

Windhoek, Okavango & Falls

10 days | Windhoek to Victoria Falls



ACCOMMODATED OVERLAND

TOUR: From the vibrant Namibian capital of Windhoek head across the border into Botswana where you'll explore the incredible nature and wildlife of the Okavango Delta and Chobe National Park. End your tour in Victoria Falls, home to the famous thundering waterfall of the same name.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Windhoek - start your journey in the small but fascinating capital city of Namibia, nestled between the hills
- Chobe National Park - camp out in the wilderness of the national park and spot wildlife as you game drive across the reserve
- Okavango Delta - navigate the maze of waterways in traditional mokoro canoes and keep your eyes peeled for the local wildlife
- Maun - travel across the edge of the Makgadikgadi Pans and opt for an incredible scenic flight over the Okavango Delta
- Ghanzi - learn about the local Bushmen tribespeople on numerous optional

activities in this small town in the Kalahari Desert

- Victoria Falls - finish your tour at the Zimbabwean town and head out to admire Victoria Falls independently

What's Included

- 1 night Chobe National Park Excursion (Mobile bush camping)
- Arrival transfer from Windhoek Airport on day 1
- 7 nights 2 - 3* hotels & permanent tents
- 9 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 2 dinners
- Services of 3 person crew (leader, driver, cook)
- A fully equipped overland truck for transportation and game drives
- 2 day/1 night Okavango Delta Excursion (Mobile bush camping)
- Park Entry & Game drive - Chobe NP. Park Entry into Victoria Falls National Park
- All road taxes and tolls

What's Not Included

- International flights and visas
- Tipping - an entirely personal gesture
- Optional activities - Check our Trip Notes for optional activities available on this tour

Local Payment

\$500pp, paid in USD

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1 : Windhoek

Welcome to Namibia! Upon arrival in Windhoek, you will be met and transferred to our accommodation in the town centre. A welcome meeting is scheduled at 17:00, where you can meet your fellow passengers and tour crew. **Overnight - Windhoek**

Day 2 : Ghanzi

Windhoek - Ghanzi. It's an early departure this morning as we head for the border and make our way into Botswana. We lay our heads this evening in the small town of Ghanzi, in the middle of the Kalahari Desert. This afternoon you'll have the option of a number of activities that will allow you to interact with the native Bushman people who reside in this area. You'll learn about their way of life and how they are able to survive in such an arid and desolate area. **Overnight - Ghanzi (B, L)**

Days 3-5 : Maun

Ghanzi - Maun - Okavango - Maun. Travelling north on day 3 we reach Maun, which is the starting point for the majority of people travelling to the Okavango Delta. This evening we begin our preparations for the following day.

On day 4 we rise early and head north to the Mokoro peler's station. Along the drive we'll see a number of local villages where families have lived in a traditional way for

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many years. Mokoros are dugout canoes manoeuvred through the waterways by local guides who "pole" them through the reeds. After a leisurely glide through the delta we reach our accommodation for the night. The afternoon and evening will offer the chance to relax with a cold drink or take a dip in the delta. The Okavango Delta, travelling from the Angolan highlands, is the largest inland delta in the world and is studded with lushly vegetated islands and unique bird life, with over 400 avian species.

On day 5 we have the opportunity to take a game walk through the delta before we take a mokoro ride back to our vehicle in time for lunch. From here there will be an optional scenic flight over the vast expanse of water (dependent on weather conditions & availability). This afternoon we continue back to Maun. **Overnight - Maun (2), Okavango Delta (1)** (B:3, L:2, D:1)

Day 6 : Nata Region

Maun - Nata Region. Departing Maun we head east around the edge of the scarcely populated area of the Makgadikgadi Pan. One of the largest salt flats in the world it is the vast remains of an early super lake. After reaching our accommodation this afternoon we have the option of taking a game drive or a bushwalk. **Overnight - Nata Region (B)**

Day 7 : Kasane

Nata Region - Kasane. We continue north this morning travelling to the town of Kasane and to our accommodation on the banks of the Chobe River. The Chobe River is a natural border which divides Botswana, Namibia and Zambia. Be on the look out for the local hippos hiding just below the surface.

