

O B D C *presents*



BEST OF AFRICA: SOUTH AFRICA, ZIMBABWE & BOTSWANA

Johannesburg • Kruger National Park • Victoria Falls National Park • Hwange National Park • Chobe National Park

They say that once you've experienced Africa, a piece of your heart remains there forever. With Best of Africa: South Africa, Zimbabwe & Botswana, you're sure to fall in love with the continent on this exciting adventure into three southern African countries, all rich in wildlife and culture.

Experience the thrill of finding more big game in Kruger, Hwange, and Chobe National Parks than you ever imagined — whether by land, water, or on foot. You'll go searching for predators such as lions, leopards, cheetahs, and hyenas, besides trying to see a glimpse of the highly endangered rhinos and wild dogs. But when it comes to elephants, you'll marvel at huge herds with gregarious youngsters and shy babies, grazing the bushland and cooling off in water holes and rivers.

This is also a safari for interacting with local people and discovering tribal culture. Whether lunching with locals in South Africa's Soweto township where Nelson Mandela lived, or gathering around the campfire for legends and folklore enacted in story and dance in your Hwange safari camp, you'll come closer to a greater understanding of the rich tapestry of African culture. You'll even join a local Zimbabwean family for a home-cooked meal.

Water is the lifeblood of survival for animals in the four national parks we visit, so we've rounded out this safari with three riverboat features on the Chobe River and an optional afternoon cruise on the mighty Zambezi. Plus, get a close-up view of the widest curtain of falling water in the world at the magnificent Victoria Falls, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Your comfort is guaranteed in top accommodations, including three Vantage-exclusive safari camps. And, with 24 included features and Cultural Discoveries, this truly is the African safari of a lifetime.

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YOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- **Purchase your airfare from Vantage** and airport transfers, fuel surcharges, and government taxes and fees are included
- **Accommodations:** 14 nights at 4- and 5-star safari lodges and hotels
- **40 meals:** 14 breakfasts, 13 lunches, and 13 dinners
- **24 included features and Cultural Discoveries** — a value of \$1,800 per person!
- **All park entrance fees**
- **Complimentary wine, beer, and soft drinks** at dinner
- **1 UNESCO World Heritage Site:** Victoria Falls
- **Complimentary services of a Vantage worldwide Concierge** to assist with all your personal requests
- **Guaranteed small groups** — limited to only 24 travelers!
- **Gratuities for local guides and drivers**
- **A Vantage Adventure Leader** and driver-guides, experienced and English-speaking
- **All transportation on tour**
- **All transfers and baggage handling** when overseas, beginning with your first hotel
- **Vantage 5% Travel Reward**, received upon your return, to use toward your next Vantage Adventure or Vantage Memorable Journey®

INCLUDED EXCURSIONS

17 Included Features

- Soweto township tour
- Visit the street where Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu lived
- Visit to the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum
- 2 Kruger game drives in open-sided safari vehicles, with a picnic lunch in the bush
- Guided walk in Victoria Falls National Park
- 4 half-day game drives in Hwange, including 2 evening game drives under spotlight
- Morning walking safari in Hwange big game country
- Painted Dog Conservation Center visit
- Full-day river cruise aboard the *Chobe Explorer* with a BBQ lunch
- Chobe photo safari on boats adapted and equipped for wildlife photography, with expert tuition
- 3 game drives in Chobe National Park
- Savor a local lunch at a vibrant Soweto restaurant
- Stop at Victoria Falls Craft Market to interact with locals and bargain for traditional treasures
- Share dinner and conversation with a Zimbabwean family in their Victoria Falls home
- Visit Chinotimba Primary School in Victoria Falls for a heartwarming Vantage Cares experience
- Enjoy a starlit bush dinner and African dancing alongside the Zambezi River at Victoria Falls
- Hear traditional Shona and Ndebele tribal tales around the fireside at our Hwange Vantage-exclusive camp
- Enjoy an African music and dance performance in Hwange

SPECIAL INTEREST



SAFARI HIGHLIGHTS Nothing compares with the thrill of a safari, and your game drives and river cruises will be highlights of this African adventure. Here's a glimpse of what awaits you:

- Kruger National Park: Start your African safari with a game drive through the most famous national park in Africa, stopping for a picnic lunch. Complete your Kruger encounter with another early morning safari drive the next day
- Hwange National Park: Revel in morning, afternoon, and nighttime game drives within Hwange National Park and in our game-rich private concession. You'll also experience the thrill of a

walking safari in big game country, as well as a visit to the Painted Dog Conservation Center

