



Barefoot Safaris and Adventure Tours

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TRIP DOSSIER: 15 Day Victoria Falls, Botswana and Caprivi Lodge Safari

Revised 14 October 2025

Experience a journey like no other through the untamed beauty of Victoria Falls, Botswana, and the Caprivi Strip — a region where water, wilderness, and wonder collide. Your adventure begins at Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, where the mighty Zambezi River plunges into a thunderous gorge, creating the world's largest sheet of falling water. Feel the spray on your face as you stand in awe of "The Smoke That Thunders." Next, cross into Botswana, a land celebrated for its rich wildlife and pristine wilderness.

Glide across the silent waters of the Okavango Delta, where the grunt of the hippos and call of the Fish Eagle awaken your senses. Explore Chobe National Park, renowned for its vast herds of elephants and dramatic riverfront scenes. Glide silently along the Chobe River on a safari cruise as hippos, buffalo, and crocodiles share the banks with elephants and antelope, while predators watch from the shadows. Continue

eastward into Namibia's lush Caprivi Strip, a unique contrast to the desert landscapes Namibia is known for. This narrow, river-fed paradise offers tranquil waterways, birdlife in abundance, and intimate safari experiences far from the crowds. The Caprivi connects you to a network of rivers — the Zambezi, Kwando, and Okavango — making it one of Southern Africa's hidden gems.

From the thunder of the falls to the serenity of river safaris, this journey captures the true essence of Africa — raw, diverse, and endlessly captivating.

Grading: Anyone in good health with a sense of adventure should be able to take part. There is no significant physical difficulty involved, but—like much of Africa—rough roads in national parks, limited facilities, and basic accommodation may require you to adjust your expectations.

NB: While it is our intention to operate the itinerary as printed below, it may be necessary to make changes due to flight schedules, weather conditions,

accommodation availability, or other operational factors. Therefore, the order and location of overnight stops may vary.

Starting Point: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

End Point: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Included:

- 14 nights' accommodation in lodges and safari camps
- All park entrance and conservation fees
- Professional English-speaking guide throughout
- Air-conditioned safari vehicle
- Bottled water daily
- Meals as listed
- Guided game drives and walks
- Cultural visits and conservation contributions

Not included:

- International flights
- Optional activities and spa treatments
- Travel insurance (mandatory)



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- Tips and gratuities
- Personal items and beverages not specified.

Brief Day by Day Description

Day 1: Welcome to Victoria Falls

Arrival in Victoria Falls. Start with the awe-inspiring sight and sound of Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Feel the cool spray of mist as you walk along the scenic rainforest trails, stopping at viewpoints that reveal the thunderous curtain of water cascading into the gorge below.

Enjoy time to explore the craft markets or relax with a refreshing drink overlooking the mighty Zambezi River. In the afternoon, unwind on a sunset cruise, watching elephants and hippos along the riverbanks as the African sun dips below the horizon — the perfect ending to an unforgettable day at “The Smoke That Thunders.”

Accommodation: Safari Lodge/Camp

Meals: Dinner



Victoria Falls

Day 2 and 3: Hwange National Park (260km)

Depart from the majestic Victoria Falls and journey into the wild heart of Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe’s largest and most diverse wildlife reserve. After a scenic drive through rural landscapes, arrive at the park’s rest camp, nestled in the bush.

If there was no time to visit the Mighty Victoria Falls, we will visit the Falls this morning.

Spend the next two days exploring Hwange’s vast savannahs and woodlands on morning and afternoon game drives, where you’ll encounter elephants, lions, buffalo, giraffes, and an incredible

variety of birdlife. As the sun sets, enjoy the magic of the African bush — a crackling fire, star-filled skies, and the distant call of wildlife.

This unforgettable stay combines the thrill of safari adventure with the serenity of nature at its finest.

We will be spending our 2 nights inside the park at the rest camp. Please note that the standard of accommodation is slightly lower, but you are staying inside the park surrounded by nature.

Your guide will prepare delicious meals for your stay in the park.

Accommodation: Rest Camp in the Park.