As the main water source of the region, the river attracts an abundance of wildlife to its shores, and our accommodation is the perfect place to spot any game that've made their way down to the water's edge. **Overnight - Kasane (B, L)**

Day 8 : Chobe National Park

Kasane - Chobe National Park. This morning offers some free time to relax or explore the

local town of Kasane before we prepare for our Chobe National Park Overnight Mobile excursion – an overnight experience in the wilds of the Chobe National park. Chobe is one of Botswana's premier game parks, renowned for its large elephant herds. Spend the afternoon in search of wildlife while we game drive to our camp within the park where we spend the evening surrounded by the night-time noises of the local wildlife. Look out for the rare Sable and Roan Antelope on your game drive, with their majestic backward slanting horns, or try keep a count of the Lilac Breasted Roller's that swoop by! **Overnight - Chobe National Park (B, D)**

Day 9 : Victoria Falls

Chobe National Park - Victoria Falls. Heading out of Chobe this morning we make our way back to our vehicle before we head for the Zimbabwe border. After departing Botswana we have a short drive to the town of Victoria Falls, named after the world-famous waterfalls. You then have the opportunity to explore the Falls before continuing to the town. The rest of the day offers time to relax and unwind. **Overnight - Victoria Falls (B)**

Day 10 : Victoria Falls

Our African adventure ends after breakfast today. We suggest extending your stay to take advantage of the exciting optional excursions available at Vic Falls, which include horseback safaris, a visit to the crocodile ranch, flights over the falls and more. (B)

HOTELS

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

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

Urban Camp

Centrally located in Windhoek (a short walk from the legendary Joe's Beerhouse restaurant), Urban Camp is a comfortable campground combining city convenience with a quiet getaway. Free Wi-Fi, a sparkling pool, and private bathrooms all contribute to

an oasis of calm in campsites housing up to 18 people. Nearby is a small shopping centre for amenities, and for sightseers looking to explore the history and architecture of Windhoek, the city centre is less than 2km away.



Kalahari Arms Hotel

Set in the heart of Ghanzi, the gateway to the Kalahari, this hotel was one of the town's first established businesses. Its comfortable guestrooms offer modern amenities including a TV, air-conditioning and tea and coffee making facilities. WiFi is also available throughout the hotel and a restaurant offers tasty dishes from around the world. Guests can lounge on the sun terrace or enjoy a dip in the inviting swimming pool. A bar serves a variety of wines and beverages, which are best enjoyed lazing about the hotel's beautiful gardens.



Delta Rain Bushcamp

This unique campsite is located in the heart of the Okavango Delta, as part of the Delta Rain safari experience. Accommodation consists of dome tents with twin beds, and "bush en-suite" bathrooms with a long-drop toilet and bucket shower. After settling in, guests can relax in the mess tent, partake in game viewing trips, or go on guided walks, while admiring the beauty of this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

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Elephant Sands

Set on an unfenced 16,000-hectare private conservancy, this bush lodge brings you face to face with some of Africa's most iconic wildlife. View elephants as they come to drink from the natural waterhole just meters away in front of the lodge. The guestrooms are arranged in spacious chalets and equipped with ensuite bathrooms. A restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a bar offering a range of local and international wines, beers and exotic cocktails. You will also enjoy the outdoor pool, where you can cool off and enjoy the peace and serenity of the African bush.



Thebe River Lodge

Overlooking the Chobe River, this lodge complements the surrounding bush with its rustic design. Its guestrooms are nestled around a courtyard and offer free WiFi, air conditioning and an ensuite. Guests will also enjoy the swimming pool and hearty meals at the Thebe Restaurant. With both covered and al fresco dining areas, this restaurant boasts a wood-fire pizza oven and one of the best breakfasts in town. The bar's buzzing atmosphere draws both visitors and locals, serving cold beverages alongside a satellite TV for you to catch up on the latest international news and sports.



