

14 day Swakopmund to Victoria Falls Overland Safari

This trip begins in Swakopmund, Namibia and travels north through Namibia and Botswana, before ending in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

This trip starts in Swakopmund on Sunday morning. If you wish to arrive earlier, our office can assist you, in booking your activities as well as accommodation. However, costs due to earlier arrival, will be for your own account.

Accommodation style:	Camping
Length of trip:	14 Days
Starts in:	Swakopmund, Namibia
Finishes in:	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
Pre-departure Meeting:	Held at Departure Point at 17h00 the day before your departure, at Villa Wiese Backpackers & Lodge
Check-In Time:	From 08h45
Departure point:	Adventure Hotel Swakopmund - Nathaniel Maxuili Street, Swakopmund
Departure Time:	To be advised at the pre-departure meeting at Villa Wiese Backpackers Lodge
Breakfasts included:	14
Lunches included:	13
Dinners included:	13
Brunches included:	1
Countries visited:	South Africa, Namibia

PLEASE NOTE:

- 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.
- Your arrival transfer and pre-trip accommodation in a dorm bed is included in your trip price. Should you choose not to make use of these, or in the event that we were not updated with your arrival details, no refund will be paid for services not used.
- Please ensure you've received a copy of our pre departure information document with information on what to expect on this overland safari.

We start the trip in Namibia's seaside town of Swakopmund where you can explore the desert on a number of adventure activities. We cross into Namibia where our next stop is the Etosha National Park. Etosha's waterholes attract a host of African animals. We then have the opportunity to spend a couple of nights camping in the wilderness of the Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland delta. The next part of the trip takes us into Botswana and the Chobe National Park, where we hope to see

some of the thousands of elephants that the park is famous for and spend the night at a mobile camp under the African stars. Our trip ends at the mighty Victoria Falls.

INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

Swakopmund, Spitzkoppe (**day trip**), Etosha National Park Okavango Delta Excursion, Chobe Overnight Mobile Excursion & entrance to Victoria Falls.

DAY 1: Swakopmund to Brandberg (UIS) (Lunch / Dinner)

Our departure from Swakopmund takes through the 'Matterhorn of Namibia' – Spitzkoppe (**day trip**). The 1728m high rock formation, one of Namibia's most recognised landmarks, is well known as an ancient San sacred site. Explore the surrounding area and its San rock paintings or simply enjoy the magnificent views. After our visit to Spitzkoppe (**day trip**) we head off to our next destination – Brandberg.

DAY 2: Brandberg (UIS) to Etosha National Park Area ((Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today's drive takes us further north through the Namibian countryside to our campsite, located in the vicinity of the National Park.

DAY 3: Etosha National Park Area (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

We head to the area of Etosha National Park. Covering 22 700 km², Etosha is Namibia's premier nature and wildlife reserve. Situated around the Etosha Pan with a large variety of animal and bird life, the extensive network of gravel roads affords us the opportunity of accessing even the most remote areas of the park. After lunch, and once it has cooled off a bit, we spend the remainder of the day exploring the park's southern area. Keep an eye out for the striking Oryx and Springbok as these are endemic to desert National Parks! Tonight's camp is situated just outside the parks boundaries, only 10kms from Anderson Gate. Perhaps a quick dip in the pool or a sun downer on the deck before dinner, followed by a relaxing evening in this interesting bar.

Optional Activity: Game Drive

DAY 4: Etosha National Park (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today we make our way across the park, keeping a look out for the many different mammals, reptiles, birds and insects in the various regions. As the vegetation types change, so does the animal and bird life that relies on it, and so different sections of the Park offer a variety of different game options. After a full day of game viewing, we spend the evening relaxing at our camp in the north of the park, Namutoni. After dinner why not head to the waterhole where you can sit and observe the animals may come to drink in the evenings.

Included Activity: Game Drive in our own vehicle

Optional Activity: Night Drive

DAY 5: Etosha National Park to Grootfontein (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

After our breakfast we head out of the park while doing a game drive. Today is a short driving day to our next destination where we set up camp for the night. Tonight's campsite has a Thatched dining area, bar, swimming pool & curio shop.

DAY 6: Grootfontein to Divundu (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

From Grootfontein, we head in a north-easterly direction toward Namibia's Caprivi Strip, and the lush Kavango region of northern Namibia. After which we head to our spectacular campsite located on the banks of the Kavango River – Watch the sun go down from the deck over the river, but keep a watch for the occasional hippo grazing on the lawn!

DAY 7: Divundu to Maun (Botswana) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Following the Kavango River south, we enter Botswana and travel east along the course of the Okavango River to the southern reaches of the Okavango Delta and our destination, Maun. Maun is the starting point for travel into the Delta and it is from here that we set off to explore the Okavango Delta. Tonight we prepare our provisions and packs for our 2 night excursion. We suggest bringing along a smaller daypack on your trip as this can be used to pack the supplies needed for this short excursion. Your trip leader will brief you fully on what is needed, and what to expect prior to your trip to the Delta.

