THE FALLS & NAMIBIA Zambia, Namibia



15 day small group tour (basic accommodation)

Begin your journey in Victoria Falls, before heading into northern Namibia and the lush Zambezi region (Caprivi Strip). Enjoy Namibia's waterways before arriving at the country's largest national park, Etosha, known for its desert-adapted wildlife. Discover the dramatic Damaraland region, before hitting cosmopolitan Swakopmund. From here we head to the world's biggest dunes at Sossusvlei, then onto Windhoek.





Cost includes:

- transport in a custom-built overland truck with a maximum of 12 passengers
- services of two registered Englishspeaking guides
- 14 nights basic accommodation in chalets, guesthouses, lodges and permanent tents with en-suites
- 14 x breakfasts, 11 x lunches, 8 x dinners
- entrance fees to national parks
- visits Victoria Falls, Zambezi region, Etosha National Park, Sossusvlei dunes, Sesriem Canyon, Swakopmund, Damaraland and San cave drawings, Windhoek
- still mineral water on board vehicle

Cost excludes:

- visas and international flights
- international airport taxes if applicable
- meals and drinks not listed
- dining rooms tips
- personal travel, baggage and medical insurance
- telephone bill, laundry and any items of a personal nature
- optional excursions
- **B** breakfast
- L lunch
- D dinner

Livingstone to Windhoek

Accommodation: basic
Departs: selected Sundays
Group size: maximum of 12
Product code: NBA15

Itinerary overview:

Day 1: Zambia, Livingstone - Victoria Falls Waterfront or similar

Day 2: Zambia, Livingstone - Victoria Falls Waterfront or similar

Day 3: Namibia, Zambezi region (Caprivi) - Camp Kwando / Ngepi Camp

Day 4: Namibia, Zambezi region (Caprivi) - Camp Kwando / Ngepi Camp

Day 5: Namibia, Rundu - Nkwazi Lodge or similar

Day 6: Namibia, Etosha National Park - Tarentaal Guest Farm or similar

Day 7: Namibia, Etosha National Park - Tarentaal Guest Farm or similar

Day 8: Namibia, Etosha National Park - Tarentaal Guest Farm or similar

Day 9: Namibia, Damaraland - Brandberg White Lady Lodge or similar

Day 10: Namibia, Swakopumund - Hotel Pension a la Mer or similar

Day 11: Namibia, Swakopumund - Hotel Pension a la Mer or similar

Day 12: Namibia, Namib Desert - Desert Camp or similar

Day 13: Namibia, Namib Desert - Desert Camp or similar

Day 14: Namibia, Windhoek - Klein Windhoek Guest House or similar

Day 15: Namibia, Windhoek - ends

Pre-tour accommodation in Livingstone and post-tour accommodation in Windhoek can be arranged prior to departure on request.

The Falls & Namibia - basic

Days 1 - 2: Livingstone, Zambia (Victoria Falls)

Meet your fellow travellers then join a guided tour of one of the seven natural wonders of the world - Victoria Falls (Zambian side of the Falls). Follow walkways to several lookouts and vantage points to view the Falls, whilst hearing a brief history of the region and information on the native flora and fauna.

A path along the edge of the forest provides visitors with unparalleled views of the Falls. One special vantage point is across the Knife Edge Bridge, where you have the best view of the Eastern Cataract and the main falls as well as the Boiling Pot, where the river turns and heads down the Batoka Gorge. Other vantage points include the Falls Bridge and the Lookout Tree which offer panoramic views across the sheet of waterfalls. Seasons provide completely different experiences of the Falls region. Peak flood season is around March and April, when the full power of the Falls can be experienced in all its glory. As the floods abate the view of the Falls gets better throughout the year, but at its lowest, anytime from September to December, the Falls become little rivulets running over the edge and in some places along the 1.7km width no water falls at all. Your days are spent participating in a myriad of optional adventures (own expense). Victoria Falls Waterfront - chalet with en-suite (B - day 2).

Victoria Falls Waterfront

The Victoria Falls Waterfront is the perfect place to stay in Livingstone, centrally located in between Livingstone town and Victoria Falls. The lodge boasts numerous facilities catering to a travellers every need including a riverside restaurant and bar with stunning views over the Zambezi River – the perfect spot for a sundowner. A varied mix of accommodation includes en-suite chalets, permanent tents and a campsite. A travel desk makes it easy to book any local excursion while the travelling explorers vibe makes this property the best value and best loved on the Zambian side of Victoria Falls.