Thebe River Mobile Safari

No trip to Africa would be complete without spending a night at a mobile safari camp. Chobe National Park is home to the largest elephant population in Africa and camping here allows you to truly experience the best of Botswana's landscapes and wildlife. You'll spend your night in one of the dome-shaped tents provided and assist your fellow travellers in setting up and preparing meals. All necessary camping equipment and food are provided, so after eating you can spend your evening unwinding and sharing stories over the roaring campfire.



Shearwater Explorers Village

Situated in the bohemian town of Victoria Falls, and 400m from the Falls themselves, the affordable accommodation at the Shearwater Explorers Village consists of 5 campsites with modern bathroom facilities, and 16 chalets with en-suite showers and A/C. Shearwater operates a range of activities at the Falls, from bungee jumping to river rafting - and when the day is over, guests can wind down with Wi-Fi in the lounge areas, a drink by the pool, or even a back rub in the massage tent.



About Overlanding

- To get the most out of your overland tour of Africa we highly suggest you read the 'About Overland Safaris' page on our website. It can be found under the Africa travel guide section on our website and is a comprehensive resource for understanding what to expect on an overland tour in Africa
- Overlanding is not considered a luxury holiday but is undoubtedly a lot of fun

- Africa is a vast continent and distances between the highlights we visit can be very far apart, but some early morning starts and late arrivals into camp will ensure that your time is maximised to see as many sights as possible
- We believe that a flexible approach to travel and good sense of humour are essential when undertaking overland safaris, although we trust that any hiccups in the itinerary will be resolved as soon as possible by our trusted partners

Tour Leaders and Groups

Our longest Overland Camping Safari we offer is our Great African Expedition - 57 Days, generally all other safaris we offer are sectors of this larger safari or similarly a fragment of one of the other safaris we offer. As such, on your holiday you may have travellers join you part way through your safari and also there may be travellers who end their safari when you continue on. There may also be times when there is a change of crew and truck (changed to suit group size or local road conditions).

Please Note

This tour is operated in conjunction with our trusted partner and you will join travellers from different operators, not solely On The Go.

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.

Accommodation

During this tour you'll stay in a mixture of 2-4 star hotels, shared chalets, permanent tented camps as well as some fixed camping tents. All accommodation will have fixed beds and you won't be required to erect any tents. Your accommodation during your trip will have a mixture of en-suite and shared washroom facilities.

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For your excursions into the Okovango Delta and Chobe National Park, accommodation will be provided in mobile tented camps and therefore during these nights may be a little more basic than other accommodation during the tour.

Things To Bring

- A rucksack/back pack is the best luggage to bring as your main bag
- For extra comfort, bring a travel pillow
- A towel
- Spare camera batteries/film and dustbag
- Mosquito spray (with active DEET ingredient)
- Your own personal first aid kit
- A torch
- A small daypack for your day-to-day needs.
- Antibacterial wipes
- A photocopy of your passport data pages
- Your Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate
- Your travel insurance policy details
- Hat, sunglasses & sunscreen
- Warm clothing - raincoat, warm hat, socks, gloves etc as across Africa wet/dry and hot/cool climatic periods change invariably.

Transport on Tour

Our overland vehicles are custom built converted Mercedes Benz or MAN trucks that have seating

space for our passengers and a storage areas for luggage and all trip equipment. The trucks seat

between 27-30 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. There is no air-conditioning on board, instead 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.

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. As we support the local communities along

the way, fresh produce is mostly purchased direct from the producer or local grower and therefore has an organic appearance. 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 (toast when time allows), 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 (when included) are cooked in the evenings on arrival at the campsite. A wide array of dinner menus are on offer during your safari, consisting of curries, stews, pastas, BBQs and even roasts! On certain days lunch and dinner is not included and will need to be paid for at your own expense. Please check your itinerary for the day by day meal inclusions.

Participation on Tour

All of our overland safaris 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.

Budgeting

Africa is not as cheap as many people believe and we recommend that you budget between US \$50-70 per day for expenses such as drinks, snacks and curios. Budget more if you plan on buying a lot of souvenirs and budget for your optional excursions and visas separately.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

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 are 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.

