



GOING AFRICA



OOK ZO NIEUWSGIERIG NAAR UW VOLGENDE SAFARI?



11-daagse Botswana Odyssey safari





CHOBE NATIONAL PARK



VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE

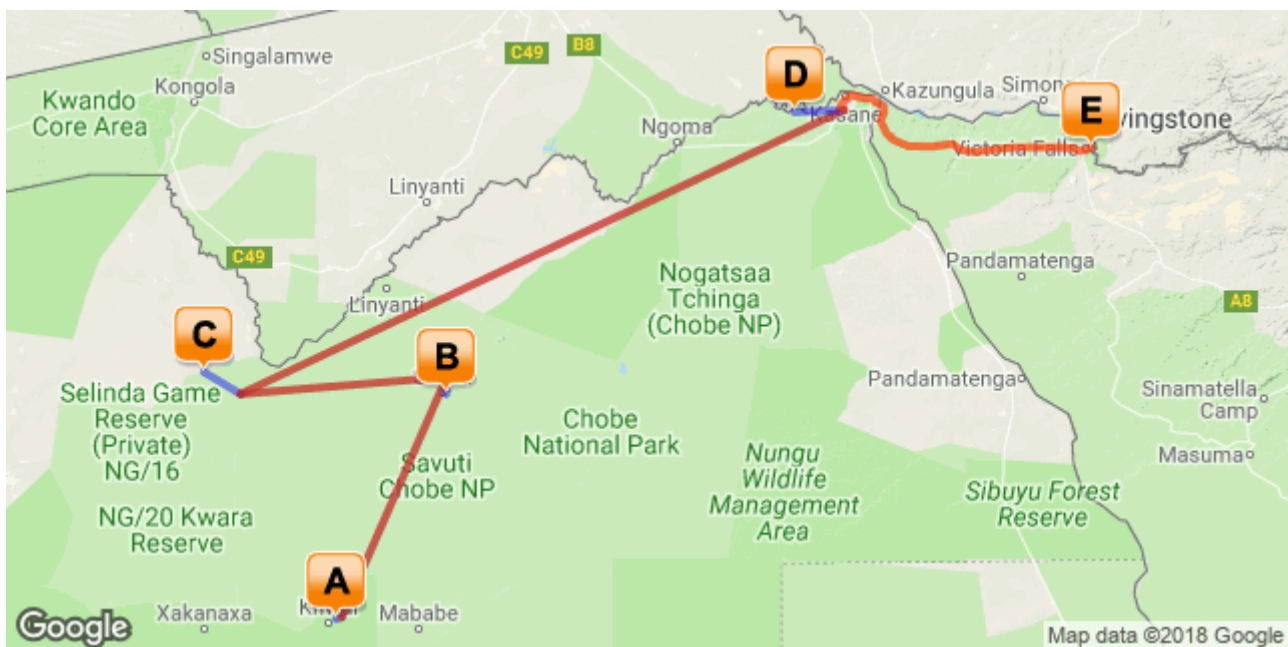
11-daagse Botswana Odyssey safari

Khwai Community Area - Savuti - Chobe National Park - Selinda Reserve - Chobe National Park - Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

11 Days / 10 Nights

2 Persons

Date of Issue: 07 August 2018



[Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](#)

Introduction

Bedankt voor uw belangstelling voor een safari naar Botswana. Een goede keuze en een prachtige safaribestemming. Fijn dat u Going Africa Safaris gevonden heeft als aanbieder van dit fantastische safariland.

Waarom in het Engels?

We gaan er bij Going Africa Safaris vanuit dat bijna iedereen die een safari naar Afrika boekt in enige mate Engels kan lezen, spreken of begrijpen.

Op basis van deze online routebeschrijving worden vouchers en een definitief reisschema gemaakt. Deze ontvangt u bij uw reisbescheiden. De vouchers, etc... zijn ook in het Engels. Hierdoor is het eenvoudiger om ter plekke overleg te hebben met de lokale accommodatie, gids of organisatie mocht u vragen hebben over de inhoud van het reisschema. U kunt dan het reisschema voorleggen in een taal die ze ook kunnen lezen.

