Africa’s Wildlife  On Safari in Botswana, Zambia & Victoria Falls

14 days from $7,784 total price from Boston, New York, Wash, DC
($6,795 air, land & safari inclusive plus $989 airline taxes and fees)

A glimpse of a world primeval awaits on this singular safari to Botswana’s Chobe National Park, where elephants preside over a bounty of wildlife; Zimbabwe’s dazzling and powerful Victoria Falls; and Zambia’s exceptional Lower Zambezi National Park, a remote jewel of an unspoiled preserve.

We embark on both boat and land safaris in Chobe, home to Africa’s largest elephant population.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Johannesburg, South Africa

Day 2: Arrive Johannesburg  Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel in the suburb of Rosebank, where our rooms will be ready for our early check-in. As guests’ arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities planned. B

Day 3: Johannesburg/Soweto  We meet our fellow travelers today as we embark on a tour of the Soweto district of Johannesburg. Here we see the home of former Archbishop Desmond Tutu; visit Nelson Mandela’s home, which is now a museum; and tour the moving Hector Pieterson Memorial and Museum, where we learn more about apartheid and the Soweto uprising of 1976. Then we hear fascinating stories from a local Sowetan who was present during the uprising, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner together. B,L,D

Day 4: Victoria Falls  This morning we embark on a game drive to spot the elusive – and critically endangered – black rhino. Late afternoon we embark on a “Sundowner” dinner cruise on the Zambezi where we see wildlife on shore and in the water. B,D

Day 5: Victoria Falls  After a morning visit to Victoria Falls town and a local village, this afternoon is at leisure to relax at our lodge. Tonight we hear a fascinating guest speaker on “The Story of David Livingstone,” followed by dinner together. B,D

Day 6: Victoria Falls  This morning we visit a nearby school then travel two hours by motorcoach to Botswana and Chobe National Park, boasting one of the largest concentrations of game in all of Africa. After settling in and enjoying lunch at our lodge, this afternoon we embark on a game-viewing boat safari on the Chobe River, where we may see hippo, crocs, and some of the park’s 430 species of birds (including the sacred ibis, carmine bee-eaters, fish eagles, and kingfishers). We dine tonight at our lodge. B,L,D

Day 7: Victoria Falls/Chobe National Park, Botswana  This morning we visit a nearby school then travel two hours by motorcoach to Botswana and Chobe National Park, boasting one of the largest concentrations of game in all of Africa. After settling in and enjoying lunch at our lodge, this afternoon we embark on a game-viewing boat safari on the Chobe River, where we may see hippo, crocs, and some of the park’s 430 species of birds (including the sacred ibis, carmine bee-eaters, fish eagles, and kingfishers). We dine tonight at our lodge. B,L,D

Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Spectacular Victoria Falls  •  Sunset Zambezi River cruise  •  Chobe National Park’s diverse and abundant game  •  Early morning game drives and afternoon boat safaris  •  Privately chartered flight to Lower Zambezi  •  Three-night stay in remote Lower Zambezi National Park, one of Africa’s last pristine wildernesses  •  Royal Zambezi Lodge’s game-viewing activities: open-vehicle game drives, sunset river cruises, guided canoe trips  •  Outstanding game viewing
Day 8: Chobe National Park  Known for its diverse terrain that attracts an exceptional array of wildlife – including the world’s largest elephant population (some 120,000), along with zebra, lion, giraffe, impala, wildebeest, and buffalo – Chobe covers 4,517 square miles of protected parkland. We’ll see a portion of this natural wonder on our early morning game drive and this afternoon’s boat safari. And this evening perhaps we’ll see one of the sublime sunsets for which Chobe is known. B,L,D

Day 9: Chobe National Park  We’re settling into a comfortable routine, with early morning and late afternoon game drives. In between game-viewing activities, we’re at leisure to enjoy the amenities of our lodge on the banks of the Chobe River, adjacent to the park itself. B,L,D

