



# Travel on the Shongololo Express Heritage Train



SADC citizen special

## THE 2013 SOUTHERN CROSS ADVENTURE

Visit Vic Falls, Livingstone, Chobe & more

4 Countries

# From Zimbabwe to Botswana, Zambia, & South Africa

(Southbound)

Northbound (reverse itinerary) package also available, please enquire

## 10-Day/9-Night Train Tour Package









Hosted by:
Shongololo Express
JB Train Tours acts as the Agent

#### **Head Office**







#### ABOUT THE SOUTHERN CROSS ADVENTURE TRAIN TOUR

Fly to Vic Falls prior to tour (own cost). Travel with the Shongololo Express Heritage train from Zimbabwe through Zambia & Botswana to South Africa to. En route you will visit popular tourist destinations like the Vic Falls, Livingstone, Chobe & more.

#### **ABOUT JB TRAIN TOURS**

JB Train Tours (<u>www.jbtours.co.za</u>), a train tour operator (in this case the agent), was founded in 1975 and has been in operation ever since. We offer Budget, Upmarket & Luxury train tours across Southern Africa as well as bus & flight tours.

#### **ABOUT SHONGOLOLO EXPRESS**

Shongololo Express operates exciting adventure train trips, each traversing great stretches of Southern Africa to let you experience the wonderful topographic, social, historic, floral and wildlife diversity of these distinctive areas - south and west coast - the central and southern regions - and the northern and north-eastern areas of this richly endowed sub-continent.

#### **INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PACKAGE**

- Organisation of your 10-Day/9-Night Train Tour Package by professionals
- Shongololo Express Train accommodation on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis (as per itinerary see below)
- A free choice of available 'inclusive options' (you have to choose among the options as the activities occurs at the same time, see itinerary for options)
- The services of fully qualified tour guides
- Arrival transfer before tour: Vic Falls Airport to Shongololo Express train stationed at Vic Falls
- Departure transfer *after* tour: Shongololo Express train to Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport, Nelspruit

#### **EXCLUDED FROM THE TOUR PACKAGE**

- Airfares (national & international)
- Lunches (and any meals not mentioned)
- Beverages
- Laundry
- Gratuities
- Purchases of a personal nature
- Tour add-ons/"optional extras" are subject to availability. No pre-tour bookings taken for 'optional extra' activities bookings will be made onboard. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE <u>RATES</u> FOR OPTIONAL EXTRAS (SEE BELOW ON INTINERARY) ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE (THE SERVICE PROVIDER CAN AMEND THE RATE AT ANY TIME) AND WILL ONLY BE CONDUCTED IF ENOUGH GUESTS ARE INTERESTED. THE RATES ARE ONLY PROVIDED TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA ON BUDGET PLANNING
- Pre- or post night accommodation
- Valid passports & Visas where applicable (please enquire at your local consulate if required and request cost estimation). The visa's will be done on your behalf on the train and billed to your onboard account.
- We strongly recommend that guests take Malaria Prophylactics

#### **Head Office**

Tel: 0861 JBTOURS, 0861 52 86 87 or +27 11 913 2442

Fax: 086 687 7344 or +27 11 913 0552

E-mail: info@jbtours.co.za, Web: www.jbtours.co.za PO Box 17406, Sunward Park, 1470, South Africa





- Comprehensive Travel insurance
- Transfers:
  - ✓ Between your house and *transfer/tour* departure points can be arranged by JB Train Tours, please request quote on booking form
  - ✓ Between Kruger Mpumalanga International Airport, Nelspruit (official *tour* arrival point) to OR Tambo International Airport (official transfer *arrival* point in Gauteng) to). JB Train Tours can arrange this transfer at R450pp one way please indicate on booking form
  - ✓ between the Train, Airport and City Centre hotels

#### 2013 TOUR DATES & PRICES

Tour date	Tour code	Tour price per person sharing
2 – 11 April 2013	JBTT VF#2	Only R12 879
18 - 27 September 2013	JBTT VF#4	Only R12 879
3 – 12 December 2013	JBTT VF#6	Only R12 879