Eventueel deze safari aanpassen?

Natuurlijk is het mogelijk om afhankelijk van het budget van de genoemde accommodaties af te wijken. In de regel begroten we deze voorbeeld safari omdat we voor het betreffende jaar in uw voordeel betere combinatie prijzen krijgen of vinden dat betreffende accommodaties een juiste of betere prijs/kwaliteit verhouding hebben. Maar bijna elke route is aan te passen aan uw wensen en uw budget. Er zijn erg veel mogelijkheden en de accommodaties die we op de website aangegeven. Staat een bepaalde accommodatie er (nog) niet bij, dan houdt dat niet in dat we deze accommodatie niet aan kunnen bieden. Vraag ons dus te allen tijde naar de mogelijkheid om uw wens in te vullen. Het moet wel heel erg gek zijn wanneer we uw wens niet in kunnen vullen. Daarbij willen we wel aan bepaalde kwaliteitseisen blijven voldoen.

De prijs

De prijsindicatie voor deze safari staat op de website. Sturen we u dit online reisschema toe als maatwerkvoorstel, dan ontvangt u de prijs in de begeleidende email.

Documenten

Onder tab "documenten" hebben we ter informatie meteen documenten bijgevoegd aangaande onze Reisvoorwaarden en Privacyverklaring. Neem deze vooraf rustig door en u merkt dat u bij Going Africa Safaris in goede handen bent.

Wilt u de safari boeken, dan kunt u het boekingsformulier downloaden. Vul voor alle deelnemers het formulier in en stuur deze per email terug. We bevestigen dan de boeking per brief en factuur in PDF per email.

Voorstel printen

Via de knop "print" is het mogelijk om het voorstel te printen zodat u het nog eens rustig kan nalezen.

We wensen u veel plezier bij het doornemen van alle informatie als onderdeel van de voorpret.

Vriendelijke groeten

Paul Janssen
Going Africa Safaris

Start	Accommodation	Destination	Basis	Room Type	Duration
Day 1	African Bush Camps - Khwai Tented Camp	Khwai Community Area	FI	1x Standard Room (Twin)	2 Nights
Day 3	andBeyond Savute Under Canvas	Savuti - Chobe National Park	FI	1x Standard Tent (Twin)	2 Nights
Day 5	Selinda Explorers Camp	Selinda Reserve	FI	1x Standard Tent (Twin)	2 Nights
Day 7	andBeyond Chobe Under Canvas	Chobe National Park	FI	1x Standard Tent (Twin)	2 Nights
Day 9	Ilala Lodge	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe	B&B	1x Standard Room (Twin)	2 Nights

Key

B&B: Bed and Breakfast

FI: Fully Inclusive

Price

De prijsindicatie voor deze safari staat bij de betreffende safari op onze website.

Day 1-2: African Bush Camps - Khwai Tented Camp, Khwai Community Area

Khwai Community Area

The Khwai area of the Okavango lies along the northern boundary of the Moremi Game Reserve. This is an unfenced boundary allowing wildlife to move freely between the woodlands in the wet season when water is plentiful and back to permanent rivers and lagoons in the dry season. The Khwai area offers the same wildlife experience as the reserve with the added advantage of being a private concession which means the ability to do walking safaris and night drives.

Overnight: African Bush Camps - Khwai Tented Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Khwai Tented Camp has modern and spacious Serengeti-style tents, with stylish and comfortable interiors and private bathrooms with running water. The camp maintains a genuine safari camp feel. The camp comprises of 6 elegant tents perched on wooden decking overlooking the tranquil waters of the lagoon. The camp exudes the charm and aura of the old Africa in a new era, and provides a truly authentic African safari experience.

The camp offers visitors several unique ways to experience Africa. Besides the day-time drives which can feature Africa's big attractions – lion, cheetah, leopard, wild dog, elephant, buffalo, hippo and giraffe – guests at Khwai Tented Camp are able to explore nature after sunset with a night drive. This activity, along with the guided walking safaris, is not usually permitted in the National Parks or Game Reserves, and allows guests to get an up close and personal experience with some of Africa's nocturnal and / or more elusive animals. The camp also provides the opportunity to explore the great stands of leadwood and mopane woodlands as well as open grasslands and banks of the Khwai River on foot.



