

# 11 DAY SOUTHERN ADVENTURE

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This trip begins in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and travels south through Botswana before ending in Johannesburg, South Africa.

This trip starts in Victoria Falls on Sunday morning and departs Victoria Falls on Monday morning, allowing you a day to explore. Should you wish to explore Victoria Falls extensively, ATC or your travel agent can assist you, in booking your activities as well as accommodation. However, costs due to earlier arrival, will be for your own account.

<b>Trip code:</b>	VJ11
<b>Accommodation style:</b>	Camping
<b>Length of trip:</b>	11 Days
<b>Starts in:</b>	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
<b>Finishes in:</b>	Johannesburg, South Africa
<b>Pre-departure Meeting:</b>	Held at the Departure Point at 17h00, the day before your departure.
<b>Departure point:</b>	Victoria Falls Rest Camp, Parkway Drive, Victoria Falls
<b>Check-In Time:</b>	08h45
<b>Departure Time:</b>	To be advised at the pre-departure meeting
<b>Breakfasts included:</b>	11
<b>Lunches included:</b>	10
<b>Dinners included:</b>	10
<b>Brunches included:</b>	0
<b>Countries visited:</b>	South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe
<b>Local Payment:</b>	US\$ 470

## PLEASE NOTE:

This itinerary should be used as a guide only and may vary from day to day depending on road & weather conditions, political situations and group decisions.

All prices & Local Payments are subject to change.

Due to Tourism Laws in some of the countries we visit, there may be a truck and crew change during the trip. Your arrival transfer and pre-trip accommodation in a dorm bed is included in your trip price. Should you choose not to make use of these, or in the event that Africa Travel Co was not updated with your arrival details, no refund will be paid for services not used.

Please ensure you've received a copy of our pre departure information document with information on what to expect on this overland safari.

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Beginning at the majestic Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, we head into Botswana to explore the Chobe National Park, which is famously home to vast herds of elephant that we may see drinking from a peaceful boat ride on the Chobe River. Then there is the opportunity to camp out beneath the stars in the Okavango Delta, one of Africa's most tranquil wilderness regions. Finally, we visit South Africa's largest National Park, which is home to the "big five" and many other species of animal and birdlife before finishing our adventure in vibrant Johannesburg.

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## INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

Entrance to Victoria Falls, Chobe Boat Cruise & Chobe National Park, Kruger National Park & Night Game Drive.

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## **ZIMBABWE**

This landlocked country is situated in the southern part of Africa, between the mighty Zambezi and Limpopo Rivers. The word Zimbabwe is believed to have two meanings, 1) it is believed the word Zimbabwe is derived from dzimba-dza-mabwe, which means "large house of stone" in the Shona (Karanga Dialect) language. 2) It is also believed to be derived from the word dzimba-hwe which means venerated houses in the Zezuru dialect of Shona.

### **DAY 1: Victoria Falls (No Meals)**

#### **Included: Entrance to Victoria Falls**

Today is spent relaxing or participating in a myriad of Optional Excursions. Named after the famous World Heritage site and Water Falls, the town of Victoria Falls is situated on the Zambezi River and surrounded by the Victoria Falls National Park. Our campsite is conveniently situated in the centre of town, and within walking distance of the adventure booking agents, restaurants and shops. A 20 minute walk down the main road takes you to the entry point to view the falls, which are situated between Zimbabwe and Zambia. Victoria Falls, or Mosi-oa-Tunya (the Smoke that Thunders), was named by David Livingstone on his explorations, and is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. At 1700 m wide and around 100 m high, this is the world's largest sheet of falling water and a memorable sight on any African Safari!

After our adventure activities briefing (see price guide at the end of this document for options), the day is spent relaxing at the campsite's swimming pool, viewing the Victoria Falls, or exploring the many sights and delights of this town!

White water rafting in the Batoka Gorge is considered to be world class. Besides the excitement of the grade 5 rapids, there are the "floats", where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

**Optional Activities:** Elephant back safaris, horseback safaris, walking with lions, a visit to the crocodile ranch, boat cruises and golf at The Elephant Hills Resort. Adrenalin junkies can bungee from the Victoria Falls Bridge connecting Zimbabwe and Zambia or abseil down the Batoka Gorge - neither activity is for the faint hearted! All year round, flights in fixed wing, micro light and ultra light aircraft or helicopters provide an aerial perspective over this magnificent World Heritage Site. White water rafting on the Zambezi is world class. Beside the excitement of the Grade 5 rapids, there are the "floats," where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and the occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

## **BOTSWANA**

The size of this successful country can be compared to countries such as Kenya or France, and fairly smaller than Texas. Botswana is a landlocked country with borders such as South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe which can all be crossed overland. For such a small country it boasts an array of spectacular game viewing opportunities such as, hundreds of elephants splashing in the Chobe River and the Okavango Delta and its maze of lagoons.

