

# The Great Southern African Camping Safari

Trip Code: NBC

Version: NBC The Great Southern African Camping Safari



WILDLIFE



GUIDED GROUP



LEISURELY



## HIGHLIGHTS

- See the African wildlife on this splendid safari journey through Etosha and Chobe National Parks
- Travel by mokoro canoe through the waterways of the Okavango Delta past elephants and hippos
- See the sunrise at the dunes of Sossusvlei, hike up Dune 45 and camp at Spitzkoppe in Namibia

- Walk with the San Bushmen of the Kalahari and see the thundering Victoria Falls

### AT A GLANCE

- 21 days sightseeing with safari game drives and short walks and over 4500km of overlanding in between
- Join at Livingstone

### ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

- 20 Breakfasts
- 17 Lunches
- 12 Dinners
- 14 nights Camping
- 2 nights Wild Camp
- 3 nights Guesthouse
- 1 nights Lodge

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

## Introduction

We start our amazing Southern African overland adventure holiday at one of the world's largest and most majestic of all waterfalls - Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. From this thunderous beginning we travel west into the wilderness of Namibia's Caprivi Strip, cutting through Angola and Botswana, famous for its migrating elephants and habitat for the Wild African Dog. Our next stop is the vast, wildlife rich pans of Etosha National Park. Here the waterholes bustle with African big game we are sure to get our first glimpse of big cats, dusty elephants and plain game such as antelope and giraffe. Moving deeper into Namibia we visit Swakopmund, the stunning sand dunes at Sossusvlei and desert camping under the incredible African skies. Continuing our loop we enter Botswana with a stop in the Kalahari with the San Bushmen before we discover the myriad of wildlife in the Okavango Delta. Exploring the waterways by traditional mokoro canoe is a truly magical experience. Botswana's Chobe National Park provides the last stage for our safari. Rich grasslands sustain a high concentration of wildlife which we see from our boat safaris. Our gigantic overlanding loop of some 4500km completes back in Livingstone having possibly seen the big five and some of the best of these incredibly wondrous and diverse countries.

If camping safari isn't your thing, you may be interested in the sister lodge based version of this itinerary: [Great Southern African Lodge Safari](#)

We also offer the first section of this itinerary, from Livingstone to Windhoek (15 days) as a camping safari: [Namibia Desert, Etosha and Caprivi Camping Safari](#)

And as a lodge safari (also 15 days): [Namibia Desert, Etosha and Caprivi lodge Safari](#)

If you would like further information on when to go to Southern Africa on safari and which holiday 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. When in the Okavango Delta we travel by mokoro canoe. These are traditional dug-out canoes and we may have to walk in the shallows to board at water level.

The majority of nights you will be camping. Designated campsites have showers and some have a bar or swimming pool. 2 nights in the delta we wild camp. You will need to put your tent up, and help pack up the truck in the mornings. Most 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 - it's all part of the adventure and when everyone puts in a little effort the trip runs smoothly. 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 in Livingstone. Airport transfers are provided.

Your holiday starts at the group accommodation in Livingstone. Airport transfers are provided. In the early afternoon we meet our fellow travellers and guide for a briefing. The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy the town or relax at the campsite.



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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## DAY 2

### Day to explore Livingstone and the mighty Victoria Falls.

Today is yours to spend at leisure around Livingstone and the mighty Victoria Falls. Close to the falls are several handicraft markets which are great for some souvenir shopping. If you are feeling a little more adventurous or wish to see the falls from a different angle, you may wish to consider one of the extra activities that are available to book and payable locally. These include white water rafting, half-day canoeing the Zambezi or maybe a scenic flight. Whatever you chose you'll have a fabulous first full day on this incredible journey through Southern Africa. 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**  
Camping

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## DAY 3

### Cross the border into Namibia. Explore the Caprivi Strip famous for migrating elephants.

After breakfast, we leave Zambia for the natural wonderland of Namibia. We travel via Kazungula and Ngoma, crossing briefly through Botswana (the most efficient route). Wedged between the borders of Botswana and Angola, the Caprivi Strip provides a significant habitat for the endangered African Wild Dog and is also a vital corridor for elephants moving between Namibia, Botswana, Angola and Zambia. In

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the late afternoon we take to the water for a boat safari cruise on the Kavango River in this remote and beautiful region. Approximate drive time: 5hrs 30. With border crossings and lunch a travel day of approximately 7hrs 30mins.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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#### DAY 4

