# 4 days | Starts/Ends: Victoria Falls







PRIVATE TOUR: Spend three nights in Zimbabwe's adventure capital, Victoria Falls. Take a walking tour to Victoria Falls and soar above the waterfall on a helicopter flight. See the famous Victoria Falls Bridge and enjoy a day trip into Botswana's Chobe National Park to search for the Big Five on a Chobe River cruise and wildlife game drive.

# **HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS**

## Trip Highlights

- Soar above majestic Victoria Falls on an adrenalin-pumping helicopter
- Enjoy a scenic sunset cruise on the rushing Zambezi River and enjoy drinks and snacks as you sail
- Get up close to the mighty Victoria Falls on a guided walking tour, to see it from a different angle
- See the famous Victoria Falls Bridge with guided sightseeing and amazing views of Batoka Gorge
- Discover the wildlife of Chobe National Park on a day trip to Botswana, including a Chobe River cruise and game drive

#### What's Included

- 3 nights 4 star accommodation in Victoria Falls (upgrade available on request)
- 3 breakfasts
- Victoria Falls airport arrival and departure transfer
- A sunset cruise on the Zambezi River - shared with other guests
- A 12/13 minute helicopter flight over Victoria Falls
- Guided tour of the Victoria Falls shared with other guests
- Victoria Falls Bridge tour
- Full day Chobe National Park excursion

### What's Not Included

- Tipping an entirely personal gesture
- Park & government fees
- International flights and visas

## **DETAILED ITINERARY**

# Day 1: Victoria Falls Sunset Cruise



Upon arrival at Victoria Falls International Airport, you will be met by our local representative and transferred to the hotel.

Upon arrival at the Kingdom Hotel, check-in, freshen up and relax before embarking on your sunset cruise.

The Zambezi Sunset Cruise is suitable for the whole family. It is an ideal way to end an eventful day in Victoria Falls, providing an opportunity to unwind and relax in the timeless environment while enjoying complimentary sundowner drinks and light snacks. Overnight -Victoria Falls

## Day 2: Discovering Vic Falls



Today, you will enjoy a number of thrilling activities to make the most of your time at Victoria Falls. There's a 12-13 minute helicopter tour over the cascade, known as the "Mosi oa Tunya" (the smoke that thunders) and along the Zambezi River and the Zambezi National Park.

You will also take a guided tour of the falls with a knowledgeable local guide. You'll get up close to the falls on foot and learn all about the sheer power of this force of nature.

Finally, the Historical Bridge Tour includes a light-hearted but informative talk on the history of the famous Victoria Falls Bridge. Plus magnificent views of the rapids, rainbows, and majesty of Victoria Falls and the Batoka Gorge. Overnight -Victoria Falls (B)

# Day 3: Chobe National Park Safari



Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. After breakfast, you'll be transferred to Chobe National park in Botswana for a day of safari!

This day trip is divided into two parts: in the morning we have a game viewing boat cruise on the Chobe River, and in

the afternoon we embark on a game drive through the national park.

The Chobe River is one of the only rivers in the world that flows in two directions. In the dry season, the river flows east, but in the rainy season, the Zambezi River pushes upstream to reverse the flow of the river towards the west. This doesn't affect the wildlife, which is abundant along the river and in the national park.

#### Overnight - Victoria Falls (B)

### Day 4: Goodbye Vic Falls

After breakfast, check out and proceed to the foyer of the hotel, where you will be met by our local representative for your transfer to Victoria Falls International Airport.

(B)

# **ACCOMMODATION**

Highlighted below are some of the accommodation/ hotels which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these stays to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel or start point and further arrival information.

# The Kingdom Hotel

This popular, family-friendly hotel is centrally located in the small town of Victoria Falls, just a short stroll from the entrance to the Victoria Falls rainforest and close to all of the attractions. Guests can wake up to the soothing rumble of the mighty Victoria Falls and spot warthogs and other local wildlife roaming the grounds. The hotel's striking architectural design is inspired by the ancient Kingdom of Munhumutapa, with great domes, pillars and water features and the spacious guest rooms are built around a man-made lake. Complete with its own food court, a choice of four bars, three swimming pools and a casino, there's plenty at this fun-filled hotel to

keep guest entertained. Facilities also include a children's play area and a Safari Health and Beauty Spa.



