4 Countries

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe - Chobe River Front - Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

9 Days / 8 Nights



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary]

Overview

Accommodation	Destination	Nights	Basis	Room Type
Victoria Falls Hotel	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	3	B&B	Twin Room
Chobe Savanna Lodge	Chobe River Front, Namibia	2	FB+	Twin Room
Leroo La Tau	Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, Botswana	3	FB+	Twin Room

Key
B&B: Bed and breakfast
FB+: Dinner, bed, breakfast, lunch and activities daily

Included

3 Night Accommodation - Victoria Falls - Zimbabwe
2 Night Accommodation - Caprivi Strip - Namibia
3 Night Accommodation - Makgadikgadik Pans - Botswana
Day Visit to Livingstone - Victoria Falls - Zambia
Tours & transfers
Porterage

Excluded

Scheduled international & domestic flights - unless specifically mentioned
Travel insurance (essential)
Visas if required (see notes below)
Items of a personal nature, gratuities, curios
Park & River usage fees
Immunization, inoculation & medication
All services, meals & drinks not specified above
Surcharge for early/late pickups for road transfers between 21:00 and 06:00 (unless flight arrival/departure times are given at time of quotation)

Day 1: Victoria Falls Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe



A nation of spectacular natural beauty, friendly people and rich culture, Zimbabwe's status as one of Africa's leading safari destinations was dampened for years by its political instability. But now that the country is transcending its strife and returning to a state of equilibrium, it is once again emerging as a vacation highlight of the continent. Victoria Falls – known to locals as 'The Smoke That Thunders' – is one of the seven natural wonders of the world and the sheer power of this massive body of water plunging into the Zambezi Gorge is awe-inspiring and unforgettable. Lake Kariba, with its game-rich shores and islands, is an idyllic safari spot featuring mind-blowing sunsets; Hwange National Park is known for its huge herds of elephants; and a kayak trip down the Zambezi through the Mana Pools National Park will appeal to the intrepid traveller, providing close encounters with crocodiles, hippos and a host of other wildlife.



Resting on the southern banks of the Zambezi river at the western end of the eponymous falls, this popular tourist town is compact enough to walk around and makes an ideal base for travellers exploring the seventh wonder of the world, the unfathomably vast Victoria Falls. About two thirds of the falls can be viewed from the Zimbabwean side and, while the falls are undoubtedly the star attraction, the area provides both adventure seekers and sightseers with plenty of opportunities to warrant a longer stay. Popular activities include scenic flights over the falls in helicopters or micro lights, bungee jumping off the Victoria Falls Bridge, white-water rafting (seasonal), and day trips to Chobe National Park. The town itself offers some excellent accommodation and restaurant options as well as an eclectic variety of African curios and authentic art sold by friendly Zimbabwean locals who are wonderfully welcoming and eager to help you enjoy your stay.

Day Itinerary

- On arrival at Victoria Falls Airport you are met by your guide and transferred to your hotel for check in.
- This afternoon you enjoy a Sunset cruise on the Zambezi River.

Wild Horizons Sundowner Cruise

The Zambezi River cruise is a superb way to relax and enjoy the beauty of the River. You may have the opportunity to see a variety of game; including hippo, crocodile and elephant in their home environment, as well as enjoy the many different bird species!





Overnight: Victoria Falls Hotel [View iBrochure]

The Victoria Falls Hotel, popularly known as “the grand old lady of the Falls”, is situated in the Victoria Falls National Park, and is a member of the exclusive Leading Hotels of the World group. It is one of only three IS0-accredited hotels in Zimbabwe. The Edwardian-style five-star hotel combines the charm of the old with the convenience of the new. Set in lush tropical gardens with lily ponds, palm trees and semi-tropical shrubs, it provides the tranquillity and seclusion that many guests seek. The famous Victoria Falls are just a ten-minute walk away using the hotel’s private pathway, and “the smoke that thunders” or “Mosi-O-Tunya” in the local dialect, is clearly audible and visible from this luxurious landmark.





Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 2: Victoria Falls Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Day Itinerary

- Today you are collected from your hotel for a walking Tour of the Falls on the Zimbabwean and Zambia Side.
- This afternoon you have a tour of Livingstone town before returning to your hotel in Victoria Falls.
- This evening you enjoy dinner at The Boma Restaurant

Wild Horizons Tour of the Falls Zimbabwe

It's a truly awe-inspiring experience – the sight, the sound, the smell; the humbling feeling that here indeed is Nature's Supreme Masterpiece, The Victoira Falls. No photograph can begin to depict the reality...and nothing prepares you for your first sight. This tour is conducted in the morning and afternoon. En route, you may be taken past the 'Big Tree before being accompanied through the Rain-forest by a guide who will give a brief history of the Falls themselves as well as detailing the flora, fauna, bird & wildlife and other points of interest. Guides are also happy to assist with photographs whilst visiting this most spectacular of waterfalls.