### **Game drives in the Caprivi Strip and Kwando River. Herds of elephants, big cats and wild dog might be seen.**

Enjoying breakfast with the chorus of African river-life our exploration of Caprivi leads us further into the area. The area sees many rivers and permanent waters, attracting big herds of elephants in the dry season. Lion, leopard and hyena are present, as well as the majestic giraffe munching on tall trees. Hippos, buffalo and zebra can be seen - a true feast of the eyes and binoculars in the early stages of this marvellous safari holiday. Approximate actual drive time: 3hrs. With stops a travel day of approximately 4hrs.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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#### DAY 5

### **Leave the Caprivi Strip alongside the Kavango River for a spectacular sunset at Rundu.**

This morning we have time to appreciate the river and we hope to spot many of the resident bird species such as the Lesser Jacana, Racket-Tailor Roller and Coppery Tailed Coucal. Although a rare spot, Pel's fishing owls are also resident in this region. Moving on from the Caprivi Strip, we continue our journey west skirting the border of Angola along the River Kavango and onto our campsite near the Namibian town of Rundu. Luck being with us we can enjoy a spectacular sunset whilst sipping our sundowner. Approximate actual drive time: 3hrs. With stops a travel day of approximately 4hrs.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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**DAY 6****Drive through the wilds of Northern Namibia to the sublime 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 actual drive time: 8hrs. With stops a travel day of approximately 9hrs 30mins

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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**DAY 7****Day of safari game drives in Etosha National Park. Possibly seeing rhino, big cats and dusty elephants.**

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 hostile environment. One of the highlights in dry season will be the chance to view big cats and game such as giraffe, zebra and several antelope species, 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. In the evening we return to our campsite for the evening African chorus and a traditional sundowner. Full day game drive.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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**DAY 8**

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## Drive across desert landscapes to the Brandberg Massif, see the White Lady rock art and walk to the incredible Petrified Forest.

Today we cross Namibia's desert landscapes getting a real taste of a prehistorical land in the area which has ruggedly beautiful, untamed, stark plains, petrified forests as well as the peaks of the Brandberg Massif. We have a short walk to see the Petrified Forest. 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 see the famous 'White Lady' rock painting. This evening our campsite is situated at the dry Ugab River, home to the rare desert elephants. Slightly smaller in size, with wider feet to adapt to desert conditions, desert elephants are often seen with broken or worn tusks as they are used to dig through hard dry ground in search of water. Approximate actual drive time: 7hrs 30mins. With stops for lunch and sightseeing a travel day of approximately 9hrs

Meals: **B L D**



### Accommodation

Camping

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## DAY 9

## Drive to the massive granite domes and desert of Spitzkoppe. Afternoon walk with super views.

Our adventure continues as we drive to the enchanting lunar looking site of Spitzkoppe. The granite dome peak of 1784m, is impressive with its majestic wild beauty rising from the surrounding flat terrain demonstrating some very old volcanic activity. The light is stunning during sun rise and sun set illuminating the plains and rock into pinks, reds and warm ochre colours. Speak to any guide who knows this region and camping in Spitzkoppe is always the highlight. The silence and wide open spaces add to the mystery and we have a lovely walk in the afternoon to the top of some domes for some splendid views. Camping here, away from the light pollution, allows us to star gaze until we have seen countless shooting stars and pointed out many constellations of the southern hemisphere. Approximate actual drive time: 6hrs. With stops for lunch and sightseeing a travel day of approximately 10hrs

Meals: **B L D**



### Accommodation

Camping

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## DAY 10

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## Head to the Atlantic Coastal resort of Swakopmund, via the seal colony at Cape Cross Reserve.

Emerging from our tents in the pleasant cool of the morning we make ready for the day. Whilst our breakfast is cooking around camp, in the trees, you might see some rosy faced lovebirds, or a hornbill ready for a tasty insect for their breakfast. Crossing the incredible plains our destination today is the breezy Atlantic town of Swakopmund. We meet the Atlantic coast just south of the famous Skeleton Coast of Namibia where we stop at the Cape Cross Seal Reserve, the world's largest breeding colony of Cape Fur Seals. A short drive from here is our destination. Cool breezes, palm-lined streets and an ambiance reminiscent of a small German village, Swakopmund offers a distinct and refreshing Namibian experience. Here we have a couple of nights away from the canvas and stay in a guesthouse. Approximate actual drive time: 3hrs 30mins. With a morning walk and a visit to Cape Cross travel day of approximately 6hrs 30mins

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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### DAY 11

## Day in Swakopmund. Relax, explore or try out one of the many adventure activities available in this town.

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 it 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 the 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 in search of dolphins, or to visit a nearby seal colony, ocean canoe safari, 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 Galley, do a township tour or stroll along the beach.

Meals: **B**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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### DAY 12



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## Drive to iconic red dunes of Sossusvlei for an afternoon of desert walking.

