



8-DAY OKAVANGO AND CHOBE TRAIL (VICTORIA FALLS TO JOHANNESBURG)

All information is subject to change without prior notice. Travel times and accommodation can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only. On our longer tours it is possible that your crew, truck and fellow travellers will change due to our unique tour linking system. On this tour there are a maximum number of 18 participants.

What's included

Meals as indicated on the itinerary (unless otherwise specified, all meals are prepared and served at the truck), accommodation, registered guides and transport. We also include some of the highlights. These highlights are listed below in the day-by-day descriptions as "included highlights".

What's excluded

All items of a personal nature, alcohol, snacks, souvenirs, tips and optional activities (see list below for an indication of prices).

Vehicle

Adventure Truck

Climate

The African sun is very strong. Please use a factor 30 sunscreen and wear a hat. You should drink at least 3 litres of water per day to avoid dehydration. It can also get very cold during winter months on this route.

Pre and Post Tour Accommodation

If you require accommodation before or after your tour we can arrange this for you. We can also arrange airport transfers – contact Penguin Travel to make these bookings.

Arrival / Departure

Please be sure to arrive 1 day before your tour is due to depart. This will avoid any unforeseen problems. We also recommend that you book your flights to depart the day after the tour officially ends.

Countries Visited

Botswana, Zimbabwe & South Africa

Onward Travel

This tour can be extended by including Lake Malawi, South Luangwa and the mighty Victoria Falls. Contact us for an 11-day Malawi & Victoria Falls tour.

Insurance (Compulsory)

All clients require adequate Travel Insurance. Medical Insurance is not sufficient. Activity providers can refuse participation of activities, if the correct valid Travel Insurance is not provided.

Currency and Banking

South African Rand and US Dollars are the most widely used currency on this route. Credit Cards cannot always be processed – especially in remote areas. USD Notes printed before 2004 (i.e. the old style notes) will not be accepted and many places will not accept USD100 notes, so make sure to bring small notes. In Botswana, the Pula is the local currency. You can change your Rand or Dollars to Pula when you enter Botswana. ATM's do not always work in Botswana.

Health

Please inform us of any pre-existing conditions such as diabetes or asthma and any prescription medicine you may be taking. We also need to know about any food allergies or physical disabilities that you may have.

Visas

Please note that these are your responsibility. Some nationalities require visas for Botswana and South Africa. Most nationalities will require visas for Zimbabwe.

Malaria

Malaria prophylactics are required throughout this route



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

There are more optional activities being created every day – we have listed only the most popular. If there is something specific you would like to do then speak to your guide as they will be able to assist you.

Country	Area	Activity	Price Range
Botswana	Ghanzi	Bushmen Walk	P60 to P90
Botswana	Maun	Scenic Flight over Okavango Delta	\$360 to \$440
Botswana	Okavango	Tips for Polers - Per Day Per Person	Clients discretion
Botswana	Kasane	Chobe Morning Game Drive	\$40 to \$60
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Bungee Jump - Solo	\$130 to \$170
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Full Day Low/High Water River boarding	\$190 to \$210
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Dinner at local restaurant	\$15 to \$25
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Morning or afternoon Elephant Back Safaris	\$80 to \$150
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Morning or afternoon Lion Walk Encounter	\$80 to \$150
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Full day White Water Rafting (High water)	\$130 to \$160
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Zambezi Sunset Cruise	\$50 to \$90
Zimbabwe	Victoria Falls	Helicopter and micro light flights	\$140 to \$280

Itinerary

Day 1 - Zimbabwe – Victoria Falls – Botswana – Kasane

Today we visit the spectacular Victoria Falls and experience the thundering sound of the mighty Zambezi before crossing the Botswana border to Kasane, situated on the banks of the Chobe River and enjoy a scenic sunset river cruise. As we leave Victoria Falls today it is best to arrive 1-2 days beforehand if you wish to partake in any of the adventure activities such as the world-famous White Water Rafting.

Meals	Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation	Two Per Room: Thebe River Safaris http://www.theberiversafaris.com
Facilities	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool & Bar
Route	Victoria Falls to Kasane ±100 km
Optional Activity	Zambezi Sunset Cruise, Bungee Jump – Solo, Lion Encounter, Elephant Encounter, Helicopter Flights, Full Day White Water Rafting
Border Post	Zimbabwe: Kazangula Road, Open: 06h00-20h00. Botswana: Kazangula Road, Tel: +267 62 50330, Open: 06h00-20h00.

Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls is undoubtedly one of Africa's most beautiful treasures. They border Zimbabwe and Zambia and are the region's most visited tourist hotspot. The falls are by no means the world's biggest waterfall, however their length and the vast volume of water which find its way to the falls via the Zambezi river makes them the world's largest waterfall. Victoria Falls was named after Queen Victoria by the first European explorer who set their sights on them, David Livingston, however up until then, and still today locally, the falls were known to be The Smoke That Thunders, "Mosi-oa-Tunya".

The entire volume of water of the Zambezi travels into Victoria Falls, flowing into its first gorge, creating a spectacle and a true sight to be seen. In fact, you don't even have to be close by to the falls. Aptly getting its name as The Smoke That Thunders, the falls spray water into the air which can be seen for miles, including in the surrounding game reserves and national parks.



Victoria Falls safaris are among the most popular activities to participate in when visiting the falls. Guests can embark on bush safaris – on foot, horseback or in a vehicle – and embark on a Zambezi cruise along the waters before the falls. While on these Victoria Falls safaris guests will have the chance to see crocodiles, hippos and other African wildlife.

Travel to Victoria Falls for an unforgettable and inspiring vacation in Southern Africa. Not only will you be able to see one of the Seven Wonders of the World and a truly beautiful world heritage site, but you'll be able to participate in exciting activities such as white water rafting, canoeing, bunji jumping, and an authentic Victoria Falls safari.

Chobe National Park

The Chobe National Park is situated in the north west of Botswana and is undoubtedly the country's most beautiful and popular nature and game reserve. It has one of the largest concentrations of wildlife in Africa, making it an ideal location for African safaris and is the third largest park in Botswana, after the Central Kalahari game Reserve and the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park.

The Chobe National Park can be divided up into four sections, making it a true rarity and an explorers paradise. It can be divided up into the Serondela area, Savuti Marsh area, the Linyanti Marsh and the dry hinterland. Wherever you go in the park, you'll be able to observe a variety of wild animals and bird life, and can even explore an area in search of a specific animals or bird. There is an incredibly large elephant population in the Chobe National Park; tours through the park will show you some of the park's 120 000 elephants.

We will take you on the adventure of a lifetime through the Chobe National Park. Travel with us, and prepare to be enchanted and amazed by the abundance of wildlife in the park; embark on a sunset cruise, take the perfect wildlife photographs and watch a family of elephants playing in a waterhole.

Day 2. Kasane

This morning you will have the opportunity to participate in an optional game drive through the Chobe National Park.

Meals	Breakfast,Lunch,Dinner
Accommodation	Two Per Room: Thebe River Safaris http://www.theberiversafaris.com
Facilities	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool & Bar
Optional Activity	Chobe National Park Game Drive

Day 3. Maun

We drive through to Maun. On arrival we will pack small overnight bags and prepare for our 2-day expedition into the Okavango. The rivers leading to the Okavango Delta have no passage to the ocean and irrigate instead some 15,000 square km's of Kalahari Desert – forming the world's largest inland Delta.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Two Per Room: Sitatunga http://www.deltarain.com/index.php?page=sitatunga-camp
Facilities:	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool, Bar & Laundry
Route:	Kasane to Maun ±680 km
Travel time:	±8-12 hours
Optional activity:	Scenic Flight over Okavango Delta (7 seat plane – time permitting)

Maun

Maun, the fifth largest town in Botswana, is known as the tourism capital and the gateway to the Okavango Delta. It is an eclectic contrast of modern buildings and traditional huts. Now home to over 30 000 people, the town were founded in 1915 as the tribal capital of the Batawana people. It originally serviced the local cattle ranching and hunting operations of the area, and had a reputation as a hard-living 'Wild West' town. With the growth of the tourism industry and the completion of the tar road from Nata in the early 1990s, Maun developed swiftly, losing much of its old town character. However, it is still infamous for its infestation of



donkeys and to lesser extent, goats. These animals can be seen wandering around freely as the local farmers arrive in the innumerable taxis to sell their wares on the kerbside.

With the influx of tourism dollars, the typical traditional rondavels (round huts) of the past have been replaced by square but modestly sized cinderblock homes roofed with tin, or sometimes tiles. It is not unusual to see mud rondavels with satellite dishes, attesting to the increasing affluence of Botswana, and the increasing reliability of power and communications in the town. This striking contrast of the traditional and the modern is also evident in the multi-level air-conditioned shopping centres incongruously surrounded by potholes, dusty parking lots and lively market places.