### **DAY 2: Victoria Falls to Chobe National Park (Botswana) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

After breakfast we cross the border into Botswana and head to Kasane where we set up camp on the banks of the Chobe River. The Chobe River forms a border between Botswana and Namibia and Zambia. Chobe is one of Botswana's premier game parks, renowned its large elephant herds. Elephant, hippo and many bird species can be viewed from the campsite while we watch another glorious African sunset.

### Included Activity: Boat cruise on the Chobe River

#### **DAY 3: Chobe National Park to Maun (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

Heading out early, we cross the western end of the Chobe National Park area along the main route in a south-westerly direction to the southern reaches of the Okavango Delta and our destination, Maun. On our route, we have routine stops to at Botswana's 'meat' borders – check points that were set up to protect its thriving beef export industry from the spread of disease. Maun is the starting point for travel into the Delta and it is from here that we set off to explore the Okavango Delta. Tonight we prepare our provisions and packs for our 2 night excursion. We suggest bringing along a smaller daypack on your trip which can be used to pack the supplies needed for this short excursion. Your trip leader will brief you fully on what is needed, and what to expect prior to your trip into the Delta.

#### **DAY 4: Maun to Okavango Delta (OPTIONAL) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

The Delta is a huge expanse of water, which has travelled from the Angolan highlands, spreading out to form the largest inland delta in the world. Studded with exotic islands, The Delta is renowned for its incredible variety of bird life and animals and is unique to Southern Africa.

Here we have the opportunity to take the optional 3 Day / 2 Night Drive in Mokoro Excursion into the Delta. After an early rise, we pack our expedition vehicle and from Maun we drive north for a couple of hours to reach the mokoro poler's station. The Delta region is studded with many local villages where many families live in a traditional way. Some of the villages are very remote and can only be reached by the traditional mode of transport – the Mokoro. Mokoros are dugout canoes manoeuvred through the waterways by local guides who "pole" them through the reeds. At the Mokoro station, we meet our 'polers' and pack our supplies before heading out into the waterways. After a couple of hours along the waterways, our guides find us a place to camp, and later in the afternoon we set off on an afternoon game walk, allowing us to experience The Delta wilderness. The camp is situated in an open wilderness area with no ablution facilities.

For those who'd prefer not to explore The Delta, spend the next 2 days at the lovely campsite relaxing by the swimming pool or challenging each other to a game of volleyball. There is also a crocodile farm nearby that has it's feeding times open to campsite visitors. The driver and cook remain behind in Maun during the excursion.

### Optional Activity: 3 Day / 2 Night Drive in Mokoro Excursion

#### **DAY 5: Okavango Delta (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

A day of rest, relaxation and Delta experiences await. Today we have the opportunity to partake in a number of activities including swimming, game walks, mokoro cruises and even a chance to try our hands at poling our own mokoro! There is also ample time to relax and rest during the hotter hours of the day, so challenge your new friends to a game of cards, or chat with your guides about their culture and lifestyle, or simply lie back and enjoy the sounds of the surrounding wilderness...

#### **DAY 6: Okavango Delta to Maun (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

This morning affords us a final opportunity for a game walk before packing up and setting off back to Maun. After our Mokoro ride and vehicle transfer, we arrive back in the afternoon and have the chance to complete our picture of the Okavango Delta by taking an optional scenic flight over The Delta (dependent on weather conditions & availability).

#### **DAY 7: Maun to Palapye (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

Heading out early, we have a fairly long (450kms) drive today to the small town of Palapye, situated about halfway between Francistown and Gaborone (Botswana's Capitol). This popular 'stopover'

town for those en route to South Africa, is well known for the Morupule Colliery coal mines which supplies Morupule Power Station, Botswana's principal domestic source of electricity.

## **SOUTH AFRICA**

With nine different provinces, 11 official languages and 3 capital cities, South Africa will most definitely make you stop in your tracks and go – WOW.

### **DAY 8: Palapye to Blydepoort (South Africa) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

This morning we cross into South Africa, and continue across to our camp overlooking the impressive Blyde River Canyon. Named for the Blyde River that runs through it, the canyon is 26km long, and averages 800m deep and forms the northern edge of the impressive Drakensberg Mountain Range. It is classified as a 'green canyon' due to the uncommon occurrence of vegetation that lines it (uncommon as most canyons are in desert areas and are fairly barren). The main viewpoints along the canyon are the 3 Rondavels, named for the shape of the traditional huts or houses the indigenous people of the area used to live in; and Gods Window that affords a breathtaking view across the canyon and surrounding area.