# SADC citizen special

#### Notes:

- Single travellers will pay a 50% single supplement of the per person sharing rate: R12 879 + R6 439.50.
- A child between the ages of 7 and 12 years can only be accommodated if sharing a cabin with one full paying adult. The child will pay 50% of the per person sharing rate. The second adult (if applicable) will then be accommodated in his/her own cabin as a single traveller (see rate above). No more than two people will be allowed to share any cabin, so where a family consists of three or more people, more cabins will be booked
- The special is only applicable to guests of African citizenship and residence (a copy of ID or passport must accompany your booking)
- This offer is only valid on the above mentioned dates, tours departing from Vic Falls
- Price is per person sharing staving in a 2-bed cabin (see more info on cabins below)
- "Price per person sharing" means the price is per person but 2 persons will share a 2-bed cabin
- Prices may change without prior notice and places are subject to availability. Limited space available book now!
- Flights from Zimbabwe are excluded from the package and to be arranged by the passenger. JB Train Tours can assist with flight arrangements at an additional cost please enquire
- A Northbound package (reverse itinerary) is also available please enquire

#### **PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME**

This 10-day journey encompasses four countries on a route that is carefully crafted to deliver stunning experiences each and every day. The train travels between Victoria Falls and Kruger National Park, stopping at carefully selected locations in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Botswana and South Africa. As the tracks unfurl a rare insight is offered into the cultural and geographical cocktail that makes Southern Africa so vibrant and exciting.

# Southbound

(see map on right – your tour starts at Vic Falls and only incl. the route as per the itinerary below)







#### **PRE-DAY** (optional)

#### **GAUTENG**

#### Departure options:

- Make your own way (own arrangements) to Vic Falls Airport, Zimbabwe
- Make use of JB Train Tour's service we will handle arrangements to Vic Falls Airport, Zimbabwe (additional cost)

#### **VICTORIA FALLS**

Guests will be met upon arrival at Victoria Falls International Airport and transferred to the train. Having a pre-day allows guests to acclimatise and unpack prior to the first day of touring. A pre-night (additional cost @ R450pp sharing) on board will include dinner, bed and breakfast.

#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS:**



1) Flight of Angels (R1 300pp for a short flight of 13min and R2 200pp for a long flight of 26 minutes)

A highlight of any visit to Victoria Falls is a trip in a light aircraft or helicopter over the falls. Enjoy a bird's eye view of one of the seven Natural Wonders of the World in all its magical splendour



#### 2) White Water River Rafting (R1 500pp)

Batoka Gorge provides one of the most intense sensory thrills imaginable. Its twentythree white water rapids and striking scenery deep within the sheer black cliffs, afford the adrenaline junkie a wild roller coaster ride. The rapids are run in large rubber rafts, launched from just below the Falls. (Seasonal).



#### 3) Elephant Riding (R900pp)

Seated comfortably on the back of nature's true "King of the Beasts", guests can experience an age-old African tradition. A mutually enriching and rewarding experience for man and elephant in a modern-day Africa.





#### **Head Office**







### 4) Bungee Jumping from Livingstone Bridge (Price on request)

Spanning the gorge between Zambia and Zimbabwe, The Livingstone Bridge offers one of the world's highest bungee jumps (111 m). Challenge the limits of the mind and test the edge of fear by leaping off the impressive steel structure, with the falls behind and the mighty Zambezi River below.

The train remains stationary at Victoria Falls station overnight.

#### DAY 1 GAUTENG

Departure options:

- Make your own way (own arrangements) to Vic Falls Airport, Zimbabwe
- Make use of JB Train Tour's service we will handle your flight arrangements to Vic Falls Airport, Zimbabwe (additional cost)

#### VICTORIA FALLS

Guests arriving at Victoria Falls International Airport today will be met and transferred to the train. Please note that you should arrive *no later than 08:00* at the airport in order to be able to participate in the day's touring.

