

# 15 DAY EAST AFRICAN DISCOVERER

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This trip begins in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and travels north through Zambia, Malawi and Zanzibar, before ending in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

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>	VZ15
<b>Accommodation style:</b>	Camping
<b>Length of trip:</b>	15 Days
<b>Starts in:</b>	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
<b>Finishes in:</b>	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
<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>	10
<b>Lunches included:</b>	9
<b>Dinners included:</b>	10
<b>Brunches included:</b>	1
<b>Countries visited:</b>	Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi
<b>Local Payment:</b>	US\$ 510

## 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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This fantastic trip offers scenic landscapes, tranquil lakes, mighty waterfalls and tropical beaches. Victoria Falls is one of the world's natural wonders, and there are plenty of adventure activities on offer based around the mighty Zambezi River. The Chobe National Park is famous for it's elephants, and a great place to view resident wildlife. Lake Malawi is a peaceful inland freshwater sea where it's impossible not to relax on the sandy beaches, while Zanzibar is a cultural melting pot where you can explore the intriguing alleyways of old Stone Town and enjoy the exotic palm-backed beaches.

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## INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

Entrance to Victoria Falls, Chobe National Park, Chobe Overnight Safari, South Luangwa National Park, Lake Malawi, Dar Es Salaam, Zanzibar Ferry,

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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. AT 1700 metres wide and around 100 metres high, the Victoria Falls are one of the most memorable sights on this African safari. All year round, flights can be taken in fixed wing planes, micro lights or helicopters. Back on the ground, the falls can be seen from the Victoria Falls National Park with its many viewing points or from the Zambian side. All offer fantastic photographic opportunities. 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: Trips into the Zambezi National Park; elephant back safaris, horseback safaris, 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)**

We head out from Victoria Falls to the border crossing to Botswana. Once we've completed the border formalities, we continue to the town of Kasane, situated on the banks of the Chobe River. The Chobe River forms a border between Botswana and Namibia and Zambia and is the main water source to the Chobe National Park. After lunch, we have time at leisure to relax. In the afternoon, we leave for our Chobe National Park Overnight Mobile excursion – an overnight experience in the wilds of the Chobe National park. Chobe is one of Botswana's premier game parks, renowned for its large elephant herds. Spend the afternoon in search of wildlife while we game drive to our camp within the park where we spend the evening surrounded by the night-time noises of the local wildlife. Look out for the rare Sable and Roan Antelope on your game drive, with their majestic backward slanting horns, or try keep a count of the Lilac Breasted Roller's that swoop by! After our night in the bush, we head out early to continue our search for wildlife, before packing up the camp and heading back to Kasane.

**Included Activity: Chobe National Park - Overnight Mobile excursion**

### **DAY 3: Chobe National Park to Livingstone (Zambia)** (Brunch / Dinner)

Once returning to the camp at Kasane, we get back on our truck and continue to the town of Livingstone. This afternoon we have the opportunity to view The Falls from the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, Zambia or partake in an optional sunset boat cruise on the Zambezi River. Another fantastic photo opportunity!

#### **Optional Activity: Zambezi Sunset River boat cruise**

### **DAY 4: Livingstone to Eastern Zambia** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

An early morning start sees us head north through southern Zambia. As we drive, we pass through a few of the villages and towns of Zambia along the way. Prosperous during the copper boom in the 60's, Zambia was able to build infrastructure at the main mining and farming communities. After the fall of the copper industry, the country was left virtually bankrupt and existing infrastructure was left to fall to ruin. Due to foreign investment and a rise in the mining industry, Zambia is today once again starting to prosper. The difference is evident in the cities with the availability of foreign stores, banks and imported cars, while the villages and smaller towns are still to catch up. Our campsite is home to some local wildlife including the largest antelope – Eland.

### **DAY 5: Eastern Zambia to South Luangwa National Park** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

This breath taking park is situated on the Luangwa River in the Eastern part of Zambia, and it is the southernmost of three national parks in this region. South Luangwa was founded in 1938 as a game reserve, 1972 was the year it was declared as a national park, and today it covers over 9000 kilometres squared. Animals such as Giraffe, buffalo and Elephants can be found in abundance. The Luangwa river is home to many a hippo and croc.

