



# 6N Three Rivers Safari \_Standard

*Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe - Chobe River Front - Okavango Delta*
*7 Days / 6 Nights*
*2 Persons*



# [Click here to view your Digital Itinerary](http://wetu.com/Itinerary/Landing/dc50feed-0148-468f-bd8c-e30799756473)

## Introduction

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Start** | **Accommodation** | **Destination** | **Duration** |
| Day 1 | [Ilala Lodge](http://wetu.com/iBrochure/6713_6955) | Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe | **2 Nights** |
| Day 3 | Chobe Elephant Camp | Chobe River Front | **2 Nights** |
| Day 5 | Mapula Lodge | Okavango Delta | **2 Nights** |

# Transport

## Flight Information

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Flight** | **Details** | **Class** | **Ref** |
| Day 5 | Major Blue (Natural Selection) | Kasane Airport - Mapula Airstrip |  |  |
| Day 7 | Major Blue (Natural Selection) | Mapula Airstrip - Maun Airport |  |  |

## Transfers

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Company** | **Details** |
| Day 1 | Wild Horizons | Victoria Falls Airport - Ilala Lodge |
| Day 3 | Wild Horizons | Ilala Lodge - Kasane Airport |
| Day 3 | Chobe Elephant Camp | Kasane Airport - Chobe Elephant Camp |
| Day 5 | Chobe Elephant Camp | Chobe Elephant Camp - Kasane Airport |

## Day 1-3Ilala Lodge, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe



At Victoria Falls, the earth splits open and swallows one of Africa’s greatest rivers, the mighty Zambezi, creating the largest sheet of falling water on earth. As the water hits the narrow depths of the Batoka Gorge beneath, it blasts a cloud of mist skywards, lending the falls their local name ‘mosi-oa-tunya’ (the smoke that thunders). When the Zambezi is its fullest, the mist hangs a permanent raincloud above the falls, showering visitors on even the sunniest of days and visible for miles around.

Above the falls on the upper Zambezi, boats cruise the tranquil water at sunset while the distant spray catches the fading light downstream. Below the falls, the Batoka Gorge’s rocky walls funnel the lower Zambezi into a chain of world-class rapids, prime for white water rafting.

Aside from being a UNESCO world heritage site and a natural world wonder, Victoria Falls also forms a natural border between Zimbabwe and Zambia. The falls can be seen from both countries, and for the most part the same activities are offered on both sides, from helicopter scenic flights to village visits and souvenir shopping.

Whether your idea of getting away from it all is a relaxed high tea in colonial grandeur or a heart-stopping bungee jump off a bridge, Victoria Falls keeps both the faint of heart and the most insatiable of adrenalin junkies busy for days.

From Zambia, a side on view of the falls is on offer with views into the Batoka Gorge, as well as the possibility of perching yourself at the edge of the falls on the vertigo-inducing Livingstone Island.

From Zimbabwe, you’ll get a full-frontal view of three quarters of the falls’ 1.7km wide curtain of water from viewpoints and footpaths meandering through a rainforest kept hot and humid by the spray of the falls.

### Overnight: Ilala Lodge [View iBrochure](http://wetu.com/iBrochure/6713_6955)

**Includes:** bed & breakfast (please see detailed itinerary for additional meals and activities booked)

Ilala Lodge is situated close to the Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe as well as to the town centre. Wild animals are often seen grazing the hotel lawns as the National Park borders the front of the property.

In the central wing, the Lodge offers 34 rooms: 30 standard twins, 2 standard doubles and 2 standard suites. All rooms have an ensuite bathroom with separate shower, wireless internet, in-room safe, tea/coffee self service, air-conditioning, overhead fans and satellite television. The rooms are spacious with railway sleeper teak furnishings and patio doors leading onto either an open lawn or a balcony facing the Victoria Falls.

The new extension wing offers 8 deluxe twin rooms, 12 deluxe double rooms and 2 executive suites. All rooms have a private balcony, mini bar fridges, international plugs/ adaptors, wireless internet, in-room safe, tea/ coffee self service, air conditioning, overhead fans and satellite television.

Conveniently located, the central and extension wing rooms provide easy access to the restaurants, pool and adventure booking centre.

