

Desert Tracker (19DTR25) – Tour Dossier

Included Highlights

Cape Town Township Tour*
Sesriem Canyon
Sossusvlei 4x4 Shuttle*
Dune 45
Spitzkoppe, Bushman Paintings
Etosha NP, Game Drives
Kalahari Bushman Walk
Okavango Delta Wilderness Excursion, Mokoro/Walking Safari*
Chobe NP, Fish Eagle Boat Cruise*

Chobe NP Open Vehicle Game Drive with Resident Guide*
Mosi Oa Tunya NP, Victoria Falls Visit
Matobo National Park, Open Vehicle Game Drive and
Wilderness Walk with Resident Guide*
Kruger NP, Full Day Open Vehicle Game Drive with Resident
Guide
Shangaan Cultural Evening

***Highlights are included in the Adventure Pass**

Intended Itinerary

It is our intention to adhere to the route described below but a certain amount of flexibility is built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary. Please therefore treat the following as a guide only. This is a participation tour. Our accommodated tour option travels together with the camping counterpart.

Your tour ends in **Pretoria**, South Africa's administrative capital. Close enough to Johannesburg to almost be considered a suburb, Pretoria is known as the Jacaranda City, with purple blossoms covering the streets in October each year. Pretoria boasts many sights of interest – such as the 10m bronze statue of Nelson Mandela standing beside the historic Union Buildings. Various cultural sites, shops, bars and restaurants are within an easy walk of our recommended hotel (and tour end point).

How do I get to the airport from Pretoria? Simple. Book a transfer with us to take you directly to Johannesburg's OR Tambo International. Journey time is about 45 minutes depending on traffic. We particularly recommend a pre-booked transfer if you are departing late. Alternatively, there is a regular low cost train service called the Gautrain which runs from Pretoria to OR Tambo International and Johannesburg. If the train interests you, email or ask us for more information.

The description below assumes you have purchased the optional Adventure Pass for the tour.

Duration: 25 Days
Countries visited: South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe

Day 1:

Cape Town – Western Cape, South Africa

Distance travelled: +/- 260 Km
Approx driving time: 4.5 Hours

Our overland safari begins in cosmopolitan Cape Town, overlooked by Table Mountain and bordered by the Atlantic Ocean, one of the world's most picturesque cities. Before we leave the city we take a tour of the Cape Flats, at one of Cape Town's intriguing townships, visiting some of the local people and community projects in the area. The townships illustrate both South Africa's tumultuous history and its hope for the future which makes for a fascinating visit. From here we head north through South Africa's Western Cape and through the fruit growing regions of Citrusdal. Our campsite is located near the Olifants River overlooking the stunning Cederberg Mountains. After setting up camp there is an option to sample some of the local wines of the region, properly meet the rest of the group and enjoy our first night under the African sky.

Accommodation: *Highlanders Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Lunch included on township tour, Dinner*

WIFI: *No*

Optional Activities: Wine Tasting US\$10

Day 2:

Western Cape – Gariep (Orange) River

Distance travelled: +/- 400 Km
Approx driving time: 8 Hours

Continuing north, the landscape gradually turns drier and rockier as we head towards the Namibian border crossing at Vioolsdrift. We set up camp tonight on the Namibian side of the Gariep (Orange) River, a stunning backdrop. Our camp provides you with the necessary comforts like hot showers, flush toilets, grassy campsites, swimming pool, bar facilities and the Orange River is safe for swimming! You will be briefed on an optional Orange River canoe safari for later this afternoon or the following morning. The camp by night is showered with stars of the Richtersveld – a truly peaceful and tranquil experience.

Accommodation: *Felix Unite - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *No*

Optional Activities: *Canoe Safari US\$40*

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Day 3:

Gariep (Orange) River – Fish River Canyon, Namibia

Distance travelled: +/- 180 Km

Approx driving time: 3.5 Hours

This morning we have the opportunity to partake in an optional canoe safari on the river, or simply relax on the water's edge before making our way to the majestic Fish River Canyon. One of the natural wonders of Africa, the canyon is some 500m deep and over 160km long and often referred to as the second largest canyon in the world. There are plenty of opportunities for keen photographers this afternoon especially at the canyons infamous sharp river bend known as 'Hells Corner'. A great opportunity to find a quiet spot and marvel at the sheer beauty of the Fish River Canyon.