Wild Horizons Tour of the Falls Zambia

To discover how the Falls were formed and what local customs and traditions surround them it is well worth booking a Wild Horizons tour of the Falls. Described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 1800's as 'Mosi-oa-Tunya' - 'the Smoke that Thunders' and in more modern terms as 'the greatest known curtain of falling water', Victoria Falls are a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur on the Zambezi River, bordering Zambia and Zimbabwe. A path along the edge of the forest provides the visitor who is prepared to brave the tremendous spray with an unparalleled series of views of the Falls. One special vantage point is across the Knife edge bridge, where visitors can have the finest view of the Eastern Cataract and the Main Falls as well as the Boiling Pot where the river turns and heads down the Batoka Gorge.

Other vantage points include the Falls bridge and the Lookout Tree which commands a panoramic view across the Main Falls. Different times of the year will provide completely different experiences of the Falls region. Peak flood season is around March and April and the full power of the falls can be experienced in all its glory. As the floods abate the view of the falls gets better and better through the year, but at it's lowest, around November and December the Falls become little rivulets running over the edge and in some places along the 1,7km width no water falls at all.

Please note: During this time, it is recommended guests book a tour of the falls on the Zimbabwean side.





Livingstone Historical Tours

Livingstone was an important town in southern Africa during the first days of European settlement and one can spend a couple of hours on a guided tour learning about its past and the colourful people who created it. A Historical Tour of Livingstone should definitely include the David Livingstone and the Railway Museums.





The Boma Restaurant

Described as an unforgettable African experience infused with Zimbabwean cuisine, spirited performances and traditional storytelling, The Boma – Dinner & Drum show has firmly established itself as a Victoria Falls highlight.

Partially open to the skies, The Boma specialises in a superb selection of Zimbabwean dishes. A four-course meal combines a choice of starters with a barbecue buffet. The adventurous are enticed with local delicacies such as Mopani worms and potjiekos (hunter's game stew), whilst those wishing to enjoy beef, pork, fish and chicken or a variety of vegetarian meals are welcome to do so.

The sights and sounds of the evening are accentuated by a feast of nightly entertainment, incorporating traditional dancers, who captivate guests with their vibrant songs and dance. The acclaimed Zambezi Drumbeat provides a wonderful interactive drumming experience.





Included

Bed & Breakfast

Day 3: Victoria Falls Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Day Itinerary

- This morning you are collected from your hotel and transferred across the border to Chobe National Park in Botswana for a full day safari experience.
- You return to your hotel in the late afternoon.

Wild Horizons Chobe Day Trip

This tour departs daily to the Chobe National Park in Botswana. Guests will be transferred to the Kazungula border where their Botswana Guide will meet them. From here they proceed straight to the River where they will spend the morning game viewing along the Chobe River. The morning cruise ends at around 12h30 and guests are then taken to a hotel on the riverbank for lunch. After lunch, guests board safari vehicles for an afternoon game drive in the

Chobe National Park where they will have the opportunity to enjoy an abundance of wildlife. After their game drive, they are taken back to the Kazungula Border where they will be met by their Zimbabwean Guide for their return transfer to Victoria Falls, arriving at approximately 18h30. Please note: the order of the activities are subject to change without prior notice.





Included
Bed & Breakfast

Day 4: Chobe Savanna Lodge, Chobe River Front



With its well-developed infrastructure, some of the best tourist facilities in Africa and an impressive list of breathtaking natural wonders, touring Namibia is truly a pleasure. Visit the capital of Windhoek and the lovely coastal town of Swakopmund to discover remnants of the country's German influence, reflected in the architecture, culture, cuisine and the annual Oktoberfest celebrations. To properly appreciate this extraordinary country, you will have to venture out of the cities to explore the remarkable natural landscapes Namibia has to offer. These include: the impressive Fish River Canyon Park; the vast Etosha National Park teeming with local subspecies, such as desert lions, desert elephants and the Hartmann's Mountain Zebra; the hauntingly beautiful Kalahari Desert; and of course the Namib Desert stretching for nearly 1000 km along the magnificent Atlantic coastline. Namibia is an ideal destination for travellers seeking an unforgettable African experience in a uniquely beautiful untamed wilderness.



The Chobe River forms the northern boundary of the Chobe National Park, renowned for its reliable and diverse game viewing. Safaris are conducted both by boat and on land. This section of the park is best known for its elephant and hippo populations but the waters attract all manner of game including large herds of buffalo and the lions that prey on them.

Day Itinerary

- Today you transfer from your hotel in Victoria Falls to Kasane where you clear immigration and proceed to your lodge in Namibia - Caprivi Strip.
- You enjoy some of the game activities on offer at the lodge.