Meals: B x2

Lx 2

D x 3

Day 4 and 5: Matopos National Park (400km)

Leaving the wide-open plains of Hwange National Park behind and travel south to the



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striking granite hills of Matopos National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famed for its dramatic landscapes and rich cultural history.

Over the next two days, explore this unique region on guided game drives.

Pay a visit to the grave of Cecil John Rhodes at World View and discover why this was his favourite place in the world.

Discover ancient rock art, learn about the park's fascinating history, and soak in the peaceful beauty of Matopos—a true highlight for nature and adventure lovers alike.

Embark on an **optional** Rhino trekking experience on foot accompanied by expert rangers, you'll have the rare opportunity to observe these magnificent creatures up close in their natural habitat.

Your guide will prepare delicious meals for your stay in the park.

Accommodation: Rest Camp

Meals: B x 2

L x 2

D x 2



White Rhino

Day 6: Nata, Botswana (330km)

Depart the scenic granite hills of Matopos National Park and journey across the border into Botswana, traveling through vast open landscapes toward the small town of Nata, gateway to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans.

Arrive in the afternoon and enjoy a sunset excursion to the Nata Bird Sanctuary, where seasonal pans attract thousands of flamingos, pelicans, and other birdlife—a photographer's dream. As the sun sets over the

shimmering salt flats, experience the tranquil beauty and endless horizons of Botswana's wild heart

Accommodation: Nata or surrounding area

Meals: B, D



Nata Bird Sanctuary

Day 7: Makgadigadi Pans (300km)

Depart your Lodge and travel deep into the heart of the Makgadikgadi Pans, one of the largest salt flats in the world. Your destination is the mystical Kubu Island, a granite outcrop rising from the endless white expanse—a place of silence, mystery, and ancient beauty.

Along the way, experience the surreal landscapes of the pans, where mirages dance on the horizon and the vast



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openness feels almost otherworldly. Upon arrival, explore Kubu's baobab-studded hills and learn about its sacred significance to the local people.

As night falls, enjoy the pristine nature surrounded by Giant Baobab Trees who have stood the test of time.

Accommodation: **Gweta Area**

Meals: B, D



Baobab Tree

Day 8: Maun (210km)

Depart the shimmering Makgadikgadi Pans and travel to Maun, the safari capital of Botswana and the gateway to the world-famous Okavango Delta.

Upon arrival, take to the skies for a scenic helicopter flight over the Delta, where winding waterways, lush islands, and

herds of elephants unfold beneath you. This breathtaking aerial view reveals the sheer scale and beauty of this UNESCO World Heritage Site — a true jewel of Africa.

***Please note this is an Optional excursion**

Enjoy the afternoon relaxing in Maun, reflecting on the unforgettable contrast between the vast salt pans and your trip you have had

Accommodation: Maun

Meals: B

Day 9 and 10: Okovango Delta (370km)

Depart Maun and journey north to the tranquil Okavango Panhandle, where the mighty Okavango River fans out into a maze of clear channels, lagoons, and lush islands. This lesser-travelled region offers a peaceful and authentic Delta experience.

Spend two unforgettable nights surrounded by nature — explore the waterways by mokoro (dugout canoe) or motorboat, enjoy

birdwatching, and spot hippos, crocodiles, and elephants along the banks. Evenings are spent relaxing under a canopy of stars, listening to the sounds of the African night.

The Okavango Panhandle is a haven for wildlife lovers and photographers alike — the perfect escape into the wild heart of Botswana.

A boat cruise on the mystical waterways of the Okovango Delta is included, as well as walk with the local guide. Being on foot allows you to experience the true sense of the Okovango Delta.

Accommodation: Lodge or Camp

Meals: B x 2 D x 2



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Mokoro

Day 11 and 12: Kwando Core Area (270km)

Depart Drotsky's Cabins on the banks of the Okavango River and travel east through the lush waterways of Namibia's Caprivi Strip, a region where rivers, forests, and wildlife thrive in harmony.