Basis

Fully Inclusive

Day 3-4: andBeyond Savute Under Canvas, Savuti - Chobe National Park

Savuti - Chobe National Park

Savuti, also known as Savute lies in the heart of Botswana's beautiful Chobe National Park. This dynamic wilderness is a sweeping expanse of savannah brooded over by several rocky outcrops which guard a relic marsh and the dry channel that was once its lifeline. The Savute goes through wet and dry cycles, where wild dogs hunt in the dry river channel where crocodiles swam only twenty years ago. Visitors to this spectacular area can spot abundant wildlife including: a variety of birds, elephants, antelope, lion prides, black-backed jackal, bat-eared foxes, tsessebe, kudu, hyena, cheetah Cape buffalo herds, and thousands of migrating zebra and wildebeest.

Overnight: andBeyond Savute Under Canvas [View iBrochure](#)

Savute, a remote and wild corner of Chobe National Park, stretches from the park's northern boundaries to the Linyanti River. The area's main feature is the mysterious Savute Channel, which flows and dries up seemingly unrelated to the rainfall. Dry and arid for almost 30 years, animals in the area were sustained by artificial waterholes. With the Savute Channel flowing again in recent years, the region has undergone a startling transformation, reverting to its natural lush and marshy state. Large numbers of wildlife have been attracted to this rejuvenated wilderness haven.

Sizable numbers of elephant bulls are invariably present. During the dry years, when prey was hard to find, many of Savute's lion became notorious for hunting elephant. With the recent transformation of the region, prey has become more abundant and the large lion prides have split up into smaller family groups, allowing a greater variety of predators to flourish in the area. Savute is also a famous battleground for lion and spotted hyena. With grazing now plentiful, the area is also popular with zebra, wildebeest, buffalo, giraffe, tsessebe and kudu.

The semi-mobile tented camps of andBeyond Savute Under Canvas are carefully positioned at exclusive wilderness campsites in the expansive Savute corner of Chobe National Park, offering exceptional game viewing opportunities. Booked on a nightly basis, each of the five comfortable tents has a double bed, as well as an ensuite bathroom, separate w.c and steaming hot bucket shower, with water delivered on request. The guest areas comprise comfortable tents for dining, meeting for a pre-dinner drink or just whiling the time away between game drives. Welcoming camp staff serve delicious meals cooked over the glowing coals.



Safari Tent(s)

Spacious, comfortable mobile safari tents, each with twin or double bed, ensuite bathroom, separate wc and alfresco bucket shower, with hot water delivered on request.

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Day 5-6: Selinda Explorers Camp, Selinda Reserve

Selinda Reserve

Situated in northern Botswana, the Selinda Reserve is a 120 000 hectare private wildlife reserve. Sandwiched between the Savute Channel, Chobe National Park and the sensational Okavango Delta, this sanctuary is well off the beaten track and offers visitors an exclusive wildlife viewing experience. This varied landscape hosts a wide selection of species in diverse habitats. Visitors can enjoy eco-friendly safaris including guided bush walks, 4X4 game drives, and boat safaris. Spot an array of magnificent of wildlife such as the rare roan and sable antelopes, lion, buffalo, giraffe, zebra, African wild dog, and large elephant herds.

