



BOTSWANA & VICTORIA FALLS, LAND & WATER SAFARIS

15 Days / 14 Nights

SUMMARY:

Travel dates: Any time of the year - your travel dates are fully customizable, as per your preference

Duration of Trip: 15 days / 14 nights

Accommodation format: Double-Occupancy (i.e. 2 people sharing a Room or Luxury Tent)

DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Victoria Falls:** At Victoria Falls, the earth splits open and swallows one of Africa's greatest rivers, the mighty Zambezi, creating the largest sheet of falling water on earth. As the water hits the narrow depths of the Batoka Gorge beneath, it blasts a cloud of mist skywards, lending the falls their local name 'mosi-oa-tunya' (the smoke that thunders). When the Zambezi is its fullest, the mist hangs a permanent raincloud above the falls, showering visitors on even the sunniest of days and visible for miles around. Above the falls on the upper Zambezi, boats cruise the tranquil water at sunset while the distant spray catches the fading light downstream. Below the falls, the Batoka Gorge's rocky walls funnel the lower Zambezi into a chain of world-class rapids, prime for white water rafting. Aside from being a UNESCO world heritage site and one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World, Victoria Falls also forms a natural border between Zimbabwe and Zambia. The falls can be seen from both countries, and for the most part the same activities are offered on both sides, from helicopter scenic flights to village visits and souvenir shopping.
- **Chobe National Park & Chobe Riverfront:** The Chobe Riverfront is an elephant mecca; home to the largest density of African elephants in the world. Travel here during winter and you'll fast run out of fingers and toes while you count them drinking at the riverbanks and socializing out on the floodplains. Thanks to its ease of access from Victoria Falls, the Chobe Riverfront is the busiest part of Botswana (though still a much quieter affair than most South or East African safaris). What Chobe lacks in solitude during the busier months, it more than makes up for with quality game viewing. Chobe will leave you feeling tiny as giant elephant bulls stroll up next to your vehicle or snorkel alongside your boat. It will make you feel lost as hundreds of hippos and buffaloes crowd you out on the floodplains. It will put your heart in your throat as prides of lions stalk antelopes by the water's edge, and it will leave you alone with your thoughts while the classic red sunsets melt over the river to a soundtrack of whistling fish eagles. Chobe is not just a great introduction to Botswana. It also makes a rewarding repeat journey once you've ticked off the big stuff. It's a place to search for the rare sable antelope, to spot that gem from the birders' bucket list and to explore the remoter corners.





- Khwai Community Area (Northern part of Okavango Delta): Lying on the eastern fringes of the Okavango Delta with a rich wildlife population and no borders drawn around it on the map, Khwai is often overlooked in favor of its more famous neighbors, though in the winter months it can hold its own for the quality of big game viewing. During your time here, you'll spend most days exploring the narrow Khwai River, which forms the natural boundary to the Moremi Game Reserve on the south. The Khwai River is a beacon for wildlife and plays host to leopards stalking lechwe in the long grass, lions swimming from the banks to save their cubs' during territorial disputes, and crocodiles competing with wild dogs for a midday meal of impala. As Khwai lies outside the parks, it offers the freedom and flexibility normally only possible with the heavier price tag of a private concession. Go off-road for a closer look at sightings, night drive in search of nocturnal species, and, with a little advance planning, head out on game walks to track wildlife on foot. Khwai is also home to a village community where people live side by side with the resident wildlife. Some camps will offer village visits for a dose of cultural insight to go with your safari. For those not visiting the water camps of the delta, many camps in Khwai offer the chance to get out on a mokoro (traditional canoe), although excursions are less traditional in nature, skirting the riverbanks, rather than open delta floodplains.
- Central / Core Okavango Delta: The Okavango Delta is where the wild things are: an immense, waterlogged oasis alive with elephants and birdlife, adrift in the middle of Kalahari sands. The real magic of the Delta lies in its water, trickling through from far away highlands, and spreading across the channels and floodplains. During winter in the Kalahari, when the sun has baked the earth bare and turned the desert its driest, water fills the Okavango; transforming the floodplains into a Noah's Ark of African wildlife. As the water brings life to the delta, its local residents shape and recreate it. Termites slowly build mounds into islands, germinated with palm trees by passing elephants. Waterways open and close on the whim of wide-bottomed hippos, carving out channels where they crash through reeds, and leaving room behind them for exploration by canoes (known as "mokoros"). The Okavango has many faces, which change throughout the year, prompted by that most unpredictable diva of all: the weather. Water levels rise and drop, expanding and shrinking islands, while animals move where the life is easiest and the grass greenest. In a few days, a sandy road driven by vehicle can become a waterway of unknowable depth, prompting a safari by boat or canoe/mokoro instead.