### **DAY 9: Blydepoort to Nkambeni Camp (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

Heading through the breathtaking Panorama Route, we stop off at various viewpoints today including scenic God's Window. We pass through the small town of Graskop, and head toward the Kruger National Park and our campsite in the park.

#### **Included Activity: Night Game Drive**

### **DAY 10: Nkambeni Camp (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

Today we visit the amazing Kruger National Park (19 485 km<sup>2</sup>) in search of some of the 146 mammals, 500 bird, 114 reptile, 33 amphibian & 49 fish species that make this park their home. We travel in our truck along the main game viewing routes within the park and stop off at some of the camps along the way. For those who wish to upgrade to an open vehicle game drive, this can be arranged with the trip leader at an additional cost.

#### **Included Activity: Game drives through Kruger National Park in ATC vehicle.**

### **DAY 11: Nkambeni Camp to Johannesburg (Breakfast)**

After breakfast, we begin our journey to our final destination; Egoli the place of gold (Johannesburg), Johannesburg is the capital of Gauteng, which is a province in South Africa. On arrival in Johannesburg we unload the truck for the final time, exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime!

We suggest you extend your stay by a few days to participate in some of the exciting activities available here (see below price guide for details). Post tour accommodation can be booked through your agent or the Africa Travel Co office.

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## **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?**

International flights, Airport departure taxes, Departure transfer, Visas, Meals unless otherwise stated, Travel Insurance, Laundry, personal items, sleeping bag, pillow and Tips.

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## **Meals on tour**

Meals and menu's vary as food is purchased en-route, and is subject to produce that is available seasonally in the areas we travel through. As we support the local communities along the way, fresh produce is mostly purchased direct from the producer or local grower and therefore has an organic appearance. Our safari cooks are able to offer a wide variety of menu's with the ingredients available, even if the produce on offer is not of the same selection as what you may be used to back home.

The breakfast spread consists of bread (toast when time allows), spreads and cereals with a hot breakfast every few days. Lunches are mostly prepared en-route with a supply of 'build your own' sandwich ingredients available. Dinners are cooked in the evenings on arrival at the campsite. A wide array of dinner menus are on offer during your safari, consisting of curries, stews, pastas, BBQ's and even roasts!

#### Transport on tour

Our overland vehicles are custom built converted Mercedes Benz or MAN trucks that have seating space for our passengers and a storage areas for luggage and all trip equipment. The trucks seat between 27-30 passengers on our camping trips. Most seats are forward facing, though some models have a combination of forward, backward and some inward facing seats with tables. Vehicles have sliding glass windows, and the seating area is raised providing a great advantage for game viewing and photography. Seats are cushioned and there is storage space for personal items like cameras, snacks and day packs in the seating area.

#### Participation on tour

All of the tours operated by ATC are participation trips meaning that all passengers are expected to help out around camp. The crew members running the trip will set up a rota system that will be followed. One day you may be on cleaning duty, the next day you may be on cooking duty and so forth. This is not only to make the trip easier for all involved but also for you as the passengers to get to know one another while on trip.

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

<b>ZIMBABWE:</b>	
<b>Please ensure that you pay for activities in Victoria Falls with US\$ CASH</b>	
Trip T-Shirt	25 US\$
<b>VICTORIA FALLS:</b>	
White Water Rafting-Full Day	*140 US\$
River Boarding combo Raft & Board	180 US\$
Canoeing on the Zambezi	*140 US\$
Half Day Adrenaline - George Swing, ZipLine & Flying Fox	*165 US\$
Bungee Jump (111m)	150 US\$
Tandem Bungee Jump	180 US\$
Micro Light over the Falls-15mins	170 US\$
Micro Light over the Falls-25mins	300 US\$
Helicopter Flight over the Falls 12 mins	*155 US\$
Helicopter Flight over the Falls 19 – 25 mins	265 US\$
Zambezi Sunset Cruise	50 US\$
Horse Safaris - 2Hr Novice / 3Hr Experienced	80 US\$ / 110 US\$
<b>BOTSWANA:</b>	
Okavango Delta 3 Day/2 Night Excursion	170 US\$
Okavango Delta Scenic Flight	100 US\$
Chobe National Park Game Drive	70 US\$
<b>SOUTH AFRICA:</b>	
Johannesburg City Tour	80 US\$
Soweto Tour - Joburg/ Pretoria	from 80 US\$

**PLEASE NOTE:** That this is not a full list of available activities. There are many more to choose from.

Prices are approximate and can change at any given time. Only to be used as a guideline

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**The staff and management look forward to welcoming you aboard and trust that you will enjoy your trip with us!**

**“Safari Njema”**

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