Moving through the ever changing landscapes we make our way 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! On arrival 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 (325m). 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. Later, at our beautiful campsite, we discover the true meaning of being 'star-struck' under African desert skies. Approximate actual drive time: 5hrs. The desert scenery is varied but the road is rough gravel so with a few stops it's a travel day of approximately 7hrs 30mins

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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### DAY 13

## 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. 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 camp site for a second night of desert skies.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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### DAY 14

## Morning drive to the cosmopolitan capital city of Windhoek. Afternoon to explore.

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,

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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. Windhoek is a wonderful city break within this safari adventure. Approximate actual drive time: 5hrs. Starting the day on rough gravel road we climb the escarpment for a travel day of approximately 6hrs.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Guesthouse

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## DAY 15

### **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. Hosted in traditional grass huts, it is possible we learn of Kalahari culture during the course of the evening. Approximate actual drive time: 7hrs 30mins. An early start on all tarmac roads, and with border crossings and stops including lunch a travel day of approximately 8hrs 30mins.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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## DAY 16

### **Head to the Okavango gateway town of Maun. Afternoon to explore Maun or relax.**

Before leaving the bushland we take a cool morning walk with the San Bushmen and learn more of their ancient and fascinating way of life. Bidding farewell to our San hosts, we drive onwards to the Okavango gateway town of Maun, where there is the opportunity to have experience free time in Maun. You may prefer 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 (payable locally). 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 actual drive time: 4hrs 30mins. After a morning walk, a good tarmac road to Maun and supply shopping, a travel day of approximately 5hrs 30mins.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

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**DAY 17****Travel into the Okavango for mokoro canoe trips and walking safaris.**

Transferring into our open 4WD vehicles, we will drive for approximately 2 hours into 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. During our two days in the Delta we explore this wonderful wetland by way of a traditional dug-out canoe, the mokoro. Whilst the Delta is a wondrous-wetland, there are countless islands that are home to a vast number of wildlife species. Being gently poled along in our mokoro, provides the perfect opportunity to move within a safe distance of the wildlife without disturbing them as they go about their daily business. Such idyllic isolation of the Okavango makes for the most unusual encounters with the larger, iconic residents. Hippos, elephants, crocodiles and further down the food chain, antelope can be seen as we glide across Africa's most famous of waterways. Conditions today will dictate the timings of our Delta exploration. We make our way to our wild camp here in the bush. After the traditional African 'sundowner' we help out with the preparation of dinner and afterwards we can settle down for the night in the Delta accompanied by the soundtrack of croaking frogs. Transfer time to the Delta: 2 hours

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Wild Camp

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**DAY 18****Full day exploring the UNESCO wonder wetland of the Okavango Delta.**

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. 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. Returning to our camp for a well deserved brunch we have time to relax during the heat of the day and perhaps take a swim in the clear waters. We head out again into the Delta where we can enjoy another beautiful sunset before returning to camp or we may take another walk. Back at camp there will be an opportunity to take a bucket shower before dinner and spending our second night surrounded by the nocturnal murmurs of the Okavango.

Meals: **B L D**



**Accommodation**  
Wild Camp

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**DAY 19**

## Wildlife of the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans.

Driving out of the Delta we may be lucky enough to encounter some wildlife en-route before preparing for another dramatic change of scenery. The shimmering salt pans of Makgadikgadi (pronounced ma-h'adee-h'adee), provide a glorious illusion of an endless plain. During the wet season when the pans transform into a valuable refuge of grassland, great herds of wildebeest and flamingos flock here in their thousands. However, in the dry season the expansive landscape transforms into a desolate and empty flat space from horizon to horizon, an eerily gigantic place to explore and appreciate. 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. Approximate drive time: 4 hours.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Camping

### DAY 20

## Drive to the elephant rich Chobe National Park for an afternoon game cruise on the water.

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 the Kalahari, known for their short brittle tusks due to calcium deficiency in the soil. Taking to the water in the afternoon, we embark on a sunset safari cruise to optimise our chances of meeting these majestic animals. Finishing the safari with the tradition of a sundowner, we return to our accommodation for a final evening. Approximate actual drive time: 4hrs. a travel day of approximately 4hrs 30mins.

Meals: **B L**



**Accommodation**  
Lodge

### DAY 21

## Departure day.

We cross the border from Botswana into Zambia and drive to Livingstone. Our holiday ends at Livingstone Airport, Zambia. If your flight departs from Victoria Falls Airport you will transfer from Botswana into Zimbabwe, and therefore not entering Zambia. Approximate actual drive time: 1hr. Its not a long way, but the border crossing can be busy and slow, so a travel day of approximately 3hrs.