Overnight: Selinda Explorers Camp [View iBrochure](#)

Selinda Explorers Camp is located in the 320,000 acre Selinda Reserve of northern Botswana on the banks of the Selinda Spillway. This authentic 4 tent camp draws on traditions of the classic East African safari with beautifully detailed campaign style furniture made from recycled hard woods, and soft furnishings from Zanzibar and the East. The custom-designed semi-permanent tents consist of two rooms plus verandah, as well as a private open air 'bustani bathroom' with hot water showers and flush loo. All tents are at ground level, including the main lounge and dining area. The atmosphere of the camp is one of bush elegance with relaxed bohemian style, complemented by attentive staff, private professional service and fabulous food. Camp sits in prime predator habitat, in a location, which we handpicked based on exploring this area for years. Lion, leopard and cheetah and the recently discovered Explorers Pack of African wild dog hunt these parts regularly. Giraffe, buffalo, roan and sable are possible sightings. At the peak of the dry season in late September, the Selinda Reserve has been documented to hold up to 9,000 elephants. There is phenomenal bird life along the Spillway's banks for those looking for some 'lififers'.



Large walk-in two room canvas tents

This authentic tented camp draws on traditions of the classic East African safari with beautifully detailed campaign style furniture made from recycled hard woods, and soft furnishings from Zanzibar and the East. The custom-designed semi-permanent tents consist of two rooms plus verandah, as well as a private open air 'bustani bathroom' with hot water bucket showers and flush loo. All tents are at ground level, including the main lounge and dining area. This is an unassuming camp, light on its footprint but heavy on its experiential luxury. The atmosphere of the lodge is

one of bush elegance with relaxed bohemian style, complemented by attentive staff, private professional service and fabulous food.

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Day 7-8: andBeyond Chobe Under Canvas, Chobe National Park

Chobe National Park

Renowned for its impressive, shifting migratory population of more than 50 000 elephants, Chobe National Park is situated in the far northeast of Botswana, bordered to the north by the mighty Chobe River. It is the second largest national park in Botswana featuring four distinct ecosystems: the Savuti Channel in the west; the Linyanti Swamps in the northwest; the arid hinterland in between and Serondela in the extreme northeast with fertile plains and thick forests. This diversity of habitats provides a sanctuary to an astonishing array of African wildlife. In addition to spotting Chobe's great pachyderm herds, you are likely to spot lion, leopard, hyena, wild dog, impala, waterbuck, kudu, zebra, wildebeest giraffe, and warthog. The park is also famous for its wonderful riverboat safaris, making Chobe an essential destination for any avid safari enthusiast.

Overnight: andBeyond Chobe Under Canvas [View iBrochure](#)

Among the great game reserves of the world, Chobe National Park is home to one of the largest concentrations of elephant on the African continent. Surrounded by wildlife management areas and reserves that allow game to roam freely, the 11 700km² (4 500 square mile) reserve is located in the far north of Botswana, bordering on the Chobe River. Chobe is particularly well known for its large herds of elephant and buffalo, as well as the two antelope that cannot be encountered anywhere else in Botswana, the puku and Chobe bushbuck.

In addition to the vast floodplains that occur along the river, Chobe offers tracks of dry savannah. Dense teak woodland provides thick cover in the north-eastern parts of the reserve. Watching the elephant families drink and bathe in the river is an unforgettable sight, all the more impressive when herds of buffalo, rafts of hippo and gigantic Nile crocodiles are part of the scene. Lion and spotted hyena are frequently seen on the floodplains, where red lechwe, puku, zebra, sable and roan come out to graze.

Well-used animal trails meander between five ensuite safari tents at andBeyond Chobe Under Canvas, positioned at exclusive campsites in the northern reaches of the park, within driving distance of the Chobe River. Booked on a nightly basis, each canvas tent boasts a comfortable double bed, as well as an ensuite bathroom with flush w.c and steaming hot bucket shower, with water delivered on request. The guest areas comprise spacious tents for dining, pre-dinner drinks or simply whiling away the time between game drives with a good book and frosted beer or glass of wine. Delicious meals cooked over the coals are shared around a blazing fire.



Safari Tent(s)

Spacious, comfortable mobile safari tents, each with twin or double bed, ensuite bathroom, separate wc and alfresco bucket shower, with hot water delivered on request.

