

Falls, Botswana & Namibia

14 days | Victoria Falls to Windhoek



SMALL GROUP ACCOMMODATED

SAFARI: Take in the natural wonders, rich culture and incredible wildlife of Botswana and Namibia on this 14 day accommodated, overland adventure. Start at the spectacular Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and end in Windhoek. Explore the Okavango by boat and on foot, game drive in Chobe and Etosha National Park, cruise the Chobe River and walk the world's highest sand dunes in the Namib Desert.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Victoria Falls – start your tour in this charming Zimbabwean town which is home to the spectacular Victoria Falls
- Chobe National Park – search for wildlife on safari and enjoy a cruise on the Chobe River to spot crocodiles and enjoy a magical sunset
- Okavango Delta – explore the network of watery pathways through the delta on guided nature walks, mokoro and boat excursions

- Etosha National Park – spend two days exploring Namibia's premier game reserve and head out in search of lions, elephants and more on game drives
- Damaraland – take in the spectacular scenery of this wild, mountainous region
- Swakopmund – stroll around this charming German colonial town and join an optional dolphin cruise or scenic flight
- Namib-Naukluft National Park – scramble up the giant dunes of Sossusvlei, explore Deadvlei and hike through the Sesriem Canyon

What's Included

- 13 breakfasts, 10 dinners and 1 lunch
- 13 nights mid-range (3-4 star) lodges, chalets and small hotels, all with en suite facilities
- Victoria Falls Airport transfer on day 1
- In 2023 a Windhoek airport departure transfer will be included on day 14. In 2022 it can be booked for a supplement.
- Etosha – afternoon game drive in a 4x4 open vehicle and a full day game drive in our overland vehicle (4x4 open vehicle in 2023)
- Okavango Delta – mokoro trip, scenic boat tour and game walks

- Sesriem – 5km guided walk to Dead Vlei
- Chobe National Park – morning game drive and afternoon Chobe River Cruise
- Transport in a 16 seater overland lodge vehicle
- Services of an experienced local guide/driver
- Etosha and Chobe National Park entrance fees

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tipping – an entirely personal gesture
- Optional activities, additional meals and drinks
- Victoria Falls NP entrance fee and excursions

Local Payment

ZAR/NAD 2500, to be paid in cash

DETAILED ITINERARY

Falls, Botswana & Namibia – 14 days

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 UK 020 4571 1381 USA 866 616 5394
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Day 1 : Victoria Falls



The tour starts at 15h00 on Day 1 with a pre departure meeting in the foyer of Sprayview Hotel. That afternoon is free to view Victoria Falls – without doubt one of the greatest and most spectacular sights in Africa. The following morning before departure to Chobe is spent at leisure to browse the local markets, to experience the many optional activities on offer in the adrenalin capital of Africa including helicopter flights over the Falls and to visit the Falls (own expense).

Accommodation: Sprayview Hotel (or similar)

Overnight – Victoria Falls

Days 2–3 : Chobe National Park



Victoria Falls – Chobe River (Botswana). Before we travel to Chobe National Park the morning of day 2 is free for you to browse the local markets or enjoy some of the optional activities on offer at Victoria Falls.

Crossing into Botswana we overnight on the banks of the Chobe River. Chobe is famous for its beautiful scenery, magnificent sunsets and abundance of wildlife and birdlife. On day 3 we go in search of wildlife on a morning game drive in Chobe National Park and enjoy

a sunset game-viewing cruise on the Chobe River.

Day 2 distance: 90kms (3hrs)

Accommodation: Chobe Safari Lodge (or similar)

Overnight – Chobe River (2) (B:2, D:2)

Days 4–5 : Okavango Delta



Chobe River – Okavango Delta. Traveling through the Chobe National Park we enter Namibia and continue to the Eastern side of the Caprivi. Crossing back into Botswana we then continue on to our lodge, located on the banks of the Okavango River on the edge of the Okavango Delta.

The following day we travel by boat 30 minutes into the Okavango Delta. mokoro and boat excursions in the back channels of the Nxamasire area of the delta. Game walks are also done on the smaller islands in the area subject to the water levels of the delta.

Day 4 distance: 540kms (8hrs)

Accommodation: Swampstop chalets (or similar)

Overnight – Okavango Delta(2) (B:2, L:1, D:2)

Day 6 : The Okavango River



Okavango Delta – Okavango River (Namibia). Departing the Delta we

cross back into Namibia and continue through the Caprivi Strip where we spend the night set amongst the lush vegetation overlooking the Okavango River and Angola. This afternoon there's an optional boat cruise on the river (book and pay locally) or you can simply relax and enjoy the tranquil surroundings.