#### **Included Activity: Game Drive through Luangwa National Park**

### **DAY 6: South Luangwa to Chipata** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

From Luangwa we head north east on the old 'East Road' to a beautiful little campsite located just 10 km before the Zambia/Malawi border. In the days of old, the route from Cairo to Cape Town passed through Lusaka and it's along this route to Malawi we travel today. While today is mostly spent driving, we do cross the impressive Luangwa River Bridge which is heavily guarded due to its close proximity to the Zimbabwean & Malawian borders. We'll also stop off to purchase some fresh produce and coal from the local sellers along the way.

## **MALAWI**

A variety of attractions can be found in this exquisite country such as, forest, mountains and many a rural village, but there is one major attraction – Lake Malawi. There are many small rustic resorts along this fresh water lake where you can kick back on the sand, and enjoy the perfect sunset over this lake. Malawi will offer you the perfect sub tropical climate, allowing you ample time to soak up the sun and work on that tan. Lilongwe is the largest city in Malawi, as well as the capital city. Malawi plays host to just over 12 million people, with English and Chichewa being the main languages.

### **DAYS 7 - 9: Chipata to Lake Malawi Beaches (Malawi)** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Leaving Zambia we cross into Malawi, the 'Warm Heart of Africa'. Malawi is a landlocked country with 20% of its total area made up of beautiful Lake Malawi. We camp first at the central Lake, and then in the northern area over the next 3 days.

Spend the days learning the game of bao from the locals, scour the markets for a bargain or simply relax on the pristine beaches. Malawi's temperate climate allows for swimming in the clear blue fresh-water lake all year round. Explore the beautiful shore where you'll happen upon the local fishermen sorting their catch. Traditional fishing techniques are still practiced and to appreciate their boating skills, try to paddle a dugout canoe yourself! At night you'll see the 'fairy' lights of the fishermen out on the lake. The various beachside campsites along Lake Malawi's shores offer many optional

Excursions including a variety of water sports, horseback rides and a visit to the local village and school (see pricing guide at the end of this document).

**Optional Activities vary; we do however recommend the village tour in Kande Beach. Please note that you can take pens, pencils, notepads etc with on this tour for the villagers.**

## **TANZANIA**

Tanzania's natural environment and geographical features have made it one of the best tourist destinations in Africa. Being the biggest country in east Africa, Tanzania has heaps to offer her visitors, including 13 game reserves and national parks. Tanzania also forms part of the world's largest animal's movements, the great migration. Inland are the vast Serengeti National Park and the animal-packed Ngorongoro Conservation area, and thousands of people every year fulfil their lifetime achievement of climbing to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro, which is the highest mountain in Africa. On the coast, Zanzibar is exotic, intriguing and steeped in the unique Swahili culture.

### **DAY 10: Lake Malawi to Iringa (Tanzania) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

After a relaxing 3 days, we leave Malawi, entering Tanzania through the border post at Songwe. Winding our way through the beauty of the Tukuyu tea and banana plantations, we head towards Iringa where we spend the night in the beautiful rustic 'Farmhouse' campsite famous for its Amarula Hot Chocolates and its steamy showers!

### **DAY 11: Iringa to Dar es Salaam (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)**

This morning we head off early and make our way to Dar es Salaam. We pass through the Mikumi National Park where it is possible to view a range of wildlife from the roadside, totally impervious to the passing traffic. Today's drive time is extended due to the heavier amount of traffic heading in to the city, but the sights and sounds of Dar's vibrant outer suburbs are sure to keep you entertained. Look out for the colourful shop-fronts with their sometimes humorous 'catch phrases'. On arrival in Dar es Salaam, we make our way to our lovely seaside campsite and prepare for our departure to Zanzibar the next morning.

