

Victoria Falls, Botswana and Mozambique



Overview

This trip starts at the magnificent Victoria Falls, then uses small charter flights to access the Okavango Delta and Chobe National Park in Botswana and finishes up relaxing in luxury on a Mozambique beach. Activities on offer include gliding through the waterways of the Okavango Delta in a traditional mokoro (dugout canoe), taking game drives to spot wildlife, including lion, leopard elephant, cheetah and buffalo, and guided bush walks. Travel by small aircraft affords fabulous views of the vast wilderness as well as allowing more time for wildlife viewing activities from each base. Accommodation is typically in luxury lodges - and may feature luxury tents or reed-built chalets typically situated along the edge of waterways. The trip finishes in wonderful seclusion on a sandy beach in Mozambique with the option of scuba diving or sea kayaking.

Trip Highlights

Visiting the awesome Victoria Falls: and perhaps taking part in one of the many Activities on offer.

Seeing the full expanse of the Okavango Delta by light aircraft

Gliding through the watery mazes of the Okavango Delta in a traditional mokoro

Taking a game drive in the wildlife-rich Moremi Game Reserve

Waking up to the sounds of the African bush in luxury lodges typically situated on the edge of waterways.

Relaxing on a secluded Mozambique beach on the edge of untouched reefs

Day 1: UK to Zambia

Depart the UK on overnight flight to Livingstone

Days 2-5 (3 nights)

Arrive Lusaka and take connecting flight to Livingstone, where you will transfer to your accommodation, upstream of the Victoria Falls. Here you can enjoy the lush vegetation and spectacular views across the Zambezi River.

You stay for three nights in a luxurious and unique up-market lodge on the banks of the Zambezi River. Accommodation is provided in 10 houses or cottages. Each house has sweeping views of the mighty Zambezi River and spacious sleeping and living areas.

Inclusive activities from the lodge consist of sunrise and sunset boat trips on the Zambezi, guided canoe excursions, island lunch with guided walk, fishing with equipment provided, a visit to the Falls on the Zambian side*, a game drive in the Mosi-Oa-Tunya National Park*, a walk in the gorges below the Falls, a cultural visit to the Livingstone museums* or a shopping trip on the Zambian side of the Falls. There are also many optional adventure activities (such as helicopter or fixed wing scenic flights, elephant-back safaris, bungee jumping, and white water rafting) which can be arranged through the lodge. (* entry fees not included)

Days 5-7 Chobe National Park (2 nights)

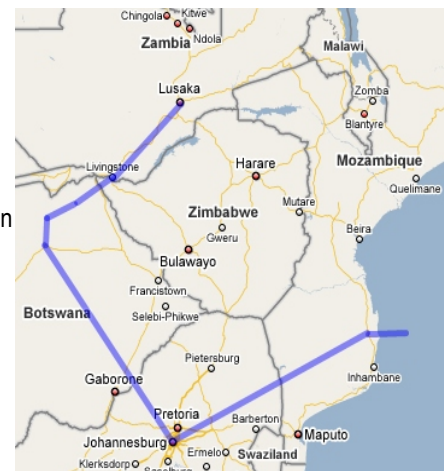
You take a charter flight from Livingstone to the Savute region of Chobe National Park: this area supports a huge concentration of wildlife particularly lions and elephants, but also vast herds of buffaloes, zebras, impalas, wildebeest and antelopes as well as cheetah, wild dogs and hyenas.

You spend 2 nights at a luxury Camp in a twin tent with en suite facilities on a fully inclusive basis. The Camp sleeps a maximum of 16 guests in 8-luxury twin tents. Activities are included, such as morning and night game drives, boat cruises, fishing and walks with an armed guide. Morning game drives start soon after sunrise and are conducted by experienced guides and trackers. These informative drives last between 3 and 4 hours. Night drives are a highlight: guests leave the camp late afternoon, stopping for sunset drinks before carrying on into the night using spotlights and returning to camp for dinner.

The shady, treed environment of the camp hosts a great variety of birds and squirrels that visit daily. A family of hippo and an elephant or three are regularly sighted from the tents. The predators are also well represented by lion, hyena, leopard, cheetah and wild dog. Seasonally, large herds of elephant drink almost daily at the river bank in front of the camp, in full view of guests. Playful spotted necked otters are commonly seen performing in the Lagoon right in front of the tents.

Days 7-10 (3 nights)

You transfer on a short flight by light aircraft to the Okavango Delta - a maze of lagoons, channels and islands that make up a massive freshwater oasis in the Kalahari Desert which is home to an array of wildlife including buffaloes, elephants, giraffe, antelope, hippos, crocodiles, zebras, wildebeest and birdlife.



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You transfer to your Camp situated on a 260,000 acre private concession bordering the southern section of the famous Moremi Game Reserve, thus affording guests absolute exclusivity. Accommodation for the next 3 nights is in 8 classic styled safari tents raised on wooden decking. The decks are complemented with hammocks and Morris chairs. Each unit offers en-suite facilities, a private deck and is equipped with a hairdryer and ceiling fan.