Chobe Savanna Lodge boating activities

As this is a water-based lodge, guests have a choice of aquatic activities. River excursions in small, easily manoeuvrable boats are ideal for close encounters with the wild visitors to the river's edge

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Overnight: Chobe Savanna Lodge [View iBrochure]

Set in a classic African savanna environment with sweeping vistas, the focal point of the lodge is a thatched open sided lodge which commands a 270 degree view over the Chobe River and beyond to the Chobe National Park.





Included

Full Board & Game

Day 5: Chobe Savanna Lodge, Chobe River Front

Day Itinerary

You continue your stay at the lodge and enjoy some of the game activities on offer at the lodge or you could visit the local village to get a feel for the Namibian People.

Included

Full Board & Game

Day 6: Leroo La Tau, Makgadikgadi Pans National Park



Despite recent and surprisingly rapid modernization, Botswana's cities provide little in the way of tourist attractions. However, what the cities lack in excitement, the surrounding wilderness areas more than make up for in outstanding natural beauty. The country's primary tourist draw card is undoubtedly the vast red expanse of the Kalahari desert and its remarkably beautiful Okavango Delta - the largest inland delta in the world provide a haven for an abundance of African wildlife. Other highlights include the impressive Makgadikgadi salt pans where visitors are privy to massive zebra migrations during the flood season; the Savuti plains which host large prides of lions; and the Tsodilo Hills where 4500 rock paintings form a unique record of human settlement over many millennia.



The Makgadikgadi Pans National Park covers an impressive 4900 square kilometer area and is brimming with natural wonders including the largest tree in Africa, a world famous 5300-year-old Baobab. Game viewing is at its best during the wet season when the plains teem with an extraordinary diversity of wildlife. The rains transform the salt

pans into a magnificent lake attracting an abundance of wildlife and, most spectacularly, large flocks of gloriously pink flamingos. The area is renowned for its massive herds of wildebeest and zebra which migrate to the park en masse followed by a variety of predators including lion, cheetah and hyena. Popular activities include game drives, bird watching, exploring the salt pans on 4WD or quad bikes, tours of Gweta Village, and fascinating bush walks to historic sites guided by experiences Bushmen trackers.

Day Itinerary

- After a final morning activity, you transfer to Kasane Airport in Botswana and check in for your charter flight to your lodge in Makgadikgadik Pans.

Leroo La Tau game drives

Day and night game drives via open Land Cruisers

Leroo La Tau nature walks

Guided nature walks in the area surrounding the lodge

Leroo La Tau boating

Depending on the water level of the Boteti, boat activities can also be provided

Leroo La Tau cultural excursions

Optional cultural excursions can be arranged to visit Khumaga Village and Nxai Pan day trips for 3 night stays

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Overnight: Leroo La Tau [View iBrochure]

Leroo La Tau rises majestically above the Boteti River which stretches across the western border of the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park.

The park, populated by up to 30,000 zebra and wildebeest closely accompanied by predators, offers guests the chance to experience the exhilaration of seeing large concentrations of game and the resultant predator interaction. The lodge offers a raised hide above the river where guests can enjoy the spectacular wildlife sightings that we've come to expect in this part of Botswana.

With just 12 thatched luxury chalets all overlooking the magnificent Makgadikgadi Pans National Park, each with en-suite bathrooms. There is a dining room, reading room and bar in the main lodge, expansive wooden decks and a plunge pool, where guests can immerse themselves seamlessly into the ultimate wildlife experience in Botswana. Having explored the area and enjoyed a spectacular wildlife phenomenon on guided day and night game drives, guests can retire after dinner to a splendid fireplace overlooking the river.





Included

Full Board & Game

Day 7: Leroo La Tau, Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

Day Itinerary

You continue your stay at the lodge and enjoy some of the activities on offer or you could do a day visit out to the salt pans - this is a full day excursion and must be booked on arrival (subject to availability).

Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

The Makgadikgadi Pan is the world's largest salt pan, formed on the bed of an ancient lake that began evaporating aeons ago. Visiting Makgadikgadi is a unique desert experience: in the dry season, this vast expanse of sun-baked salt glistens in the light and when the rains come, the pan is home to a cornucopia of flamingos and other waterbirds, as well as one of Africa's biggest zebra populations, whose annual migration is a wonder to behold.





Included

Full Board & Game

Day 8: Leroo La Tau, Makgadikgadi Pans National Park

Day Itinerary

- You continue your stay at the lodge.

Included

Full Board & Game

Day 9: Departure

Day Itinerary

After a final morning game activity, you have a charter flight to Maun Airport.

From Maun Airport you have a scheduled flight to Johannesburg where you connect with your flight to Istanbul and then on to Moscow.

Contact Numbers

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