Basis

Fully Inclusive

Day 9-10: Ilala Lodge, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Resting on the southern banks of the Zambezi River at the western end of the eponymous falls, this popular tourist town is compact enough to walk around and makes an ideal base for travellers exploring the seventh wonder of the world, the unfathomably vast Victoria Falls. About two thirds of the falls can be viewed from the Zimbabwean side and, while the falls are undoubtedly the star attraction, the area provides both adventure seekers and sightseers with plenty of opportunities to warrant a longer stay. Popular activities include scenic flights over the falls in helicopters or micro lights, bungee jumping off the Victoria Falls Bridge, white-water rafting (seasonal), and day trips to Chobe National Park. The town itself offers some excellent accommodation and restaurant options as well as an eclectic variety of African curios and authentic art sold by friendly Zimbabwean locals who are wonderfully welcoming and eager to help you enjoy your stay.

Overnight: Ilala Lodge [View iBrochure](#)

The warmest of welcomes awaits you at Ilala Lodge Hotel. A gracefully distinguished ambiance. Attentive yet discrete service that always comes with a smile. The sublime surroundings of our boutique hotel will reawaken your senses while the power of the majestic Victoria Falls renews your spirit.

Relax in luxurious style. Listen to the meditative rhythm of the great Zambezi as you drift off to sleep. As morning comes, gently awake and lift your head to see the spray of the majestic Victoria Falls across the unspoiled horizon – and let your soul sigh.

Feel at ease in our elegant and spacious rooms with African Teak furniture, soft, crisp linen – all en-suite facilities, bathroom with separate shower, air conditioning, overhead fan, satellite TV, hair dryer, tea & coffee making facilities, free WiFi and a safe. 56 rooms in total including 2 Executive Suites, 2 Standard Suites, 20 Deluxe rooms and 32 Standard rooms.

The view from your room looks across the lawns to the National Parks where elephant, warthog, impala or the occasional buffalo might be passing by or simply grazing on the lawn or in the tree line.

Experience new tastes, indulge in unusual flavours and enjoy delectable dishes at our award winning restaurant "The Palm"; dine in view of the spray of the majestic Victoria Falls!

We have a tours desk in the hotel where you can book all you're activities. Ilala Lodge also has a spa, where you can spoil yourself after that long safari!

Cruise down the river of time and follow the route that ancient explorers took, on the luxurious Ra-Ikane. She is the only one of her kind in Victoria Falls; The Ra-Ikane is a small luxury cruise boat that is out-fitted to suggest, in exquisite detail, an ambiance of a bygone era. Sip chilled white wine, or Gin & Tonics whilst nibbling on canapes, as well as the sumptuous high tea, whilst you glide up to Elephants feeding on the shoreline.



Standard Double Room (s)

We have 6 x Dbl rooms with 1 King size bed in each. 2 of these rooms are inter-leading with standard twins rooms so ideal for families.

Like the standard twin rooms all our double rooms have en suite bathroom with separate shower, air conditioning, overhead fan, satellite TV hair dryer, safe, room service and have individual coffee and tea facilities. Free WiFi .

The rooms are spacious with railway teak furnishings. All rooms look towards the Victoria Falls, and the National Park. There are often wild animals grazing on the lawn, and the windows and doors rattle from the force of the water from the mighty Victoria Falls.

All rooms have either a private patio or their own seating area on the lawn, all facing the Falls !

Basis

Bed & Breakfast

Day 11: End of Itinerary

Activities

Travel For Impact SD

Travel For Impact

Travel for Impact – Responsible Travel

By booking this itinerary USD\$1 is contributed for every night of travel per person on the booking. The contribution goes to Travel for Impact (TFI) and ensures that your safari has a meaningful impact on the people who live locally.

TFI believes in changing lives through travel and provides the link between donors and beneficiaries. They assess NGO's (Non Government Organisations) at various levels, including their effectiveness and financial integrity. They provide a mentorship for the organisations in being sustainable and ultimately to grow the impact and reach of each organisation.

Thank you for contributing towards Responsible Tourism Botswana.

