

DETOUR AFRICA

11 Day Johannesburg to Vic Falls via Kruger and Botswana – Overland Camping

Heading to South Africa's famous Kruger National Park, where we go in search of the "big five" and many other wildlife species before crossing into Zimbabwe to explore the Great Zimbabwe ruins – once an ancient 'city' in southern Africa. Matobo National Park is a haven for rhino and rich in ancient San rock paintings. After this we head to Hwange National Park in search of more wildlife sightings. We end our adventure at the mighty Victoria Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world and a base for many optional adventure activities.



INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

**Kruger National Park
Blyde River Canyon
Great Zimbabwe ruins
Matobo National Park
Hwange National Park
Victoria Falls**

ITINERARY

SOUTH AFRICA – ZIMBABWE

This trip starts in Johannesburg early on a Wednesday morning. Should you wish to explore this city, an earlier arrival should be planned, and accommodation booked through your agent.

Information is subject to change. Travel times and accommodation can change depending on road or weather conditions, etc. These are used as a guideline only.

DAY 1
Johannesburg to Nkambeni Camp

Leaving Johannesburg, we head towards the Lowveld and our camp situated within the border of the famous Kruger National Park. On our way, we pass through the southern section of the picturesque Panorama Route – famous for its breath-taking vistas. Our camp for the next two nights is a short drive from the Kruger Park Gate and has some interesting residents that include hippo, giraffe, zebra and impala.

Meals: Lunch and Dinner
Included Activities: Kruger National Park Night Drive

SOUTH AFRICA

With nine different provinces, 11 official languages and 3 capital cities, South Africa will most definitely make you stop in your tracks and go – WOW.

DAY 2
Nkambeni Camp

Today we explore the amazing Kruger National Park. Covering 19 485 km² - 60 km wide and over 350 km long, this conservation area has more than 146 mammals, 500 bird, 114 reptile, 33 amphibian & 49 fish species. 23 000 different types of plants have been recorded. We spend the day driving around the park keeping an eye out for these. There is an option of doing a night drive looking for a few nocturnal inhabitants or upgrading to a small vehicle for the game drive at an additional cost.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Included Activity: Game Drives

DAY 3
Nkambeni Camp to Polokwane

Today we leave the Lowveld and head on the long, scenic drive to Polokwane. Along the way we stop off at some of the best scenery in South Africa, including the ever striking Blyde River Canyon and God's Window. The many viewpoints of the Canyon, afford us excellent photo opportunities. Polokwane, capital of Limpopo, is the largest metropolitan complex in the north and a major economic centre. Its proximity to the neighbouring countries of Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland, as well as its convenient distance from the Kruger National Park and Magoebaskloof, makes it a perfect gateway and good destination. We set up our tents on the lush green grass of our campsite located outside of the city before enjoying a dip in the lovely swimming pool.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Included Activity: Blyde River Canyon

DAY 4
Polokwane to Musina

After a quick replenishing of our stocks we begin our journey north toward Zimbabwe. We have a long, relaxing drive where we get to sit back and enjoy the ever-changing scenery. Tonight, we'll camp near to one of the hottest towns in South Africa, Musina, at the hot water spring resort – Tshipise. Situated between the rolling hills, the resort is well known for its natural hot water springs. Once we've set up camp, you're free to enjoy the pools, walking trails or various other activities on offer here.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5
Musina to Masvingo (Zimbabwe)

Today we enter Zimbabwe - a beautiful country rich in soul, culture and tradition. We make our way to the town of Masvingo - on the outskirts of the Great Zimbabwe Ruins. This was the greatest medieval city in sub-Saharan Africa, built by an ancient highly skilled civilization. The name Zimbabwe is derived from this ancient city and means "great stone houses" in Shona. The most notable artefacts found at the ruins were the 8 Statues of stone birds carved out of soapstone. Wander around these amazing ruins, before setting up camp at the foot of the hills.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Included Activity: Great Zimbabwe Ruins