- Chobe National Park: With one of the largest concentrations of wildlife in Africa, this park will fulfill your desire to see animals in great numbers as well as spectacular birdlife on three game drives and two riverboat cruises



UNESCO & HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS Southern Africa's rich cultural history and the Victoria Falls UNESCO World Heritage Site are all revealed to you on this tour. Here's what you'll discover:

- Visit the former home of Nelson Mandela in South Africa's lively Soweto township and feel moved at the Hector Pieteron Memorial and Museum, documenting the tragedies of anti-apartheid student uprisings in 1976
- Explore the widest curtain of falling water at magnificent Victoria Falls, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Hear the historic legacy of David Livingstone from a local

Zimbabwean on an optional Zambezi River Cruise

- Add the highly recommended Cape Town extension and discover the world's smallest floral kingdom on Table Mountain, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature

NATURE HIGHLIGHTS Experience the thrill of big game safari on this adventure across South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana, traveling through breathtaking scenery and untamed landscapes:

- Cruise quietly along the Chobe River with animals untroubled by our presence, seeing crocodiles, hippos, and elephants wading and swimming in the water
- Stay in two deluxe Vantage-exclusive tented camps for an immersive nature experience with a luxurious twist
- Admire the power and magnificence of Victoria Falls, UNESCO World Heritage Site

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- Spend time in nature — cruising the rivers, game viewing from vehicle and on foot, and dining under the star-filled Southern Hemisphere night sky



WINE HIGHLIGHTS

The Cape Winelands are renowned, not only for their fine vintages, but for the jaw-dropping beauty of the scenery. Here's how you'll enjoy the fruits of this delightful mountainous region

on a Cape Town extension tour:

- Visit the historic town of Stellenbosch, the birthplace of the Cape wine industry
- Drive along pastoral scenic valleys of the Cape Winelands to Franschhoek (French Corner), where every wine estate has a French name and a wine tasting cellar
- Taste the Cape's unique vintages, like the South African signature variety Pinotage
- Enjoy lunch at a celebrated wine estate, with fabulous views of the Franschhoek Valley
- Buy some wine to take home or have it shipped



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS The best time of day to take nature photographs is in the golden light of dawn and dusk. We'll be out and about on safari at those times for you to take precious photographs that will remind you of this trip forever. Here are some things to consider for the best photographic results:

- Invest in a good quality, fast lens for your DSLR, with powerful zooming capabilities and good stability
 - Compact cameras and mobile phones these days have powerful cameras, but they don't do well at full zoom or shooting animals in the distance
- Be patient and wait for that great shot. A dark dot in the distance isn't going to make a great photo and only you will know what animal it was!
 - Bring extra memory cards as you can get bitten by the photography bug, especially after expert advice on the included photographic cruise along the Chobe River

Everyone loves the professional photographic cruise on the Chobe in specially adapted boats, where you have

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use of long-lens cameras on swivel mounts and specialist tuition. You'll snap some amazing shots that you never thought possible. And, you get to take the memory card home with you, full of accomplished images that you took yourself.



BIRDWATCHING HIGHLIGHTS Our journey through southern Africa's top nature preserves and their numerous habitats provides some of the most brilliant birding opportunities in the world. With 500 recorded species in some areas alone, if you didn't start out as a birdwatcher, you'll probably be entranced by them by the end. Here's a sample of what to look out for:

- Kruger National Park: In addition to the Big Five animals, Kruger has a birding Big Six equivalent: lappet-faced vulture, saddle-billed stork, martial eagle, kori bustard, Pel's fishing owl, and the southern ground hornbill. Count yourself extraordinarily

fortunate if you see them all

- Hwange National Park: Hwange is a treasure trove of "lifers" for serious birders, such as African hobby, pearl-spotted owl, Cape griffon, and exquisitely colored carmine bee-eaters and crimson-breasted shrikes
- Chobe National Park: With varied terrain and a permanent water source, Chobe attracts all kinds of land and water birds, making birdwatching a constant pleasure. There are so many different herons, kingfishers, waders, raptors, and little tweeters that you won't know where to look. Twitchers should look out for African marsh harrier, Pel's fishing owl, half-collared kingfisher, and white-backed night heron



ART & CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS From storytelling under the stars to the history of Nelson Mandela, and connecting with locals wherever we go, the splendor of African culture is on full display on this adventure. Here are a few highlights:

