



## Falls, Safari & Cape Town

4 Countries in 2 Weeks: Zambia, Namibia, Botswana & South Africa!

### Trip Summary

This trip takes in 4 countries in 2 weeks – without excessive travelling – and provides the ultimate combination in African destinations, taking in the magnificent Victoria Falls, Chobe National Park, where wildlife density ensures a fabulous safari experience, and finishes up in one of the world's most beautifully situated cities: Cape Town. Activities include a visit to a local Zambian village, taking game drives to spot wildlife, and sunset boat cruises to view game on the banks of the Chobe and Zambezi Rivers. Accommodation is typically in luxury lodges - and may feature luxury tents or reed-built chalets typically situated along the edge of waterways. Then head to trendy Cape Town with its outdoor lifestyle and world-renowned attractions, dining and shopping.

### Trip Highlights

- Visiting the awesome Victoria Falls: and perhaps taking part in one of the many activities on offer.
- Fly over the Victoria Falls
- Taking a game drive in the wildlife-rich Chobe National Park
- Visit cosmopolitan Cape Town, a vibrant beach-side city with world famous sites and a lively restaurant scene.

### Day 1

Overnight flight to Johannesburg

### Days 2 & 3

Arrive Johannesburg and transfer to your flight to Livingstone. On arrival, you transfer to your lodge for a 2 nights stay including all meals, tea/coffee and snacks.

Perched on the edge of the Batoka Gorge, high above the mighty Zambezi River, this exclusive Lodge provides a unique location and offers its guests the height of luxury amidst beautiful surroundings. With just seven en suite chalets, constructed using naturally occurring materials from the surrounding area, the lodge focuses on providing comfort and on providing guests with a unique and unforgettable African experience.

Included in your stay is a visit to a nearby Zambian village and a trip to the magnificent Victoria Falls. Also on offer are a sunset game viewing cruise, a trip to the local markets, and guided bush and bird walks. The lodge can also arrange white water rafting, scenic flights over the Falls, elephant-back, horse-back, walking or riverboat safaris, bungee jumping, kayaking – amongst others!

In the evenings, guests can relax with a sundowner and watch as the sun sets over the gorge and perhaps sharing stories around the campfire.

At the Victoria Falls, the Zambezi River is more than two kilometres wide. When in full flood, (usually February or March) over 500 million litres of water per minute go over the falls, which are 1708m wide, and drop 99m at Rainbow Falls in Zambia. At low water in November the flow can be reduced to around 10 million litres/minute, and the river is divided into a series of braided channels that descend in many separate falls.

### **Days 4 & 5**

This morning, you transfer by road and boat to Botswana – clearing both Zambian and Botswana customs en route. You transfer to your lodge in the Lesoma Valley which lies in the heart of the Kasane Forest Reserve for a 2 night stay in a 'meru style' tent with en suite facilities, including all meals, tea/coffee and snacks, plus daily morning boat cruise and afternoon game drive into the Chobe National Park. The reserve is adjacent to the Chobe National Park.

The Chobe region is home to the largest population of wild elephant in the world. This is estimated to be approximately 120,000 individuals. Their sometimes daily passage takes them from Zimbabwe through the Chobe and on into Namibia before returning.

The lodge features open guest areas, a secluded hide, refreshing swimming pool and is situated within a game rich reserve affording the guests wonderful sightings between the open landrover safaris into the Chobe and boat cruises along the Chobe River.

### **Days 6 & 7**

This morning, you transfer by road and boat to Impalila Island in order to clear Namibian immigration and customs. Once through Namibian immigration, you will be transferred for 2 nights at to a Lodge in a twin chalet with en suite facilities on a full board basis.

This unique island is situated at the meeting place of two mighty African rivers, the Chobe and Zambezi, and four countries, Namibia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana. The surrounding area is an amazing mosaic of waterways, floodplains and bushveld:- host to exceptional birdlife, game viewing and assorted vegetation - and in the waters, outstanding fishing opportunities.

