

# CAPE TOWN TO JOHANNESBURG VIA VICTORIA FALLS

## 24 DAY CAMPING ADVENTURE SAFARI

7 Nights Lodge, 3 Nights Canvas

13 Nights Camping

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### INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS:

- Table Mountain Hike
- Cape of Good Hope, Cape Point
- Orange River canoe trip
- Dune climbing
- Namib Desert
- Desert night drive
- 4x4 trip to Sossusvlei and Deadvlei
- Swakopmund
- Etosha National Park
- Okavango Delta
- Chobe National Park boat cruise
- Victoria Falls National Park – entry fee included
- Hwange National Park
- Rhino tracking on foot
- Matopos National Park

### OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Game flight – Okavango Delta
  - Quad biking
  - Bungee jumping
  - White water rafting
  - Sky diving
  - Marine wildlife boat trip
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**This epic tour visits a host of highlights in no fewer than four southern African countries. Africa is huge, and we'll have to drive quite a long way, often on rough roads, but our specially designed safari vehicle is up to the task. Each day will bring something new and exciting. Starting in Cape Town, we will visit the Cape of Good Hope and hike Table Mountain. We will canoe on the Orange River, a life-giving miracle in the arid dryness of the Richtersveld. In Namibia we will walk on some of the world's highest sand dunes, fall in love with quaint Swakopmund, and explore the wild places of Etosha National Park. Botswana invites us to glide through reed channels in the Okavango Delta, an emerald gem in the vast dry expanse of the Kalahari Desert, and game view by boat in Chobe National Park. In Zimbabwe we will be captivated by the raw power of Victoria Falls while we have the chance to test our nerves in Africa's adventure playground. An open vehicle game drive in Hwange National Park gives us yet another chance to get close to Africa's wildlife, and tracking rhinos on foot in Matobo will thrill and humble us all at the same time. Returning to Botswana we have a last chance to sit around a fire, taking in the night sounds and heady scents of the bush, before heading to Africa's richest city, the cultural melting pot of Johannesburg.**

### **DAY 1 - 2: CAPE TOWN**

We start our tour in Cape Town, considered by many to be one of the world's most beautiful cities. We meet at the MOJO HOTEL at 13h00, and after a briefing and some formalities, the adventure begins with a hike up Table Mountain, led by our tour guide. The views over the city and the Atlantic Ocean are spectacular. The next day we explore the scenic Cape Peninsula by vehicle, visiting Hout Bay, Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope. We return to the Lodge to freshen up, then head out for dinner and a night of fun at the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. On occasion we may have to adjust this itinerary to accommodate the weather.

We spend both our nights at the MOJO HOTEL. Located in Sea Point, the hotel is conveniently situated close to shops, restaurants and the ocean promenade.

**Meals: B (Lunch and dinner own expense)**

**Distance: +- 220 km in total**

**Accommodation: Mojo Hotel – Interior Room**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Table Mountain hike
- Cape Point National Park
- Cape of Good Hope
- Scenic coastal roads
- Hout Bay
- Victoria and Alfred Waterfront

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

### **DAY 3: WEST COAST**

We leave the Mother City behind us and, after one last iconic view of Table Mountain from across the bay, we travel north through the "Swartland" and along the West Coast into Namaqualand, a completely new environment shaped largely by the dry winds blowing off the cold Benguela current. In the early spring this usually barren area comes to life with the blooming of millions of desert flowers, painting the landscape in an unforgettable display of vibrant colours.

Our route is one of contrast and ever-changing scenery, from wide open spaces to the dramatic rock formations found in the Cederberg Mountains. We cover some distance today and overnight in the small town of Springbok, nestled amongst rocky outcrops in the Namaqua Desert.

**Meals: B D (Lunch today is own expense)**

**Distance: 570 km**

**Accommodation: Springbok Inn Lodge**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Scenic Drive along West Coast

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

### **DAY 4: ORANGE RIVER**

Today we cross the border into Namibia, known for its dramatic landscapes and beautiful desert vistas. Once through the border, we travel the short distance to our base on the banks of the Orange River. We are joined by our river guides, and after a quick lunch and a safety briefing, we start the canoe adventure.