- Visit Nelson Mandela's former home in Soweto township
- See the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum, the memorial to 12-year-old Hector Pieterse, shot and killed during an anti-apartheid march here on June 16, 1976 — now National Youth Day
- Barter at vibrant market stalls in Victoria Falls for traditional

Shona stone sculptures and colorful arts and crafts

- Visit a Zimbabwean family home and eat a home-cooked meal with them, while sharing details about each other's lives
- The children of Chinotimba Primary School will touch your heart during a visit to this school supported by Vantage Cares

- In Hwange, we'll soak up the campfire atmosphere while listening to Shona and Ndebele tribal tales from a traditional storyteller



SOLO TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS Your adventure has been enhanced with special features catering to independent travelers, including:

- Solo-friendly social activities, including a Solo Connection mixer to get to know your fellow travelers
- Explore and make more intimate discoveries in a small group of just 16 or less likeminded travelers
- The services of a complimentary worldwide Concierge to enhance

your adventure with added sightseeing excursions, hotel stays, restaurant reservations, and more



CONCIERGE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS Customize your adventure in South Africa, Zimbabwe, and Botswana with these top Concierge suggestions:

- Shopping trips
- Extend your stay in Cape Town
- Additional excursions in Cape Town and Victoria Falls
- Celebrate an anniversary or occasion with a special meal or event
- Extend your accommodations due to early arrival or late

departure

JOHANNESBURG TO CHOBE NATIONAL PARK

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------|---|
| DAY 1: | Depart home for Johannesburg, South Africa | DAY 11: | Spot game on morning and afternoon safari drives, then hear traditional tribal stories around the campfire <i>Iganyana Tented Camp or similar</i> |
| DAY 2: | Arrive in Johannesburg, one of Africa's most important cities <i>The Houghton Hotel or similar</i> | DAY 12: | Last day in Hwange: Painted Dog Conservation Center visit, nighttime game drive, and African dance troupe entertainment <i>Iganyana Tented Camp or similar</i> |
| DAY 3: | Tour Soweto and visit Nelson Mandela's former home <i>The Houghton Hotel or similar</i> | DAY 13: | Travel to Botswana's Chobe National Park for an afternoon game drive <i>Cresta Mowana Safari Resort - Spa or similar</i> |
| DAY 4: | Fly to Kruger National Park, South Africa <i>Lions Rock Rapids Camp or similar</i> | DAY 14: | A sensational relaxing day cruising the Chobe River after a morning game drive <i>Cresta Mowana Safari Resort - Spa or similar</i> |
| DAY 5: | Morning game drive with picnic lunch inside Kruger National Park <i>Lions Rock Rapids Camp or similar</i> | DAY 15: | Embark a Chobe River photo safari and learn photography from professionals <i>Cresta Mowana Safari Resort - Spa or similar</i> |
| DAY 6: | Round out your Kruger safari with an early morning game drive <i>Lions Rock Rapids Camp or similar</i> | DAY 16: | Transfer to Kasane Airport and fly home |
| DAY 7: | Fly to Livingstone, Zambia, and transfer to Victoria Falls, Zambia <i>The Wallow, Victoria Falls or similar</i> | | |
| DAY 8: | Explore Victoria Falls, visit a craft market, take an optional flight over the falls, and dinner with a local family <i>The Wallow, Victoria Falls or similar</i> | | |
| DAY 9: | Optional Elephant Encounter, primary school visit, and Vantage-exclusive 3-course bush dinner <i>The Wallow, Victoria Falls or similar</i> | | |
| DAY 10: | Transfer to the Vantage-exclusive Iganyana Tented Camp in Hwange National Park <i>Iganyana Tented Camp or similar</i> | | |



4/12/2021 Depart home for Johannesburg, South Africa

Leave your cares behind and travel to Johannesburg, South Africa, on an overnight flight, arriving on Day 2.

4/13/2021 Arrive in Johannesburg, one of Africa's most important cities

Touch down in Joburg or Jozi, as it's affectionately known, South Africa's city of gold. A Vantage Representative will be at the airport to meet, greet, and escort you to your hotel in one of Joburg's leafy city suburbs. Rest and recover from your journey for the rest of the day.