Accommodation: Canyon Roadhouse - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: Yes

Optional Activities: Canoe Safari US\$40

Day 4:

Fish River Canyon – Sesriem Area

Distance travelled: +/- 600 Km

Approx driving time: 10 Hours

After a night near the canyon we continue north to the Sesriem Area, the gateway to the Namib Naukluft National Park, containing the world's oldest desert and highest sand dunes. The Namib-Naukluft National Park contains part of the Namib Desert and the Naukluft mountain range. With an overall area of 49,768 km² it's larger than Switzerland and is the second largest game park in Africa and the fourth largest in the world. Here we set up camp for the evening under the starry Namibian sky.

Accommodation: Little Sossus Lodge - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 5:

Namib Naukluft National Park – Sossus On Foot

Distance travelled: +/- 240 Km

Approx driving time: 5 Hours

This morning we enter the National Park to trek to the top of famous Dune 45. A spectacular sight but be warned, it's not an easy feat to reach the top as some dunes are over 300m high! After a well-deserved breakfast we continue deeper into the park for a short shuttle ride and nature walk to 'Deadvlei', amidst the giant sand dunes – a real glimpse of

Namibia's unspoilt natural environment. Bring your camera – the shifting colours of the desert as the sun climbs throughout the mid/late morning offer some brilliant photographic opportunities. Departing from the dunes, we stop off at the smaller Sesriem Canyon where the multiple layers of rock and pebbles make for an interesting insight to what lies beneath the mountains of sand. Thereafter we make our way via Namibia's smallest town, Solitaire to our camp for the night.

Accommodation: Sossus On Foot Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Desert Experience US\$25

Day 6:

Sossus On Foot Camp - Swakopmund

Distance travelled: +/- 260 Km

Approx driving time: 4.5 Hours

Leaving our desert camp, we head for the Atlantic coast for the next two nights, crossing over the Tropic of Capricorn, and stopping for a photo opportunity en route. Swakopmund makes for a refreshing change with cooler Atlantic sea air, a taste of civilization and a swathe of exciting things to do and places to explore. Be daring and try some desert based adventure activities – quad biking, sand boarding, skydiving (weather permitting) and more! For those not seeking adventure enjoy what the town has to offer: shopping, restaurants, museums, aquarium, art galleries – or else simply walk along the promenade admiring the ocean, the quaint German-style architecture and indulge in the town's café culture.

N.B: For the sake of practicality, meals in Swakopmund are restricted to breakfasts. This allows you to take on half day or full day activities (some of which include lunch) without having to be back for meal times. Swakopmund town offers a variety of bakeries and cafes with a selection of reasonably priced meals (allow ZAR 80-150 per meal). Relax and enjoy these days at your own leisure.

Accommodation: Amanpuri - Dorm Bed with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast

WIFI: Yes

Optional Activities: See day 7

Day 7:

Swakopmund

Today is a free day to enjoy all this quaint seaside town has to offer - from the many optional activities to the German patisseries, cafés and restaurants.

Accommodation: Amanpuri - Dorm Bed with shared facilities

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Meals included: Breakfast

WIFI: Yes

Optional Activities: Sandboarding - Stand Up US\$50
Sandboarding - Lay down US\$40, Quad Biking US\$55,
Skydiving US\$200, Deep Sea Fishing US\$120, Scenic Flights
US\$360, Swakopmund Township Tour US\$40, Dolphin and
Seal Cruise US\$60, Kayaking US\$60

Day 8:

Swakopmund – Spitzkoppe

Distance travelled: +/- 150 Km

Approx driving time: 3 Hours

Leaving the coast we turn inland to the beautiful Damaraland region and explore Spitzkoppe where we admire ancient bushman paintings still visible on peculiar rock formations. The giant boulder-like rock formations peak at approx 1800m above sea level, and form a spectacular view. Take your time to explore the area and its delightful calmness. Keep an eye on the ever-changing colour of the rock, especially during sunrise and sunset, when they acquire intense red shades. The most impressive rock painting is "Bushman Paradise" and the natural rock bridge is a favourite viewpoint.

The Spitzkoppe Rest camp lies at the base of the mountain and is owned and maintained by the local community. All proceeds from our visit go directly to this community.

Please note that some group members may be starting their tour on this day.

