



## 12 DAY SOUTHERN ADVENTURE

This trip begins in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and travels south through Botswana before ending in Johannesburg, South Africa.

This trip starts in Victoria Falls on Sunday morning and departs Victoria Falls on Monday morning, allowing you a day to explore. Should you wish to explore Victoria Falls extensively, Your travel agent can assist you, in booking your activities as well as accommodation. However, costs due to earlier arrival, will be for your own account.

<b>Trip code:</b>	VJ12
<b>Accommodation style:</b>	Camping
<b>Length of trip:</b>	12 Days
<b>Starts in:</b>	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
<b>Finishes in:</b>	Johannesburg, South Africa
<b>Pre-departure Meeting:</b>	Held at the Departure Point at 17h00, the day before your departure.
<b>Departure point:</b>	Explorers Village, Stand 1756, Victoria Falls
<b>Check-In Time:</b>	08h45
<b>Departure Time:</b>	To be advised at the pre-departure meeting
<b>Countries visited:</b>	South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe

### PLEASE NOTE:

This itinerary should be used as a guide only and may vary from day to day depending on road & weather conditions, political situations and group decisions.

All prices & Local Payments are subject to change.

Due to Tourism Laws in some of the countries we visit, there may be a truck and crew change during the trip. Your arrival transfer is included in your trip price. Should you choose not to make use of this, or in the event that Overland was not updated with your arrival details, no refund will be paid for services not used.

Please ensure you've received a copy of our pre-departure information document with information on what to expect on this overland safari.

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Beginning at the majestic Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, we head into Botswana to explore the Chobe National Park, which is famously home to vast herds of elephant that we may see drinking from a peaceful boat ride on the Chobe River. Then there is the opportunity to camp out beneath the stars in the Okavango Delta, one of Africa's most tranquil wilderness regions. Finally, we visit South Africa's largest National Park, which is home to the "big five" and many other species of animal and birdlife before finishing our adventure in vibrant Johannesburg.

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## **INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS**

Entrance to Victoria Falls, Chobe Boat Cruise & Chobe National Park, Delta Excursion, Kruger National Park & Night Game Drive.

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## **ZIMBABWE**

This landlocked country is situated in the southern part of Africa, between the mighty Zambezi and Limpopo Rivers. The word Zimbabwe is believed to have two meanings, 1) it is believed the word Zimbabwe is derived from dzimba-dza-mabwe, which means "large house of stone" in the Shona (Karanga Dialect) language. 2) It is also believed to be derived from the word dzimba-hwe which means venerated houses in the Zezuru dialect of Shona.

### **DAY 1: Victoria Falls (No Meals)**

Spend your first day in beautiful Vic Falls, named after the majestic Victoria Waterfall.

### **DAY 2: Victoria Falls (No meals)**

#### **Included: Entrance to Victoria Falls**

Today is spent relaxing or participating in a myriad of Optional Excursions. Named after the famous World Heritage site and Water Falls, the town of Victoria Falls is situated on the Zambezi River and surrounded by the Victoria Falls National Park. Our campsite is conveniently situated, and within walking distance of the adventure booking agents, restaurants and shops. A short walk down the main road takes you to the entry point to view the falls, which are situated between Zimbabwe and Zambia. Victoria Falls, or Mosi-oa-Tunya (the Smoke that Thunders), was named by David Livingstone on his explorations, and is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. At 1700 m wide and around 100 m high, this is the world's largest sheet of falling water and a memorable sight on any African Safari!

After our adventure activities briefing, the day is spent relaxing at the campsite, viewing the Victoria Falls, or exploring the many sights and delights of this town!

White water rafting in the Batoka Gorge is considered to be world class. Besides the excitement of the grade 5 rapids, there are the "floats", where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

**Optional Activities:** Adrenalin junkies can bungee from the Victoria Falls Bridge connecting Zimbabwe and Zambia or abseil down the Batoka Gorge - neither activity is for the faint hearted! All year round, flights in fixed wing, micro light and ultra light aircraft or helicopters provide an aerial perspective over this magnificent World Heritage Site. White water rafting on the Zambezi is world class. Beside the excitement of the Grade 5 rapids, there are the "floats," where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and the occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

## **BOTSWANA**

The size of this successful country can be compared to countries such as Kenya or France, and fairly smaller than Texas. Botswana is a landlocked country with borders such as South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe which can all be crossed overland. For such a small country, it boasts an array of spectacular game viewing opportunities such as, hundreds of elephants splashing in the Chobe River and the Okavango Delta and its maze of lagoons.

### **DAY 3: Victoria Falls to Chobe National Park (Botswana)** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

After breakfast, we cross the border into Botswana and head to Kasane where we set up camp on the banks of the Chobe River. The Chobe River forms a border between Botswana and Namibia and Zambia. Chobe is one of Botswana's premier game parks, renowned its large elephant herds. Elephant, hippo and many bird species can be viewed from the campsite while we watch another glorious African sunset.

#### **Included Activity: Boat cruise on the Chobe River**

### **DAY 4: Kasane to Nata Region** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

We leave this beautiful part of Botswana behind us this morning as we depart to the lush campsite called Elephant Sands. The drive will take you through a very unpopulated landscape where the donkeys roam freely. Once we have arrived at our campsite you will have the option of partaking in a game drive or a bushwalk (time dependant). Your crew will provide you with more information.

#### **Optional Activity: Game Drive / Bush Walk**

### **DAY 5: Nata Region to Maun** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Maun is the starting point for travel into the Delta and it is from here that we set off to explore the Okavango Delta. Tonight, we prepare our provisions and packs for our overnight excursion. We suggest bringing along a smaller daypack on your trip which can be used to pack the supplies needed for this short excursion. Your trip leader will brief you fully on what is needed, and what to expect prior to your trip into the Delta.