The Houghton Hotel or similar

4/14/2021 Tour Soweto and visit Nelson

Mandela's former home

After breakfast, we head off on a guided bus tour of South Africa's largest township, Soweto. Known before as a shanty town, Soweto now has affluent neighborhoods. You'll sense the significance of the anti-apartheid struggle history as you walk along the only street in the world where two Nobel Peace Prize Laureates used to live: Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. Stop at the house in Vilakazi street where Nelson Mandela lived prior to his arrest. Walk around the Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum, a poignant reminder of how this 12-year old boy was killed in the struggle against apartheid. Taste township hospitality with lunch at a vibrant Soweto restaurant. You may just be treated to a delightful singing performance by the proprietor of the restaurant, too! After lunch, it's back to the hotel for an afternoon of relaxation, admiring the magnificent views over the city of Johannesburg from the poolside. We'll come together for a tour orientation before a Welcome Dinner. Included Features: Morning Tour of Soweto Visit to Nelson Mandela's House Hector Pieterse Memorial and Museum visit Cultural Discovery: Traditional local lunch in Soweto

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
The Houghton Hotel or similar

4/15/2021 Fly to Kruger National Park, South Africa

After breakfast at the hotel, it's time to head to our first safari camp beside Kruger National Park. We take a short transfer to the airport and a 50-minute flight,

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followed by a 1-hour road transfer to our idyllic tented safari camp on the banks of the Sabie River. This is our base for exploring Kruger National Park and its Big Five animals. The afternoon is yours to spend at leisure: explore the grounds, admiring the prolific birdlife, or sip a glass of fine South African wine beside the Sabie River while nibbling on macadamia nuts grown on this subtropical plantation. Dinner is at camp tonight.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Lions Rock Rapids Camp or similar

4/16/2021 Morning game drive with picnic lunch inside Kruger National Park

After breakfast at the lodge, be sure to pack your binoculars and camera for your first game drive in Kruger National Park. We'll drive slowly along routes known for the best animal sightings in the hope of spotting lions and their prey — including antelopes, buffaloes, zebras, and giraffes — as well as elephants. And, if we're very lucky, we may even see rhinos and leopards to round out our first potential Big Five spotting. With nearly 500 species of birds in Kruger, you can start the process of selecting your favorite. Will it be a majestic bateleur eagle soaring above the floodplains, or smaller, colorful little bee-eaters or lilac-breasted rollers, often perching by the roadside? You'll also have the opportunity to stretch your legs and enjoy a picnic lunch at a scenic spot inside the park. Then it's a game drive back to the gate, returning to the camp for a tranquil afternoon at leisure and dinner at the camp. Included Feature: Morning game drive in Kruger Park with a picnic lunch

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Lions Rock Rapids Camp or similar

4/17/2021 Round out your Kruger safari with an early morning game drive

As the lions in the park are naturally night owls, we'll want to catch them in action before morning. So, we will be up before breakfast and inside Kruger Park while predators are still at large. It's the best time of the day for seeing game activity! Our eagle-eyed rangers will seek out the animals while we are still waking up! We'll stop for a picnic breakfast before continuing our morning game drive, leaving the park in time to be at our safari camp for lunch. After such an early morning, you can catch up on rest during an afternoon at leisure. Tonight, we enjoy a last evening meal at our South African safari camp. Included Feature: Morning game drive in Kruger Park with a picnic breakfast

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Lions Rock Rapids Camp or similar

4/18/2021 Fly to Livingstone, Zambia, and transfer to Victoria Falls, Zambia

This morning we'll check out and drive to Kruger Airport for a short flight to Livingstone in Zambia. From here we'll transfer by road across the famous Victoria Falls bridge and through the border into Zimbabwe. Enjoy lunch at our new Vantage-exclusive safari lodge The Wallow, Victoria Falls, our home for the next three nights. This afternoon, you can relax at the lodge, while observing the far-off mist rising up from the torrent of water falling over Victoria Falls. We'll get right up close to Victoria Falls soon enough, so consider taking the optional afternoon Zambezi River Cruise. We highly recommend this 2.5-hour cruise on the mighty Zambezi, hosted by a local Zimbabwean, who will offer a fascinating cultural and historic insight to the area. Float along the very same stretch of river as David Livingstone, hearing stories that you won't find in books, passed down through generations. Dinner tonight is at the lodge.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
The Wallow, Victoria Falls or similar

4/19/2021 Explore Victoria Falls, visit a craft market, take an optional flight over the falls, and dinner with a local family