Accommodation: Spitzkoppe Community Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared basic toilet facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 9:

Spitzkoppe – Etosha

Distance travelled: +/- 420 km

Approx driving time: 6 Hours

From Spitzkoppe we turn north again making our way to Etosha National Park, a vast reserve of over 20,000 sq km surrounding a central salt depression or 'pan.' The pan is seasonally full of water but specially managed waterholes sustain some 114 mammal and 340 bird species. We spend two nights here, usually making camp near a floodlit waterhole. Observers frequently see a range of night visitors including elephant, giraffe, zebra, even lion and hyena, making it one of the most memorable wildlife encounters in Namibia - a truly African experience and a highlight of any trip to Namibia. We have a short afternoon game drive on entering the park and heading to the camp.

Accommodation: Okaukuejo or Halali or Namutoni Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 10:

Etosha National Park

Distance travelled: +/- 250 Km

Approx driving time: Full day including game drives

Today, we enjoy a full day game driving in this magnificent animal kingdom - taking in the park's main characteristic, the salt pan which can be seen from space - in search of elephant, rhino, zebra, giraffes and the numerous grazing animals frequently spotted around the water holes. Despite the dry nature of the terrain, the park sustains a wide variety of bird species including the large Kori Bustard, Secretary Bird and many other seed & insect eaters, as well as birds of prey. After a full day game driving we return to camp, or onto the next camp and enjoy our last evening around the floodlit watering holes, observing natural animal behaviour at its best.

Accommodation: Okaukuejo or Halali or Namutoni Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 11:

Etosha – Windhoek

Distance travelled: +/- 420 Km

Approx driving time: 8.5 Hours

Heading south, we arrive in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, which is located in a basin between the Khomas Highland, Auas and Eros Mountains. Windhoek (Windy-corner in English) is home to approximately two hundred thousand people, an extremely small capital by global standards. The city centre is characterized by a proliferation of German style buildings, a lasting reminder of Namibia's early colonial history and atmosphere. Take the opportunity to enjoy a night out at one of the local restaurants.

Please note that some group members may be ending their tour in Windhoek. Both old and new are invited to join for the group outing.

Accommodation: Urban Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

WIFI: Yes

Optional Activities: Nil

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Day 12:

Windhoek – Ghanzi, Botswana

Distance travelled: +/- 530 Km

Approx driving time: 10 Hours

Leaving Windhoek we travel east into the Kalahari region and cross into Botswana. Our first stop is at the town of Ghanzi. Here, in this midst of (seemingly) barren terrain we meet the San/Bushman and have a guided bush walk for a cultural experience and insight into these ancient people's way of life. We learn how they work with nature and manage the renewable resources found in their natural surroundings without damaging the fragile balance found in this ecosystem. Something we can all learn from. Your support of this ecotourism venture gives the San/Bushman a sustainable income and helps keep their culture alive.

Around the campfire at night, you can experience the ancient dance rituals of the San/Bushman. On special occasions this could be a healing or trance dance, which can continue all night, and is an intense spiritual experience for both participants and visitors alike.

Accommodation: *Ghanzi Trailblazers - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *No*

Optional Activities: *Traditional Dancing US\$15*

Day 13:

Ghanzi – Maun

Distance travelled: +/- 280 Km

Approx driving time: 5.5 Hours

Maun is the fifth largest town in Botswana and is an eclectic mix of modern buildings and native dwellings. Although officially still a village, Maun has developed rapidly from a rural frontier town to a community that has distributed along the wide banks of the Thamalakane River where red lechwe antelope can still be seen grazing next to local donkeys, goats and cattle. Since Maun's founding in 1915 it has had a reputation as a hard-living 'Wild West' town helping the local cattle ranching and hunting operations. Maun today is a thriving tourist town famous for its donkey population and to a lesser extent, goats. These animals can be seen standing around town as they are used by local traders and farmers alike to transport their wares to sell on the curb side.