### **BEFORE YOU GO**

#### Please note

The Victoria Falls tour is scheduled, this means that you'll be joined by other travellers, it is not a private tour.

We offer a choice of standard, superior and deluxe accommodation. Please see below for details. Should you wish to stay at an alternative hotel please let us know and we can try to arrange this for you.

#### Accommodation ratings

On our Private trips, you can often choose your style of accommodation. The price quoted on our website is reflective of the included accommodation, please see the "included" section on the first page of this document for details. Should you opt for an alternative hotel category, this will be confirmed in writing with the respective price on your invoice.

For further details about the indicative hotels, please see the "hotels" tab on our website. Here we rank hotel's in their respective country (REGIONAL CATEGORY) - but we also tell you how it ranks by Western standards (OUR CATEGORY).

STANDARD - Equates to a Western 3star standard, always featuring ensuite rooms and usually a restaurant. SUPERIOR - Equates to a Western 4star standard, featuring en-suite rooms and usually a restaurant and often a swimming pool and/or a fitness centre. DELUXE - Equates to a Western 5-star standard, usually featuring spacious,

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en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, excellent service and customer care

LUXURY - Equates to a Western 5-star plus standard - the creme de la creme. Featuring spacious, en-suite rooms, a restaurant, swimming pool and fitness centre and an array of amenities, this accommodation is a cut above the rest. Sheer opulence!

#### Standard accommodation

# **Amadeus Garden Guesthouse** or similar (rooms with en-suite bathrooms, swimming pool, bar and restaurant area)

Amadeus offers clean and clutter free accommodation in eleven rooms all of which are tastefully decorated and furnished with local teak furniture. All beds are fitted with firm therapeutic mattresses. Rooms include solar heated en-suite hot and cold shower, windows fitted with fly-screens, electronic safes and are naturally ventilated by ceiling fans. Relax and revitalise in the shade of the thatched gazebo set in a sub-tropical courtyard. Find your space and privacy in the garden or cool off in the crystal clear swimming pool.

# Superior accommodation

# Ilala Lodge or similar (rooms with ensuite bathrooms, swimming pool, bar and restaurant)

Ilala Lodge offers distinguished accommodation in warm elegant surroundings. The decor evokes an era of early adventure and the quest for discovery in Africa. The Hotel is ideally situated being the closest to the mighty Victoria Falls as well as the town centre. The National Park borders the front of the property and wild animals often graze on the hotel lawns, with the spray of the falls in the background.

#### Deluxe accommodation

# Victoria Falls Safari Club or similar (rooms with en-suite bathrooms, swimming pool, dining area and bar)

Set high on a plateau which forms a natural boundary to the Zambezi National Park and offering uninterrupted views of pristine Africa, the sumptuous Victoria Falls Safari Club with its 16 Club Rooms and 4 lavish suites afford a superior fivestar premium experience. Rooms are decorated in a distinctive and fresh African style, and host modern comforts such as air-conditioning, mini bar, large digital safe, a beverage station with espresso machine and complimentary Wi-Fi. Designed with space and comfort in mind, rooms are fitted with glass sliding doors leading on to private balconies with beautiful vistas.

Guests enjoy peaceful exclusivity with numerous benefits and personal butler service, including access to facilities such as dining, the pool, the bar and terrace at the adjacent award winning Victoria Falls Safari Lodge Resort. The Club's supreme wilderness location belies the fact that nature's masterpiece, the Victoria Falls, and the town centre are just 10 minutes away on a complimentary on-the-hour shuttle coach.

# 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

#### Passports & visas

Please ensure that you have at least two blank pages in your passport, plus an additional blank page for each visa/African country you a visiting. If travelling on one of our longer overland safaris we recommend that you have at least 12 blank pages in your passport.

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 for all of the countries visited on your safari, with each relevant embassy/consulate prior to departure. Visa procurement is the

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responsibility of the traveller and not of On The Go

# Booking your flights

When booking your departure flight you should allow time at the end of your African safari for any unexpected delays. We recommend that you book your onward flight no earlier than 24 hours after the end of your safari. In the case of our longer overland camping safaris (22 days or more) we advise against making any firm arrangements for at least 48 hours after the scheduled departure date. We can arrange post tour accommodation for you upon request.

## **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.

#### **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 county'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 nontravelling 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.

### **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.

## 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 rainv 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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