After breakfast, embark on a guided walk to the very edge of Victoria Falls, marveling at the immense power and majesty of this UNESCO World Heritage Site, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. With the roar of the falls, Devil's Cataract, and the aptly named Rainbow Falls all around you, you'll understand and hear just why Victoria Falls is known as Mosi-oa-Tunya (the "Smoke that Thunders"). There are more exceptional viewing sites as we walk through the subtropical rainforest of this National Park (raincoats advised). On our way back to the lodge, we'll stop at Victoria Falls Craft Market, where you can barter for beautiful handmade arts and crafts and Nyami Nyami Zambezi River God totems. Lunch is back at the lodge. After such a thrilling morning, you have the afternoon at leisure to rest up, or join one of two optional tour options. The first option is a "Flight of the Angels" helicopter ride over Victoria Fall. The second is the extended "Zambezi Spectacular" flight, which includes aerial game viewing along the river. The falls are impressive from any vantage point but soaring over them is an experience that promises to entrance you. Tonight, you're in for an authentic cultural treat — sharing a meal with a Zimbabwean family in their own home. Known for genuine smiles and sincere friendliness, this heartfelt encounter will truly enrich your trip. Any gifts you bring along are always most welcome, such as a can of peaches, infant formula, coloring books and crayons, or any other items. Included Feature: Guided walk to Victoria Falls

viewpoints Cultural Discovery: Interact with traders at Victoria Falls Craft Market and barter for gifts Enjoy dinner and conversation with a Zimbabwean family in their own home

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
The Wallow, Victoria Falls or similar

4/20/2021 Optional Elephant Encounter, primary school visit, and Vantage-exclusive 3-course bush dinner

Enjoy breakfast and a morning at leisure or consider an optional early morning Elephant Encounter. This powerful experience allows you to interact directly with these majestic creatures, and even feed them. Being so close to them and learning about the work being done to save them, is both enlightening and rewarding. Later this morning, you'll be warmly welcomed at Chinotimba Primary School. Through your patronage, Vantage Cares — our philanthropic arm — positively affects the lives of these children. These joyful youngsters often show their appreciation with vivacious songs and dance. Many guests cite this experience as a highlight of the trip! Lunch is back at the lodge. For our final evening at The Wallow, we gather for a Vantage-exclusive safari cocktail party, then head out for a secret location in the bush, where a three-course bush dinner awaits under a glittering night sky. If you hear drumming emanating from the darkness, it just might be the music and dance troupe coming to entertain you. Vantage Exclusive: Safari cocktail party Cultural Discoveries: Chinotimba Primary School visit Starlit bush dinner and African dancing alongside the Zambezi River

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
The Wallow, Victoria Falls or similar

4/21/2021 Transfer to the Vantage-exclusive Iganyana Tented Camp in Hwange National Park

After a leisurely breakfast, you'll transfer by coach to our Vantage-exclusive safari camp on a private concession of Hwange National Park, which is renowned for excellent game viewing. You'll love the authentic feel of Iganyana Tented Camp, as it gives you the impression that you are the only people in the African wilderness. Throughout our 3-night stay here, we will be privileged to encounter plenty of animals, including the famous huge herds of elephants, many of which turn up nightly at camp to drink from the waterhole. Bring your camera to capture a cameo from these majestic animals. Settle into your air-conditioned tented safari suite before having lunch at the camp. This afternoon, we head out on our first Hwange game drive. Have cameras and binoculars at the ready to get a taste of a really wild African safari. There's a potential surprise behind every bush, like when past traveler Janis Schnabel and her group watched a tiny

baby elephant emerge unsteadily from between the protective females! After a delicious dinner, head for the campfire and contemplate the spectacular night sky of the Southern Hemisphere and its astounding Milky Way. Look for the Southern Cross constellation pointing the way south — just to make sure you never get lost! You will surely be ready for a good night's sleep, but if you're woken by the sound of lions roaring or other African wildlife sounds, think of it as a "bucket list" experience, because it doesn't happen every day (except here in the bush)! Included Feature: Afternoon game drive

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Iganyana Tented Camp or similar

4/22/2021 Spot game on morning and afternoon safari drives, then hear traditional tribal stories around the campfire

Early morning is the best time to see wildlife. So, we'll be up at dawn in search of lion, leopard, hyena, and — with luck — rare and elusive wild dogs. But we'll be enraptured by all the many animals of the bush however large and small. Then, it's back to the camp for lunch and a short rest before tea. After, we head out on another exciting game drive, this time lasting beyond sunset so we can look for nocturnal animals by spotlight on our way back to the camp. During the afternoon drive, we'll head to a water hole and stop for a while, quietly observing who comes to drink and who gets right of the way, taking advantage of the golden light of dusk to snap some great photographs. With special sightings still fresh in your mind, we return to camp for dinner, often cooked over the coals by our cheerful chef. To finish off this special day, make yourself comfortable around the fireside under a dazzling Milky Way, where a local storyteller will entrance you with stories and legends from the area. Included Features: Morning game drive Afternoon game drive Cultural Discovery: Local storytelling around the fireside

