



Southern Africa from Cape Town to Chobe

Vineyards to Victoria Falls ✨ *Cheetahs to Elephants*
A Deluxe Safari Program including South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe!

From the views of Table Mountain in Cape Town to world famous Victoria Falls, your adventure across Southern Africa offers a wide array of once-in-a-lifetime sightseeing opportunities. As you cruise the Zambezi River at sunset you'll surely feel the presence of Dr. David Livingstone seeing, hearing and feeling the Falls for the first time. And as you enjoy a "game drive cruise" on the Chobe River in Botswana, you'll watch elephants and hippos make their way to the water. Then, as the sun sets, you'll be spell bound watching the sky as it is painted in breathtaking color. Where else can you have a hands-on encounter with a Cheetah and thrill to an elephant back safari? Your Southern Africa experience culminates with a visit to the "Smoke that Thunders"... Victoria Falls!

Southern Africa - from Cape Town, to Botswana and on to Zimbabwe, it's like three tours in one! Come with us and explore the magic

Day 1 - Your Adventure Begins!

Today you board your international flight beginning the trip of a lifetime to spectacular South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe!

Day 2 - Welcome to South Africa!

Upon arrival at Cape Town International Airport, you will be met by your TRIPS escort, then visit the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, acclaimed as one of the great botanical gardens of the world. Nestled along the eastern slope of Cape Town's Table Mountain, Kirstenbosch grows only indigenous South African plants in a setting that includes streams and ponds as well as laid out pathways. After your visit to the gardens, enjoy tea and scones in the Garden Cafe. You'll then transfer to your deluxe hotel, perfectly located in the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. This evening a Welcome to South Africa dinner is featured as you prepare for the journey of a lifetime!

Overnight: The Victoria and Alfred Hotel

(D)

Day 3 - Experience The Cape!

After breakfast this morning, enjoy a Cape Peninsula tour! Travel to iconic Table Mountain, one of the new 7 Wonders of Nature! Weather permitting, you'll travel by cable car 3,500 feet to the top, enjoying spectacular 360° views of Cape Town, overlooking both the Atlantic and Indian Oceans! Your tour continues as you travel along Chapman's Peak Drive, on one of the most picturesque, scenic drives in the world! Along the way, you'll stop at an Ostrich Farm where you'll learn about these ungainly birds which are native to Africa. After your tour, you'll have time to shop for beautifully carved ostrich eggs or a variety of beautiful ostrich leather goods. After enjoying lunch, you'll travel to Simon's Town on the Indian Ocean side of the peninsula, and nearby Boulders Beach with its clear, turquoise waters. You won't be enjoying the warm water here though, because this is home to a colony of thousands of African penguins! They're great fun to watch as they go about their daily business: preening and sunning, guarding a nest and then transforming into sleek black-and-white torpedoes as soon as they hit the water! After an exciting day touring the peninsula, you'll return to your hotel. This evening you'll have time on your own to enjoy the nearby V&A Waterfront where diverse dining and amazing shopping come together for you to explore, discover and enjoy!

Overnight: The Victoria and Alfred Hotel

(B/L)

Day 4 - Days of Wine and Cheetahs!

Today, you'll be exploring the beautiful wine growing region of South Africa where some of the best wines in the world are produced! The wines of South Africa are becoming world renowned, and the stunning region where the grapes are grown is becoming just as well known! You'll find valleys nestled between rugged mountains with a Mediterranean climate. You're in for a treat as you enjoy wine tasting and lunch in this beautiful locale! Today offers you a true, once in a lifetime moment when you visit the Cheetah Outreach center. Promoting the survival, and raising the awareness of this endangered creature, the world's fastest animal, is the charter of the center. As part of your Cheetah encounter, you'll have the unique opportunity to stroke a "Cheetah Ambassador" and take photos, as well as learn about these sleek, beautiful creatures. Another wine tasting is in store before returning to your hotel at the V&A Waterfront! Hungry? Sunshine or shade, linen or paper napkins, ocean view or mountain vistas? The choice is yours and the options seemingly limitless! Ready for some shopping? You'll find over 450 retail outlets selling everything from jewelry, leather goods, fashion and curios!

Overnight: The Victoria and Alfred Hotel

(B/L)

Day 5 - Experience Cape Town!

Cape Town sits at one of the world's most stunning locations, with iconic Table Mountain surely being the focal point. Today, you'll set out on a city tour of this cosmopolitan city with its diverse, multi-cultural heritage. You'll see the Parliament Buildings and City Hall where Nelson Mandela spoke to the country after being released from prison. Learn about the discovery of diamonds in the 1860s which prompted a flood of immigrants and of the history of Apartheid. Your tour includes a visit to one of the 'townships' of Cape Town, created as living areas for non-whites under the old political system. Then, you'll visit the South Africa Museum established in 1825 and housed in an elegant late-Victorian building. Here, the Whale Well will surely delight and amaze! This unique collection of whale skeletons features a 60 foot blue whale skeleton as well as recordings of songs of the humpback! This evening, you'll enjoy a farewell dinner in Cape Town.