The Orange River is the longest river in South Africa and creates a natural border to Namibia. Seen from above, the river forms a green ribbon winding its way through the desert and the towering mountains of the Richtersveld National Park. We glide downstream past twisted rock formations, the desert a stone's throw from the water. It's hot, but the water is inviting. In the late afternoon we return back to camp and enjoy the evening next to the river.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 150 km**

**Accommodation: Felix Unite Camp - Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Orange River
- Orange River canoe experience

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 5: FISH RIVER CANYON**

Today we head to the magnificent Fish River Canyon, second in size only to the Grand Canyon. Formed over hundreds of millions of years, the 160km long ravine is a testament to the inexorable power of nature and evidence of ice ages and raging torrents past. Today the Fish River flows only during the wet summer months, reduced to pools of stagnant water in the dry winter. We will inspect nature's handiwork from the lip of the canyon. We camp nearby, at Hobas.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 160 km**

**Accommodation: Hobas Camp - Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Fish River Canyon

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 6: FISH RIVER CANYON - NAMIB**

Today we follow a beautifully scenic road into the true Namib, to our destination for the next two nights, the Greenfire Desert Camp. Located on our 7000 hectare private reserve in the Namib Rand, home to numerous species of desert adapted fauna and flora, the camp is nestled against a rock outcrop, surrounded by stark mountains and red dune-fields. The reserve offers visitors a private and exclusive desert experience, spectacular vistas, and time to discover the vibrant, living desert, with plants and animals ingeniously adapted to the environment.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 410 km**

**Accommodation: Greenfire Desert Camp – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Scenic drive through desert region
- Private Desert Game Reserve

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 7: NAMIB DESERT**

We conduct a morning walk with our guide to gain close-up insight into the desert and its unique geology and ecology. During the heat of the day it's customary to relax at the camp, to enjoy the plunge pool and a cold drink, but the energetic are free to explore the surrounding rock formations, to birdwatch, or to sit alone high up on a rock, mesmerised by the changing colours of the vast landscape. In the afternoon we explore a bit further afield on an open vehicle desert drive, searching for gemsbok and bat-eared foxes, before stopping at a suitable place to enjoy the red sunset over a traditional sun-downer drink. Once it is dark, we slowly drive back to the camp, hoping to encounter some of the nocturnal animals common to the area, such as porcupine, armadillo, or brown hyena.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 20 km (Desert drive)**

**Accommodation: Greenfire Desert Camp – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Morning desert walk

- Afternoon desert drive / night drive

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 8: SOSSUSVLEI**

An early start, we travel directly to Sesriem and the dune fields of Sossusvlei. Here we climb one of the biggest sand dunes on earth, to reveal rank upon rank of dunes marching into the distance. As the day warms we come down from our high perch to take an open 4x4 vehicle into the heart of Sossusvlei and Deadvlei. We explore these world-renowned landmarks on foot, the varied colours of the ever silent red dunes, the white salt pan and the utterly stark beauty a truly memorable experience.

The 4x4's return us to our vehicle. We stop to view Sesriem Canyon, and then continue into the desert where we camp for the night.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 180 km**

**Accommodation: Sossus on Foot – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Dune climbing

- Sossusvlei

- Deadvlei

- 4 x 4 transfer into Sossusvlei

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 9: DUNES - SWAKOPMUND**

A relatively short journey today, we cross Kuiseb Canyon and Namib-Naukluft National Park, stopping briefly in Walvis Bay, Namibia's major port, before arriving in the seaside town of Swakopmund.

Established in 1892, the German colonial influence is evident in the history, architecture, culture and cuisine of the town to this day. Modern Swakopmund is a visitor's paradise, with great restaurants and shops, friendly locals and a multitude of adventure activities on offer. We will spend two nights here, giving us a full day to explore the town, and to be thrilled by our choice of adventure. For those who want to relax and wash the desert dust away, the beaches are fantastic – the white sand warmed by the hot desert sun, but the Atlantic Ocean always remains refreshingly cool.