Spend two nights in the Kwando Core Area, a vibrant riverside town set along the majestic Zambezi River. Enjoy peaceful boat cruises, birdwatching, and game viewing in nearby reserves, where elephants, hippos, and crocodiles are often seen.

Enjoy a walk with your Barefoot guide. Being on foot, allows you to appreciate and learn about the smaller creatures, often overlooked on a safari jeep.

A sunset cruise is included. The area is renowned of its majestic African sunsets and birdlife.

The Caprivi Strip, now known as the Zambezi Region, has a fascinating and complex history. This narrow stretch of land in northeastern Namibia was created during the colonial era in the late 19th century. It was named after German Chancellor Leo von Caprivi, who negotiated the Heligoland–Zanzibar Treaty of 1890. In this agreement, Germany gained the Caprivi Strip from Britain to give its colony, German Southwest Africa, access to the Zambezi River—hoping it would provide a trade route to the east coast of Africa.

However, the plan failed because the Zambezi River was not navigable due to the Victoria Falls. Over the years, the region became a strategic and contested area during

wars and independence struggles. Today, the Caprivi Strip is part of independent Namibia and is known for its diverse cultures, wildlife-rich national parks, and proximity to four countries—Angola, Zambia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe—making it one of Africa's most unique geographic features. Relax in the serene atmosphere of this riverine paradise and soak up the rhythm of life along the Zambezi — the perfect blend of safari adventure and tranquility.

Accommodation: Kwando Core Area

Meals: B x 2

Day 13 and 14: Kasane (Chobe National Park) (125km)

Depart Kwando Core Area and cross into Botswana, arriving in the lively safari town of Kasane, gateway to the world-renowned Chobe National Park.

Over the next two days, immerse yourself in unforgettable wildlife experiences — In the afternoon on the first day,



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relax on a sunset boat cruise
along the Chobe River,
watching hippos, crocodiles,
and elephants gather at the
water's edge as the sky turns
golden. On the second day
enjoy a thrilling game drive
through Chobe's riverfront
plains, home to vast herds of
elephants, buffalo, and
predators on the prowl.
On the second day,
participate in a guided game
drive across Chobe's
riverfront plains, renowned for
their large populations of
elephants, buffalo, and active
predators. adventure,
serenity, and breathtaking
scenery.

****END OF SERVICE****

Enjoy a delicious farewell
dinner and share your
memories created on this
adventure

Accommodation: Safari

Lodge or camp

Meals: B x 2

D x 2

Day 15: Victoria Falls (85km)

Transfer back to Victoria Falls
Airport with your guide, where
you bid farewell to your guide
and memories of Africa.



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- *Please feel free to add on to this tour with any of the other possible tours we offer in the area.*
- *The accommodation specified in the itinerary is a guide only and subject to availability. Alternatives will be of a similar standard if required.*
- *The Dollar rate is just an indication of the price at the current exchange rate, it cannot be guaranteed until a confirmed booking is made*

mornings and evenings — perfect for game viewing as wildlife gathers around remaining waterholes. The wet season brings short, dramatic afternoon showers.

Caprivi Strip:
The Caprivi Strip in northeastern Namibia enjoys a tropical climate, making it one of the country's most lush and green regions. The area experiences a distinct wet and dry season.

The wet season runs from November to April, bringing warm temperatures and regular afternoon showers that fill the rivers and floodplains, creating ideal conditions for birdlife and vibrant scenery. The dry season, from May to October, offers cooler mornings, warm sunny days.

Baggage:

- 1 soft bag (maximum 20kg)
- 1 daypack

Clothing and Footwear:

- Lightweight cotton, long sleeves for sun protection
- Warm layers for cold nights
- Waterproof jacket
- Hiking boots and sandals
- Swimwear, sunhat, insect repellent

Equipment:

- Head torch
- Sunglasses, sunscreen
- Binoculars
- Camera and cover for dust

Terms and Conditions

Price Includes:

- Shared accommodation
- Entrance Fees and park fees
- Transfers and activities, as listed
- Professional Guide
- Water
- Meals as listed

Price Excludes:

- Flights
- Unspecified Meals
- All Beverages
- Optional Activities & Entrance Fees
- Visas, travel insurance, tips and personal expenses

Practical Info

**** Excursions:** A qualified grade 1 safari guide from Barefoot Safaris will accompany clients on all excursions except where it is necessary to employ a guide from local parks.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Climate:

Victoria Falls:

Victoria Falls enjoys a warm, tropical climate with plenty of sunshine throughout the year. The region experiences three main seasons — a hot, wet season from November to March, when lush green vegetation flourishes and the Zambezi River swells; a cool, dry season from April to August, offering pleasant daytime temperatures and crisp evenings; and a hot, dry season from September to October.