There is an à la carte restaurant which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and offers a comprehensive wine list and cocktails. Dining outside under the African night sky amidst the sound of the mighty waterfall makes for a very romantic evening.

**Airport Transfer Time:** 30 minutes



## Day 3-5Chobe Elephant Camp, Chobe River Front



The Chobe Riverfront is an elephant mecca; home to the largest density of African elephants in the world. Travel here during winter and you’ll fast run out of fingers and toes while you count them drinking at the riverbanks and socialising out on the floodplains.

Thanks to its ease of access from Victoria Falls, the Chobe Riverfront is the busiest part of Botswana (though still a much quieter affair than most South or East African safaris). What Chobe lacks in solitude during the busier months, it more than makes up for with quality game viewing.

Chobe will leave you feeling tiny as giant elephant bulls stroll up next to your vehicle or snorkel alongside your boat. It will make you feel lost as hundreds of hippos and buffaloes crowd you out on the floodplains. It will put your heart in your throat as prides of lions stalk antelopes by the water’s edge, and it will leave you alone with your thoughts while the classic red sunsets melt over the river to a soundtrack of whistling fish eagles.

Chobe is not just a great introduction to Botswana. It also makes a rewarding repeat journey once you’ve ticked off the big stuff. It’s a place to search for the rare sable antelope, to spot that gem from the birders’ bucket list and to explore the remoter corners.

Where you stay in Chobe makes a huge difference to your safari experience. The most affordable options are at bigger hotels in a town setting where you’ll share your game drives with a few more vehicles. On the more exclusive end, stay in a wilder area in or around the park, listen to the sounds of the bush at night and get a head start on accessing the park for activities.

### Overnight: Chobe Elephant Camp

**Includes**: meals, local drinks, activities, laundry and park fees.
**Excludes**: premium drinks
**Activities**: game drives, boating and canoe excursions (stays of 2 nights or longer) and cultural village visit

Located high on the edge of a rocky ridge overlooking the famous Chobe River is Chobe Elephant Camp. This uniquely designed lodge has been built to take advantage of the incredible views overlooking the sweeping floodplains while offering a comfortable refuge from the harsh African conditions.

The lodge has been entirely constructed from sandbags, the thick sand-filled walls create a natural insulating barrier between the inhabitants and the harsh African climate and enhance the old farm-style feel of the camp. It houses ten rooms, one family room and can sleep 24 guests at a time.

With a variety of activities that include viewing the region’s spectacular wildlife from open safari vehicles, by boat on the Chobe River or experiencing life in the village, a visit to Chobe Elephant Camp offers a wide range of experiences to our guests. Tranquil canoe excursions ranging from 1.5 to 2.5 hours duration offer guests the opportunity to paddle their own canoes – safely following their canoe guide – to discover the wonders of the Chobe River floodplain system in quiet harmony with these remarkable surroundings.(Depends on water levels)

**Chobe / Ngoma Gate**
This property is located near the Ngoma Gate for entry to the Chobe Riverfront. Very few lodges are located at this end of the park and few people utilize this entry point, creating a more remote and exclusive experience than at the properties around Kasane. Although outside the park, this option is located in a bush setting where wildlife frequently passes through.

**Airport transfer time**: 50 minutes



## Day 5-7Mapula Lodge, Okavango Delta



The Okavango Delta is where the wild things are: an immense, waterlogged oasis alive with elephants and birdlife, adrift in the middle of Kalahari sands. The real magic of the Delta lies in its water, trickling through from far away highlands, and spreading across the channels and floodplains.

During winter in the Kalahari, when the sun has baked the earth bare and turned the desert its driest, water fills the Okavango; transforming the floodplains into a Noah’s Ark of African wildlife.

As the water brings life to the delta, its local residents shape and recreate it. Termites slowly build mounds into islands, germinated with palm trees by passing elephants. Waterways open and close on the whim of wide-bottomed hippos, carving out channels where they crash through reeds, and leaving room behind them for exploration by mokoro.

The Okavango has many faces, which change throughout the year, prompted by that most unpredictable diva of all: the weather. Water levels rise and drop, expanding and shrinking islands, while animals move where the life is easiest and the grass greenest. In a few days, a sandy road driven by vehicle can become a waterway of unknowable depth, prompting a safari by boat instead.