**Meals: B L (Dinner own expense in town)**

**Distance: 300 km**

**Accommodation: Amanpuri Lodge**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Scenic drive through the desert

- Kuiseb Canyon

- Namib-Naukluft National Park

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 10: SWAKOPMUND**

Today we are free to explore the town, with its beaches, markets and curio shops. A huge variety of adventure options are available, including quad biking, sky diving, dune boarding, ocean safari, fishing and much more. To really get the feel of Swakopmund, we will eat at local restaurants on both nights (own expense).

**Meals: B (Lunch and dinner own expense in town)**

**Distance: 0 km (Free day)**

**Accommodation: Amanpuri Lodge**

**Optional Activities:**

- Sky diving

- Quad biking
- Desert tours
- Dune boarding
- Ocean adventure, seal, dolphin, whale watching, fishing

#### **DAY 11: SPITZKOPPE**

Today we head north up the Skeleton Coast, a barren and desolate stretch of coastline trapped between the Atlantic Ocean and the Namib Desert, with scattered ship wrecks littering the beaches. The Bushmen called this "The Land That God Made in Anger". We visit Cape Cross, named for the crosses erected by Portuguese explorers in the late 1400s. Today this protected area, Cape Cross Seal Reserve, is home to tens of thousands of Cape Fur Seals and one of the largest seal colonies in the world.

We venture back inland, travelling through the vast desert to the towering granite peaks of the Spitzkoppe, its highest peak stretching 600 meters above the desert floor, amongst a riot of giant boulders and secret caves. We have the afternoon to explore this monolith, camping tonight at the foot of the mountain.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 325 km**

**Accommodation: Spitzkoppe – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Cape Cross
- Seal colony
- Spitzkoppe

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 12 - 13: ETOSHA NATIONAL PARK**

Etosha is unique. At its heart is a vast salt pan, Etosha Pan, nearly 5000km<sup>2</sup> of dazzling white, sun-baked lake bed in the dry winter, and a shallow sea with tens of thousands of strutting flamingos, jumping fish and lurking terrapins in summer. Surrounding this pan is a varied landscape of bushveld and grassland, home to hundreds of species of wildlife.

We will spend these days exploring the expanses of park from the high vantage point of our vehicle, game driving and visiting water holes. During peak season, when the rest camps are crowded, we may opt to camp outside the park.

**Meals: B L D; B L D**

**Distance: 335 km on day 12 and 130 km on day 13 inside the park**

**Accommodation: Camping (2 person dome tents) – Etosha**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Etosha National Park
- Full-Day Game Drive

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

#### **DAY 14: CAPRIVI**

Today we cover some distance, travelling through towns and villages of northern Namibia, giving us a glimpse into the daily lives of the local people. We arrive on the banks of the Okavango River, suddenly green, lush and inviting. Not far from here the river empties into the Okavango Delta, but right here the river is strong and deep, the trees tall and the crocodiles huge. The cool shade of the river bank is a welcome respite from the bright Namibian sun.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 640 km**

**Accommodation: Ngepi Camp – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Scenic drive through Namibia

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

**DAY 15 - 16: OKAVANGO DELTA**

It is with great excitement that we cross the border into Botswana and travel the short distance to the Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta and a truly unique spectacle of nature.

The Okavango River, emanating from central Angola, far to the northwest, flows south- and eastwards, before slowing and spreading into one of the world's only true inland deltas, creating as it does so a unique ecosystem that supports a huge variety of animal and plant life. The sight of a Jacana striding delicately amongst the flowering lilies, the Bee Eater diving to prey on an unsuspecting insect, and of course the familiar cry of the African Fish Eagle - all combine to create the canvas of one of nature's unique masterpieces. The river, eventually spilling its contents into the vast plains of the Makgadikgadi sands, disappears.

