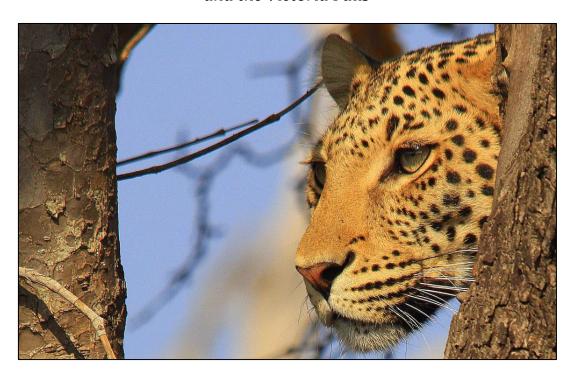


Southern Africa Odyssey

Small group safari exploring Cape Town, Chobe, Caprivi and the Victoria Falls



Day 1: Arrive Cape Town

Arrive Cape Town this morning. On arrival, pick up your hire car and drive to Acorn House, where you stay for 4 nights in a standard room (B&B basis).



Acorn House

Acorn House is an upmarket B&B tucked away in the quiet suburb of Oranjezicht, (known locally as 'Orange'). Here, the aged, narrow streets are lined with 19^{th-century} Cape Dutch architecture, carefully restored and now housing colourful pavement cafes, art galleries and restaurants.

The Acorn House is one of Cape Town's oldest houses. The location is dramatic, with Table Mountain providing a spectacular backdrop. It is also only a short drive from the V&A Waterfront complex and the beaches of the Atlantic seaboard, and within walking distance of several excellent restaurants.

Breakfast may be served 'al fresco' by the pool or indoors if the weather dictates, and is offered until noon allowing for a leisurely start to your day.

Your Financial Protection



The next 4 days are free for you to explore Cape Town and the surrounding region at your leisure. This is a beautiful city with a stunning backdrop of beaches, mountains and wine valleys, and so much to see and do.



Most visitors will want to hike up Table Mountain or take the cable car to see the magnificent views from the peak. For stunning views of the ocean, head to Cape Point. From the Bay you can take a boat to Robben Island, now a world heritage site, while on the slopes of Table Mountain you'll find the world-famous Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens.

Cape Town's charming waterfront has a wonderfully relaxed atmosphere as well as South Africa's finest restaurants. Seafood is a specialty. From Cape Town you can also drive to the fertile winelands and a number of historic towns such as Paarl, Franschhoek and Stellenbosch.

Day 5: Livingstone

Transfer to the airport, drop of your hire car, and check in for your flight to Livingstone, Zambia, where you will be met on arrival and transferred to Maramba Lodge. Rest of the day at leisure. Maramba has a lovely riverside setting only 4kms from Victoria Falls. There is a pleasant bar area, and you can expect to meet with the other members of your group as they arrive this evening.

Maramba Lodge

Maramba Lodge is a low-key safari resort situated just outside Livingstone and within easy reach of Victoria Falls. It sits on a bluff overlooking the Maramba River (a tributary of the great Zambezi River), shaded under a copse of mahogany and mopane trees.









Maramba accommodates its guests in rustic thatched chalets, furnished with mukwa and wrought iron fittings, en-suite tiled bathrooms, and large double beds draped with mosquito nets. Each unit has a ceiling fan and internal safe, and opens onto a small patio with canvas chairs and a view over the Maramba River or to a nearby floodlit waterhole.

Day 6: Chobe Area, camping

You will be picked up from your lodge and transferred to Kasane, where your guide will give you a full safari briefing and take you shopping for your safari drinks.

Your safari starts with a boat cruise on the Chobe River, providing a wonderfully relaxed introduction to Botswana! This is a chance to explore the aquatic wildlife often overlooked on a standard game drive. It's also a great ice-breaker, allowing everyone on the safari to get to know one another in an easy setting.

After the cruise, enjoy a leisurely game drive to your campsite near Kasane, as the sun sets over the Chobe River. Expect to arrive at camp just before dark.

Day 7: Susuwe/West Caprivi National Park, camping

Depart Kasane early to cross the Namibian border and then drive to Susuwe, in the Caprivi Strip (270km, 4 hours). After setting up camp, explore the surrounding region on an afternoon game drive.



With its complex network of rivers, channels and floodplains, and comparatively high rainfall, the Caprivi Strip attracts a rich variety of wildlife, including large herds of buffalo and plains game as well as rarities such as wild dog and leopard. Your game drive will focus on the area around Susuwe and Bwabwata National Park.

Camping is in a designated campsite with permanent ablutions.