DAY 8: Maun to Okavango Delta (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Included Activity: 3 days / 2 nights Okavango Delta Excursion

The Delta is a huge expanse of water, which has travelled from the Angolan highlands, spreading out to form the largest inland delta in the world. Studded with exotic islands, The Delta is renowned for its incredible variety of bird life and animals and is unique to Southern Africa.

Here we have the opportunity to take the included 3 Day / 2 Night Drive In/Mokoro Excursion into the Delta. After an early rise, we pack our expedition vehicle and from Maun we drive north for a couple of hours to reach the mokoro peler's station. The Delta region is studded with many local villages where many families live in a traditional way. Some of the villages are very remote and can only be reached by the traditional mode of transport – the Mokoro. Mokoros are dugout canoes manoeuvred through the waterways by local guides who "pole" them through the reeds. At the Mokoro station, we meet our 'Polers' and pack our supplies before heading out into the waterways.

After a couple of hours along the waterways, our guides find us a place to camp, and later in the afternoon we set off on an afternoon game walk, allowing us to experience The Delta wilderness. The camp is situated in an open wilderness area with no ablution facilities.

DAY 9: Okavango Delta (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

A day of rest, relaxation and Delta experiences await. Today we have the opportunity to partake in a number of activities including swimming, game walks, mokoro cruises and even a chance to try our hands at poling our own mokoro! There is also ample time to relax and rest during the hotter hours of the day, so challenge your new friends to a game of cards, or chat with your guides about their culture and lifestyle, or simply lie back and enjoy the sounds of the surrounding wilderness...

DAY 10: Okavango Delta to Maun (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

This morning affords us a final opportunity for a game walk before packing up and setting off back to Maun. After our Mokoro ride and vehicle transfer, we arrive back in the afternoon and have the chance to complete our picture of the Okavango Delta by taking an optional scenic flight over The Delta (dependent on weather conditions & availability).

DAY 11: Maun to Chobe National Park (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

We travel east and then north to the town of Kasane where we set up camp on the banks of the Chobe River. The Chobe River forms a border between Botswana and Namibia and Zambia and is the main water source to the Chobe National Park. Elephant, hippo and many bird species can be viewed from the campsite while we watch another glorious African sunset. Listen out for the resident hippos!

DAY 12: Chobe National Park (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

This morning we have a chance to sleep in or explore the town of Kasane. When we are packed and prepared, we leave 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! After our night in the bush, we head out early to continue our search for wildlife, before packing up the camp and heading back to Kasane, and Victoria Falls.

Included Activity: Chobe Overnight Mobile Excursion

DAY 13: Chobe National Park to Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) (Brunch)

Once returning to camp, we get back on our truck and continue to the border of Zimbabwe. Once we've completed border formalities, we have a short drive to the nearby 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 (see price guide at the end of this document for options), 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!

Included Activity: Entrance to Victoria Falls

DAY 14: Victoria Falls (Breakfast)

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.

Optional Activities: Include elephant back safaris, horseback safaris, walking with lions, a visit to the crocodile ranch, boat cruises and golf at The Elephant Hills Resort. 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.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

Flights, Airport departure taxes departure transfer, visas, meals unless otherwise stated, travel insurance, laundry, personal items & tips, Sleeping bag & pillows

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 by us 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.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

PLEASE NOTE: Where activities occur away from your base, there may be an additional transfer cost.

NAMIBIA:	
SWAKOPMUND ACTIVITIES:	
Quad Biking – 1Hr/2 Hr	100US\$
Sand Boarding – Lie Down/ Stand Up	55US\$ / 70 US\$
Township Tour	80 US\$
Tandem Skydive	(Weather Permitting) 350 US\$
Horse Riding (2Hrs)	80 US\$
Fishing	160 US\$
Dolphin Cruise	90 US\$
Scenic Flight (various)	(Weather Permitting) As per Operator
Hot Air Ballooning	(Weather Permitting) 450 US\$
BOTSWANA:	
Scenic Flight Over Delta (300-350US\$ per plane max 5 pax)	100 US\$
ZIMBABWE:	
Please ensure that you pay for activities in Victoria Falls with US\$ CASH	
Trip T-Shirt	30 US\$
VICTORIA FALLS:	
White Water Rafting-Full Day	140 US\$

River Boarding combo Raft & Board	180 US\$
Bungee Jump (111m)	150 US\$
Micro Light over the Falls-15mins	170 US\$
Helicopter Flight over the Falls 12 mins	155 US\$

PLEASE NOTE:

- This is not a full list of available activities. There are many more to choose from.
- Prices are approximate and can change at any given time. Only to be used as a guideline.