NB: If time allows, we have the opportunity to take an optional scenic flight over the Okavango Delta, either this afternoon or on day 15 on our return from the Delta excursion

Accommodation: *Delta Rain's Sitatunga Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *Yes*

Optional Activities: *Okavango Delta Scenic Flight per 5-seater plane – 45 min flight time from US\$650, Maun Horse Riding (2 Hours) US\$50*

Day 14:

Maun - Okavango Delta

Distance travelled: +/- 50 Km

Approx driving time: transfer 2 hours

Leaving the campsite in Maun we begin our excursion into the Okavango Delta by an open 4x4 truck to the mokoro station. Here we will be introduced to the local Tswana Polers that will be guiding us on this expedition. We travel by mokoro (dugout canoe) amongst the giant lily pads, tall grasses and labyrinthine channels in search of resident wildlife and a variety of birds, to our tented camp from which we can explore the area on a walking safari. The Okavango is a natural wetland spreading over some 1,600,000ha of northern Botswana that offers a perfect habitat for the many species of wildlife that roam here freely. The Okavango River rises in Angola (farther to the north) and flows south dividing repeatedly after crossing into Botswana to form an intricate floodplain of channels and which spreads out into a broad flat inland delta – the only one of its kind in the world. We enjoy the afternoon wilderness experience and overnight listening to the sounds of the African night - an unforgettable experience!

Accommodation: *Elephant Camp – Twin share pre-erected tents with en-suite facilities (basic-style bucket shower & toilet)*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *No*

Optional Activities: *Nil*

Day 15:

Okavango Delta - Maun

Distance travelled: +/- 50 Km

Approx driving time: transfer 2 hours

This morning we take an easy paced mokoro ride out of the Okavango Delta back to the polers station from where we will drive back to Maun, our overnight stop. We aim to get back to camp around lunch time to allow for the opportunity to enjoy an optional scenic flight over this spectacular UNESCO world heritage site. Alternatively the afternoon can be spent at leisure at the camp's pool.

Accommodation: *Delta Rain's Sitatunga Camp - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *Yes*

Optional Activities: *See Day 13*

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Day 16:

Maun – Elephant Sands, Nata

Distance travelled: +/- 380 Km

Approx driving time: 5 Hours

Today, we make our way towards Nata travelling through a wide-open wildlife corridor between the Nxai and the Makgadikgadi Pans. We stop off to see one of Africa's most iconic trees - the Baobab along the way and arrive at the Elephant Sands Lodge during the late afternoon. The camp has no fences so all wildlife can roam freely from one waterhole to another and one can expect to see a variety of antelope and other wildlife during your stay at Elephant Sands. It is one of the most unique and amazing experiences to watch wild elephants and their behaviour at such close proximity.

Accommodation: *Elephant Sands Lodge - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *Yes*

Optional Activities: *Morning Bush Walk US\$20, Evening Game Drive US\$25*

Day 17:

Elephant Sands, Nata - Kasane

Distance travelled: +/- 270 Km

Approx driving time: 5 Hours

We make our way to the northern corner of Botswana to Kasane, the gateway to Chobe National Park. By size, it is the third largest park in the country and is the most diverse; home to elephant, lion, buffalo, hippo and abundant birdlife, including the famous African fish eagle. We take a 'Fish Eagle' cruise on the Chobe River – a great opportunity to see hippo and perhaps elephant or buffalo coming to the river to bathe and drink.

The Chobe River is a major watering spot for large breeding herds of elephants, as well as families of giraffe, sable and cape buffalo. The flood plains are the only place in Botswana where the puku antelope can be seen. Birding is also excellent here. When in flood spoonbills, ibis, various species of stork and other waterfowl flock to the area.

Accommodation: *Thebe River Lodge - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

WIFI: *Yes*

Optional Activities: *Nil*

Day 18:

Kasane – Livingstone, Victoria Falls, Zambia

Distance travelled +/- 80 Km

Approx driving time: 1.5 Hours

This morning we head out to explore the Chobe National Park on an open vehicle game drive where we have the opportunity to spot not only elephant that are so prolific in the park, but also lion, and different antelope species. Moving on from Kasane we take the ferry across the confluence of the Chobe and Zambezi Rivers into Zambia. Zambia, formerly known as Northern Rhodesia took its name from the Zambezi River at independence in 1964. The Zambezi River is the fourth longest in Africa (after the Nile, Congo and Niger) and the largest flowing into the Indian Ocean. Home to one of the world's largest waterfalls, we visit Victoria Falls and try to take in the immensity of one of nature's Wonders of the World. At various times of year, the spray from the falls can be seen from up to 20 or 30 kilometres away, hence the local name 'Mosi oa Tunya' – the 'Smoke that Thunders'.