#### **INCLUSIVE OPTION:**

#### 1) The Victoria Falls

Forming the largest single "curtain" of falling water on earth (on average the curtain is 92 m deep) The Victoria Falls' 500m plume of spray can be seen from as far as 70 km away. The sound of the water can also be heard from kilometres away and up close this muted 'thunder' becomes a roar. In full flood, over 550 million litres of water per minute cascade over the brink. The vast width of the Falls, extending 1 708 m, allows for many safe vantage points from where you will be able to get different views of the rolling water as it crashes into the gorge and whose constant spray maintains the Rain Forest. The forest is an attraction on its own with many of the trees marked to help identification. These include fig, mahogany, date palm, milkwood and ebony. The bird life is also prolific and species that may be seen include the colourful sunbird and large trumpeter hornbill. Craft and curio shops abound with enough variety for everyone to find something to take home as a souvenir.



(Morning. Distance travelled: ± 15 km)

The afternoon is spent at leisure.

#### Head Office







#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS:**



1) **Flight of Angels** (R1 300pp for a short flight of 13min and R2 200pp for a long flight of 26 minutes)

A highlight of any visit to Victoria Falls is a trip in a light aircraft or helicopter over the falls. Enjoy a bird's eye view of one of the seven Natural Wonders of the World in all its magical splendour

## 2

#### 2) White Water River Rafting (R1 500pp)

Batoka Gorge provides one of the most intense sensory thrills imaginable. Its twenty-three white water rapids and striking scenery deep within the sheer black cliffs, afford the adrenaline junkie a wild roller coaster ride. The rapids are run in large rubber rafts, launched from just below the Falls. (Seasonal).



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#### 4) Bungee Jumping from Livingstone Bridge (Price on request)

Spanning the gorge between Zambia and Zimbabwe, The Livingstone Bridge offers one of the world's highest bungee jumps (111 m). Challenge the limits of the mind and test the edge of fear by leaping off the impressive steel structure, with the falls behind and the mighty Zambezi River below.

The train remains stationary at Victoria Falls station overnight.

#### DAY 2

#### CHOBE NATIONAL PARK (BOTSWANA)

#### **INCLUSIVE OPTION:**



#### 1) Chobe National Park

A 70-kilometre road trip brings us to the Botswana border, where we cross into the famous Chobe National Park. There is a great array of wildlife and the Chobe elephants are well respected, as are the many hippos which can be seen in large numbers basking in the river. Highlights include a game drive in 4x4 vehicles and a river cruise on the Chobe River. Lunch (guests' own account) will be taken at a waterfront lodge where there is a swimming pool.



(Full day. Distance travelled: ± 200 km)

The train remains stationary at Victoria Falls Station over night.

#### **Head Office**







DAY 3 LIVINGSTONE | INCLUSIVE OPTION:

(ZAMBIA)

1)

#### 1) Across the Falls and into Livingstone

Guests cross the great Zambezi River via the famous rail/road bridge. Our first stop is on the Zambian side of Victoria Falls before continuing to the town of Livingstone, named after David Livingstone, the Scottish visionary, who had an insatiable appetite for exploration and a desire to open Africa to the world. The existence of the Falls had of course been known to local tribes long before he 'discovered' them. Upon hearing stories about "Mosi oa Tunya" (the smoke that thunders), he arranged to be taken there by dugout canoe and on November 16, 1855 Livingstone came to the northern end of what is now Livingstone Island. From there he crawled to the edge of the precipice and beheld the spectacle of the waterfall for the first time. We visit the Livingstone Museum before heading to the Waterfront Lodge for lunch (guests' own account). Our last visit in the afternoon will be at the Fifth Gorge for a spectacular view of the Zambezi River.

(Full day. Distance travelled: ± 70 km)

#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS:**

1) Lunch time Boat Cruise (R540pp)

This spectacular lunchtime cruise on the Zambezi includes a buffet lunch.