The area is home to a wide variety of big game including elephant, buffalo, giraffe, hippo, lion, leopard, cheetah and wild dog. The area houses one of the largest buffalo populations in the Okavango Delta, which, in the dry season, can concentrate into a herd in excess of 2000. The rare and elusive wild dog is also often sighted in the area. Day and night game drives, walking safaris and mokoro trips are included. The latter trip (in a dug-out canoe) through the papyrus-lined channels is an experience not to be missed in this area. The lodge also offers a unique and educational elephant interaction activity (additional cost).

Day 10 (1 night)

You transfer by light aircraft to Maun and connect to Johannesburg, where you will overnight.

Days 11-15 (4 nights)

A morning flight to Mozambique and connecting light aircraft transfer to Benguerra Island. Set in a natural acacia forest bordering Benguerra Bay and encircled by silver beaches, coral reefs and turquoise seas, this Lodge offers seclusion and privacy in a tranquil setting. Your days are free to explore the Island's natural beauty on foot or in an open Landrover, try your hand at some of the many activities, or simply indulge in the experience of being "castaway" in luxury. While you may simply choose to recline within the shade of a beach Umbrella, there are many wonderful activities to enjoy. The island is a snorkeller and scuba diver's paradise due to the abundance and variety of Marine life and unspoilt beauty of the reefs around the island. Less strenuous activities include a traditional dhow cruise, a picnic on a deserted beach or

Exciting saltwater fishing from a boat.

Accommodation for 4 nights is in a twin cabana with en suite bathroom on a full board basis including local drinks, activities (snorkelling, picnics, landrover trips, island tours, dhow cruising, village visits, sea kayaking, birdwatching, nature walks, star gazing) and laundry. Diving, fishing and yacht trips are not included in the nightly rate but available at an additional charge.

Day 15

You transfer back to Johannesburg via Vilanculos to connect with your return flight to London.

Day 16

Arrive UK.

Cost of Trip: From £5,255 per person

The cost is based on 2 people sharing, travelling in high season and staying in luxury accommodation. Alternative accommodation is available and the itinerary can be undertaken in the low season

This outline cost includes:

- International and domestic flights
- Meals and activities as stipulated

The cost excludes:

- Airport Taxes
- Visas
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Items of personal nature, such as tips, beverages, etc



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Trip Extension Options

Southern Africa is an excellent destination for trip extensions: customers could elect to take a few days' break in Cape Town or drive the Garden Route. Extensions are booked on a tailor made basis: please contact us for more details and a quote.

General Information

Visas

Visas are not required for UK or Irish nationals in Botswana or Mozambique. All visitors require a passport valid for at least six months after the period of their intended stay, and documents for return or onward travel. Passports should have at least two unused pages for endorsements by the local Immigration Service.

British citizens require a valid passport and a visa to visit Zambia. Visas may be purchased at the port of entry, and cost GBP£75 or US\$140 for Single Entry; GBP£240 / US\$442 for multiple entry for British Nationals and US\$50 single entry / US\$80 Double entry for Irish Nationals. Note that if customers wish to visit Victoria Falls on the Zimbabwean side from Zambia, a multiple entry visa will be required.

A return ticket or proof of onward travel, and proof of sufficient funds is also required.

Note: Passport and visa requirements are liable to change at short notice. Travellers are advised to check their entry requirements with their embassy or consulate.

Health

The World Health Organisation (www.who.int/en/) recommends that all travellers are innoculated against diptheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella and polio as well as for hepatitis B.

Hepatitis A, malaria and typhoid are also recommended by the Centres for Disease Control & Prevention (www.cdc.gov) for travel in this region. All travellers should seek advice from their local GP or travel clinic for up to date advice on vaccinations and different malarial options.

Insurance

Travel insurance is compulsory for all bookings. Guests on group departures must take their policy documents with them on the trip as the guide will ask to see this at the start. The documentation must state in writing that you are the named policyholder and that the cover is valid for the period of travel. The policy document must also indicate that medical expenses and emergency repatriation cover is included and a 24 hour contact telephone number for the insurance company must be shown on the documentation in case of emergency. Guests unable to provide all this information at the start of the trip will be asked to purchase a policy prior to joining the trip.

Electricity supply

220v, 2 & 3pin plugs. Adaptors are required to charge cameras, etc. Check www.kropla.com.

Money

Currency is the Botswana Pula, Zambian Kwacha and Mozambique Meticaiss.. We suggest you take spending money in US dollars. Money can be changed up at Maun airport. ATMs are available in Livingstone.

What to bring

Binoculars, torch, walking shoes, swimming gear, plenty of high factor sunscreen, sunhat, insect repellent, camera, a day pack. Warm clothing is recommended for evenings, and a waterproof jacket. Lightweight clothing is recommended for the day. Avoid brightly coloured clothing for game viewing. If travelling in the winter season (April - September), bring warm clothes for Early morning game drives (gloves, hat, fleece).

Tipping

It is normal to tip for good service in bars and restaurants in all three countries.. Guests may also consider tipping their guide at their discretion.

At Native Escapes, we select accommodation according to particular interests, season of travel, budget and availability. We have travelled extensively in Southern Africa, and have a good level knowledge of the destinations and things to do. Our ground handlers provide an excellent service in the event of emergency. Because we purchase accommodation through ground handlers who sell to agents such as ourselves around the world, we have access to excellent rates which are not available for direct bookings; you should pay no more for direct bookings than if you book through us. We are ATOL bonded, and your money is therefore protected when you book with us.

