











**BOTSWANA IS OUR HOME SAFARIS ARE OUR PASSION** 



# 9N Botswana Escape Exclusive 25

Zambezi National Park - Okavango Delta - Makgadikgadi Salt Pans 10 Days / 9 Nights 2 Persons



# Click here to view your Digital Itinerary

# Introduction

| Start | Accommodation   | Destination            | Basis | Duration |
|-------|---|------------------------|-------|----------|
| Day 1 | Victoria Falls River Lodge Island Treehouse<br>Suites | Zambezi National Park  | FI    | 3 Nights |
| Day 4 | Tuludi  | Okavango Delta         | FI    | 3 Nights |
| Day 7 | San Camp  | Makgadikgadi Salt Pans | FI    | 3 Nights |

#### Key

FI: Fully Inclusive

# **Transport**

# **Flight Information**

| Date   | Flight         | Details   |
|--------|----------------|---|
| Day 4  | Shared Charter | Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA] - Kasane Airport [BBK] |
| Day 4  | Shared Charter | Kasane Airport [BBK] - Khwai Private Reserve                      |
| Day 7  | Charter Flight | Khwai Private Reserve - Tsigaro Airstrip                          |
| Day 10 | Shared Charter | Tsigaro Airstrip - Maun International Airport [MUB]               |

## **Transfers**

| Date  | Company                    | Details   |
|-------|----------------------------|---|
| Day 1 | Wild Horizons              | Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA] - Victoria Falls River Lodge |
| Day 4 | Victoria Falls River Lodge | Victoria Falls River Lodge - Victoria Falls International Airport [VFA] |

## 9N Botswana Escape Exclusive

| SEASON              | PP SHARING | SINGLE SUPP |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|
| April 2025          | USD 16,400 | USD 4,910   |
| May 2025            | USD 17,750 | USD 5,450   |
| June 2025           | USD 19,920 | USD 6,300   |
| July – August 2025  | USD 21,990 | USD 7,140   |
| September 2025      | USD 19,220 | USD 6,050   |
| 1 – 15 October 2025 | USD 19,220 | USD1,020    |

## Special notes

- Please note that where a booking crosses over 2 different rate periods e.g. Oct & Nov, neither rate is applicable
  please request a special quote
- The above rate is subject to change due to major currency fluctuations, fuel surcharges and increases in national park fees (see below)
- Single supplement\* is for accommodation only, applicable when travelling with more than 2 guests and excludes a flying surcharge for guests travelling solo rate available on request
- Subject to availability at the time of booking

#### Included



#### Travel for Impact – Responsible Travel

By booking this itinerary, you donate USD\$2 for every night of travel per person on the booking. Your donation goes to **Travel for Impact (TFI)** and ensures that your safari has a meaningful impact on the people who live locally. For more information on giving back to your chosen destination of travel, visit <a href="https://www.travelforimpact.com">www.travelforimpact.com</a>



## Okavango Air Rescue

Please note that we include a fee into all our packages for a local medivac in case of an emergency. Please discuss further details with your consultant and for more information, visit <a href="http://www.okavangorescue.com/">http://www.okavangorescue.com/</a>

# Day 1-4: Victoria Falls River Lodge Island Treehouse Suites, Zambezi National Park

### Day Itinerary

Upon arrival into Victoria Falls Airport, proceed through Customs/Immigration where you will need to obtain your visa to enter Zimbabwe, (please let us know your nationality and will advise visa fees accordingly). From there you collect your luggage where you will be met outside the terminal building by a representative from Wild Horizons for your private road transfer to Victoria Falls River Lodge Island Treehouse Suites - here you spend three nights in a luxury tree house suite on a bed & breakfast basis.



Zambezi National Park is a National Park located upstream, just 5km from Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River in Zimbabwe and comprises 40km of Zambezi River frontage. It was split off from Victoria Falls National Park in 1979 and is 56,000 hectares (140,000 acres) in size. The park is bisected by a road to Kazungula, dividing it into a riverine side and a Chamabondo Vlei side. Most of the park is within the ecoregion of Zambezian and Mopane woodlands, while a small portion in the south is within the Zambezian Baikiaea woodlands.

The Zambezi National Park plays host to a wide variety of larger mammals including African elephant, lion, Cape buffalo and leopard. In addition to these charismatic members of the "big 5" there are herds of sable antelope, common eland, common zebra, Southern giraffe, greater kudu, waterbuck and impala. In addition, many species of smaller wildlife can be seen here.

Overnight: Victoria Falls River Lodge Island Treehouse Suites View iBrochure

**Includes:** meals, local drinks and 2 activities per day

Excludes: premium drinks, all National Park Fees and Rainforest Fees

Activities: day & night game drives, morning and afternoon boat cruises, tour of the falls (excluding

Rainforest Fee)

Surrounded by the waters of the mighty Zambezi River, Victoria Falls Island Lodge is a haven of seclusion, situated on its own private island. Seven kilometres upstream from Victoria Falls, the lodge is accessible by boat only, further enhancing its exclusive, off-the-grid setting within the Zambezi National Park.

Five luxurious tree house suites, constructed mainly of wood and glass, nestle in the lush riverine vegetation perched on wooden decks. Each suite features a spacious en-suite bathroom, indoor seating area and outdoor deck with plunge pool, the honeymoon chalet features a private roof terrace. The gracefully appointed interiors reflect the warmth of wood offset by fabrics in natural shades including whites and blue, creating almost a beach feeling.