### 2)

#### 2) Overnight at Sikumi Tree Lodge

Guests have the opportunity to spend a night in a rustic lodge in Hwange National Park. You will depart from Dete Station in open 4x4 safari vehicles for a series of game drives. The package includes game drives, lunch, dinner, bed and breakfast. The following day, you will be driven to Victoria Falls in our Shongololo vehicles, visiting the Falls in the afternoon while the rest of the group is in Zambia. You will have the opportunity to visit Livingstone on Day 15. The train departs for Victoria Falls in the evening. (Option not available as the lodge is currently closed till further notice).

#### **Evening Activity**

An off-rail dinner is planned for this evening.

The train departs for Dete after dinner

#### DAY 4 HWANGE NATIONAL PARK

#### **INCLUSIVE OPTIONS:**



#### 1) Hwange National Park

Situated in the north-west corner of Zimbabwe, Hwange National Park is the nation's largest wildlife area and contains a variety of animals and bird species, but is most well known for its prolific lion population. Covering 1 462 000 hectares, Hwange is roughly the same size as Belgium. An early morning game drive in the park is followed by breakfast at the Sable Valley Lodge. After a morning of game viewing, lunch (guests' own account) will be at Ivory Lodge. There will be an opportunity to relax at the pool for a while before we resume our game viewing later in the afternoon.

#### **Head Office**









(Full day. Distance travelled: ± 120 km)

The train departs for Bulawayo in the evening.

#### DAY 5

BULAWAYO AND MATOBO NATIONAL PARK

#### **INCLUSIVE OPTIONS:**

1) Matobo Hills and an Art Gallery (closed on Sundays)

Matobo means "bald headed ones" and aptly describes the dramatic hills and granite rocks of this area. Highlights include a visit to the burial place of Cecil John Rhodes, who gave the country its previous name of Rhodesia. Afterwards, we will go and visit one of the more accessible bushman caves, of which there are many hidden amongst the hills. There will be time for lunch (guests' own account) before joining a tour of the Natural History Museum, which is one of the best of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Lastly, we take a drive through the city and visit an art gallery.



(Full day. Distance travelled: ± 150 km)

#### 2) Matobo Hills and the Railway Museum

Matobo means "bald headed ones" and aptly describes the dramatic hills and granite rocks of this area. Highlights include a visit to the burial place of Cecil John Rhodes, who gave the country its previous name of Rhodesia. Afterwards, we will go and visit one of the more accessible bushman caves, of which there are many hidden amongst the hills. There will be time for lunch (guests' own account) before joining a tour of the Natural History Museum, which is one of the best of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. For rail enthusiasts, the art gallery visit is replaced with a tour of the railway museum.

(Full day. Distance travelled: ± 150 km)

#### **Head Office**







#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS:**

### 1) Chipangali Wildlife Orphanage (R50pp)

Visit this famous wildlife orphanage to learn about the plight of some of the wild animals. This tour can be combined with either the Bulawayo City Tour or the Matobo Tour.

### 2) Rhino Tracking in Matobo National Park (R550pp)

After the morning tour of the recreational part of the National Park, join a ranger for lunch and set off on a walking safari through the bushveld searching for the trail of one of the Big 5, the rhino!! With some luck you could see or even get very, very close to this fascinating and endangered animal.



# 3) Overnight at Antelope Park & night encounter with lions (R3 000pp sharing & R3 500 single)

After the morning tour in the Matobos and lunch, we depart Bulawayo & head for Gweru. After a 90 minute drive we reach Antelope Park, our destination and stop for the night. Check in and rest or explore the grounds and enjoy the African sunset before dinner. After dinner the "Night Encounter" action will commence! We board an open safari vehicle & follow the lions on their hunt. THIS ENCOUNTER HAS NO GUARANTEES as the action could be over in a relatively short time or take hours before the lions have any luck......or may be none at all! Next morning, wake up to the sounds of the bush and after breakfast you will join the rest of the group to enjoy the various activities on offer at Antelope Park.

The train travels to Somabhula in the evening.