Day 6 distance: 320kms (4.5hrs)

Accommodation: Hakusembe River Lodge (or similar)

Overnight – Okavango River (B, D)

Days 7–8 : Etosha National Park



Okavango River – Etosha National Park. On day 7 we proceed to Etosha National Park where we enjoy our first game drive in the park in our overland vehicle. This park is one of the most important reserves and game sanctuaries in Africa with thousands of wild animals such as blue wildebeest, springbok, zebra, kudu, giraffe, cheetah, leopard, lion and elephant making this area their home. Day 8 we enjoy a full day game drive in open 4x4 vehicles from our lodge located just outside the park entrance.

Day 7 distance: 630kms (10hrs)

Accommodation: Etosha Village (or similar)

Overnight – Etosha National Park (2) (B:2, D:2)

Day 9 : Damaraland

Etosha National Park – Damaraland. We travel on to Damaraland today, one of the most scenic areas of Namibia, dominated by prehistoric water courses with open plains and grassland, massive granite koppies and

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deep gorges. Our lodge is located on top of a mountain with spectacular views of the surrounding area. Spend the afternoon taking in the incredible setting or simply relaxing by the pool.

Distance: 220kms (3hrs)

Accommodation: Ugab Terrace Lodge (or similar)

Overnight - Damaraland (B, D)

Day 10 : Swakopmund



Damaraland - Swakopmund. We drive south through the Damaraland region with its vast and rugged terrain today. Its mountain ranges are intercepted by wide gravel plains, which run into sandy, vegetated riverbeds and hot, dry valleys. We arrive in Swakopmund and spend the afternoon exploring this charming German colonial town.

Distance: 380kms (7hrs)

Accommodation: The Delight Swakopmund (or similar)

Overnight - Swakopmund (B)

Days 11-12 : Sossusvlei & Sesriem



Swakopmund - Sesriem. Our journey on day 8 takes us north through ever-changing scenery to our accommodation located on the edge of the Namib Desert. The following morning is an early departure for Sossusvlei, stopping in the dune belt

to witness the changing colours of the world's highest sand dunes. We enjoy a leisurely 5km walk to Sossusvlei and Deadvlei, and in the afternoon there's a short hike through the Sesriem Canyon.

Day 11 distance: 380kms (5hrs)

Accommodation: Desert Quiver Camp (or similar)

Overnight - Sesriem (2) (B:2, D:2)

Day 13 : Windhoek

Sesriem - Windhoek. After breakfast bid farewell to any members of the group who are travelling on to Cape Town and transfer to Windhoek to spend our final night in Namibia's capital.

Distance: 370km (6 hrs)

Accommodation: Safari Court Hotel (or similar) **Overnight - Windhoek (B)**

Day 14 : Windhoek

Our African adventure comes to an end after breakfast today.

Please Note: In 2023 a departure transfer to Windhoek airport will be included. In 2022 it can be booked upon request for a supplement. We can also book post tour accommodation upon request.(B)

BEFORE YOU GO

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements

As of 01 November 2021 it is a condition of travel, as detailed in our Terms & Conditions that all travellers over 18 years provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

We recognise any vaccine that has been authorised for use in the country where the vaccine was administered. This includes vaccines such as AstraZeneca, Covaxin, Johnson & Johnson, Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, Sinopharm, Sinovac and Sputnik.

In all instances, you must be fully immunised. This means you must receive the full dosage of the COVID-19

vaccine and allow a minimum of 14 days before travelling in order for immunity to take effect. Each COVID-19 vaccine has different dosages and timeframes for immunisation, so please check the related medical advice associated with your vaccine. Children under 18 years are not required to provide evidence of vaccination to travel at this time.

If you are unable to be vaccinated due to medical reasons, you may apply for an exemption. Exemptions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. To apply, you must provide supporting documentation from a medical professional.

Proof of COVID-19 immunisation must be provided to us **no less than 4 weeks prior to travel**. We accept COVID-19 digital certificates, NHS Covid Pass or Vaccination Record Cards e-mailed to info@onthegotours.com or you can upload your vaccination history yourself via our traveller login. <https://www.onthegotours.com/Login>

The information you will need to upload includes: Administering national authority or government, document No, name of Vaccine, date/s of vaccination

Please Note

This Handpicked tour is operated by a trusted partner and you will join travellers from different operators, not solely On The Go.