Day 4. Okavango Delta

In the morning we board our planes and head into the Delta. After a wonderful scenic flight we arrive at our base for the next two days. During your time in the Delta we enjoy the best nature has to offer. We go on nature walks and explore the Delta by mokoro traditional canoe (water level dependant). The Delta is truly spectacular and an unforgettable experience as the wild animals here are not used to people. Simply sitting and relaxing often results in rewarding bird or game viewing.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Meru Tent: Oddballs http://http://www.oddballscamp.com
Facilities:	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool & Bar
Route:	Maun to Okavango Delta ±30 min flight
Included:	3 Day Delta Fly In Package (Accommodated)

Luggage Restriction: 10kg luggage per person, no bottled water allowed on flight, can be purchased at Moremi Crossing. Delta Air require the individual weight of all guests and their luggage prior to check-in as they have recently implemented new safety regulations for the flight into and out of the Okavango Delta. Please take no offence to this as it is done for guests safety only.

The Okavango Delta

The Okavango Delta is Botswana's most popular tourist destination. Every year, more than 11 cubic kilometres of water flow from the Okavango River into the Delta, irrigating more than 15 000 square kilometres of the Kalahari Desert, making it the largest inland delta in the world. Here, you'll find yourself exploring a lush paradise home to Africa's most beautiful wildlife and bird species while submersing yourself in pure tranquillity and an African landscape unlike any other.

Exploring the Okavango Delta is a must for any tourist visiting Botswana. Here, you'll have an endless list of activities to participate in, truly making the most of your time in this paradise. Boat trips, canoeing and fly-overs are among the most popular, however you can also go fishing and walking safaris depending on the time of year. As the Okavango is a seasonal delta, you'll find yourself facing a different environment during the summer and winter months. The rain falls at the beginning of the year.

The Moremi Game Reserve can be found on the eastern side of the Okavango Delta, however many others smaller, private lodges can be found in others parts, each of which offers guests a unique and exclusive experience. The favourite time of year to visit is during its dry season, just after the rains have fallen, as your days will be dry and warm (during the summer season the rains fall almost constantly and the temperatures can soar above 40°C.)

Explore the beautiful region of the Okavango Delta with us and see its beautiful wildlife, landscapes and be enchanted by its relaxed atmosphere and people.

Day 5. Okavango Delta

Today we will continue exploring the Okavango Delta by mokoro (traditional canoe) and a enjoy a nature walk.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Permanent Tents: Oddballs http://www.oddballscamp.com
Facilities:	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool & Bar



Day 6. Nata

We leave the Delta behind us and travel east towards the town of Nata, near the Makgadikgadi Pans. The shady tree canopy surrounding the lodge is a hive of activity, with a bird feeding area and active water feature providing the bird watcher with the opportunity of viewing a variety of species from the comfort of the pool deck. The Helmeted Guineafowl, Crested Francolin, Yellow Hornbill, Pied and Arrowmarked Babblers, Glossy Starling, Meyers Parrot and Paradise Whydah are just some of the species you may encounter during your stay at the lodge.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Two Per Room: Nata Lodge or Pelican Lodge http://www.natalodge.com http://www.pelicanlodgebotswana.com/
Facilities:	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool & Bar
Route:	Maun to Nata \pm 230 km
Travel time:	\pm 2-3 hours (4x4 & mokoro transfer), \pm 3 hours driving in truck

Day 7. Khama Rhino Sanctuary – Palapye

We leave Nata behind us and drive towards Palapye, located on the banks of the tranquil Lotsane River. We visit the Khama Rhino Sanctuary, a community based wildlife project, where we experience a game drive to view the protected Rhinos.

Meals:	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Two Per Room: Camp Itumela http://www.campitumela.com
Facilities:	En-suites Per Room, Hot Showers, Swimming Pool, Bar, Internet, Drinkable Water & Shop
Route:	Nata to Palapye \pm 645 km
Travel Time:	\pm 7-8 hours
Activity included:	Khama Rhino Sanctuary Game Drive

Khama Rhino Sanctuary

Khama Rhino Sanctuary in Botswana serves as a breeding ground and conservation area for 34 white rhinos and two black rhinos. Apart from these beautiful mammals, the area is home to over 230 different bird species as well as other popular animals such as zebras, blue wildebees, springbok, gemsbok, kudu, leopard and ostrich.

Experience the splendour of this bio-diversity hub during a day visit where you can enjoy a picnic with the family or visit the restaurant for authentic African meals incorporating Botswana flavours and local produce. Alternatively, you can stay over a few nights in the park's campsite or in one of the rustic chalets which offer ensuite bathrooms and a tranquil atmosphere.

While the animals are completely free to roam the area, if you can still enjoy a real animal encounter then embark on one of the game drives. The animals are used to slow driving vehicles and you will hopefully be presented with the opportunity to capture the perfect photograph of your experience.