# DAY 6 ANTELOPE PARK, GWERU

#### INCLUSIVE OPTIONS:

#### 1) Antelope Park - Walk with lions and lion cub viewing

Antelope Park's long-term project aim is to reintroduce the offspring of captive bred lions into the wild. But today there is one highlight and that is a walk with some of the lions - approximately 90 minutes accompanying lions varying in age from 3 months to 15 months. No leashes, no collars - the lions roam free with you through the African bush for an amazing photo opportunity. You may even be fortunate enough to experience a lion stalking some of the wildlife species which are abound in Antelope Park. Back at the camp, for about 20 minutes, you will also have the option to view and interact with younger lion cubs.

#### **Head Office**











### 2) Gweru Military Museum and Aviation Display

After lunch (guest's own account) in Antelope Park, guests who are interested in military and aviation hardware will board a Shongololo bus and drive to the town of Gweru to visit the Military Museum.

#### 3) Somabhula Primary School

Late afternoon after Antelope Park and the Military Museum, guests will head back to Somabhula for a visit of the local primary school. After a touching show prepared for us by children and teachers, there is a great opportunity to interact with them. Donations such as stationery and clothes as well as financial donations are always most welcome at this exceptional school.



(Full day. Distance travelled  $\pm$  50 km)

#### **OPTIONAL EXTRAS:**

1) Canoe Hire (R120pp)

During our stay at Antelope Park, you will be able to take a canoe and paddle on your own on the river and observe the birdlife.

2) Game Drives (Open Carriage ride game viewing @ R340pp, Game Drive open 4x4 @ R340pp, Bush walk @ R250pp)

Take an open vehicle safari vehicle in a one hour game drive through the park.

3) Horseback Game Viewing (R340pp)

For experienced riders only. Enjoy one and a half hours on horseback through the park on a guided ride.

#### **Head Office**

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4) Elephant Riding (R440pp) & Elephant swim (R440pp) Two up on Africa's largest mammal for a 30 minute ride through the park 5) Lion Breeding Project (Lion Breeding Project @ R200pp, Lion Feeding @ R270pp) "Alert" is the name of the project. The objective of this project is for the new generation of lions to be released into the wild. 6) Bird Watching Boat Cruise (R330) Enjoy 45 minutes of bird watching on the river in an open ten-seater boat After the return to the train in the early evening, we will depart for Bannockburn. DAY 7 **GREAT** INCLUSIVE: **ZIMBABWE** Largest Monument in Africa south of the Pyramids Great Zimbabwe, a hugely impressive monument situated on the south-eastern edge of the central plateau is the largest pre-colonial monument south of the Egyptian pyramids and is a celebrated achievement of the African people. Magical fables such as the story of King Solomon's Mines find their origins here amongst the ruins of an ancient city built by the Rozwi people. Discover how these ancient people lived and mined gold and silver, which were ultimately taken out of Africa by Arabic and Portuguese traders. The tour is followed by lunch at the Great Zimbabwe Hotel (guests' own account), after which we travel through attractive granite hill country to Rutenga. (Full day. Distance travelled: ± 300 km) Guests rejoin the train at Rutenga and travel to Beit Bridge where the train crosses into South Africa. DAY 8 DAY ON INCLUSIVE: TRAIN TO Guests spend the day relaxing on the train which travels through the countryside of SOUTH Limpopo, Gauteng and Mpumalanga provinces. The train stops in Nelspruit, the **AFRICA** capital of Mpumalanga, where guests spend the night, departing for the Panorama Route the following morning. Lunch will be served on the train today and the guides will host informative talks in the lounges.