Falls, Botswana & Namibia is a small group, lodge accommodated overland safari. This safari operates with a minimum of 4 and maximum of 16 passengers, accompanied by a tour guide who is also the driver.

Important: This tour is recommended for healthy, active participants looking for an adventurous holiday.

Passports & visas

Please ensure that you have at least two blank pages in your passport, plus

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an additional blank page for each visa/ African country you are visiting.

Please also note that your passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the end date of your trip.

Visa requirements and fees are subject to change. It is essential that you check the current entry requirements with each relevant embassy/consulate prior to departure. Visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go.

Travelling Times and Distances

All travelling times are affected by road conditions, border crossings, detours and weather conditions, therefore on certain days travelling times may be longer than anticipated especially where there is a lot of distance to be covered. Please keep in mind that the time it takes to travel 100 km in your home country is not equivalent to the time it takes to travel 100 km on African roads, therefore we encourage you to sit back and enjoy the spectacular scenery Africa has to offer. Where possible additional stops will be made to ensure your travelling comfort at all times.

Optional Excursions

During your tour there will be various optional excursions available to you. Please note these optional activities are operated by independent third-party suppliers. Some of these activities involve outdoor adventure, and as such contain an element of risk. You should only participate in activities that you feel comfortable you can handle. Please remember to check if your travel insurance covers these adventure activities. On arrival there will be a detailed description of each activity to read through before booking.

Please note rates quoted below are a guideline only and are subject to change. Payable locally with cash or debit/credit card.

ZIMBABWE – Victoria Falls

Below rates exclude national park entrance fees

- Adventure Pass – USD302pp + park fees:
- Any 2 of the following Wild Horizons Activities & a sunset cruise for almost free! – ‘Big 5’ Night Drive + Dinner, Half day Highwire Pass, 13 min Helicopter Flight
- Guided Tour of the Falls – USD21pp + USD30 entrance fee
- 12-13 min helicopter flight – USD150pp + USD15 park fee
- 25-30 min helicopter flight – USD284pp + USD15 park fee
- 15 min microlight flight – USD150pp + USD15 Government fee
- Sunset Cruise – USD45pp + USD10 River fees
- Ra-ikane, Luxury Sunset Cruise – USD75pp + USD10 River fees
- Wild Horizons Malachite Dinner Cruise – USD86pp + USD10 River fees
- Flying Fox – USD50pp + USD3 park fees
- Zip Line – USD80pp + USD3 park fees
- Gorge Swing – USD100pp + USD3 park fees
- Canopy Tour – USD61pp + USD3 park fees (2-2.5 hrs)
- Bungee Jump – USD160pp excl transfers
- Horse Riding Zambezi National Park USD95pp + park fee (2.5-3 hrs)
- Bicycle Tours USD45pp (2hrs)
- White Water Rafting (grade 5 rapids) including lunch
 - Low Water (10 Aug – 25 Dec) – USD120pp + USD10 River fees (7 hrs)
 - High Water (26 Dec – 09 Aug) – USD120pp + USD10 River fees (6.5 hrs)
- Livingstone Island (Jul – Nov) in Zambia
 - L/stone Island Breakfast Breezer – USD115pp
 - L/stone Island Lunch – USD180pp
 - L/stone Island High Tea – USD155pp

BOTSWANA

- Okavango Delta Scenic Helicopter Flights (3 pax per flight)
 - 30 mins USD200pp
 - 45 mins USD270pp

- Chobe NP Game Drive: USD46pp + USD12 park fees (3 hrs)

NAMIBIA

- Okavango River Sunset Boat Cruise – ND\$355pp (1.5 hrs)
- Swakopmund Township Tour ND \$600pp (3 hrs)
- Swakopmund Dolphin Cruise ND \$1045pp (3 hrs)
- Swakopmund Living Desert Tour ND \$850pp (4-5 hrs)
- Swakopmund Scenic Flights: (minimum 2 pax – cost reduces as numbers increase with max 5)
 - Skeleton Coast North Flight (2-5 pax) – ND\$4800pp to ND\$12,000pp (2hr 15min)
 - Coastal Impression Flight (2-5pax) – ND\$2520pp to ND\$6300pp (1 hr)
 - Sossusfly Flight (2-5 pax) – ND\$4800 – ND\$12,000 (2hr 15min)

Insurance

It is compulsory for all travellers to have insurance covering their personal requirements, medical expenses and personal possessions. This is to be arranged before leaving your home country.