DAY 6
Masvingo to Bulawayo

Leaving Masvingo, we head to Bulawayo - Zimbabwe's second largest city. Bulawayo is noted for its exceptionally wide streets, which were originally designed to accommodate a full span ox wagon. The city also still retains much of its British Colonial character, evident by the many buildings maintained as heritage sites by the Bulawayo City Council. Interesting places to visit are the Natural History Museum, the National Arts Gallery and the Mzilikazi Arts and Crafts Centre, which employs over 70 people.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 7
Bulawayo

Today we visit Matobo National Park, one of the last strongholds of both the black and the white rhino. This park is also well known for its high concentration of the elusive leopard and majestic black eagle. Rock paintings are to be found too, providing evidence of the ancient San inhabitants of this area. Cecil John Rhodes (after whom Rhodesia was named) asked to be buried at the top of one of the sacred hills, (although there is some controversy over whether he will stay!) We spend the day exploring this unique geological, ecological and historic area.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Included: Visit to Matobo National Park half day

DAY 8
Bulawayo to Hwange National Park

We continue north-west to Zimbabwe's oldest and largest reserve – the Hwange National Park. Hwange is well known for its abundance and variety of wildlife species including thousands of elephants, and rare antelope species such as the Sable and Roan Antelope. We enjoy a game drive (either late afternoon or early morning) to explore the wilderness in search of these, and the other resident wildlife species.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9
Hwange National Park

Today we have a full day in the Hwange area, and here we partake in a game drive through Hwange National Park, in the hope that we spot as many wild animals as possible

ZIMBABWE

This landlocked country is situated in the southern part of Africa, between the mighty Zambezi and Limpopo Rivers. The word Zimbabwe is believed to have two meanings, 1) it is believed the word Zimbabwe is derived from dzimba-dza-mabwe, which means "large house of stone" in the Shona (Karanga Dialect) language. 2) It is also believed to be derived from the word dzimba-hwe which means venerated houses in the Zezuru dialect of Shona.

DAY 10
Hwange to Victoria falls (Zimbabwe)

Leaving Hwange, we head to Victoria Falls. Named after the famous World Heritage site and Water Falls, the town of Victoria Falls is situated on the Zambezi River and surrounded by the Victoria Falls National Park. Our campsite is conveniently situated in the centre of town, and within walking distance of the adventure booking agents, restaurants and shops. A 20-minute walk down the main road takes you to the entry point to view the falls, which are situated between Zimbabwe and Zambia. Victoria Falls, or Mosi-oa-Tunya (the Smoke that Thunders), was named by David Livingstone on his explorations, and is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. At 1700 m wide and around 100 m high, this is the world's largest sheet of falling water and a memorable sight on any African Safari! After our adventure activities briefing the afternoon is spent relaxing at the campsite's swimming pool, viewing the Victoria Falls, or exploring the many sights and delights of this town!

Meals: **Breakfast, Lunch**

DAY 11
Victoria Falls

After breakfast, we exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime! We suggest booking additional days after your trip to take advantage of the optional excursions available at Victoria Falls.

Meals: **Breakfast**
Included Activity: **Entrance to Victoria Falls**

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Adrenalin junkies can bungee from the Victoria Falls Bridge connecting Zimbabwe and Zambia or abseil down the Batoka Gorge - neither activity is for the faint hearted! All year round, flights in fixed wing, micro light and ultra light aircraft or helicopters provide an aerial perspective over this magnificent World Heritage Site. White water rafting on the Zambezi is world class. Beside the excitement of the Grade 5 rapids, there are the "floats," where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and the occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

Tour Information

On Booking your Overland Tour, your consultant will send you a full detailed pre-departure information document that will help you prepare. Below is a couple of points on key subjects.

Meals on tour

Meals and menu's 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 menu's 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 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, BBQ's and even roasts!

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. 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.

Participation on tour

All of the tours operated 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.

The staff and management look forward to welcoming you aboard and trust that you will enjoy your trip with us.

Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact us on the below details.

General Enquiries & Reservations	- info@detourafrica.co.za
Toll Free US/Canada	- 1-800-287-0823
Toll Free UK	- 0-808-134-9963
Toll Free Australia	- 1-800-897-833
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