#### **Head Office**







DAY 9	PANORAMA ROUTE	INCLUSIVE: Panorama Route
		In 1873 gold was discovered in the area around the quaint town of Pilgrim's Rest, now a living museum and National Monument. The find attracted 1500 diggers and today, many of the restored miner's houses serve as shops. Further along the escarpment we find the great Blyde River Canyon, a gorge 26 km in length and 800 m deep, carved from the face of the escarpment. The Three Rondavels, three huge rock spirals rising out of the far wall of the canyon and resembling African huts present an unforgettable sight. Bourke's Luck Potholes are strange deep cylindrical cavities formed by river erosion and floodwater. From the vantage point of God's Window we gaze across the sweeping landscape of the Lowveld, where subtle fragrances of the lower region rise to merge with the crisp winds of the Highveld. (Full day. Distance travelled: ± 280 km)
DAY 10	NELSPRUIT -	The train remains stationary in Nelspruit.  Guests checkout at 09:00 and will be transferred to Kruger Mpumalanga
	TRANSFER DAY	International Airport or hotels in Nelspruit.

#### **ABOUT THE SHONGOLOLO EXPRESS TRAIN**

#### The Train

Each train has its own bar, dining and accommodation carriages. As in any hotel, bedding and towels are provided and cabins are serviced daily. Cabins have ample storage space and closets are equipped with both hangers and shelving. All passenger cabins have basins and running water. Power is 220v AC and European plug adaptors are provided. In addition, there is an onboard laundry service.

The graphic represented here may not accurately depict the actual train, this is only an example:



#### **Head Office**

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E-mail: info@jbtours.co.za, Web: www.jbtours.co.za PO Box 17406, Sunward Park, 1470, South Africa





#### • The cabins:

You will be booked into one of two types of cabins (tour price the same - the only difference is the bed lay out). Subject to availability.

#### Golden Cabin

Twin beds with a private en-suite toilet, hand basin and shower, airconditioning and a safe.

Mini shelves are built underneath the bunk bed and empty cases can be stored under the bed.



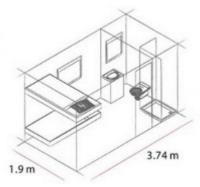


#### > Commodore Cabin

Twin beds with a private en-suite toilet, hand basin and shower, airconditioning and a safe.

Mini wardrobe and drawers for folded clothes. Shelves have been installed for storage of small bags above the beds and empty cases can be stored under the bed.





#### WHY TRAVEL ON THIS TRAIN TOUR?

- All the planning, arrangements and negotiations with service providers etc. was made on your behalf
- You don't have to drive, get lost, look for accommodation or petrol stations
- The train will add value to your experience as you can sleep at night while the long distances are covered
- You'll see the country from a different angle view from the train window and where cars don't drive
- It is a different and nostalgic way to travel from South Africa to Zimbabwe, Zambia & Botswana

#### WHO MAY GO ON THIS TRAIN TOUR?

The special is only applicable to SADC citizens who would like to visit Zimbabwe, Zambia & Botswana's popular tourist destinations. In the past, many companies sent groups of employees, service providers or clientele along. It is also very popular with individuals, couples and groups of friends.

#### **Head Office**

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#### **HOW TO BOOK**

All you need to do now is to complete the attached Booking Form, pay the non-refundable deposit of R3 000pp into the bank account (banking details at bottom of Booking Form) and send with a copy of your passport to JB Train Tours by e-mail (upmarket2@jbtours.co.za) or fax to 086 694 2475. The balance must be paid by latest 90 days prior to the departure date. If not, your place would be cancelled automatically.

#### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

In the event of cancellation for any reason whatsoever, such notice of cancellation should be given in writing and in such instances, cancellation fees will be levied as follows:

- 90 days or more prior to tour departure ......Non-refundable deposit
- 90-60 days prior to train departure......75% of total tour price cancellation fee
- 60-0 days prior to train departure......100% of total tour price cancellation fee

#### TRAVEL INSURANCE

We strongly urge you to adequately cover for any eventualities with your insurance agent.

#### **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

#### Please refer to the Terms & Conditions on the attached document.

JB Train Tours is looking forward to welcome you on this train tour and share these beautiful countries with you.

Travel greetings

Jolene Matthysen & the JB Train Tours Team

ENQUIRE/BOOK TODAY with:

JB Train Tours

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www.jbtours.co.za/upmarket

#### **Head Office**