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Iganyana Tented Camp or similar

4/23/2021 Last day in Hwange: Painted Dog Conservation Center visit, nighttime game drive, and African dance troupe entertainment

After breakfast we set off on foot, camouflaged in neutral-colored safari clothes, for a game walk. You'll be led by an experienced professional guide, qualified to walk with guests in the Big Five country. On foot, we're much closer to the sights, sounds, and smells of the bush, and you'll learn some survival tricks and tracking skills, like identifying spoor (footprints), so you know whether it was a lion or leopard that passed this way and how long ago! Smaller creatures are

exciting too, and you may even learn how to coax a ferocious little ant-lion, a native insect, out of its lair. There are many secrets of the bush to be discovered and your guide will reveal them all to you. Before lunch, we head over to the Painted Dog Conservation Center to hear how their community awareness, education, and anti-poaching measures are helping in the conservation of this Red List Endangered species, whose numbers are declining. There are about 700 painted (wild) dogs in Hwange. If we are ever going to see them, this is the best place to do it and what a rare privilege it would be! After, enjoy lunch at the camp and relax a little before our next exciting adventure. By late afternoon, you'll be in the game-viewing vehicle for another game drive — this time, to see what's out and about in the dead of night. As darkness descends, our guide's well-trained eyes will find elusive nocturnal animals in the spotlight, including big-eyed bush babies, bat-eared foxes, spotted hyenas, chameleons, and even large spiders. You'll be ready for dinner after such a great day . . . but we've got one last surprise for your final evening in Hwange! We've arranged a special performance of traditional African dance that will get your feet tapping and hands clapping. Included Features: Morning guided bush walk Visit to the Painted Dog Conservation Center Afternoon/evening game drive Cultural Discovery: African music and dance performance

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Iganyana Tented Camp or similar

4/24/2021 Travel to Botswana's Chobe National Park for an afternoon game drive

After breakfast we take an easy 2-hour drive through the Zimbabwean countryside to Victoria Falls, where we stop for lunch. Then we continue on to the Botswana border and pass through customs and immigration before arriving at our gorgeous lodge right on the banks of the Chobe River. Every air-conditioned room has river views and a private balcony. You'll have time to settle in before an afternoon game drive into Chobe National Park, where you will find out why it's so famous . . . which has a lot to do with elephants! And also buffaloes, lions, antelopes, and the life-giving river that flows through this park. Savor a delicious dinner while sitting beside this river of life and listen for the inimitable grunt of hippos as they proclaim the end of another spectacular African day. Included Feature: Afternoon game drive

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Cresta Mowana Safari Resort - Spa or similar

4/25/2021 A sensational relaxing day cruising the Chobe River after a morning game drive

We re-visit Chobe National Park this morning on an early game drive, exploring its lush riverine bush and

sandy thornveld, which contain one of the largest concentrations of game in Africa. Whatever the season, large herds of elephant and buffalo are often seen near the river, while predators like lion and spotted hyena are always around. Look out for huge leguaan lizards and crocodiles sunning on the banks. Game such as kudu, warthog, baboons, and vervet monkeys find refuge in the grounds of the lodge and elephants sometimes crash their way in, too! Back at the lodge, there's time to freshen up before embarking on the triple-decker Vantage-exclusive Chobe Explorer cruising boat, where you can truly relax for the rest of the day. This is your time to slow down and soak up the beauty of this incredible wetland and its abundant wildlife. Sit under shaded loungers, binoculars at the ready, to tick off some of the 460 species of birds and still more animals. When you detect the delicious aroma of sizzling food, you know the traditional braai (barbeque) has been fired up on the lower deck and lunch will be ready soon. The vegetarian options are very popular, too. If you feel an afternoon siesta coming on, there's nothing to keep you awake, except a few trumpeting elephants or grunting hippos. To complete our special day, we cruise back to the lodge with sundowner drinks in hand and admire the sun's golden orb sink into a watery horizon. There's nothing quite like a sunset on the Chobe River. Included Feature: Early morning game drive Vantage Exclusive: River cruise and barbeque on the Chobe Explorer

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Cresta Mowana Safari Resort - Spa or similar

4/26/2021 Embark a Chobe River photo safari and learn photography from professionals