Day 3: Zambezi region (formally the Caprivi) - 300 km, 7 + hours driving, excluding rest stops, border formalities and road conditions

Crossing into the Zambezi region (Caprivi Strip), we spend two days travelling west through this game rich area. Today is a long travel day. Camp Kwando - chalet or permanent tent with en-suite / Ngepi Camp - twin tree house with en-suite (BLD).

Day 4: Zambezi region (formally the Caprivi) - 200 km,3 + hours driving, excluding a stop for a village walk We explore the Kwando River by boat and enjoy a game drive in the Mahango Game Reserve. Camp Kwando - chalet or permanent tent with en-suite / Ngepi Camp - twin tree house with en-suite (BLD).

Camp Kwando

Nestled on the banks of the Kwando River, Camp Kwando invites you to explore the hidden treasures of an untamed land. Capture the spirit of the African bush while sipping sundowners from the beautiful overhead deck. Experience the thrill of hearing the call of the African fish eagle from your chalet, or permanent thatched roofed tents on the island. This riverside camp also features a restaurant, bar and swimming pool.

Ngepi Camp

Situated in the unspoiled upper reaches of the Okavango Delta panhandle in the western Caprivi Strip, Ngepi Camp is set on an island with permanent river frontage. It is a paradise of flooded plains and secret backwaters teaming with wildlife, nestled between Mahango National Park and Bwabwata National Park, which is directly across the river. We stay in the camp's en-suite tree houses, built on the river's edge.







Day 5: Rundu - 210 km, 3 + hours driving

After a morning enjoying the abundant birdlife that surrounds the camp, our onward journey takes us along the Kavango River. Villages of grass huts and local wooden crafts and carvings are a common sight on our drive. We stop for the night at our riverside lodge in Rundu to enjoy a spectacular sunset. **Nkwazi Lodge - bungalow with en-suite (BL).**

Nkwazi Lodge

nKwazi Lodge has 12 thatched roof bungalows, each having an en-suite hot shower with basin and toilet. The lodge communal areas include a restaurant, bar and swimming pool. nKwazi Lodge is Namibian owned and operated, with all 15 staff employed from the local community. The owners started a pre-school 12 years ago, providing 40-50 children with three meals a day and an education in preparation for Grade 1. In addition, the lodge runs on 25% solar power, grows 50% of the vegetables needed and they have a small indigenous nursery on site.

Days 6 - 8: Etosha National Park - 620 km, 9 + hours driving (day 6), days 7 & 8 are spent on game drives

Once a vast lake fed by the Kunene River, the pan that is Etosha National Park dried up thousands of years ago when the river's waters chose a new course. Covering 20,000 square kilometres, Etosha is Namibia's premier nature and wildlife reserve including four of the 'big five'. We take game drives around the huge pan to find elephant, herds of antelope, lion and much more around waterholes. We stay at a lodge on the outskirts of the national park. **Tarentaal Guest Farm - twin room with en-suite (BLD).**

Tarentaal Guest Farm

Decorated in African safari-style, the rooms at the guest house adjoin an open dining room where meals are enjoyed with a panoramic view of the surroundings. Above the dining room is an open-air tower room where sundowner drinks are served at sunset. Rooms are twin share with en-suite facilities and there is a swimming pool and telephone.

Day 9: Brandberg - 430 km, 6 + hours driving, excluding sightseeing stops and lunch

Leaving the pans of Etosha behind we drive south west to the harsh landscapes for which Namibia is so famous. Namibia is a land of great contrasts and Damaraland demonstrates this with stark plains, petrified forests and ancient valleys leading to rocky outcrops and the soaring peaks of the Brandberg Massif Mountains. Damaraland is one of the most scenic areas in Namibia, a huge, untamed, ruggedly beautiful region. Here there are prehistoric water courses with open plains and grassland, massive granite koppies and deep gorges. Animals such as elephant, black rhino, giraffe, ostrich and springbok have adapted to survive the harshness of the sun-blistered, almost waterless desert spaces. **Brandberg White Lady Lodge - chalet with en-suite (BLD).**

Brandberg White Lady Lodge

The stylish chalets and bungalows at the lodge are spread over an area in the river valley, among large, shady trees. Every unit includes electric lights, ceiling fans and a private verandah.

