

NAMIBIA NOMAD

23 DAYS VICTORIA FALLS - CAPE TOWN

Days 1 - 2: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe to Kasane, Botswana

On our first day we leave the mighty Victoria Falls behind us and enter Botswana.

We arrive at Kasane by midday and arrange our game viewing options in our first game park, Chobe National Park, a park blessed with abundant game and particularly with large herds of elephant. We can take a river cruise on the Chobe River, as well as game drives deep into the park. The cruise allows us to enjoy views of elephant, crocodile and hippopotamus as well as of the other game drawn to the river, daily access to water being an essential to many species, particularly in dry season. Zebra, buffalo and many different antelope species call Chobe home too. The concentration of prey also attracts predators and the area is known to have lion, leopard and cheetah.

Distance, Day 1: 87 kms

Est. Drive Time, Day 1: 3 hours (depending on the border)

Meals: X2 Breakfasts, X2 Dinners

Optional excursions: Chobe National Park - game drives and game cruise.

Day 3: Kasane to Maun

Departing from Kasane we travel to the town of Maun, passing by the Makgadikgadi Pans.

Distance: 666 kms

Est. Drive Time: 9 hours incl. stop for lunch

Meals: X1 Breakfast, X1 Dinner

Days 4 - 6: Maun - Optional mokoro safari in the Okavango Delta

We now have the option of taking a three day safari into the wilds of the Okavango Delta in a mokoro, the traditional dugout canoe of the Delta boatmen. In our mokoros we are poled deep into the Delta by trained guides, a truly relaxing way to travel and to spot the rich bird life and unusual flora of the Delta, as well as elephant, hippo, crocodile and the special sitatunga and lechwe. Our camp for the night is on one of the small islands in the Delta. During our time here we can also take guided game walks, swim in the clear waters, take a sunset mokoro ride and perhaps even learn the difficult art of poling. After your safari in the Delta we have one final night relaxing at the camp in Maun.

Distance: 0 kms

Est. Drive Time: 0 hours

Meals: X3 Breakfasts, X3 Dinners

Optional excursions: Okavango Delta guided mokoro safari including X2 breakfasts and X2 dinners, flights over the Delta.

Days 7- 9: Maun to Etosha National Park, Namibia

Leaving Maun we head for Namibia. On the way to Namibia's most well known National Park, Etosha, we stop to see the Hoba meteorite. Discovered in the 1920's, Hoba is estimated to be at least 190 million years old and is the world's largest meteorite. En route too, we stop over to visit traditional Bushmen near Grootfontein for cultural options, giving us an insight into their traditional way of life.



Distance over three days: 1,111 kms

Est. Drive Time, Day 7: +/- 13 hours (depending on the border) incl. lunch stop

Est. Drive Time, Day 8: 4 - 5 hours

Est. Drive Time, Day 9: +/- 5 hours to Etosha entrance, then afternoon game drives in Etosha

Meals: X3 Breakfasts, X3 Dinners

Included wildlife activity: Afternoon game drives, Etosha National Park

Vehicle for game drive: Overland truck

Optional excursions: Walk with warrior bushmen, visit women's village, Hoba meteorite.

Day 10: Etosha National Park, Namibia

Etosha is one of the largest game reserves in Africa and home to all the large mammals for which Africa is famous, including many endangered species such as black rhino, cheetah and the black-faced impala.

The many watering holes in this park offer unrivalled game viewing. At night each of the campsites spotlight the nearby water hole and we wait quietly from sunset to savour the experience as a multitude of species including elephant, black rhino, zebra, wildebeest, giraffe and different antelope species arrive en masse for an evening drink. Etosha has a large lion population and sightings of cheetah are frequently reported. We do a full day game drive here. Optional evening game drives can also be organized. A host of wildlife takes advantage of darkness to move about and feed. In the heat of the day we relax and enjoy the facilities at the campsite.

Distance: 0 kms
Est. Drive Time: Game drives through the day
Meals: X1 Breakfast, X1 Dinner

Included wildlife activities: Full day game drive in Etosha National Park
Vehicle for game drives: Overland truck

Optional excursion: Evening game drive, Etosha National Park.

Day 11: Etosha National Park to Africat, Otjiwarongo

Rising early we make the most of our final morning game drive this morning before we leave the park to head south.

Leaving Etosha we visit the Africat Foundation to get up close and personal with this magnificent endangered cat. This is a non-profit organization focusing on the conservation of Namibia's predators, particularly cheetah, in their natural habitat. Here we can actively take part in the programme and learn more about these beautiful and amazing animals.

Distance: 182 kms
Est. Drive Time: 7 hours incl. short game drive and stops for shopping and lunch
Meals: X1 Breakfast, X1 Dinner

Included wildlife activities: Short game drive in Etosha, Africat carnivore care
Vehicle for game drive: Overland truck

Days 12 - 13: Otjiwarongo to Spitzkoppe

There is an option of an early morning game drive before setting off past the Brandberg Mountain, the highest in Namibia, to the beautiful rock formations of Spitzkoppe, camping this evening under the stars in the Namibian bush.