Day 10: Chobe National Park/Lower Zambezi National Park, Zambia  This morning we board a privately chartered plane for the 1½-hour flight to Lower Zambezi National Park, Zambia’s newest reserve (since 1983) and, as the former private sanctuary of Zambia’s president, the least developed. Here in one of Africa’s last stretches of pristine wilderness we have the chance to get closer to the animals than anywhere else. Late afternoon we engage in some of the lodge’s game-viewing activities that include open-vehicle game drives, guided canoe trips, bush walks, and boat safaris. B,L,D

Post-Tour Extension

May 8-12, 2020
Cape Town, South Africa
4 days/3 nights for $1,395 total price
Single Supplement: $295

Discover South Africa’s sparkling “Mother City,” from Table Mountain and the Malay Quarter to the Cape Peninsula and the Winelands.

Your Tour Price Includes
• Air transportation Lusaka/Cape Town, inclusive of airline taxes and fees
• 3 nights’ accommodations at The Table Bay Hotel (Deluxe)
• 6 meals: 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner
• Extensive included sightseeing: full-day Cape Peninsula tour; full-day Cape Town and Winelands tour
• Services of an Odysseys Unlimited representative
• Private motorcoach/van transportation
• Transfers to/from airport
• Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Please note that guests on the extension will proceed directly to Cape Town and will not use the hotel day room in Lusaka on Day 13.

Day 11: Lower Zambezi National Park  A day of game-viewing activities in this 1,600-square-mile park on the southern end of Zambia known for its 100-strong elephant herds, unusually large prides of lion, plus buffalo, waterbuck, antelope, impala, crocodile, hippo, kudu, warthog, eland, and leopard, among other wildlife; and where ebones, leadwoods, figs, and acacias preside over the mineral-rich grassland. Together with Zimbabwe’s renowned Mana Pools Reserve situated across the river, the Lower Zambezi National Park forms a massive sanctuary and UNESCO World Heritage site where we’re certain to enjoy unparalleled game and bird viewing – and rarely see other safari-goers. B,L,D

Day 12: Lower Zambezi National Park  From our 14-room luxury lodge on the banks of the Zambezi, we have another day to engage in game-viewing activities in this lush riverine environment of 50 mammal species and 400 bird species. With the Zambezi River, abundant game on the valley floor, and the Zambezi Escarpment as a backdrop, the Lower Zambezi National Park offers a dramatic setting for game viewing ... as does our lodge, where animals roam freely on the grounds. Tonight we celebrate our wildlife adventure at a farewell dinner. B,L,D

Day 13: Lower Zambezi National Park/Lusaka/Depart for U.S.  We travel by charter flight today to Lusaka, Zambia’s capital, where we have hotel day rooms until our departure this evening for the airport and our overnight flight to the U.S. B

Day 14: Arrive U.S.  We arrive in the U.S. this morning and connect with our flights home.

Your Tour Price Includes
• Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
• 11 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, and unrated hotels and lodges
• 29 meals: 12 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 10 dinners
• Extensive game viewing as described, including all park entrance fees
• Mineral water while on safari
• Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
• Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
• Luggage handling for one bag per person
• Gratuities for driver-guides, hotel and lodge staff, and porters

I CAN’T ADEQUATELY EXPRESS WHAT A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE THIS WAS. I WOULD NOT ALTER THE ITINERARY ONE BIT.”

– Tar Heel Traveler

Tour Departures: April 26, 2020

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Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in a Deluxe thatched tent at Royal Zambezi Lodge and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of $989, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add $995. All 2020 tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Upgrade to thatched tent suite with larger indoor and outdoor living areas at Royal Zambezi Lodge: $195 ($295 single)

Depending on flight schedules, certain U.S. cities may require a departure one day prior to the listed schedule above.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: $5,495 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves considerable walking – between 1-3 miles per day – up hills or stairs, and on wet, slippery surfaces. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.