We set up camp at the Waterfront campsite on the banks of the Zambezi, just a few kilometres from the Victoria Falls and the small town of Livingstone. We will give a full briefing on the various optional activities available in the area (typically these include rafting, canoeing, bungee, abseiling, gorge swinging, horse riding, scenic flights and river cruises), allowing you to plan your time accordingly.

NB For the sake of practicality, meals in the Livingstone/Victoria Falls area are restricted to breakfasts. This allows you to take on half day or full day activities (some of which include lunch) without having to be back with the group at mealtimes. The Waterfront camp restaurant overlooks the Zambezi River and offers a good selection of reasonably priced meals and snacks throughout the day (allow US\$15 - \$30 per meal). Relax and enjoy these few days at your own leisure. Alternatively, take a taxi into Livingstone to try local fare.

Accommodation: *Waterfront - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities*

Meals included: *Breakfast*

WIFI: *Yes*

Optional Activities: *See day 19*

Day 19:

Livingstone, Victoria Falls, Zambia

Today is a free day at leisure to explore the Victoria Falls area to the full. Apart from the adventure activities already mentioned check out the markets, volunteer a day in some worthwhile local projects, or simply relax at the beautiful waterfront and watch the Zambezi River flow quickly past on its way to Victoria Falls.

Please note that some group members may be starting / leaving their tour in Livingstone on this day.

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Accommodation: Waterfront - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast

WIFI: Yes

Optional Activities: Bungee Jumping US\$160, Full Day Abseil US\$190, Mosi Oa Tunya National Park Game Walk US\$110, Chief Mukumi Village Tour US\$50, Gorge Swing US\$95, Zambezi Jet Boat & Cable Car from US\$120, Half Day Canoe US\$110, Zambezi Sunset Cruise US\$75, Full Day White-water Rafting US\$160, Helicopter/Microlight Flights from US\$185, Half Day Fishing US\$145, Bridge Tour US\$65.

Day 20:

Livingstone, Zambia - Bulawayo

Distance travelled: +/- 450 Km

Approx driving time: 10 Hours

Departing Livingstone, we cross the border to Zimbabwe and pass through Victoria Falls town and head to Bulawayo, a pleasant city with broad tree lined avenues and wide-open spaces. Our campsite is located just outside the city centre. Once we settle in and camp is set, the rest of the afternoon is yours to explore the surrounds at leisure.

Accommodation: Burke's Paradise - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 21:

Matobo National Park

Approx driving time: Game Drive & Wilderness Walk – 5 Hours

Matobo National Park is located a short distance outside Bulawayo and knowledgeable guides will take us to this very impressive park. The wind-sculptured Matobo Hills are the site of numerous Bushman paintings and the area holds a special cultural and spiritual importance to the indigenous people here. The reserve has the largest concentration of Black and White Rhino in Africa and, provided conditions are right, our guides will lead us on foot to some of the more concealed places in search of these magnificent animals. The park also has the densest population of leopard and black eagle in the world and we keep our eyes peeled high and low for these creatures. The hills are also home to the grave site of Cecil John Rhodes who chose this as his burial place owing to the intense natural beauty and startling views from the hills. His grave can be visited at World's View - a place of continual debate owing to his involvement in claiming the land and its people for Queen & Country in colonial times.

Accommodation: Burke's Paradise - Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Optional Activities: Upgrade to full day tour including historical tour and village tour US\$45

Day 22:

Bulawayo – Tshipise, South Africa

Distance travelled: 380 Km

Approx driving time: 10 Hours

Leaving Bulawayo, we continue south to the border at Beitbridge. Completing formalities we cross the Limpopo River -the second largest in South Africa and an important water source for this arid region. The Limpopo also acts as a natural boundary between South Africa and its neighbours Botswana and Zimbabwe, before it flows through Mozambique to the Indian Ocean. We continue to Tshipise, a town situated in the northern Limpopo province. Our campsite is located at Forever Resorts at the foot of one of Limpopo's rolling koppies set adjacent the Honnet Nature Reserve. There is hot springs in the area which are surrounded by dense woodland comprising of Mopani, Red Bushwillow, Jakkalsbessie trees – and the third largest Baobab tree in South Africa.