Day 10: Swakopmund - 250 km, 3 + hours driving, excluding stops for sightseeing

Our first stop today is a real unexpected treat. Over 50,000 Cape fur seals call Cape Cross home. We spend time watching them play, fight and interact on the beach and in the cold waters of the Atlantic before continuing to the coastal mecca of 'Swakop'. Swakopmund is a popular seaside resort with a slightly nostalgic atmosphere characterized by numerous colonial buildings. Founded by the Germans in 1892 their colonial influence is still evident today.

The Falls & Namibia - basic

The town has a selection of excellent coffee shops, restaurants and bars, as well as many arts and crafts shops selling curios. There are fine beaches to walk along as well as a great museum, aquarium and galleries to visit. Swakopmund is also the adventure activity capital of Namibia. **Hotel Pension a la Mer - twin room with en-suite (BL).**

Hotel Pension a La Mer

Hotel Pension a la Mer is situated in the heart of Swakopmund only minutes away from the beach and historical jetty. The hotel offers charming accommodation in 23 en-suite bedrooms. Genuine hospitality is offered, along with generous breakfasts and plenty of local knowledge to assist you in choosing from Swakopmund's plethora of activities.

Day 11: Swakopmund

Today is free to explore the town, or try dune boarding or sea kayaking (own expense). **Hotel Pension a la Mer-twin room with en-suite (B).**

Days 12-13: Namib Desert - 350 km, 5 + hours driving, excluding stops for sightseeing and lunch

The parched Namib Desert has endless orange dunes blown into sharp ridges by the sand-shifting wind and Sossusvlei forms a gateway into the Namib Desert. We will walk to Sossusvlei, explore Sesriem Canyon and from the comfort of our lodge outside the national park, watch dramatic sunsets over the world's highest sand dunes. **Desert Camp - permanent tent with en-suite (BLD).**

Desert Camp

Nestled under centuries-old thorn trees, Desert Camp has an unsurpassed 360 degrees view over the desert landscape and surrounding mountains. An absolute must for the nature lover and photographer. Facilities at the main building include a fully stocked and serviced bar with big screen television, a sparkling swimming pool and two communal bomas.

Day 14: Windhoek - 345 km, 5 + hours driving, dependent on road conditions

Overnight in the capital of Namibia, Windhoek's charm lies in its harmonious blend of African and European cultures. Klein Windhoek Guest House - twin room with en-suite (BL).

Day 15: Windhoek

The tour ends today following breakfast. (B).







Important information:

- It is the responsibility of the client to be at the tour departure point at the time assigned by the tour operator. On completion of the tour, flights must be booked taking into consideration the time recommended by the tour operator.
- The tour operator may re-route the itinerary or change the accommodation in rare cases of non-availability, or if local conditions restrict accessibility.
- The tour operator has the right to use an alternative or replacement vehicle if necessary. On 5% of tours a Mercedes Sprinter minibus with 12 forward facing seats and air conditioning is used.
- There is no toilet onboard the overland truck. Convenience stops are made along the way at regular intervals.
- Bedding is provided and most accommodation establishments provide towels, however we suggest you bring a small towel for use at the beach or swimming pool.
- Suitcases are unsuitable for overland safaris due to limited space. We recommend luggage packed in inexpensive barrel style bags or soft sided bags not exceeding 12kgs.
- This tour includes some long days of road travel which are necessary in order to visit all the listed regions.
- Prices for flights, airport taxes, park fees and applicable government taxes and levies may be changed without prior notice. Any change is beyond our control and any increase levied will be passed on.
- As prices are calculated in foreign currencies it may become necessary to add a currency surcharge.
- Those wishing to share a room/tent will be matched with another same-gender traveller. If you don't wish to share, a single supplement applies for a single room or tent.
- Passengers over 65 years are required to complete a medical form, which is assessed by the tour operator to ascertain suitability of the client to the tour.
- It is the responsibility of the client to have all documentation, including visas and inoculation certificates.
- An essential part of this safari is some participation. From carrying your own bag, to packing the truck in the
 morning it's all part of the adventure. There are some long days with early starts so everyone needs to get
 involved to make the trip run efficiently. Where the tour leaders provide meals, clients are asked to help (on
 rotation) with the washing up.