At this 16-bedded luxury lodge, game viewing by boat in the Chobe National Park for Africa's big game is excellent during the mid afternoon to sunset when game comes down to the waters' edge to drink. In particular, the Chobe is renowned for vast elephant herds, buffalo, lion, hippo, the rare Chobe bushbuck and puku. Elephant cross the Chobe onto Impalila Island often, and along with hippo, can be seen from the Lodge.

Impalila Island and surrounding areas has to be one of Namibia's top birding venues. With prime grasslands, temporary wetlands, seasonal floodplains, densely wooded islands and open water habitats, it is little wonder that close to 400 species have been recorded in the area and all Okavango specials can be seen here. The backwaters, channels and grasslands of the floodplains hold a wide suite of wetland birds, including herons, storks, ibis, wildfowl and crakes. Early morning is the best time to search for Black and Coppery-tailed

coucals as they tend to sit out sunning themselves. Other rarities include Olive woodpecker, Schalow's turaco, Emerald cuckoo, River warbler and Half-collared kingfishers.

Included in your stay is a chobe game cruise, plus a choice of 1 activity per day – options include a Zambezi sunset cruise, guided bird walk, cultural tour & fishing. Game cruises along the Chobe River provide possible sightings of large herds of elephant, buffalo, hippo and lion. Birding and fishing is excellent as tiger fish, bream and African pike abound in the lagoons, channels and rapids of the Zambezi and Chobe rivers. A visit to a traditional fishing village provides an opportunity to learn about traditional plant use in herbal medicines and introduce you to the timeless ways of the local people.

### **Days 8 - 13**

This morning, you transfer by light aircraft back to Livingstone – this transfer includes a flight over the Angels over the Victoria Falls. On arrival in Livingstone, you transfer to your flight to Johannesburg, and connect with a flight to Cape Town.

On arrival in Cape Town, you transfer to your accommodation: there is a range of boutique style hotels, small B&Bs and self catering apartments in Cape Town. This itinerary is priced on a B&B basis in a 5 star boutique hotel.

Cape Town is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city offering outdoor activities, a lively music scene and a host of trendy bars and restaurants. Contrasts abound in this city, with beaches, vineyards, and of course Table Mountain within easy reach, and of course the stark differences between the townships and beach-side mansions provide a constant reminder of this nation's tumultuous history. Options for exploring the area include taking the cable car to the top of Table Mountain for magnificent views, soaking up the atmosphere at the V&A Waterfront, learning about the history of apartheid at District Six Museum, taking an excursion to Robben Island, walking around the beautiful Botanical Gardens, driving the Peninsula Circuit including a drive along Chapman's Peak Drive – a spectacular road which follows the coast down the Peninsula, taking a day's tour to the local winelands and exploring the vineyards and fabulous gastronomy in the local restaurants.

### **Day 13**

This morning, transfer back to Cape Town airport for your direct flight back to London.

### **Day 14**

Arrive UK.

**Cost:** **From £2,760 per person** (Until end April 2009).  
**From £3,255 per person** (May – Oct 2009)

Cost includes return economy flights from London. Subject to availability.

### **What this Trip Contributes**

Guests visiting Impalila Island automatically contribute to the ongoing community and conservation projects managed by the lodge owners. One of the major contributions made the Lodge here is the owners' commitment to nurturing relationships with the local communities in order to promote and encourage the conservation of resources in these areas. They have also been instrumental in advancing social

responsibilities and skills training in the local communities, and addressing health care needs.

The Lodge has been particularly strong in creating employment and skills training opportunities for local people, and has invested N\$250 000 back into the community during development on employment and the procurement of natural resources.

Guests are invited to bring items such as unwanted toys, stationery items, childrens' clothing and basic First Aid kit items for donation to local schools and health centres.

### **How to Book / Enquire**

To enquire about this trip, call us on 020 8977 7034.

*The air holiday shown is ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority.  
Our ATOL number is ATOL 9709. Please see our booking conditions for more information.*