Day 8: Popa Falls, camping

Rise with the sun and head west towards the Okavango River. Today's journey will see you stop just before the Namibia-Botswana border, at the Popa Falls, where you'll set up camp on the banks of the river. This afternoon, you'll have the opportunity to enjoy a short bush walk, taking in the view of the Okavango rapids as they course south-east towards Botswana and the Okavango Delta.

Day 9: Tsodilo Hills, camping

An early start, as you journey into Mahango National Park for a morning game drive, before crossing the border to re-enter Botswana. This afternoon will see you journey through to the





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World Heritage Site of Tsodilo Hills and then set up camp. There will be time to visit the site's museum and explore the walking trails around the ancient hills, which are home to thousands of traditional Bushmen paintings dating back to the 9th century AD.

Camping is in a designated site with permanent ablutions.

Days 10-11: Okavango Delta, camping

Today will see you journey into what is undoubtedly Botswana's most famous wilderness area, the Okavango Delta. At the southern reaches of the Delta, you'll swap the 4x4 for a mokoro boat and spend a leisurely day exploring the waterways of the Delta with experienced polers from the local community. Quietly drifting through papyrus swamps and reed-lined lagoons of the Delta in your dugout canoe, you'll gain a real appreciation for this most unique environment.

In the evening you'll set up wild camp on an island in the Delta.

The next two days will be spent in the same way, with a mix of mokoro boat and island walking safaris allowing you to explore the region in depth.



NB. On day 10, you will leave your main bag with the vehicles and carry only a small pack with your essentials to the island, as the transfer canoes cannot carry large cases.

Day 12: Maun, camping

Set off early this morning for the return drive to Maun (320km, 4 hours). On arrival, there will be time to shop for drinks for the second leg of your journey, before retreating to your campsite just outside Maun.

Today you will also have the option of taking a scenic flight over the Okavango Delta, ending in Maun. This is at additional cost and the fare depends on the season (please contact us in advance). Clients taking the flight will not join vehicles for the drive back to Maun, but rather will be collected from the airport in Maun at the end of the flight, having spent the morning at leisure in the Delta.









Days 13-15: Moremi Game Reserve, Camping

Pack up camp and depart Maun for Moremi Game Reserve, the public reserve at the heart of the Delta region. You will set up camp in a community campsite located just outside the reserve, from where you'll spend the next three days exploring Moremi's vast grasslands on morning and afternoon game drives.



Moremi is considered by many to be the most exceptional area of the Delta region, where all the major habitats and eco-zones of the Okavango are conserved.

After two nights in Western Moremi, you move to a different campsite in Eastern Moremi (80km, 3 to 4 hours transfer with game drive), ensuring a good overview of the region.

Days 16-18: Chobe National Park, camping

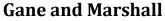
Continue your journey north-east, travelling into Chobe National Park.

You'll spend the next three days exploring Chobe, starting in the dry and arid Savuti region, where bull elephants roam the plains, before heading north east to the Chobe River, which will provide a point of interest for your game drives and boat safaris.



Camping will be in private campsites with bush ablutions, first in the region of Savuti (day 16), then closer to the riverfront in northern Chobe (days 17 & 18). Activities will include motorboat safaris and 4x4 game drives.





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Days 19-20: Livingstone, Zambia, Maramba lodge

After a morning game drive in Chobe, cross the Zambezi River and into Zambia by ferry. After completing the border formalities on the other side, continue to Livingstone, gateway to the Victoria Falls. Check into Maramba Lodge, or similar, for one night.

The rest of your stay is at leisure. There are a huge number of activities available in and around Livingstone, from white water rafting and canoeing in the Zambezi Gorge to microlight flights over the Falls. Activities can be arranged locally or in advance.

Your tour ends on the morning of day 20. A transfer to Livingstone Airport will be included on the morning of your departure.

NB. Please note that the Botswana and Namibia portion of this itinerary is a group departure, departing at fixed dates throughout the year. Please contact us for available dates. The maximum group size is 12. As a mobile camping safari, a limited level of participation is expected. You will be required to help with setting up your tent, and carrying your luggage to/from the vehicles. All other camp chores are carried out by your team. Your stay in Cape Town is not part of the group tour, and can be extended or adapted to suit your interests.



Price Guide:

The cost of this itinerary is £3,190 per person, based on two travellers in twin share accommodation and travel in high season (Jun-Oct). Reduced rates apply for larger groups and travel in green season (Nov-Apr).

For more information, or if you would like to enquire about a tailor-made holiday combining part or all of the above itinerary, please contact us.

Includes:

- Accommodation as outlined (BB basis in Cape Town and Livingstone)
- Hire car in Cape Town
- o Full board on safari
- All park and reserve fees
- Cape Town to Livingstone flight

Excludes:

- o International air fares (allow £700 with Emirates)
- Travel insurance ask for a quote
- Items of a personal nature
- Visa fees 0
- **Tips** 0
- Optional activities in Livingstone