For more information you can visit www.travelforimpact.com

Transport

Flight Information

Date	Flight	Details	Class	Ref
Day 1	Mack Air	Maun Airport - Khwai Airstrip		
Day 3	Mack Air	Khwai Airstrip - Savute Airstrip		
Day 5	Mack Air	Savute Airstrip - Selinda Airstrip		
Day 7	Mack Air	Selinda Airstrip - Kasane Airport		

Transfers

Date	Company	Details
Day 7	Chobe Under Canvas	Kasane Airport - Chobe Under Canvas
Day 9	Chobe Under Canvas	Chobe Under Canvas - Kasane Airport
Day 9	Wild Horizons	Kasane Airport - Ilala Lodge
Day 11	Wild Horizons	Ilala Lodge - Victoria Falls Airport

Service Provider Directory

Service Provider	Ref. Number	Telephone	Address
African Bush Camps - Khwai Tented Camp		+27 21 701 0270	
andBeyond Chobe Under Canvas		+27 11 809 4300	
andBeyond Savute Under Canvas		+27 11 809 4300	
Ilala Lodge		+263 13 44737	411 Livingstone Way Victoria Falls Zimbabwe
Selinda Explorers Camp		+27 87 354 6591	

Travel Information



Situated in the southern reaches of Africa, Botswana is renowned for its pristine wilderness areas characterised by deep lagoons, wetlands, lush palms, rugged hills and desert plains scattered with scrubland. The country's primary tourist drawcard is undoubtedly the vast red expanse of the Kalahari Desert and its remarkably beautiful Okavango Delta, the largest inland delta in the world. These natural wonders provide a tranquil haven for an abundance of African wildlife to thrive. Other highlights include the impressive Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, where visitors are privy to massive zebra migrations during the flood season; the Savuti plains, which host large prides of lions; and the Tsodilo Hills, where 4500 rock paintings form a unique record of human settlement over many millennia.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Botswana's currency is Pula (which means 'rain' in Setswana). It is divided into 100 thebe (which means 'shield' in Setswana). Travellers' cheques and foreign currency may be changed at banks, bureaux de change and authorised hotels.

The US dollar, Euros, British Pound and the South African Rand are the most easily convertible currencies (and accepted by some establishments - but, generally, then an inflated rate of exchange will be applied).

Banking

Seven main commercial banks, as well as a number of foreign exchange bureaux, operate in Botswana. Operating hours are Monday to Friday 08h30 to 15h30 and Saturday 08h30 to 10h45.

Full banking services are available in major towns, although ATMs are sprouting up all over the country. Most credit cards are accepted at hotels and restaurants. Cultural sites and community art and craft outlets usually only accept cash.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Public transport in Botswana is geared towards the needs of the local populace and is confined to main roads between major population centres. Although cheap and reliable, it is of little use to the traveller as most of Botswana's tourist attractions lie off the beaten track.

Driving off the main roads in Botswana is only recommended to experts in 4x4 vehicles, that are equipped correctly. Most lodges offer transfers or they can be arranged. If, however, you will be driving in Botswana: your home driving

licence will be accepted (with an official English translation if necessary; driving is on the left side of the road; and the national speed limit is on tarred roads is 120km/h and 60km/h in towns and villages.

Be sure to watch out for wild animals on the roads!

There are major airports in Maun, Kasane and Gaborone, while smaller charter flights are used to get to the other top attractions and camps.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Tap water is considered safe to drink, although outside main cities and towns, visitors are advised to check first and sterilise water if in any doubt. Bottled water is available in most tourist centres. Filtered water is available at most camps and shops offer bottled water - it is advised to be well stocked of bottled water if you are travelling off the beaten track. Milk is pasteurised, and dairy products, local meat, poultry, seafood, fruit and vegetables are generally safe.

Safari lodges and camps serve international-style cuisine, generally of an extremely high standard, along with local beer and imported wine and spirits. Good restaurants and bars can be found in main towns, often within hotels. Beef and goat are very popular meats. Elsewhere, food is more basic: millet and sorghum porridge are the local staples.

A discretionary 5 to 10% tip is typical for restaurant bills. In many places, a service charge is automatically added. It is customary to tip the game guide and lodge staff while on safari.