### **DAY 6: Maun to Okavango Delta** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

#### **Included Activity: Overnight Delta excursion**

Here we have the opportunity to take the included overnight excursion into the Delta. After an early rise, we pack our expedition vehicle and from Maun we drive north for a couple of hours to reach the mokoro poler's station. The Delta region is studded with many local villages where many families live in a traditional way. Some of the villages are very remote and can only be reached by the traditional mode of transport – the Mokoro. Mokoros are dugout canoes manoeuvred through the waterways by local guides who "pole" them through the reeds. At the Mokoro station, we meet our 'Polers' and pack our supplies before heading out into the waterways. After a couple of hours along the waterways, we arrive at our mobile tented camp situated in the heart of the Okavango.

On arrival, you will meet the local staff who will be your host during your stay. A brief introduction to the camp will show you your dome tent with twin beds and a **bush en-suite bathroom** – long drop toilet and a bucket shower. Relax in the tent with a cold drink or take a paddle in the Delta in a canoe. The activities at the camp include Mokoro trails and guided walking.

### **DAY 7: Okavango Delta to Maun** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

After our Mokoro ride and vehicle transfer, we arrive back around lunch time and have the chance to complete our picture of the Okavango Delta by taking an optional scenic flight over The Delta (dependent on weather conditions & availability).

### **DAY 8: Maun to Palapye** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Heading out early, we have a fairly long (450kms) drive today to the small town of Palapye, situated about halfway between Francistown and Gaborone (Botswana's Capitol). This popular 'stopover' town for those en route to South Africa, is well known for the Morupule Colliery coal mines which supplies Morupule Power Station, Botswana's principal domestic source of electricity.

### **SOUTH AFRICA**

With nine different provinces, 11 official languages and 3 capital cities, South Africa will most definitely make you stop in your tracks and go – WOW.

### **DAY 9: Palapye to Polokwane (South Africa)** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

This morning we cross into South Africa and stop to sightsee at the impressive Blyde River Canyon. Named for the Blyde River that runs through it, the canyon is 26km long, and averages 800m deep and forms the northern edge of the impressive Drakensberg Mountain Range. It is classified as a 'green canyon' due to the uncommon occurrence of vegetation that lines it (uncommon as most canyons are in desert areas and are fairly barren). The main viewpoints along the canyon are the 3 Rondavels, named for the shape of the traditional huts or houses the indigenous people of the area used to live in; and Gods Window that affords a breathtaking view across the canyon and surrounding area.

Please note that there is a small **entry fee** at each of these attractions that will need to be paid upon arrival. The money generated goes toward the support of the local communities. There are also many locals you sell their local crafts in this area.

**Optional Activity: Blyde River Canyon & God's Window**

### **DAY 10: Polokwane to Nkambeni Camp** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Heading through the breathtaking Panorama Route, we stop off at various viewpoints today including scenic God's Window. We pass through the small town of Graskop, and head toward the Kruger National Park and our campsite in the park.

**Included Activity: Night Game Drive**

### **DAY 11: Nkambeni Camp** (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today we visit the amazing Kruger National Park (19 485 km<sup>2</sup>) in search of some of the 146 mammals, 500 bird, 114 reptile, 33 amphibian & 49 fish species that make this park their home. We travel in our truck along the main game viewing routes within the park and stop off at some of the camps along the way. For those who wish to upgrade to an open vehicle game drive, this can be arranged with the trip leader at an additional cost.

**Included Activity: Game drives through Kruger National Park in our vehicle.**

### **DAY 12: Nkambeni Camp to Johannesburg** (Breakfast)

After breakfast, we begin our journey to our final destination; Egoli the place of gold (Johannesburg), Johannesburg is the capital of Gauteng, which is a province in South Africa. On arrival in Johannesburg we unload the truck for the final time, exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime!

We suggest you extend your stay by a few days to participate in some of the exciting activities available here (see below price guide for details). Post tour accommodation can be booked through Overland Africa.

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## **WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?**

International flights, Airport departure taxes, Departure transfer, Visas, Meals, water & drinks unless otherwise stated, Travel Insurance, Laundry, personal Items, sleeping bag, pillow, tips & bottled water.

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### **Meals on tour**

Meals and menus vary as food is purchased en-route and is subject to produce that is available seasonally in the areas we travel through. Our safari cooks are able to offer a wide variety of menus with the ingredients available, even if the produce on offer is not of the same selection as what you may be used to back home.

The breakfast spread consists of bread, spreads and cereals with a hot breakfast every few days. Lunches are mostly prepared en-route with a supply of 'build your own' sandwich ingredients available. Dinners are cooked in the evenings on arrival at the campsite. A wide array of dinner menus is on offer during your safari, consisting of curries, stews, pastas, and BBQ's!

### **Transport on tour**

Our overland vehicles are custom built converted trucks that have seating space for our passengers and a storage area for luggage and all trip equipment. The trucks seat between 24-30 passengers on our camping trips. Most seats are forward facing, though some models have a combination of forward, backward and some inward facing seats with tables. Vehicles have sliding glass windows, and the seating area is raised providing a great advantage for game viewing and photography. Seats are cushioned and there is storage space for personal items like cameras, snacks and day packs in the seating area.

### **Participation on tour**

All of the tours operated by Overland are participation trips meaning that all passengers are expected to help out around camp. The crew members running the trip will set up a rota system that will be followed. One day you may be on cleaning duty, the next day you may be on cooking duty and so forth. This is not only to make the trip easier for all involved but also for you as the passengers to get to know one another while on trip.

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**The staff and management look forward to welcoming you aboard and trust that you will enjoy your trip with us!**

**“Safari Njema”**

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