DAY BY DAY ITINERARY:

- Day 1: You will depart from your home airport in the U.S. because Africa is waiting to give you its unique, warm welcome.
- Day 2: You will be en route to Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Day 3: Upon arrival in Johannesburg OR Tambo International Airport, you will take a complimentary hotel shuttle to your hotel located near the airport terminal. Overnight in a hotel near Johannesburg OR Tambo Airport. Meals included: Breakfast.
- Day 4: After breakfast at the hotel, you will take the shuttle back to Johannesburg OR Tambo Airport for a flight to Victoria Falls. Upon arrival in Vic Falls, you will be transferred to your lodge or hotel. In the afternoon, you can choose to do a Sunset Cruise down Zambezi River (at extra cost) and view the falls as well as the abundant wildlife and birdlife. Overnight in Victoria Falls. Meals included: Breakfast.
- Day 5: After breakfast at your lodge, you will go on a guided tour of the falls. Rain jackets will be provided during those times of the year when the spray and the mist from the falls is the thickest. The rest of the day will be at your leisure to explore the town, or do an optional activity at extra cost – such as a helicopter ride over the falls or a visit to a local village. Overnight in Victoria Falls. Meals included: Breakfast.
- Day 6: After breakfast in Victoria Falls, you will be transferred by road to Chobe National Park / Chobe Riverfront. In the afternoon, you will enjoy your first game drive in Chobe. Overnight in Chobe National Park / Chobe Riverfront. Meals included: All meals.
- Days 7 and 8: You will have two full days of wildlife safaris and game drives in Chobe National Park. Overnight in Chobe National Park / Chobe Riverfront. Meals included: All meals.
- Day 9: After breakfast, you will be transferred to nearby Kasane Airport for your flight to Khwai Community Area in the Northern part of the Okavango Delta. Upon arrival in Khwai, you will be met by your wildlife safari guide and taken to your lodge/camp. In the afternoon, you will revel in the amazing diversity of animals and birds that inhabit this magical land. Safaris will be by vehicle (i.e. land-based) or by boat / canoe / mokoro (i.e. water-based). Overnight in Khwai Community Area. Meals included: All meals.
- Days 10 and 11: You will have two full days of wildlife safaris and game drives in Khwai Community Area of the Okavango Delta. Safaris will be by vehicle (i.e. land-based) or by boat / canoe / mokoro (i.e. water-based). You will also have the opportunity to visit one of the local villages/communities for an insight into the lives of the Khwai people who live harmoniously with the wildlife and nature around them. Overnight in Khwai Community Area. Meals included: All meals.





- Day 12: After breakfast, you will be transferred to the nearby airstrip for a flight to a camp located in the Central part of the Okavango Delta. Once you arrive, you will be met by your wildlife safari guide and taken to your lodge/camp. In the afternoon, you will experience wildlife sightings by vehicle (i.e. land-based) or by boat / canoe / mokoro (i.e. water-based). Overnight in The Okavango Delta. Meals included: All meals.
- Day 13: Full day of wildlife safaris and game viewing by vehicle (i.e. land-based) or by boat / canoe / mokoro (i.e. water-based). Overnight in The Okavango Delta. Meals included: All meals.
- Day 14: After breakfast at your camp, you will be transferred to the nearby airstrip for a flight to Maun Airport, where you will connect onto a flight to Johannesburg. After arriving in Johannesburg's OR Tambo International Airport, you will connect onto your onward flights back home.
- Day 15: You will arrive in the U.S. after a trip of a lifetime – with beautiful photographs, amazing video clips, and of course unforgettable memories!

PRICE

Price per adult (when sharing accommodations with another adult):

- **Classic Luxury (equivalent to a 4-star package): Starting at \$5,485/person***
- **Superior Luxury (equivalent to a 4.5-star package): Starting at \$7,985/person***
- **Ultra Luxury (equivalent to a 5-star package): Starting at \$9,985/person***

* The final price for your package will vary depending on how many people are in your travel group and also the specific dates of your trip.

This price includes:

- Domestic flights (within Africa), as described in the itinerary, in Economy Class
- Airport meet & greet
- Ground transportation with an English-speaking driver/guide or naturalist guide
- Accommodation and meals as stipulated in the itinerary
- Safari game drives or sightseeing as stipulated in the itinerary
- Park or reserve entry fees - where applicable

This price excludes:

- International flight(s) to get you to the starting point within Africa (as per the itinerary) and to get you out of the ending point (as per the itinerary)
- Visa fees
- Tips & gratuities (tipping guide will be provided)





- Inoculations and personal/medical/travel insurance
- Meals and beverages not included in the itinerary
- Optional activities and excursions
- Items of personal nature – such as laundry services, shopping expenses, telephone charges, etc.