Climate and Weather

Botswana's climatic pattern is typical of southern Africa, although its rainfall is less than countries further east. The rains in Botswana come mostly between December and March, when average minimum temperatures are in the low 20's. Some days will be bright and sunny, some will have afternoon thunderstorms, and some will just be grey.

As with Namibia, April and May in Botswana are generally lovely, with the sky clear and the landscape green. Night temperatures start to drop during these months, especially in the Kalahari. Note that places in and around the Okavango tend to have less extreme, more moderate temperatures than the drier areas of the Kalahari.

From June to August the night-time temperatures in drier areas can be close to freezing, but it warms up rapidly during the day, when the sky is usually clear and blue. It's now very much 'peak season' for most safari areas: the land is dry in most areas so the animals congregate around the few available water sources.

This continues into September and October, when temperatures climb again, drying the landscapes and concentrating the game even more. This is the best time for big game safaris – although October can feel very hot, with maximum temperatures sometimes approaching 40°C.

November is difficult to predict, as it can sometimes be a continuation of October's heat, whilst sometimes it's cooled by the first rains; it's always an interesting month.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

In summer, lightweight, lightcoloured cottons are preferable. Avoid synthetic materials and black clothing, as they increase perspiration and discomfort. In winter, wear trousers, long-sleeved shirts / blouses and jerseys. From May – August, night temperatures can fall below zero degrees celsius, so warm jerseys and jackets are vital, especially on morning and evening game drives. Garments of neutral colours that blend with the bush and forest are advisable for safaris and game viewing. Bring a lightweight jacket and/or jersey for unexpected temperature changes or rain. Closed, comfortable walking shoes or gym shoes are a must in all seasons. Special attention should be given to

protection from the sun. Bring a sunhat, good quality sunscreen, sun lotion and polarised sunglasses. Wide brimmed sun hats are essential.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana are the "Type M " South African SABS1661 ("Large" 15 amp BS-546) sockets. This is actually an old British standard. The "Type M " South African plug and socket is not to be confused with the "Type D " Indian plug and socket. In pictures, they look very similar, but the South African type is much larger than the Indian type, and they are physically incompatible. If your appliance's plug doesn't match the shape of these sockets, you will need a travel plug adapter in order to plug in. Travel plug adapters simply change the shape of your appliance's plug to match whatever type of socket you need to plug into.

Electrical sockets (outlets) in Botswana usually supply electricity at between 220 and 240 volts AC. If you're plugging in an appliance that was built for 220-240 volt electrical input, or an appliance that is compatible with multiple voltages, then an adapter is all you need.

But travel plug adapters *do not change the voltage*, so the electricity coming through the adapter will still be the same 220-240 volts the socket is supplying. If you need to use appliances that are not compatible with 220-240 volt electrical input, you will need a voltage converter.



A nation of spectacular natural beauty, friendly people and rich culture, Zimbabwe's status as one of Africa's leading safari destinations was dampened for years by its political instability. But now that the country is transcending its strife and returning to a state of equilibrium, it is once again emerging as a vacation highlight of the continent. Victoria Falls – known to locals as 'The Smoke That Thunders' – is one of the seven natural wonders of the world and the sheer power of this massive body of water plunging into the Zambezi Gorge is awe-inspiring and unforgettable. Lake Kariba, with its game-rich shores and islands, is an idyllic safari spot featuring mind-blowing sunsets; Hwange National Park is known for its huge herds of elephants; and a kayak trip down the Zambezi through the Mana Pools National Park will appeal to the intrepid traveller, providing close encounters with crocodiles, hippos and a host of other wildlife.

Banking and Currency

Currency

Zimbabwe uses US\$ as well as its own unit of currency, the Zimbabwe Bond Dollar. It is advised to carry small denominations of change with you, however it is best to pay for as much as possible outside of the country. US\$ work best and are widely accepted in supermarkets, and for curios, accommodation, activities and gratuities. South

African Rand and Euros are only accepted in some places in Victoria Falls. Do not plan on being able to use cash machines in Zimbabwe to draw money. Before leaving home please exchange all the money that you will need for your trip, plus extra, into US\$. Most of this should be in 1, 5, 10 and 20 denominations because change is not always available. In an emergency you can try Barclays Bank, Stanbic Bank or Standard Chartered Bank as they will infrequently accept foreign debit cards for withdrawing cash.