Our comfortable and well-appointed camp on the edge of one of the largest lagoons serves as a base from which we explore. We will glide through narrow reed-lined channels by mokoro, walk on uninhabited islands, and picnic in the wilderness, while learning about the animals and plants of the Delta from local guides who have grown up in the area. Through informal interaction with the guides, we will have the opportunity to learn about the local people and their way of life in this isolated wilderness. We will also have time to simply relax and enjoy the views over a glistening lagoon from a beautiful wooden deck, cold drink in hand, or take a refreshing dip in the pool. We will enjoy a relaxing sunset cruise on a boat. A helicopter flip, to see the vastness of the Delta from the air, is recommended (own expense).

**Meals: B L D; B L D**

**Distance: 140 km**

**Accommodation: Twin Bedded Tented Units**

**(On occasion tours might camp wild in dome tents on islands in the delta)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Okavango Delta
- Guided walks in the Delta led by local Motswana guides
- Mokoro trip
- Sunset boat trip

**Optional Activities:**

- Scenic helicopter flight over the Delta

**DAY 17: MAUN**

Starting early, we begin our journey to frontier town of Maun. We will spend some time stocking up on basic supplies, before travelling the short distance out of town to the Maun Tented Lodge, our stop for the night.

The lodge is situated on the banks of the Boteti River. This river is known to change its flow direction, depending upon the season and rainfall patterns. The lodge offers comfortable en suite accommodation, swimming pool, bar, restaurant and birdlife

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 354 km**

**Accommodation: Drifters Maun Lodge - twin-bedded en-suite tented units**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Private tented lodge on the banks of the Boteti River

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

### **DAY 18: MAKGADIKGADI PANS**

We enjoy a relaxed morning at the lodge, spending time along the river bank, savouring the tranquillity of the area, or lounging at the swimming pool. For those interested, we recommend a local village walk. Chenoga Village, not far from our lodge, is not on a regular tourist route, so you have the opportunity to explore an authentic village with one of our staff from the lodge, who lives in the village.

We have a late brunch before continuing our journey eastward into the spectacular Makgadikgadi Salt Pans area. Oceans of golden grass give way to the stark white pans, under a very big sky. We stop to take in the serene isolation of this expanse, before continuing to our camp for the night, at Elephant Sands. Close-up sightings of elephants at the water hole are almost guaranteed.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 320 km**

**Accommodation: Elephant Sands – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights / Activity:**

- Relaxed morning
- Village walk
- Visit to Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

### **DAY 19: KASANE – VICTORIA FALLS**

Venturing north today, we make our way to the slow, placid Chobe River, an ideal habitat for hippos and crocodiles, and an attraction to some of the biggest herds of elephant and buffalo on earth. This afternoon we enjoy an extensive boat cruise on the river, within Chobe National Park. Gliding close to the banks, we hope to silently approach the animals that come down to the river to drink. Back on land, we cross the border into Zimbabwe and make our way to our accommodation for the next two nights. The lodge is centrally situated and within walking distance of the falls and other attractions.

**Meals: B L**

**Distance: 320 km**

**Accommodation: Lodge Accommodation**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Chobe National Park
- Extensive boat cruise on the Chobe River

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

### **DAY 20: VICTORIA FALLS**

Awaking in the adventure capital of Africa, it is with new excitement that we explore the amazing Victoria Falls, locally known as "Mosi-oa-Tunya ", meaning "The Smoke that Thunders". Your entry fee to the falls is included in the tour price, and you are free to spend as much time viewing the falls, and exploring the surrounding rain forest, as you like.

During our stay in Victoria Falls, various other attractions can be visited, like the tribal village or curio market. Vic Falls is also home to a multitude of adventure activities, such as an aircraft flip over the falls, or a boat trip on the Zambezi River, white water rafting or bungee jumping, but allowance must be made for the extra expense of these optional activities.

We spend two nights here, thus allowing you some time to explore the town and all it has to offer and to focus on the attractions and activities that interest you. We eat out in a local restaurant on both nights (own expense). Relax to the sound of the African night and the distant roar of the falls, and drink a toast to your adventure.