Botswana Country Guide

Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Botswana from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Polio, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A and Tetanus is strongly recommended. Rabies may also be recommended. There is the risk of malaria in certain areas of Botswana so it is very important to check with your doctor before you go, to see whether malarial medication is required for the areas you are visiting. A valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is also required if travelling into Botswana and you have previously been in an infected country.

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Currency & Banking

The currency of Botswana is the Botswana Pulas (BWP) 1 Pula = 100 Thebe. Notes are in denominations of BWP10, 20, 50 and 100. Coins are in denominations of BWP1, 50, 25, 10, 5, 1.

There are no restrictions on the import of local or foreign currencies, provided they are declared on arrival. Export of local currency is limited to BWP50 and foreign currencies up to the amount declared on arrival. It is easy to change most forms of currency including US \$, GB£, Euros and South African Rand. The best place to change money in Botswana is the bureau de changes as banks charge commission to change either cash or travellers cheques. ATMs are available in all main towns, cities, shopping centres and most petrol stations. MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Diners Club are all widely accepted.

Travellers cheques should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Proof of identity may be requested in some instances, so it's useful to carry a passport or some form of photo identification. In large cities travellers cheques can incur a high surcharge.

Banking hours: Mon-Fri 0900-1530, Sat 0830-1100.

Time & Voltage

Time Zone - Botswana is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

The standard voltage is 220 - 240V. Primary sockets require a 'Type M' - South African, electrical plug which has three thick circular pins. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Climate

Botswana's climate is mainly temperate. During the summer months (October-April) the weather can be very hot with daytime temperatures

of around 30 Celsius and higher. The rainy season (typically lasting from January to March) can be hot with temperatures still in the mid 30's and only dropping to around the mid 20's overnight. Winter (May-September) brings a cool change yet is still reasonably warm and mostly pleasant with an average temperature of around 25°C. Early mornings and evenings may be cold and frosty especially in the Kalahari region. The amount of rainfall decreases the further you travel west or southwards during the winter and rainy season months.

Travelling with children in Botswana

The Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs informs the general public that it has imposed requirements for minors (children under 18) travelling through the country's ports of entry.

Effective from the 1st October 2016 minors travelling through the country's borders will be required to produce certified copies of unabridged birth certificates in addition to their valid passports. In the event that one parent is not travelling with the child, the other parent's affidavit consenting to such travel should be availed. However, an affidavit will not be required if the father's name does not appear on the child's birth certificate."

To summarise the above, should families be travelling with children below the age of 18 they will require the following:

- Valid Passports
- Certified unabridged birth certificates for all minors below the age of 18
- An Affidavit signed by the non-travelling parent should the minor be travelling with one parent

Unfortunately these regulations are very strict therefore we urge all parents travelling to Africa with their children to contact all relevant embassies well

prior to departure to ensure they have the correct documentation as if you do not, there is a high chance you will be denied entry.

Namibia Country Guide

Health & Vaccinations

You should seek medical advice before travelling to Namibia from your local health practitioner and ensure that you receive all of the appropriate vaccinations. As a guide Polio, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A & B and Tetanus is strongly recommended. Rabies may also be recommended. There is the risk of malaria in certain areas of Namibia so it is very important to check with your doctor before you go, to see whether malarial medication is required for the areas you are visiting. A valid Yellow Fever vaccination certificate is also required if travelling into Namibia and you have previously been in an infected country.

Currency

The currency of Namibia is the Namibian Dollar (\$NAD) 1 \$NAD = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of \$NAD10, 20, 50, 100 and 200. Coins are in denominations of 5, 10, 50, \$NAD1, \$NAD5.

It is possible to change money and use ATMs in all sizeable towns. Bureau de Changes offer quicker and commission free service but are only found in Swakopmund and Windhoek. ATMs are widely accessible and very reliable and offer the best rates of exchange for cards.

The Rand and Namibian dollar are tied to each other on an equal level and as such the Rand and Namibian dollar can be used interchangeably in Namibia. However Namibian dollars are not accepted in South Africa.

All unused Namibian Dollars need to be exchanged to South African Rand before leaving Namibia. The Rand can then be used in Botswana

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or South Africa. Namibian Dollars can be changed to Rand at banks and bureau de changes and swapped over in some shops.