Where and when you stay in the Okavango Delta will hugely influence what you do in the bush each day, the animals you’re most likely to see and finally, the safari experience you’ll have.

The delta’s watery heart is best discovered by mokoro through shallow channels and floodplains, as well as crossing the islands on foot. For less water and more of the big game, visit a camp on its drier edges (including Moremi Game Reserve and the Khwai Community Area), jump on a vehicle and seek out the animals hiding in the woodlands.

### Overnight: Mapula Lodge

**Includes**: meals, local drinks, activities, park fees & laundry
**Excludes**: premium brand drinks and additional activities
**Activities**: day and night game drives, walking safaris, boat trips & mokoro excursions (subject to water levels)

Mapula Lodge is situated in the north-western floodplains of the Okavango Delta in a vast private concession offering 12 000 hectares of prime game viewing area. The lodge occupies a stunning position set on the edge of seasonal floodplains and overlooks a permanent lagoon complete with resident hippos.

Positioned well apart from one another, Mapula Lodge has nine thatch-and-canvas tented rooms including one family room. All rooms have an ensuite bathroom with flush loo plus indoor and outdoor shower. Classy touches in each room include metal four poster king side beds, plush bedding, floor kilims and brass lanterns.

The chic main lodge is a spacious public area under thatch with a comfy lounge, small library, dining tent and generous swimming pool. A distinctive outdoor sunken lounge offers awe-inspiring views of the pristine lagoon and lodge surroundings. Fresh, original plated meals are a trademark of Mapula Lodge.

Activities include game drives, boat trips, mokoro excursions, walking safaris with experienced guides and night drives in search of nocturnal animals. Early morning and late afternoon game drives are conducted in open 4x4 safari vehicles. Due to its location in the Delta, Mapula Lodge not only offers a big game experience but also the unique delta mokoro activity on the seasonal floodplains almost all year round depending on water levels. An optional sleep out on a 3 nights stay is available, subject to weather conditions and availability. The camp also offers hot air ballooning as an optional activity - at an additional cost (seasonal and weather dependent)

**Airstrip Transfer Time**: 45 minutes
Please note that during the annual floods, when water levels are at their peak, alternative routes may be used. Please confirm what may be expected.



## Day 7End 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



## Travel Information

• Please take note of our Booking Terms & Conditions. It will be understood that these have been read and accepted by you on receipt of confirmation of the booking.
• For your safety and peace of mind, on confirmation of your booking, we strongly recommend that Travel Insurance is arranged to cover cancellation, curtailment, emergency evacuation, medical and repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal luggage, money and goods.
• Road and air transfers and activities are quoted on a seat basis (shared) unless otherwise requested or specified. Passengers may have various stops en-route to a destination. The transfer or charter company reserves the right to specify departure and arrival times. Private charters can be requested at an additional cost.
• Passengers weighing over 100kg should please advise us at the time of booking, as we may need to cost in an additional seat on internal flights for your safety and comfort.
• The costs are subject to change at any time due to fluctuations in fuel costs, taxes, levies, government regulations, rate of exchange and factors that are imposed upon us by our suppliers that are beyond or control.
• Please advise us of the ages of children (under 18) travelling, together with their date of birth, at the time of booking as not all lodges accept children and there may be restrictions or conditions which can affect pricing.
• We recommend that optional activities be booked in advance at time of confirmation to guarantee availability e.g. Elephant Back Safari in Victoria Falls
• Please allow a minimum 2-3 hours connection time in Johannesburg for international flights. It is important that you check that your flight tickets have been issued in your full names as per your passport.
• We require full payment for international and domestic scheduled flights at the time of confirmation e.g. Air Botswana JNB/MUB, Proflight LIV/LUS. We are not able to guarantee any flights before receipt of payment as seats are often held for a limited period before ticketing is required so this is a time sensitive issue. Air tickets are considered non refundable unless otherwise specified. Please confirm the details with your consultant at the time of booking.