Banking

Banks in Zimbabwe are open for business Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 08h00 to 15h00, on Wednesdays from 08h00 to 13h00 and Saturdays from 08h00 to 11h30. They are closed on Sundays and Public Holidays.

Only VISA and MasterCard are accepted in Zimbabwe, however it should be noted that very limited facilities will have credit card machines, and the connection is not always reliable so it is advisable to carry cash as back up.

Travel, Transport and Getting Around

Taxis are safe and reliable, and can be booked through your hotel front desk. Taxis in cities travel within a 40km radius of the city. Always take a taxi at night.

Major airlines fly into Victoria Falls, Harare and Bulawayo. Charter flights are available to most attractions and camps.

Zimbabwe has a good road infrastructure, by African standards, although potholed. Between major towns, there are frequent road blocks. Traffic drives on the left side of the road.

If you are driving yourself around Zimbabwe, be sure to check on fuel availability in advance. If you are covering long distances within the country, ensure you carry extra fuel in 5 or 10lt metal containers in case of emergency. Fuel is generally available, but supply can fluctuate. Fuel is only available for cash.

Food, Drink and Cuisine Advice

Zimbabwe's native cuisine is based on sadza, a cooked porridge made from ground maize which is normally be accompanied by some tasty relish, perhaps made of meat and tomatoes, or dried fish. Safari camps will often prepare sadza if requested, and it is almost always available in small restaurants in the towns.

Camps, hotels and lodges that cater to overseas typically serve a variety international fare, and the quality of food prepared in the most remote bush camps is usually excellent.

If you are driving yourself around and plan to cook, then get most of your supplies in main towns. There are a number of South African shopping chains operating in Zimbabwe which will generally have all that you will need.

Water in the main towns is usually purified.. The locals drink it, and are used to the relatively innocuous bugs that it may harbour. If you are in the country for a long time, then it may be worth acclimatising yourself to it. However, if you are in Zimbabwe for just a short period of time, then try to drink only bottled, boiled, or treated water available in towns and from all camps, lodges and hotels.

Climate and Weather

In Zimbabwe, the rains come principally in **December, January, February and March**; the further north you are, the earlier the precipitation arrives and the later it leaves. Zimbabwe's higher eastern areas usually receive more rainfall than the lower-lying western ones.

By **April and May** most of the rain is gone, leaving a verdant setting, which is starting to dry out. Especially in more

southerly and higher locations, the night-time temperatures start to drop.

The nights in **June, July** and **August** become much cooler, so don't forget to bring some warmer clothes, in case you want to spend an evening outside; the days are still clear and warm. For Zimbabwe, this is the start of the 'peak season'— days are often cloudless and game sightings continually increase.

Into **September** and **October** the temperatures rise once again: Zimbabwe's lower-lying rift valley – Mana Pools – can get very hot in October. During this time, you'll see some fantastic game, as the Zimbabwe's wildlife concentrates around the limited water sources.

November is unpredictable; it can be hot and dry, it can also see the season's first rainfalls – and in this respect it's a very interesting month, as on successive days, you can see both weather patterns.

Clothing and Dress Recommendations

When in Zimbabwe the cardinal rule is to wear casual, comfortable clothes during the day as temperatures can get very hot. It is advisable to wear light loose fitting clothing, such as cotton or linen, as they are cool and easy to wash. Warmer clothes are advised for the evenings and rainwear for the wet season.

A brimmed hat and sunglasses are a good idea year round. Long sleeved shirts and long trousers will also guard against the scorching sun rays. It is recommended you wear light shoes, especially if your itinerary entails a lot of walking.

For safaris, please remember to wear appropriate clothing and shoes. Earth colour clothes, such as browns, greens and tans are advisable.

Electricity and Plug Standards

Current is 220/240 volts at 50 cycles per second. Both square and round plugs are used.