Banking hours: 09:00 to 15:30. Some close between 13:00 and 14:00

Time & Voltage

Time Zone - Namibia is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

Standard voltage in Namibia is 220 - 230V. Primary sockets require a 'Type M' - South African, electrical plug which has three thick circular pins. You will need a voltage converter, and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Climate

Namibia's climate is typical of a semi-desert region, with hot days and cool nights. Namibia is blessed with an average of 300 days of sunshine a year. Temperatures are cooler along the coast and on the central plateau. Rainfall is typically low in Namibia and normally only occurs during the summer months from December to March, mostly in the form of heavy thunderstorms. During the winter months from May to September days are typically warm but temperatures can drop below freezing at night.

Under 18s Travelling to Namibia

Parents travelling to Namibia with children (under 18) will be asked to show the child's unabridged (full) birth certificate which lists the child's details and both parents' details. The abridged (short) birth certificate which only lists the child's details won't be accepted. Uncertified copies of birth certificates will not be accepted.

Where only one parent is accompanying a child, parental or legal consent for the child to travel (eg an affidavit from the other parent or - if applicable - a death certificate) is required and there are other requirements for children travelling

unaccompanied or with adults who are not their parents.

If you are travelling with children (under 18) it is essential that you contact your Namibian Embassy for further information relating to these regulations. If you do not carry the correct documentation you will not be allowed to enter the country. Obtaining the correct paperwork is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours.

Zimbabwe Country Guide

Vaccinations

Seek advice from your doctor or travel clinic at least six weeks prior to departure about what vaccinations you require. Typically the list includes typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, polio, hepatitis A and B (for stays over 4 weeks).

In Zimbabwe a malarial risk exists from November to June in all areas below 1200m and throughout the year in the Zambezi Valley. We strongly recommend that you take your anti-malaria medication. Other precautionary measures to prevent contact with mosquitoes include: insect repellent, cover up at sundown, sleep under a mosquito net and wear long sleeve clothing and long trousers in the evenings.

Yellow fever: A yellow fever vaccination certificate is required from travellers over one year of age coming from infected areas.

Currency

The Zimbabwean Dollar was abandoned in April 2009. The country has adopted a multi-currency scheme; the US Dollar and South African Rand can be used for domestic transactions.

Zimbabwe is essentially a cash-only society now with ATMs pretty useless for the foreigner. Credit cards only used in a handful of places, however all major

hotels will now accept this payment. We recommend bringing enough cash to cover your stay in Zimbabwe (in either USD or ZAR) especially in the smaller denominations (US\$1-20 and ZAR10 - 200) as there is always a shortage of change and shopkeepers will often refuse larger bills. Please also be aware it is illegal to leave Zimbabwe with over \$1000 (or equivalent) in cash.

Zimbabwe introduced Bond Notes into circulation on 28 November 2017 which will be used alongside the US dollar and other currencies. These Bond Notes will be at a 1:1 parity with the US dollar. However, they are only legal tender within Zimbabwe and as such can only be used there. These Bond notes will be in \$2 and \$5 denominations and there will also be a new \$1 Bond coin.

Banking hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri - 0800-1500, Wed 0800-1300 and Sat - 0800-1130. In major towns/cities most banks have an ATM. American Express, Diners Club and Visa cards are widely accepted. Major foreign currencies can be exchanged at bureaux de change and banks at the official exchange rate. Please also be aware it is illegal to leave Zimbabwe with over \$1000 (or equivalent). As of June 2016 it is becoming increasingly difficult to withdraw money from ATMs in Zimbabwe. There is a cash limit of \$500 per day - however a lot of banks are not replenishing the ATMs. It is strongly advised that you bring enough money with you before you enter Zimbabwe and don't rely on getting any whilst there.

Travellers cheques are accepted at banks, these should be in US Dollars or Pound Sterling to avoid additional exchange rate charges. Most banks will want to see your passport and proof of purchase receipt before cashing your travellers cheques. Please Note: Travellers cheques can be difficult to cash so do not rely upon them as your sole source of funds.

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Time & Voltage

Standard voltage is 220–240V. Primary sockets require a 'Type G' – British plug, or 'Type D' – old English plug or Indian plug. You will need a voltage converter and plug adapter in order to use U.S. appliances.

Zimbabwe is 2 hours ahead of GMT. Daylight saving time is not observed.

Climate

Although located in the tropics, temperate conditions prevail all year round in Zimbabwe as the climate is moderated by altitude and the inland position of the country.

Zimbabwe has a rainy season from November/December to March, during this time days are hot and sunny with possible afternoon thunderstorms. By April and May most of the rain is gone, skies are clear and days are sunny and warm. Night time temperatures drop dramatically between June and August although daytime temperatures remain pleasantly warm. Late August sees the start of the hot and dry season which continues until October.

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