***Passports, Visas and Travel Documentation***
Your passport must have at least 6 months validity before the expiry date and 6 empty pages (not including the endorsement pages). The onus is upon the guests to ensure that passports and visas are valid for the countries visited. Please note that certain visas can take up to 3 months to be processed so please consider this when booking.

If you are travelling with children through Southern Africa please be aware that you will be required to have certified copies of their unabridged birth certificates, and passports on hand. If you are not their legal parents, or if only one of you is travelling – you will need to have consent in the form of an affidavit giving you permission to travel with the child.

***Inter-camp transfers***
Due to the vast distances involved in travelling in the remote areas of Southern Africa - your itinerary may include road, boat and air transfers in small aircraft.

On shared air transfers, all the flight times between lodges are arranged a few days before the flights take place to avoid endless schedule changes. The lodge or camp where you are staying will be advised of your departure time the day before travel and will ensure that you are at the airstrip on time. Although every effort will be made to ensure that guests are transferred together in one vehicle / aircraft, this cannot be guaranteed, especially with larger groups. The aircraft used for inter-camp transfers vary in size from 3, 5, 7 and 12 seater aircraft. We recommend that guests susceptible to motion sickness take appropriate precautions due to flying conditions.

***Weight & Luggage Restrictions***
There are strict luggage restrictions in place on any itinerary, which includes light aircraft transfers for safety reasons. Luggage, including camera equipment and hand luggage, is restricted to 20 kg per person travelling on seat rates. Only soft bags will be accepted - no hard suitcases or bags with wheels can be transported, as they physically cannot fit into the aircraft.

The maximum dimensions of the soft bags that can be accommodated are as follows: 25cm/10 inches wide x 30cm/11 inches high and 62cm/24 inches long. Please keep in mind that the baggage compartments on the light aircraft are only 25cm high, so the pilots must have the ability to manipulate the bag into the compartment. Note that laundry can be done on a daily basis at most camps and lodges.

Should you arrive with excess baggage without prior warning, your baggage could be delayed, as we may have to fly the baggage into camp at a later stage at considerable extra cost to you. However, should you notify us in advance that your baggage will exceed the limit; we may be able to assist you with alternative arrangements e.g. storage or purchase of additional luggage allowance.

For bookings including flights within Zambia & Mozambique, please note luggage weight exceptions under destination information.

***Lost Luggage***
Lost luggage on international flights is a common problem facing travellers today. We suggest that you pack a small bag with your essentials, including any life sustaining medication, which can be carried with you as hand luggage. If travelling as a couple or family we suggest that you split your clothing between bags so that if one bag gets lost, you will have basic items on hand to see you through the first couple of days while we try and recover your lost baggage.

Please note that whilst we try our utmost to locate and re-unite you with your bags, that there may be charges involved in getting your bags to remote areas, which would be for your cost. Please remember to report the lost luggage to the airline as soon as you make the discovery - the airline will issue you with a Baggage Claim Form, which you will need in order for us to trace the bag.

***Health and Dietary***
Please note that you are travelling to a Malaria-risk area. Please consult your doctor for medical advice prior to travel.

Although usually safe to drink, we do not recommend that you drink the tap water. Filtered water is available at the camps and lodges.

The camps are isolated and generally have limited power supply and access to supplies. Please notify us in advance of any special dietary requirements, medical conditions and medical equipment you may need with you. Please carry critical medication in your hand luggage.

Yellow Fever Certificates - are only required if you have travelled to a Yellow Fever area as designated by the World Health Organisation. Please check with your Travel Clinic or doctor well in advance of your departure date.

***General Travel Information***
• There is no or limited electricity and cell phone coverage in the camps and lodges excluding major towns and cities. All camps do make provision for charging cameras and electronic devices.
• Please ensure that you do not pack any valuables, cameras, cash, laptops in your checked in luggage – these should be kept on your person at all times.
• Please notify us immediately of any changes to flight arrival and departure details as this affects onward transfer arrangements.
• Please note that most camps & lodges in Botswana do not have double beds. Twin beds are pushed together to make up a double room.
• Although every effort is made to adhere to schedules the company reserves the right and in fact is obliged to occasionally change routes and camps on safaris as dictated by changing conditions or unforeseen circumstances.
• By confirmation of the booking, you acknowledge that you have been made aware and accept that the tour carries inherent risks, and that you voluntarily assume all risks which are associated with the tour. You will be required to sign indemnities at the various camps, lodges and service providers, and abide by their operators code of conduct in order to ensure your safety.
• If you have any cause for complaint while travelling, you should immediately bring it to the attention of the camp manager and / or our Maun office that will attempt to resolve the situation immediately.
• Do not remove any animal artefacts, flora or fauna from any of the areas you visit, as there are strict international regulations on the export of such items.