After an unhurried breakfast, enjoy a morning at leisure, or opt for our Chobe in Style luxury river cruise with an included breakfast. Later this morning, we all take to the Chobe River again for what many Vantage guests say is one of their most memorable experiences: the Chobe photography safari. We board special boats equipped with swivel chairs and state-of-the-art zoom lens DSLR cameras and a memory stick for you to take home, containing all the masterful wildlife photos you took during this Feature. We'll be spread between three boats taking a maximum of 8 people each for individual attention and expert tuition. Take it from Vantage traveler Maureen Robb, who said, "I had never been much interested in birds, but this photographic safari changed my mind!" The excitement isn't over. After lunch at the lodge, you can use your newly-honed photography skills on an afternoon game drive in Chobe National Park. Senses saturated from a day of new adventures, we return to the lodge for a very special Farewell Dinner on your last night on safari. Included Features: Chobe photo safari on boats specially adapted for photography

Afternoon game drive

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Cresta Mowana Safari Resort - Spa or similar

4/27/2021 Transfer to Kasane Airport and fly home

After breakfast, you'll transfer to Kasane Airport to catch a plane to Johannesburg and connect with your flight back home. For those on the recommended post-trip extension to Cape Town, you'll transfer to Victoria Falls Airport for a direct 3-hour flight to Cape Town.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Important Notice: The above day-by-day itineraries are preliminary and therefore subject to change. If changes occur while on tour, you will be notified by your Vantage Adventure Leader or local representatives at the destination.

Please Note: The hotels listed are preliminary and subject to change. Although we contract our hotels a year in advance, unforeseen situations do occasionally occur. Should it be necessary to change a hotel, one of equal quality and value will be substituted. You will receive verified hotel information with your final itinerary.

Note: That hotel ratings are based on the hotel and a leading travel industry authority on hotels throughout the world.

ACCOMMODATIONS



The Houghton Hotel ★★★★★

One of the Leading Hotels of the World, Johannesburg's 5-star Houghton Hotel is centrally located while overlooking 168 acres of private parkland, including jogging paths and a golf course. The luxurious rooms offer a Nespresso machine, cable TV, 24-hour in-room dining, complimentary Wi-Fi, and more. Enjoy a meal at two on-site restaurants, then pamper yourself at the hotel's world-class spa and fitness facilities.



Lions Rock Rapids Camp ★★★★★

A serene safari lodge close to Kruger National Park, Lions Rock Rapids Camp offers a convenient location and an off-the-beaten-path experience combined with pure comfort. Each of the 21 safari tents has luxurious amenities, en suite bathrooms and private patios. With its restful setting on the banks of the Sabie River, nature is the star. View the peaceful river from your patio, stroll on the grounds to spot the prodigious birdlife, enjoy a meal by star and candlelight in the riverside boma, or sip a drink while listening to the sounds of the African night.



The Wallow, Victoria Falls

★★★★★

This new Vantage-exclusive safari lodge is on a private concession inside Victoria Falls National Park. Enjoy sumptuous soft furnishings, glass-fronted, air-conditioned tented suites with bespoke toiletries, soft bathrobes, hair dryer, tea/coffee station, and your own private wooden deck. Tables laid with white linen and lit with candlelight add a touch of romance to The Wallow's dining terrace. The nearby mud wallow, after which it's named, is frequented by elephants from Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust, a Vantage Cares Initiative, and we'll be able to watch them enjoy a mud bath.



Iganyana Tented Camp ★★★★★

With its unique combination of adventure and luxury, the Vantage-exclusive Iganyana Tented Camp safari lodge is as authentic as it gets, but makes no compromise on comfort. In a private concession, a few minutes from Hwange National Park, the rest of the world feels far away as you connect to the enchantment of the African bush. Spacious, custom-made safari tents feature air-conditioning and en suite bathrooms. Spend your days enjoying safari activities and relish evenings around the fire pit and watering hole that's well-frequented by elephants.



Cresta Mowana Safari Resort & Spa ★★★★★

The luxury Cresta Mowana Safari Resort & Spa was built around an 800-year-old baobab tree on the banks of the Chobe River. All rooms are air-conditioned and feature tea/coffee-making stations, satellite TV, a mini bar, hairdryer, mosquito nets, and electric insect repellents. Savor delectable African cuisine at the on-site restaurant, sip a cocktail at Savuti Bar, or grab a snack at the Boma Terrace. After a day of game viewing, retreat to the swimming pool that seems to disappear into the Chobe landscape. For a truly unique experience, visit the resort's salon — located in a treehouse.