The staff is also involved in extensive environmental education. The Southern Africa Rhino Specialist Group plans to establish the Khama Rhino Sanctuary as a breeding centre to promote the repopulation of white rhinos into Botswana. The Sanctuary is found in one of the most notable traditional villages in Africa and a walk through it will make for a fantastic start or end to your rhino adventure.

Day 8. South Africa – Johannesburg

Today we cross the border into South Africa and after quite a long, yet scenic drive we will arrive in Johannesburg. South Africa's city of gold has much to offer and should not be underestimated as a travel destination.



Meals:	Breakfast
Accommodation:	Own Arrangements / Post tour accommodation can be booked through Penguin Travel.
Route:	Palapye to Johannesburg ±565 km
Travel time:	±8-9 hours plus border crossing
Optional Activity:	Dinner out
Border post:	Botswana: Martinsdrift, Tel: +267 494 0254, Open: 08h00-18h00. South Africa: Groblersburg, Tel: +27 41 767 1164, Open: 08h00-18h00

Johannesburg

The city of Johannesburg is the business hub of South Africa. Everything here is faster than anywhere else in Africa, something this city has prided itself on ever since the gold rush – being home of the world’s richest gold fields back in the day. This get-a-head attitude has made it an economic powerhouse and the wealthiest city boasting African soil.

The streets of Johannesburg boast a rich historical background while its suburbs are home to some of the savviest businessmen in Africa. However, it’s not all about business in this economic terrain and Johannesburg offers a wealth of sights for visitors including the beautiful Kruger National Park, Emmerentia Dam and the Walter Sisulu National Botanical Garden.

It’s also home to the world renowned Sun City, the popular Gold Reef City and the Blyde River Canyon. Most visitors embark on tours to Johannesburg to take in the sites of the townships. Soweto in particular offers fantastic opportunities for township tours as well as a glimpse into South Africa’s history. The Apartheid Museum is also part of these tours and delves visitors to Johannesburg into South Africa’s past.

Johannesburg’s Sandton is also the sight of the best shopping ground in South Africa with shopping malls offering all the latest and hottest haute couture and labels seen on the world’s catwalks.

Countries Visited

Botswana

Botswana is a southern African landlocked nation, surrounded by Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa, Namibia and is one of Africa’s most popular inland tourist destinations. Despite being quite a large country, Botswana remains to be one of the world’s smallest communities with just over two million people calling themselves citizens. Most of the locals can be found working in the nation’s capital city, Gaborone, however many others work on game reserves and with the country’s tourism industry.

Over seventy percent of Botswana is covered by the Kalahari Desert; the largest desert in southern Africa and one of Botswana’s largest claims to fame. Here, guests are enchanted of the beauties within the desert and will find a new appreciation towards the tribes that called this rugged terrain home.

Botswana’s Okavango Delta is the world’s largest inland delta and is alive with vibrant bird species and wildlife. In comparison to the vast Kalahari Dessert, the delta is lush and green; a true magical world where life is simple and relaxation is unavoidable.

A trip to Botswana isn’t complete without a visit to the Makgadikgadi Pan, an incredibly large salt pan where you’ll delight in peace and quiet. There is hardly any live here, as the salt pan makes it hard for nature flourish, however exploring the pan will show you another wonder unlike any other, a true escape from civilization and a surreal, beautiful place.

Botswana is truly a unique country with a landscape and beauty unlike any other; from deserts to delta, bushveld to grasslands, savannas to salt pans, Botswana is a true joy to explore and offers a world of adventure to all tourists. Contact Penguin Travel for unforgettable Botswana safaris. Not only will you see it all, but you’ll make new friends and feel closer to nature than ever before.



Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is an incredibly beautiful, land-locked nation in the centre of Southern Africa. Despite its political and economic struggles, it remains a country of breath-taking beauty and lush landscapes. Famously bordering on the magnificent Victoria Falls and stunning Zambezi River, this is a country of astounding beauty and is by no means short of attractions and activities.

Zimbabwe, previously known as Rhodesia during its colonial days, has been the focus of many explorers during the last few centuries. It was Rhodes that orchestrated the building on the first railway line through the country which stretches across the entire African continent, and David Livingstone was the explorer to hear the thunderous sound and say the spray of the world's largest natural waterfall, the Victoria Falls; named after his sovereign Queen Victoria.

Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park and Matopos rock formations are among the country's most famous attractions. Just an hour outside of the town of Bulawayo, the Zimbabwe Ruins of the historical Great Zimbabwe can be found; the kingdom belonging to the first organised community of Zimbabwe during the pre colonial days.