Accommodation: Forever Resorts – Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 23:

Tshipise - Hazyview

Distance travelled: +/- 400 Km

Approx driving time: 7 Hours

From Tshipise, we head for southern Africa's premier game reserve, the Kruger National Park. Fences between the National Park and surrounding private reserves were removed several years ago to form the Greater Kruger, an area of some 24,000 sq km. Wildlife is free to roam the whole enormous area and it has become incredibly diverse in both fauna and flora. From the dwarf mongoose to the 'Big Five', almost every major African mammal (over 145 species) is present. There is also prolific birdlife (over 500 species) and over 330 varieties of trees.

We spend two nights within the Kruger area, enjoy Shangaan tribal dancing and singing on our first night and take a full day game drive in the National Park itself to spot as many animals as possible the next day!

Accommodation: Hotel Numbi – Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Night Game Drive US\$75

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Day 24:

Hazyview – Kruger National Park

Approx driving time: Full day with game drives

Waking early, we board our 4x4 game viewing vehicles with a resident guide for an intense but rewarding day in Kruger National Park. The impressive atmosphere of the park enables you to see why it is held in such high esteem amongst visitors from all over the world. We game drive in the morning and afternoon in search for the abundance of wildlife including the 'Big 5' – Rhino, elephant, buffalo, leopard and lion together with a high density of other mammals and diverse bird species such as eagles, hornbills, vultures and bee eaters. We break during the middle of the day to enjoy the peace of the rest camp and wait out the hottest part of the day (when wildlife is usually less active). We then continue our game drive through the park exiting in the late afternoon and continue to our accommodation for the night.

Accommodation: Hotel Numbi – Camping in twin share tents with shared facilities

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

WIFI: No

Optional Activities: Nil

Day 25:

Hazyview - Greater Kruger - Pretoria

Distance travelled: +/- 390 Km

Approx driving time: 7 Hours

We leave the Kruger behind and make our way to South Africa's administrative hub of Pretoria, where our tour ends late afternoon / early evening on Day 25 (we recommend that you plan to stay that evening in Pretoria)

Accommodation: Nil

Meals included: Breakfast

Optional Activities: Nil

Tour Information

TOUR STYLE:

Camping Overland Tour

Travelling on an overland is great fun, but it can also be challenging! This is a *participation* tour and your help will be needed in setting up the camp each night and assisting (usually on a rota basis) with the various day to day campsite duties, such as shopping, cooking and keeping the truck and camp tidy. But don't worry it's not all hard work and it's a great way to meet the local people and get to know your fellow travellers. Your contribution benefits the success of the tour - most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment of the whole trip. Our accommodated tour option travels together with the camping counterpart.

Africa is an adventure destination and travelling here is not always predictable so be prepared to 'expect the unexpected' in difficulties or delays which might come our way! However, you'll soon find that the diversity of the African landscape, the wildlife and the communities we pass on our way, make the sometimes rough travel and long driving days worthwhile. Come with a sense of adventure and a flexible attitude and you will be sure to enjoy your overland tour across this amazing continent.

Africa provides an ever-changing environment, power failures, water and fuel shortages, temperature fluctuations, and other uncontrollable / unplanned situations do occur. You will need to remain flexible, understanding and good-humoured. "African time" can be difficult and frustrating for those who are used to a very structured life, so this is something to keep in mind!

WHAT'S INCLUDED:

All tour highlights, 2-person dome tents, fully equipped safari vehicles, camping and cooking equipment, mattresses, service of two crew, all road and vehicle taxes, all ground transportation, meals as indicated.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED:

Adventure Pass Activities and Excursions (optional), visas, travel insurance, flight departure taxes, airport transfers, optional activities, tips, drinks, sleeping bag and items of personal nature. **NB:** Lunches and dinners in Swakopmund and Livingstone and dinner in Windhoek are not included in the tour price.

ADVENTURE PASS:

Every Overland tour has an Adventure Pass which is paid to your tour leader in Africa at the beginning of the tour (or pre-paid by arrangement prior to your tour at the time of booking). This is separate and in addition to the Tour Price. The Adventure Pass is paid in the currency listed in the brochure or on the website (usually US dollars in clean, un-torn post 2008 edition notes). The Adventure Pass covers selected park entries, activities and excursions along the way where payment goes directly to

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the supplier. The purpose of the separate payment is to ensure local suppliers benefit directly from the income.