**Meals: B (Lunch and dinner own expense)**

**Distance: 0 km (Free day to explore town and do some adventure activities)**

**Accommodation: Lodge Accommodation**



**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Victoria Falls entry fee

**Optional Activities:**

- Scenic helicopter flight over the Falls
- White water rafting
- Bungee jump
- More options available

**DAY 21: HWANGE**

After breakfast we travel the relatively short distance to the renowned Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe's premier game reserve. Famous for its massive herds of elephant and buffalo, the park is host to over 100 species of mammal and 400 species of bird, with lion, leopard and wild dog regularly sighted. This afternoon we will do an open vehicle game drive with local guides providing intimate knowledge of the area.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 195 km**

**Accommodation: Hwange – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Hwange
- Game drive within the park

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

**DAY 22: BULAWAYO – MATOBO**

Today we travel south to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city, with its uniquely wide streets. We continue to the Matobo area where, in the afternoon, we enjoy an open vehicle drive into the Matobo National Park. Here, we will leave the vehicle to track rhino through the bush on foot. For most people, seeing these massive beasts on their own terms is a thrilling and moving experience.

Tonight we camp at the base a granite dome amongst the balancing boulders of the Matobo Hills.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 320 km**

**Accommodation: Big Cave Camp – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

- Matobo National Park
- Rhino tracking on foot

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included

**DAY 23: LIMPOPO**

Our last night will be spent in Botswana, on a private game reserve along the banks of the Limpopo River. We will take our final walk together along the river, to savour the sights and smells of the African bush and catch our last glimpse of animals living free and wild. We end the day with dinner in the bush around a flickering fire.

**Meals: B L D**

**Distance: 450 km**

**Accommodation: Stevensford Game Reserve – Camping (2 person dome tent)**

**Included Highlights / Activity:**

- Scenic drive
- Short walk

**Optional Activities:**

- None, all included



#### **DAY 24: JOHANNESBURG**

This morning, after crossing the border into South Africa, we follow a scenic route through the Waterberg Mountains, before entering the bustle of Africa's economic heart, the golden city of Johannesburg. The tour ends on arrival in Johannesburg.

**Meals: B (Lunch own expense)**

**Distance: 480 km**

**Included Highlights/Activity:**

**- Scenic Drive through SA back to Johannesburg**

#### **DEPARTURES**

This tour starts in Cape Town every Saturday.

At time of going to print the above itinerary was correct, but we continually strive to offer our clients the best available tour options, and as such we reserve the right to change aspects of the itinerary at our discretion. During the validity period of the published itinerary, conditions may change, roads may be improved or deteriorate, contracted camps and accommodation facilities may change standards, optional activities might become available or be discontinued, new border posts open or existing ones become congested, etc. We are continuously monitoring all of the factors that contribute to a successful tour, and will make amendments to the published itinerary if circumstances so demand, or if we believe that the change will enhance the tour.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**A sleeping bag, pillow and towel are required for this trip.**

**A valid passport is required by everyone. The tour will visit South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe. It is the client's responsibility to ensure that they have the appropriate visas required for this trip, for all the countries we visit. Some nationalities may need to obtain visas before departure as they may not be obtainable at the border.**

**This tour is an adventure and it covers vast distances. Seasonal malaria precautions are advised, and are locally obtainable. During winter the temperature can drop very low at night, and clients should be prepared for this. Our price includes transport, meals as stipulated, coffee, tea, fruit juice at breakfast, two qualified and experienced crew, group equipment, accommodation, permits and park entry fees, and Victoria Falls entry fee. The price does not include alcohol, bottled water and soft drinks, tips, curios and optional extras.**

**Before departure, clients will be required to enter into an agreement and indemnity pertaining to our booking conditions and general information.**

**It is compulsory for clients to have their own comprehensive personal travel insurance that includes cover for (but not limited to) any medical emergencies as well as Covid 19 related cancellations or deviations prior or during the tour.**