The unit of currency in South Africa is the South African Rand.

The unit of currency in Botswana is the Pula.

The unit of currency in Zambia is the Zambian Kwacha.

The unit of currency in Zimbabwe is the Zimbabwean Dollar. There is currently a shortage of available cash at the banks and ATM's in Zimbabwe. So we advise you to bring a credit card for any payments in Zimbabwe.

The unit of currency in Namibia is the Namibian Dollar. The Namibian and the the Southern African Rand have the same value, and the Rand is accepted everywhere in Namibia.

## Climate

**South Africa:** The southern tip of the continent has various regions with different climates. May to August can be cool to very cold (in mountains) and days are pleasant and sunny in the north. The Cape can have rain at this time. September to April is pleasant, warm to hot with thunder showers in the north. January to early March light showers to heavy rains may occur throughout the country.

**Namibia:** Namibia is largely a desert environment with hot clear days from September to April. May to August can be very cold at night but pleasant and sunny during the day. Rains are infrequent but most likely in January to March. The coast is subject to heavy morning fogs throughout the year and cooler weather in the winter months.

**Botswana:** This Central region of Southern Africa is subtropical and generally warm and mild / humid. October and November are hot, day and night. November to April is the hottest time of the year with chances of showers to heavy rains later in the seas on. May to September is cool and dry.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that prior to travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travelaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travelaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates direct from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Please note that a paper copy of your travel insurance is required if you are travelling to Huaraz and the Huayhuash region.

# Equipment Information

## Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

**You should bring the following items:**

- Lightweight walking boots/shoes
- Sandals
- Socks and underwear



- Long lightweight trousers
- Shorts
- Lightweight waterproof jacket & trousers
- T-shirts
- Casual shirts with sleeves
- Fleece jacket or warm jumper
- Sunhat with wide brim
- Sunglasses
- Buff/scarf for dusty days
- Small towel/Travel towel
- Daypack 20-25 litres
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)
- Water bottles 1 litre (x2) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries (biodegradable soap is preferred)
- Antibacterial handwash
- Insect repellent
- Basic First Aid Kit including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, re-hydration salts (Dioralite), anti-nausea tablets and antihistamine cream/tablets.

### **The following items are optional:**

- Light cotton dress or sarong
- Swimwear
- Pen-knife (remember to pack sharp objects in hold baggage)
- Repair kit (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- A selection of dry bags for daypack/kitbage
- Camera
- Binoculars (highly recommended)
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

### **Notes:**

Please be aware that in the Southern African the winter months, June-September, the nights can be cold with an average of between 0-5 degrees Celsius in some places, and the days can be warm between 20-30 degrees Celsius

Bright bold colours and white are not suitable for game viewing or bush wear as they attract insects and the attention of animals. Please do not bring camouflage or military style clothes as they can cause problems with local authorities

Please dress appropriately for border crossings, village and market visits - ie: no bare feet, no bare chests, no bikinis and no hats. A few restaurants are also not keen on T-shirts and jeans either.

### **Cotswold Outdoor**



Many of the Equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive 12.5% discount voucher from Cotswold Outdoor and other retailers. [>> Find out more](#)

## Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary joining in Cape Town. Airport transfers are provided on arrival. This itinerary ends in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

## Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Cape Town, and returning from Victoria Falls.

Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the evening, arriving the next day (day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights will depart Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe in the afternoon on the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

Safari...So Good! This fabulous itinerary enters Botswana from the south through the Kalahari with an overnight with the interesting San Bushmen community. This is a pretty unique experience. We include an extra night in Cape Town at the start to wind down and enjoy this famous town.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 20/05/2024 and the trip is subject to change