Botswana:

Botswana has a semi-arid climate, offering warm, sunny days for most of the year — ideal for safari travel. The country experiences two main seasons: dry season from May to October and the wet season from November to April. During the dry season, days are clear and pleasant with cool



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- **Basic first aid, and personal medication**
- **Malaria Prophylaxis Recommended**

Covid

For latest Covid-19 advice please visit the South African Government Website
www.gov.za/covid

Visas and Permits:

Zimbabwe:

International visitors do require a visa upon entering. Please visit <https://www.evisa.gov.zw/faq.htm> for more information

Namibia: Certain travellers will require a visa to enter Namibia, please visit <https://eservices.mhaiss.gov.na/> for more information

This information is given in good faith but may be subject to change without warning. Please note that, where appropriate, obtaining a valid visa is ultimately your responsibility. Please consult a visa agency or the consular authorities 4-6 weeks before departure for the most up-to-date information

Vaccinations & Health Advice: Vaccination requirements & other health advice can change, so please check with a specialized travel clinic for up-to-date information before you depart.

For useful advice you can visit The Medical Advisory Service for Travelers Abroad www.masta.org

Nevertheless, we recommend that you protect yourselves against: Malaria and Hepatitis A as a minimum.
Food: Although every effort will be made to accommodate any dietary requirements, the availability of certain products is limited in Africa. Any special dietary requirements should be explained to us in writing at the time of booking.

Local costs: 14 Breakfasts, 2 lunches and 7 dinners are included

Meals are indicated as follows:

B- Breakfast

L- Lunch

D-Dinner

Approximate costs are for guidance only and may vary widely according to location and type of establishment.

Coffee/tea USD\$1.30

Soft drink USD\$1.00

Medium beer USD\$2.60

*Reasonable Mid-range tourist class restaurant

Optional excursions:

Some or all the excursions detailed below may be available; others not listed may also be available. Approximate costs per person are given for guidance only and may depend on the number of participants. Your safari guide should be able to assist you in arranging them as well as advise you on any.

Sunrise Drive \$30

Morning Walk \$50

Sunset Drive \$30

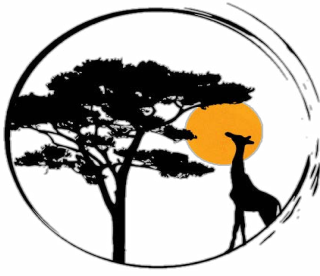
Night Drive \$35

Tipping: For better or worse, tipping is an accepted part of everyday life, and - although it is always at your discretion - you will be expected to tip to reward service. Your tour guide will give you an indication of when and how much is appropriate. This can vary widely, but please allow USD 200 per person for this tour. **Seasonal changes:** Although all rooms/chalets in malaria areas that we use are protected with mosquito netting; there will be insects and mosquitoes about. The camps are essentially "al fresco" so you should be prepared with insect repellent and appropriate long sleeved/legged clothing. Insects are attracted to light at night and are especially prevalent during the rainy season. Switching the lights off and placing a hurricane lamp a distance from you will remove the problem.

The evenings and mornings will be chilly from about June to August: so, it is advisable to take a light sweater or fleece

Currency: South African Rand, USD, Namibian Dollars and Botswana Pula. We recommend that you bring all you need for the trip in cash in US\$ or make use of your debit or credit card.

NB: Pre-1990-dollar bills are not accepted in most African countries



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Airport Tax: This should be included in your air ticket. Please confirm with your air carrier



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