Any visa information provided in this document is for general guidance purposes only, visa requirements and fees are subject to change. It is essential that you check 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.

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. Your tour leader can help to arrange post tour accommodation locally upon request.

Allergies/Likes/Dislikes

Whilst all will done to accommodate everyone, sometimes the choice available is limited as your cook may be making the best of very limited availability, so some flexibility may be required when encountering something you're not particularly fond of or have chosen not to eat as a lifestyle choice. Should you possess allergies which will result in an medical emergency or a life threatening situation then please ensure you speak to your cook on arrival so you can discuss the options available whilst en-route. This will ensure also that they are fully aware of what you can or cannot eat and make adjustments.

Botswana Country Guide

Visa

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months

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updated on 30-05-2020 01:46:27

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from your planned date of departure from Africa.

UK, Ireland, Australian, New Zealand, USA, Canadian and South African citizens do not require a visa for entrance into Botswana.

The few countries that do require visas; mostly Eastern European and Asian Nationals, need to obtain them prior to arrival at the border. Visas are not issued at Botswana ports of entry, if you arrive without a visa, immigration officials will refuse you entry to Botswana.

The border crossings we use in Botswana include:

Muhembo (Botswana/Namibia border)

Kazangula (Botswana/Zimbabwe or Zambia border)

Groblersberg/Martin's Drift (South Africa/Botswana)

Botswana Tourism Levy from 1st June 2017 - postponed until further notice

From the 1st June 2017 a tourism levy of \$30USD is payable when entering Botswana. Payment is taken at the border in US dollars cash, debit or credit card. The Levy is valid for a 30 day period and can be used for multiple entry.

Please note this Levy has been postponed until further notice.

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 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 available. 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

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure

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that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Africa.

UK, Ireland, Australian, New Zealand, USA, Canadian and South African citizens do not require a visa for stays of up to 90 days in Namibia.

Very few countries require Namibian visas. Those that do require a visa must obtain it prior to departure. Visas are not issued at Namibia ports of entry, if you arrive without a visa, immigration officials will refuse you entry to Namibia.

The border crossings we use in Namibia include:

Noordoewer (South Africa/Namibia border)
Muhembo (Namibia/Botswana border)

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.

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 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.

Zimbabwe Country Guide

Visas

Please be advised that visa requirements are subject to change and that visa procurement is the responsibility of the traveller and not On The Go Tours, therefore it is essential that you check current visa requirements with the embassy before travel. Please also ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months from your planned date of departure from Africa.

UK, Ireland, Australian, New Zealand, USA and Canadian passport holders require a visa to enter Zimbabwe, these visas are available at the border for the following costs: Australian, New Zealand and US citizens: US \$30 single/\$45 double entry visa. British and Irish is US\$55 single/\$70 double. Canadians can only obtain a single entry visa at the border for US \$75. South African passport holders can obtain a visa for free. Visas can be brought using post 2003 US\$ notes, GB£ or South African Rand.

KAZA Visa

Zimbabwe and Zambia have re-introduced the popular, and much-awaited KAZA (Kavango-Zambezi) "Uni-Visa", which allows visitors to stay in either (or both) countries for up to 30 days for a single payment of US\$50.

The UniVisa is available at Harare, Victoria Falls, Lusaka and Livingstone International airports, the Victoria Falls land border (Zimbabwe/Zambia) and the Kazungula land border (Zimbabwe/Zambia/Botswana).

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The border crossings we use in Zimbabwe include:

Kazangula (Botswana/Zimbabwe)

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 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.

Zambian Airport Departure Tax

NOTES FOR THOSE FLYING OUT OF LIVINGSTONE AIRPORT IN ZAMBIA

An airport departure tax is in place for all flights departing from Zambian airports. It will no longer be included on the ticket and will now be collected in Zambian Kwacha cash direct from the passenger. The amount payable is currently K28,000 for Domestic Flights and K56,000 for International Flights and is payable on departure from all Zambian airports. Passengers need to have ZMK cash available for this tax. Please note, departure taxes are subject to change.

Windhoek, Okavango & Falls - 10 days

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