The next day we travel to Cape Cross seal colony, a breeding colony of 200,000 Cape fur seals, and then on to Swakopmund, home to some of the finest open-sea fishing in the world, where we check in to a lodge to give us a break from life on the truck and camping.

Distance over two days: 534 kms
Est. Drive Time, Day 12: 4 hours
Est. Drive Time, Day 13: +/- 4.5 hours
Meals: X2 Breakfasts, X1 Dinner

Included wildlife activities: Cape Cross seal colony visit

Optional excursions: Morning game drive, Africat. Guided walk incl. viewing of rock paintings.

Days 14 - 15: Swakopmund

Staying in Swakopmund for a couple of days, we have a break from life on the truck staying in a lodge while we are here. We also have a choice of the many different adrenaline activities that are on offer here. Flights over the Namib Desert and the Skeleton Coast, horse riding, quad biking, sand boarding, skydiving, go-karting, township tours are all available for the more adventurous, while shops, cafes and massages are some of the other attractions of this former German colonial town.

Distance: 0 kms
Est. Drive Time: 0 hours
Meals: None

Optional excursions: Quad biking, sand boarding, skydiving, go-karting, desert tours, open-sea fishing, seal and dolphin cruise, sea kayaking, township tours, horse riding.

Day 16: Swakopmund to Sesriem

The Namib Desert is an impressive and beautiful expanse whilst a harsh and unforgiving environment. In the afternoon we can visit the Sesriem gorge, where you can go for a walk in the gorge.

Distance: 344 kms
Est. Drive Time: 8.5 hours incl. lunch stop
Meals: X1 Dinner

Days 17 – 18: Sesriem to Ai Ais

In the morning we head off into the Namib desert to scale the monumental star-shaped dunes that reach hundreds of metres to their summit. The photos of sunrise at Sossusvlei reveal fantastic red-gold colours. After this there is the option to go into Sossusvlei on 4x4's to visit the Dead Vlei pan and see more of this amazing landscape.

Then we travel on to the Fish River Canyon, reputedly the second largest canyon in the world, a truly spectacular sight. We then head to our camp at Ai Ais and enjoy a soak in the hot springs in the lower reaches of the Canyon.

Distance over two days: 613 kms
Est. Drive Time, Day 17: +/- 5 hours
Est. Drive Time, Day 18: +/- 9 hours incl. stop at the canyon
Meals: X2 Breakfasts, X2 Dinners

Included activities: Visit to Dune 45, visit to Fish River Canyon.

Optional excursion: Visit to Sossusvlei.

Day 19: Ai Ais to Orange River

Today we camp beside the Orange River that marks the border between Namibia and South Africa and here we can canoe or raft through some of the most rugged terrain in Southern Africa.

Distance: 179 kms
Est. Drive Time: 3 hours incl. shopping
Meals: X1 Breakfast, X1 Dinner

Optional excursion: Canoeing on the Orange River.

Days 20 – 22: Orange River to Stellenbosch, South Africa

Crossing into the "rainbow nation", South Africa, we have reached the final country that we visit on tour. We travel south down the west coast of South Africa and into the wine-growing regions of Cape Province. Wine tours are a popular way to experience some of the regions finest produce, while taking in the historic town of Stellenbosch.

Distance over two days: 678 kms
Est. Drive Time, Day 20: +/- 10 hours incl. shopping and lunch stop (depending on the border)
Est. Drive Time, Day 21: 6 hours
Meals: X2 Breakfasts, X1 Dinner

Optional excursion: Wine tour.

Day 23: Stellenbosch to Cape Town

We finish the trip in Cape Town, after an easy day's drive down from Stellenbosch, arriving in at Ashanti Lodge, at the base of Table Mountain in Cape Town. We have our last meal together against the extraordinary backdrop of the 1,000 metre high Table Mountain.

Cape Town is a wonderful place to relax with plenty of attractions, shopping and cocktail bars. The Travel Shop at Ashanti can assist you with all you might wish to do – including

white shark diving, visiting Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was held for many long years during apartheid, or maybe visit the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, or the penguins at Boulders Beach.

If you want to head further afield in South Africa, have a look at our Garden Route Add-On safari. This follows on from our arrival in Cape Town. It allows two days in Cape Town before taking in highlights along the coastline such as Cape Agulhus and the beaches of Jeffrey's Bay: stops off at the Bloukrans bungee, an Ostrich Farm, Cango Caves and Addo Elephant Park, before finishing in Johannesburg, 'the City of Gold'.

Distance: 53 kms

Est. Drive Time: 2 - 3 hours

Meals: X1 Dinner (contribution to the final restaurant meal)

Optional excursion: Meal out at a restaurant.

Please note safari itineraries are given as a guide only. A safari is a journey and true journeys in Africa unfold and are of an adventurous nature. The unexpected can arise, so do allow for this.



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