The Cullinan Hotel ★★★★★

Elegant and stylish, the Superior First Class Cullinan Hotel is located in the most sought-after part of the city, packed with restaurants, bars, shopping, and museums. The hotel offers a free shuttle to the celebrated V&A Waterfront, just a few minutes away. Rooms are tastefully furnished and designed for maximum comfort, incorporating world-class amenities with contemporary emphasis. Guests have access to a host of services and facilities, including great dining, a fully equipped fitness center, outdoor heated pool, and world-class boutique spa.



The Westin Washington Dulles Airport ★★★★★

Built in 2009, the Westin Washington Dulles Airport hotel was recently renovated and is conveniently just one mile from the airport. It's also close to the Smithsonian Museums, Ford's Theatre, and Mount Vernon, and includes an on-site restaurant. Rooms feature air-conditioning, a coffee-maker, daily maid service, iron and ironing board, microwave oven, telephones, refrigerators, in-room safes, and cable TV.

EXPLORE MORE

Cape Town, South Africa



FROM \$1,499 PER PERSON | 6 DAYS | \$250 PER DAY

Home comers have been known to clap or even cry as they see Cape Town's beloved Table Mountain from the airplane window, such is the emotion roused by this city's mother icon. It's also been likened to a sleeping goddess, the stairway to heaven, and watcher of the south. You will experience its quartzitic energy on a trip to the top by cable car, where this long thin peninsula of land — with Cape Town at its head and Cape Point at its tip — spreads out before you. Cape Town's scenic beauty is unsurpassed. We'll drive you along mind-blowing coastal scenic routes, through the genteel Cape Winelands for wine tasting at ancient estates, around the historic city, and jet you off on a luxury motor cruise for an ocean adventure. Remember: there's no rush, take your cue from chilled-out Capetonians. They are so laid back that citizens of industrious Johannesburg say it's called the Mother City because it takes 9 months for anything to happen!

Your Price Includes:

- **Air transportation** from Chobe National Park to Cape Town (note this extension ends in Cape Town)
- **5 nights' accommodations** at the *Cullinan Hotel* (or similar)
- **8 meals:** 5 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 2 dinners
- **8 included features and Cultural Discoveries**, including a Table Mountain cable car ride, tour of Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, a visit to the Cape Winelands with wine tastings, and an ocean adventure on a luxury motor yacht to view Robben Island
- **2 UNESCO World Heritage Sites:** Robben Island (seen from the sea), and Cape Floral Region (including Table Mountain)
- **All transfers between your base tour and your extension**, as well as baggage handling (where permitted) and internal transfers
- **Services of a regional expert**
- **Tipping of local guides and drivers** (excluding City Host/regional expert)
- **Services of the Vantage Worldwide Concierge**, to plan celebrations, activities, or provide regional expertise. Log into My Portfolio and submit a request,

Reserve Today! Call Toll-Free **1 800 848 5773** - WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/SAF21

Time Differences

| Country | Time Difference |
|--------------|-----------------|
| South Africa | 6 hours |
| Botswana | 6 hours |
| Zimbabwe | 6 hours |

Note: The above times are based on Eastern Standard Time.

Climate

Use the chart below to get an overview of the average temperatures at your destination. **Average High/Low Temperature (Fahrenheit)**

| | | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|----------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Cape Town | H | 77 | 78 | 76 | 72 | 67 | 64 | 62 | 63 | 65 | 69 | 72 | 75 |
| | L | 63 | 63 | 60 | 56 | 52 | 58 | 57 | 58 | 51 | 54 | 58 | 61 |
| Chobe National Park | H | 90 | 89 | 88 | 87 | 82 | 77 | 77 | 83 | 91 | 95 | 94 | 91 |
| | L | 67 | 66 | 63 | 58 | 49 | 42 | 42 | 47 | 55 | 64 | 66 | 66 |
| Johannesburg | H | 77 | 75 | 74 | 69 | 66 | 60 | 61 | 65 | 71 | 73 | 74 | 76 |
| | L | 60 | 59 | 58 | 53 | 48 | 42 | 42 | 46 | 51 | 54 | 56 | 59 |
| Kruger National Park | H | 82 | 82 | 80 | 78 | 77 | 73 | 73 | 75 | 78 | 78 | 80 | 82 |
| | L | 64 | 64 | 62 | 57 | 48 | 42 | 42 | 46 | 51 | 57 | 60 | 62 |
| Victoria Falls | H | 83 | 82 | 82 | 78 | 75 | 71 | 71 | 75 | 81 | 83 | 84 | 82 |
| | L | 64 | 64 | 63 | 59 | 54 | 49 | 49 | 52 | 58 | 61 | 64 | 64 |