ACTIVITIES & EXCURSIONS:

These are optional activities that are booked during your holiday and paid directly to the provider while on tour. These options offer a variety of experiences and allow you the freedom to decide what activities you would like to do.

EXTENDING YOUR TOUR: This tour can be extended to travel to Cape Town. Ask your agent for more information.

ACCOMMODATION:

We use 2-person dome tents with fly sheets, sewn-in ground sheets, zip-up insect screens and foam mattresses. We mainly use campsites, which usually have reasonable wash and shower facilities, electricity points and sometimes even a small shop, bar or swimming pool. In the Okavango Delta on day 14 we use twin share pre-erected tents with en suite facilities.

TRANSPORT:

24-seater, self-contained, custom-built safari truck with on-board tables, plug sockets, freezer, water tank, library, safety features and 70-litre individual lockers, mokoro (dugout canoe), 4x4 safari vehicle and river boat. Truck changes may occur on this tour. Travel times indicated are approximate and do not include stops en-route.

GAME PARK VISITS

To maximise the quality of game driving and to comply with local authority rulings, some of our National Park visits and game viewing is carried out using services provided by local African ground handlers. As well as enhancing our experience using local guides and smaller vehicles it also allows us to contribute at a 'grassroots' level to local economies from which local people benefit. These local services are included in the Local Payment.

Tour Preparation

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent the booking documents and a pre-departure booklet with detailed information to help you prepare for your trip. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher giving details of your joining hotel. Cape Town (CPT) and Johannesburg (JNB) nearby Pretoria are well served by a number of airlines and your travel agent can advise on flights to the start of the tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

This tour starts in Cape Town. **The pre-departure meeting is held at 18:00 on the evening prior to departure. The tour departs at 08:00 on Day 1 and ends in Pretoria on Day 25.**

Meeting point in Cape Town

Address: Ashanti Lodge, Gardens

11 Hof Street,
Gardens,

Cape Town, 8001

Contact Details: Tel +27 21 423 8721

E-mail: info@ashanti.co.za

Pre-dep. meeting: 18:00 prior to departure day

Tour start time: 08:00 on Day 1

Tour end point in Pretoria:

Address: Court Classique Suite Hotel

743 Francis Baard Street
Pretoria, 0007

Contact details: Tel. +27 (0) 12 344 4420

E-mail: reservations@courtclassique.co.za

Tour end time: Late afternoon/early evening on Day 25

PRE TOUR ACCOMMODATION

This tour departs Cape Town early on Day 1; we strongly recommend therefore that you plan to arrive the day before departure to overcome any jet-lag and to acclimatise to Africa. We would be happy to book pre-tour accommodation and transfers for you – please call or email us (or speak to your agent) with your arrival details and accommodation requirements. However please book early to avoid disappointment and the risk of having to find more expensive (or less convenient) lodgings.

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If time allows, we also suggest planning a night or two extra (after your tour) to make the most of this part of Africa. Accommodation is usually available locally on arrival but you can also pre book this with us. There is a variety of activities and excursions in the Pretoria area's you can arrange locally or with your Tour Leader.

See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. **These prices are a guide line only and are subject to change so please check with us for current prices.**

Description	Price (USD)	Description	Price (USD)
Cape Town – Ashanti Lodge, Gardens		Pretoria – Court Classique Suite Hotel	
Pre tour accommodation – Twin/ double pp/pn	\$ 50	Post tour accommodation – twin pp/pn	\$ 50
Pre tour accommodation – Single pp/pn	\$ 70	Post tour accommodation – single pp/pn	\$ 85
Pre tour accommodation – Dorm pp/pn	\$ 35		
PP/PN = Per person, per night		PP/PN = Per person, per night	

ADVENTURE PASS

Paid in the currency listed in the brochure or on the website (usually US dollars in clean, un-torn post 2008 edition notes) directly to your Tour Leader in Africa at the beginning of the tour, or pre-paid by arrangement, the Adventure Pass of this tour covers the following –

Cape Town Township Tour	√
Sossusvlei 4x4 Shuttle	√
Okavango Delta	√
Chobe Fish Eagle Boat Cruise	√
Chobe NP Morning Game Drive	√
Matobo National Park	√

LUGGAGE

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg limit. It should be brought in a soft holdall or rucksack along with a smaller day bag. You will need to bring a mixture of lightweight clothing and warm clothing for the evenings and early morning game drives. You also need a sleeping bag (and small pillow if preferred). We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/ belt that can be easily hidden. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use your hotel safe to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets. A power bank is useful for recharging electronic devices. A full 'What to Bring' list is included in our **pre-departure booklet** issued when you book.