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Meals: **B**

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# Holiday Information

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## What's Included

- Two professional and qualified guides
- Airport transfer as described on Day 1 & Day 22 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)
- 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 accommodation in Livingstone (Zambia).

Arrival transfers from Victoria Falls Airport (Zimbabwe) or Livingstone Airport (Zambia) are provided for all clients to the group accommodation. On Day 1 at 1400 at the accommodation in Livingstone, you will meet your guide for an introduction and briefing.

On the last day of the Land Only itinerary, single timed airport transfers are provided to Victoria Falls Airport or Livingstone Airport. Flights should not be booked before 1300 on this day.

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

20 breakfasts, 17 lunches and 12 dinners are included. Non-included meals are in the towns of Livingstone, Swakopmund, Windhoek, Maun, Makgadikgadi, and Kasane where we try out local restaurants. We recommend you budget £10 - 15 for each non-included meals.

## Food & Water

Water from the taps may not be drinkable in all locations on this trip - please check with your guide. We recommend taking water purification tablets and a reusable bottle with a filter such as [Water-to-Go](#), which can both be used to help make safe other water sources. Please note that we do not encourage the purchase 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.

## Accommodation

Camping - for 14 nights on safari we stay at designated campsites, in or bordering national parks and towns. Campsite facilities are generally very good but in places can be basic. There are hot and cold showers, restaurants and washing facilities available at most of the campsites. A few of the campsites have swimming pools as well. Some camps in Botswana have simple reed enclosures for showers but do have flush toilets! We supply all the camping equipment with the exception of your sleeping bag and pillow. The dome tents we use are 2.2 x 2.2 x 1.8 meters and putting them up or down takes only 5 minutes. Tents have built-in insect nets. We supply mattresses, which are about 5 cm thick, warm and comfortable. The camp chairs have a backrest.

Wild camping - 2 nights while in the Okavango Delta we camp wild. Wild camps have no facilities; we will need to take our own water and all equipment. Wild camping can be very enjoyable but please remember that we leave no trace of our stay and take all rubbish away with us. A toilet tent and a simple bucket bush shower will be provided.

You will need to put your tent up, and help pack up the truck in the mornings. Most 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 - it's all part of the adventure and when everyone puts in a little effort the trip runs smoothly.

We have 2 nights in Swakopmund in a guesthouse, 1 night in Windhoek and 1 night in Kasane in a lodge, with en suite twin bedrooms. 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. Single tents and rooms are available for a supplementary cost. If you are planning on extending your holiday additional nights at the group accommodation 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.

For the transfers into the Okavango Delta we use open 4WD vehicles with local guides.

## 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). You can choose to take your money in pounds sterling, dollars or euros. 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. For the 2 nights wild camping in the Okavango Delta you will take only what you need for these 2 nights and your main bag with remain in Maun.

## 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 the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status 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 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.

## Transit via South Africa

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.

## 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](#).

If your holiday starts in Livingstone, Zambia and you are travelling into Namibia and Botswana you do not require a yellow fever certificate. This rule also applies to South Africa, for example, if you are transiting via South Africa. This is applicable to trip codes: NAB, NAC, NBC and NCC.

## Currency

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 Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG). There is currently a shortage of available cash at the banks and ATM's in Zimbabwe. US Dollars are still widely used, so exchange your currency in advance, or use credit cards where possible, as these are widely accepted also.

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

Botswana & Zambia - 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.

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.

## 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 before 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 directly 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.

## Explore International

This holiday is part of our Explore International range. Participants on these trips can book through KE or through one of our international partners. This helps us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get your holiday up and running quickly. Led by an English-speaking guide, the cosmopolitan nature of these groups can be an important part of the experience!

# 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 shoes or trainers
- Sandals
- Socks
- 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
- Sleeping bag\*. Comfort rating 0 degrees C (Jun-Sep) and thinner sleeping can be used during the rest of the year.
- 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/kit bag
- 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.

Tents have mosquito netting on the windows and doors. Sleeping mattresses of 5cm thick are provided.

\*It is possible to hire a sleeping bag for this holiday.

## 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 Livingstone (Zambia). Airport transfers are provided from/to Livingstone Airport (Zambia) or Victoria Falls Airport (Zimbabwe).

## Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Victoria Falls. Airport transfers are provided from/to Livingstone Airport (Zambia) or Victoria Falls Airport (Zimbabwe).

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 in the afternoon on the last day of the itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning.

# Why Choose KE

## Why KE

Bush Walks, Vic Falls and Big Game! Starting out at Livingstone, Zambia, this camping safari adventure takes in all major highlights of Southern Africa's greatest natural wonders and national parks. ARRIVAL AIRPORT TRANSFERS INCLUDED

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 09/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change