Please refer to the ***Safari Information*** (https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/44362671/safari-information.pdf) for further details on preparing for your safari.



**Currency**
The currency of Zimbabwe is the American Dollar (US$). US$ Dollar notes (2007 Series onwards), and Visa and MasterCard are accepted. Always have enough US$ cash available in smaller denominations in the event where ATM's and Credit Card facilities are not operational.

**Visa**
Fees for Visitors to Zimbabwe who are eligible to receive their visa on entry
Europe and USA: US$ 30.00 for single entry/ US$ 45.00 for double entry.
UK & Ireland: US$ 55.00 for single entry/ US$ 70.00 for double entry.
Canada: US$ 75.00 for single entry/ double entry to be obtained from local embassy prior to travel

Some visitors need to apply for visas before arrival - please check with your Embassy, Zimbabwe Government Visa Requirements. ALWAYS have cash available in the correct US$ amount at ALL ports of entry.

**Kaza Univisa – Zimbabwe and Zambia**

Travellers planning to visit both Zimbabwe and Zambia should apply for a UniVisa (also known as KAZA visa). The visa can be obtained in advance, as well as at ports of entry, but cannot be guaranteed.

The UniVisa allows travellers 30 days travel within both Zambia and Zimbabwe, and is also valid for daytrips to Botswana. Travellers must remain within Zambia & Zimbabwe for the visa to stay valid. Visiting Botswana as a daytrip will not affect the visa’s validity, provided travellers return to Zambia or Zimbabwe the same day.

**Internal Flights and Transfers**
Due to the remote areas the camps and lodges are based in, transfers between camps may take place by boat, train, game drive vehicle or light aircraft.

**Departure Taxes**
International departure taxes are included in the scheduled flight rates. However light aircraft transfers from Victoria Falls Airport to Livingstone or Kasane require an International Departure tax of US$35 per person & AIDF Levy of US$15 = US$50 per person to be paid in cash.

Domestic departure taxes are payable in cash at the airport, for any flights departing internally from any registered, manned airport. These include Harare, Bulawayo, Kariba, Hwange and Victoria Falls Airport. The amount is US$10 departure tax + US$5 AIDF Levy = US$15 per person. We recommend small denominations for easier and quicker transactions as change is not always available. Traveller’s cheques and credit cards are NOT accepted.

**Weight & Luggage Restrictions**
See Booking Information



***Visa***
Some visitors need to apply for visas before arrival please check with your Embassy.
For more information on visas please visit the following address:
Botswana Government - Visa Requirements

***BORDER CROSSINGS***

***Currency***
The currency of Botswana is the Pula (BWP). US$ Dollar notes (2007 Series onwards), and Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

***Internal Flights and Transfers***
Due to the remote areas the camps and lodges are based in, transfers between camps may take place by boat, mekoro, game drive vehicle or light aircraft.

*Flight times around Botswana | Approximate flying times*
Flight duration times (as listed below), are to be used as an average guideline. They are based on actual flying time, and passengers may have various stops en-route to a destination affecting the total travel time. Your pilot will brief you of your flight route and duration during the safety briefing.
Maun - Delta: 15 to 30 minutes
Delta – Delta: 10 to 20 minutes
Delta - Linyanti: 30 to 40 minutes
Maun – Linyanti: 50 to 60 minutes
Linyanti - Kasane: 40 to 60 minutes
Maun/Delta - Kasane: 60 to 80 minutes
Maun - Makgadikgadi/Desert: 40 to 60 minutes

*Departure Taxes*
Departure taxes are included in ticket prices.

***Weight & Luggage Restrictions***
See Booking Information