### **DAY 12: Dar es Salaam to Zanzibar (OPTIONAL) (Breakfast)**

A ferry from Dar es Salaam takes us to the "Spice Island," where we have the option to spend the next 3 nights. Zanzibar is steeped in history and was one of the major starting points for most East African explorers in their quest for new lands. New passengers may join us to replace those that'll leave us at the end of our excursion to Zanzibar.

**Included Activity: Zanzibar Ferry**

**Optional Activity: Zanzibar Excursion**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Accommodation and Meals are for your own account whilst on Zanzibar, as it is our experience that passengers prefer to explore the island on their own, and in accordance with their own budget. The Trip Leader joins you and can arrange your accommodation, while meals can be enjoyed from a wide selection of restaurants. There are also a wide variety of optional excursions on offer – please see the price guide on the end of this document for more details.

For those not opting to visit the island of Zanzibar, the next 3 days are spent at leisure at the beach campsite in Dar es Salaam. There are various optional excursions available from the camp including diving, snorkelling and fishing trips. The driver and cook remain behind in Dar es Salaam during the excursion.

**PLEASE NOTE:** New legislation prohibits the taking of photographs during the Zanzibar ferry ride. Spot fines can be issued, if legislation is not obeyed.

### **DAYS 13 & 14: Zanzibar**

History aside, Zanzibar offers a wealth of experiences for the visitor. Today the quiet streets of the old Stone Town still retain their Arabic influence, from the Medina-like shops to the palaces of the Sultans, who founded their vast empires on the spoils of the slave and ivory trade. The island is famous for its spices and an excursion around a spice plantation is always a fascinating experience. Other options include a trip to the beautiful beaches and giant tortoises of Prison Island, a full day scuba dive in Nungwe or a fishing trip in a traditional dhow. Mopeds are available for hire if you'd like to explore the more remote areas of the island. Zanzibar is a seafood lover's paradise. Numerous restaurants offer a great variety of the freshest catch from the ocean - crayfish being a popular speciality. Alternatively, mingle with the locals for dinner at the Forodhani Gardens seafront market, where delicious, inexpensive seafood is on offer.

### **DAY 15: Zanzibar to Dar es Salaam**

Leaving Zanzibar in the afternoon, we return to the mainland arriving back to camp in the late afternoon, or early evening. On arrival, where we exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime!

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### **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?**

Flights, Airport departure taxes departure transfer, visas, meals unless otherwise stated, travel insurance, laundry, personal items, sleeping bag, pillow & 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.

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## **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS**

Below is a **selection** of Optional Excursions available on this trip.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Where activities occur away from your base, there may be an additional transfer cost.

<b>ZIMBABWE:</b>	
<b>Please ensure that you pay for activities in Victoria Falls with US\$ CASH</b>	
Trip T-Shirt	30 US\$
<b>VICTORIA FALLS:</b>	
White Water Rafting-Full Day	140 US\$
River Boarding combo Raft & Board	180 US\$
Bungee Jump (111m)	150 US\$
Micro Light over the Falls-15mins	170 US\$
Helicopter Flight over the Falls 12 mins	155 US\$
Zambezi Sunset River boat cruise	From 50 US\$
<b>MALAWI:</b>	
Freshwater Diving at Kande Beach	55US\$ (Additional dives 30 US\$ each)
Horse Riding at Kande Beach 2Hr / 3Hr (Bush, Beach & Swim)	70 US\$ / 100 US\$
Village Walk & Meal at Kande Beach	20 US\$
Traditional Healer Visit	10 US\$
Livingstonia Mission Hike - 30km return	10 US\$
Carving Lessons & Local Fishing.	*Price to be negotiated on arrival
<b>TANZANIA:</b>	
<b>Zanzibar:</b>	
Transfer to Nungwe	20 US\$
Zanzibar Accommodation	From 40 US\$ - 60 US\$ per day
Spice Tour including lunch	40 US\$
Prison Island Snorkeling Trip	30 US\$
Diving, Snorkeling & Fishing	From 40US\$
Dhow Sunset Cruise	40 US\$
Motorbike/ Car Hire	60 US\$ - 80 US\$
From	+local drivers license / insurance at 5 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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