VACCINATIONS/HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure.

Please be aware that some of the areas visited on this tour are **malarial**. We strongly recommend you seek professional medical advice for the appropriate anti-malarial tablets.

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
S. Africa	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R
Namibia	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	R	*	R
Botswana	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	R	*	R
Zimbabwe	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R
Zambia	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	R	*	R

C = Compulsory, **R** = Recommended, * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

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NB: To be used as a guide only. Please see your GP or travel clinic for up-to-date medical advice. Alternatively, contact us for any queries or advice regarding vaccination requirements.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk. For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
S. Africa	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Namibia	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Botswana	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Zimbabwe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Zambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can recommend a respected, specialist travel insurance provider for this tour.

In the UK the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (www.fco.gov.uk) issues free up to date travel advice for all countries visited on tour. Most other governments offer a similar service to citizens. We recommend you review this information before you book your tour. Naturally we welcome any questions you may have about security and safety on tour.

Money Matters

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for Activities and Excursions, snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$15-20 per day. Also keep US\$ cash for relevant airport taxes and visas needed, optional activities and any additional accommodation before or after your tour.

Spending money is best carried as cash. South African Rand can be used throughout South Africa & Namibia only and can be obtained from an ATM on arrival. US dollars (US Dollars in clean, un-torn, **post 2008** edition notes) is also accepted for many optional activities & at markets throughout Africa. We have an on-board passenger safe for security and your guide will advise how and when you can exchange money (US dollars, Sterling or Euro) to local currency throughout the tour.

Currencies are as follows: South Africa – Rand; Namibia – Namibian Dollar; Botswana – Botswana Pula; Zambia – Zambian Kwacha; Zimbabwe – US Dollar. Please note that Rand is legal tender in Namibia at the same rate of exchange as the Namibian Dollar.

ATM machines are found in Southern Africa. Please note they are sometimes unreliable (and therefore should not be relied upon).

Credit cards can be used to pay for optional activities although charges may be may be high by western standards (+/- 5%).

We recommend you bring your spending money in several different ways (some cash and some cards); your guide can best advise on what to use where.

TIPPING

This is always a matter for your own individual discretion but as in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy, it has become customary to give a small gratuity to local staff, including your tour leader and driver, at the end of a tour if services rendered have been to your satisfaction.

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OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (in US\$ unless otherwise stated. All prices subject to change and availability).

Activity	Price (USD)	Activity	Price (USD)
South Africa		Botswana	
South Africa, Wine Tasting	\$10	Elephant Sands Evening Game Drive	\$25
Orange River Canoeing	\$40	Elephant Sands Bush Walk	\$20
Kruger Night Drive	\$70	Maun Horse Riding (2 Hours)	\$50
Namibia		Livingstone	
Desert Excursion Walk	\$25	Vic Falls Bungee (single/tandem)	\$160
Sand Boarding – Stand Up	\$50	Mosi Oa Tunya National Park Game Walk	\$110
Sand Boarding – Lay Down	\$40	Chief Mukumi Village Tour	\$50
Quad Biking	\$55	Gorge Swing	\$95
Kayaking	\$60	Zambezi Jet Boating & Cable Car	From \$120
Deep Sea Fishing	\$120	Half day Canoe Safari	\$110
Scenic Flights	\$360	Zambezi Sunset Cruise	\$75
Tandem Skydive	\$200	White-water Rafting – Full Day	\$160
Swakopmund Township Tour	\$40	Helicopter/Microlight Flight over the Falls	From \$185
Dolphin and Seal Cruise	\$60	Fishing – Half Day	\$145
Botswana		Zimbabwe	
Okavango Scenic Flight per 5-seater plane – 45 min flight time	From \$650	Matobo Upgrade to full day tour and village tour	\$45

Responsible Travel

We strongly believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimises negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa.

Get Connected

WIFI on tour:

While WIFI is becoming more common in some areas of Africa we cannot guarantee the speed, cost or reliability during your tour.