Overnight: The Victoria and Alfred Hotel

(B/L/D)

Day 6 - Chobe River Safari - And a Painted Sky!

After breakfast, you'll be assisted with your transfer to the airport as you fly from Cape Town to Johannesburg and on to Botswana! On arrival, transfer to the Mowana Safari Lodge located on the banks of the beautiful Chobe River and bordering Chobe National Park where your African bush Safari experience is about to begin! The park is home to 70,000 elephants as well as large numbers of hippos, leopards and antelopes! You'll set out late this afternoon on a "river safari" that will take your breath away! African wildlife generally spend their days lazing about under trees or eating the flowing grasses of the plains. As evening approaches and the day begins to cool, animals venture to the river's edge looking to quench their thirst. Your "safari-boat" glides along the river as you spot pods of hippos and massive elephants lumbering along well-worn paths to the waters edge. In the water, watch herds of elephants seemingly so close you could reach out and touch them! You might see a baby hippo being taught the ways of the river or a huge croc gliding quietly by. This is an opportunity to watch the majestic wildlife of Southern Africa in a way that is truly unique! Too soon, the sun begins to disappear on the African horizon with the brilliant colors of the sky reflecting beautifully in the water. As you sip a cool drink and enjoy a snack back at the lodge, this tranquil and idyllic scene is surely what you've dreamed your African adventure would be! Enjoy dinner this evening at the lodge.

Overnight: Mowana Safari Lodge

(B/D)

Day 7 - Ah, Chobe!

It's your first full day in Botswana and time for 'land' safaris! Chobe National Park is The Elephant Capital of Africa with the largest continuous surviving elephant population in the world! The elephants you'll find here are the Kalahari Elephants, the largest in size of all these massive creatures. As you set out on your morning and afternoon game drives you'll spot a torn branch here and there, then hear the unmistakable trumpeting call of an elephant and you'll know - you're in elephant territory! As you continue your search for wildlife, you'll spot monkeys and baboons along with lion, leopard, giraffe, waterbuck and more! Nearly 500 bird species have been recorded here, ranging from a variety of eagles, kingfisher and geese.

Overnight: Mowana Safari Lodge

(B/L/D)

Day 8 - Lion Prides and Buffalo Herds!

Your Botswana Safari continues today with more opportunities to see wild animals up close! As you drive through the heart of Chobe National Park, the sweeping expanse of savannah will surely leave you speechless. In addition to elephants, Chobe has some of the best game viewing in Africa, most notably huge herds of buffalo and zebra as well as bushbuck and antelope. And where you have buffalo, you have lions! They're never far away and there is a great chance you'll see large prides lazing around in the shade during the day and yawning themselves awake as dusk approaches! In between game drives, you will return to the Mowana Safari Lodge which is built around a majestic 800 year old baobab tree. You'll enjoy a relaxing lunch in the restaurant or poolside and then have time to browse in the lodge's curio shop for that perfect reminder of your time in Botswana.

Overnight: Mowana Safari Lodge

(B/L/D)

Day 9 - Dr. Livingstone, I Presume?

After breakfast this morning, you'll travel to Zimbabwe, home to Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World! Stories of the famous explorers Stanley and Livingstone come to mind as you arrive. The falls themselves were named by Scottish explorer Dr. David Livingstone after reigning Queen Victoria! Locals however, call the falls Mosi-oa-Tunya, meaning "smoke that thunders". You'll check in to "the grand old lady of the Falls", the Victoria Falls Hotel. The Edwardian-style five star hotel was built in 1904 and is situated in the Victorian Falls National Park. Set amongst lush tropical gardens with lily pads and palm trees, it's just a ten minute walk to Victoria Falls using the hotel's private pathway! The hotel is steeped in history and the corridors reflect and tell the history of this unique part of colonial Africa. Late this afternoon, find yourself returning to a simpler time as you experience a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River! As you float along the river, look downstream and see spray from the mighty Victoria Falls rising high into the sky! Then, imagine, yourself in the 1850's, as David Livingstone did, approaching the falls the very first time. It's not hard to feel the same excitement he must have felt. As you slowly meander upstream, relax with a cool beverage as you gaze out onto the banks of the river where you're likely to spot hippo, crocodile, elephant, giraffe, buffalo and a variety of birds! As the day draws slowly to a close, you'll find few places that offer the dramatic sunsets you'll find on the Zambezi River, with the mist of the falls and wildlife completing the scene! Be sure to have your camera ready as you capture one of the most amazing sunsets in all of Africa! On returning to the Victoria Falls Hotel, steeped in historical glamour, the setting evokes scenes straight out of a Hollywood movie - perhaps The African Queen? Your exhilarating day is capped off in style as you dine in the elegant Livingstone Room in the Victoria Falls Hotel. Reflecting the century old hotel's style of grandeur and opulence, you'll enjoy some of the finest cuisine imaginable with five star service that will make you feel like royalty!