Zimbabwe received its independence in 1980 and has struggled to maintain a democratic state ever since. However, despite its unstable economy and the fragile political state, thousands of tourists make their way to the country every year, wishing to explore its African roots and be spellbound by its beauty.

Zimbabwe has a unique landscape, atmosphere, community and culture which set it apart from its fellow Southern African nations. The beauty of this country will easily allow you to forget it's complicated structure; indulge yourself in the magnificent Victoria Falls, astounding structures of Motopas, observe the African wildlife and take yourself back in time to the Great Zimbabwe Ruins.

South Africa

South Africa is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Africa, as it offers truly magnificent views and has an abundance of activities to enjoy. This Southern African country is rich with culture and traditions; with every citizen having a unique heritage, culture and story to tell. Here, guests will find themselves enchanted with a unique vibrancy and absorbed in the freedom of every citizen. The combination of the beauty of the landscape and friendly nature of the locals makes South Africa a truly inspiring and exciting country to explore.

Since the 17th century and the arrival of its very first settlers, South Africa has been claimed, to be one of the most beautiful destinations in the world. Not only is the weather warm and mild throughout the year, but locals and visitors enjoying an endlessly beautiful scenery and diversity in landscapes. Undoubtedly, South Africa's main attractions are it's beautiful mountain and coastal views, however it's cities also attract more than enough tourist attention.

In 2010, South Africa hosted the FIFA Soccer World Cup, putting on an incredible show and proving themselves as one of the world's leaders in the hospitality industry. Guests were made to feel welcome and encouraged to participate in local celebrations and enjoy the sights of each region; a factor which surely contributed to the Mother City of South Africa, Cape Town, being voted by Trip Advisor to be the most desired tourist destination in the world.

Among South Africa's other top attractions is Johannesburg (The City of Gold), Durban (a surfer's paradise), Port Elizabeth (the friendly city), the Garden Route and the Kruger National Park. A trip through this stunning country will show you just how far it's come since the days of Apartheid and will showcase the diversity, vibrancy and freedom which makes South Africa a pleasure to visit today.

MEALS ON TOUR

Breakfast: As breakfast is served very early in the morning (if there is driving or activities to be done) it is a simple but filling breakfast: Tea and coffee, breads and spreads, cereals, yoghurts, fruits and on occasion, when there is time for a later breakfast, guides will serve a hot breakfast of scrambled eggs, porridge, bacon or beans.

Lunch: Lunch is generally served at a picnic spot next to the road en route to a destination. As the guides only have approximately 45 minutes to get everyone off the truck, prepare lunch and then get everyone back on the truck again, lunches consist of



sandwiches and salads (rice salad, pasta salad, tuna salad and green salad) which are quick and easy to prepare but which are quite filling. They do have meal plans which they should stick to, to ensure that there is variety on a day to day basis.

Dinner: This is when the guides get time to prepare a delicious meal and they focus on a substantial protein, vegetable and carbohydrate dinner. We serve traditional cuisine consisting of braais (BBQ), potjie (stew), bobotie (mince), spaghetti and fish and chicken dishes.

All meals (on both accommodated and camping tours) that are included as per the dossier are prepared at the full service adventure truck. This is a unique adventure in itself where you get to dine under the stars with your new found friends and experience the real sights and sounds of Africa!

TIPPING ON TOUR

Southern Africa: In general tipping in restaurants is expected and is around 10% for good service, more if you have received exceptional service, and, feel free not to tip at all if you received poor service. Tipping taxi drivers etc is really at your own discretion and not always expected. If in doubt please ask your guides.

Our guides do work hard but they are also paid at (and often above) industry levels for this work. Our crew can be tipped if you feel that they have done a good job and/or gone above and beyond the call of duty. The best way to arrange tips is to elect one person in the group to collect the money. We recommend USD1-2 (or about R10-R20) per day per person, per guide as a fair tip. So if you have 3-crew on a tour, we would recommend that 3 envelopes are used and each crew member's name written on one. Place what you feel is fair in to each envelope and the elected person can give these to the crew at the end of the tour. If you do not feel that the crew deserve a tip, please, do not tip them. You must remember that tipping is only for exceptional service and is not at all compulsory or expected.

Accommodation providers are subject to change without notice, the accommodation listed in this dossier is our preferred supplier, but sometimes due to availability, we are unable to make use of the property listed in this dossier. If we cannot use the accommodation provider as listed we will substitute another property of similar standards.

THANK YOU FOR TRAVELLING WITH PENGUIN TRAVEL