Overnight: Victoria Falls Hotel

(B/D)

Day 10 - An Elephant Encounter!

This morning you are in for a very special treat! You will transfer to the Elephant Camp through the teak and ebony lined road from Victoria Falls. Upon arrival, you will be introduced to an elephant herd and enjoy breakfast, with the elephants themselves providing the main attraction. But you won't be the only one enjoying breakfast this morning as you get to feed these gentle creatures! Then, after you've both had your fill, your real experience begins. You will get up close and meet each of the elephants and their handlers as you enjoy a brief educational talk about the animals and their environment. There is something quite awe inspiring about sharing close space with Africa's largest animal. Your adventure is just beginning as you climb on your specially selected elephant for an elephant back safari through the bush! This opportunity is truly a once in a lifetime experience and you never know what game you will spot while on your safari! We return to the town of Victoria Falls for a tour of the Falls. After flowing 1,000 miles from northern Africa, the Zambezi River reaches the edge of one world, then plummets 350 feet into another, creating the magnificent Falls! Victoria Falls, located between the borders of Zambia and Zimbabwe, stretches over one mile. No other waterfall in the world can match her scale. You'll find yourself completely unprepared for the incredible beauty and mesmerizing strength and power of the mighty Victorian Falls. The heart pounding sensation you get of standing on the edge of the precipice above the raging waters is something that is unforgettable! On the way to the Falls, you'll walk through the Rainforest, sustained by the spray from Victoria Falls, with plant species that are rarely found elsewhere in the country. As you gaze in awe at the millions of gallons of water flowing over the Falls, you'll discover how they were formed and what local customs and traditions surround them. After your tour of Victoria Falls, you'll have time for some shopping in the small town of Victoria Falls. You'll find unique Zimbabwean pieces created by local crafts people. This is the perfect place to wrap up your shopping as you look for that special Southern African gift for yourself or a family member. Items ranging from unique tribal arts to baskets and pottery can be found here. Tonight, enjoy a farewell Boma dinner where you'll not only enjoy a sumptuous meal, but a unique cultural experience! Set in a gusu forest, you gaze up at the spectacular skies of the African night. And you'll surely be planning your return trip! If you're adventuresome, try the local delicacy that is the fried Mopane worm, a delicacy for the local people! You'll get a certificate proving it if you do! Tonight's Boma dinner includes a full buffet of local specialties including vegetarian options! Your Boma experience is a wonderful way to end your Adventure to Southern Africa!!

Overnight: Victoria Falls Hotel

(B/D)

Day 11 - Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow!

This morning enjoy breakfast and perhaps a last glimpse of the Falls before transferring to the Victoria Falls airport and your flight to Johannesburg. Upon arrival, you will connect to your international flight home.

(B)

Day 12 - Memories - A Lifetime Moments Tour!

As you arrive home, memories of your Southern African Adventure and Deluxe Safari will last a lifetime!

Inclusions

- Round trip international airfare to South Africa
- Hotel accommodations in 4 and 5 star hotels throughout Southern Africa
- 3 Inter Southern Africa flights (\$1,450 Value)
- 21 meals including a welcome to Cape Town dinner, vineyard lunch, farewell Boma dinner and dinner in the world famous Livingstone Room at the Victoria Falls Hotel
- Visit to Kirstenbosch gardens including tea and scones in the Garden Cafe
- Tour of Cape Peninsula including cable car ride to the top of Table Mountain (weather permitting), Ostrich Farm visit and stop at Boulders Beach to see the Penguin colony
- Winelands Tour including lunch and 2 wine tasting stops
- Visit to the Cheetah Encounter for a hands-on experience
- Cape Town city and township tour
- Sunset game cruise on the Chobe River
- All game drives are included in Chobe National Park including a river safari and a bush walk, as well as park fees
- Sunset cruise on the Zambezi River
- Guided tour of Victoria Falls National Park
- Elephant Back Safari featuring breakfast with the Elephants
- Zimbabwe VISA fee is included
- Portage of 1 full size suitcase per person
- All Airline and hotel taxes and government fees



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