Elevated wooden walkways link the treehouse suites to the open plan main lodge, comprised of the lounge and dining areas as well as an elevated deck for the bar with dramatic views of the Zambezi River. From this vantage point guest may enjoy a relaxing drink whilst soaking up the wonders of their sought-after

surrounds. With an emphasis on elite service, personal butlers attend to the needs of no more than 4 guests per butler.

Two safari activities are offered daily, a morning or evening game drive in the expansive Zambezi National Park and a morning or evening cruise on the Zambezi River, at any time guests can do bird walks with a guide on the lush, private island. A wealth of game inhabits the Park including elephant, lions, buffalo, hippo, giraffe, zebra and wildebeest. Prolific bird life – 415 species have been recorded in the Park – add to the unique sounds and sights of this exceptional river and bush experience. Also included is a tour of Victoria Falls, however the Rainforest Fee is at additional cost.

The lodge offers guests a complimentary return transfer to Victoria Falls town daily. Transfers to Victoria Falls town for activities booked through a third party will be charged at an additional cost where they don't fit into the scheduled transfer times.

Airport Transfer Time: 20-30 minutes by road & 20 minutes by boat to the lodge



# Day 4-7: Tuludi, Okavango Delta

## **Day Itinerary**

Following breakfast and a possible morning activity, you will be transferred to Victoria Falls Airport in time for your flight to Kasane Airport. Upon arrival, you will be met by a representative from Mack Air who will assist you with check in for your light aircraft flight via Kasane airport for immigration formalities - and then on to Tuludi Camp where you spend three nights on a fully inclusive basis.



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: Tuludi <u>View iBrochure</u>

Includes: Meals, local drinks, activities, laundry and Intermittent WiFi

**Excludes**: Premium drinks and park fees for Moremi Game Reserve daytrips

Activities: Morning, afternoon and night game drives, bushwalks, mokoro & boating (water level

dependent)

Tuludi tented camp is an intimate camp located in a private concession bordering Moremi Game Reserve known as Khwai Private Reserve. Khwai Private Reserve with over 200000 hectares of pristine wilderness seems like a safari fairy tale: floodplains stretch as far as the eye can see and a colourful mix of animals enjoys spending time along the glistening waterways and in the emerald forests.

Accommodation consists of seven tree-house style ensuite rooms and one family unit with two additional single beds. The rooms are a sophisticated mix of traditional and contemporary elements and airy spaces, including refreshing plunge pools. An exclusive oasis that the guests will be delighted to return to after being out in the bush exploring this extraordinary ecosystem.

The camp uses solar generated power and offers charging stations for the clients conveniently in the main area as well as in the rooms.

Airstrip Transfer Time: approx. 60 minutes from Khwai airstrip



# Day 7-10: San Camp, Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

## **Day Itinerary**

Following breakfast and a possible morning activity (flight time permitting) you will take a light aircraft transfer flight to San Camp where you spend three nights on a fully inclusive basis.



The Makgadikgadi Salt Pans are all that remains of a great lake which once covered most of northern Botswana, fed by rivers carrying salts. The most iconic pans, Ntwetwe and Sua Pan provide vistas of blinding white salt flats reaching far into the horizon where pans sleep-outs are experienced. No vegetation grows on the salty surface of the pans, but the fringes are covered with grasslands. No animals live on the pans, save a few populations of desert species and the elusive brown hyena living near the fringes. The result is that the salt pans provide an unforgettable landscape experience of incredible sunsets and sunrises and a bewildering lack of perspective rather than a game experience. Africa's famous explorer Dr. David Livingstone crossed these pans in the 19th century, using two massive baobabs, believed to be 3,000 to 4,000 years old as a navigation tool.

All camps on the salt pans are situated on or next to Ntwetwe Pan in the west of the pans complex and offer quad biking on the pans, visits to habituated meerkats, archaeological walks as well as cultural insight into the lives of the San people. More recently horse-riding expeditions have been made possible, providing a unique way to explore the landscape. All activities in this area are subject to favourable conditions as the slightest rainfall can make the pans completely inaccessible. During the rainy season, the main attraction of these camps is the zebra and wildebeest migration passing through during the early months of the year with other activities during this season being very limited. During years of good rains, the pans can be transformed into a powder blue lake with waters gently lapping the shorelines – a clear indication of the gigantic lake the Makgadikgadi once was. The floods attract flamingos with numbers running into the tens or even hundreds of thousands but the spectacle is fleeting and difficult to catch. Camps located on and next to the pans are Camp Kalahari, Jacks Camp and the seasonal San Camp, operating only during dry season. Accommodations in Gweta also access this part of the pans, running overnight trips to the area.

Sua Pan is the eastern-most of the large pans and is separated from Ntwetwe Pan by a thin strip of grass. One of the most striking destinations in this area is Kubu island, a rocky outcrop near the south-western edge of Sua Pan accessible only by quad bike expeditions of several days from Camp Kalahari, Jack's Camp and San Camp or by self-drivers. This crescent-shaped island is about one kilometer long and apart from its eerie isolation and breathtaking beauty, Kubu is rich in archaeological and historical remains. Stone age tools and arrowheads can still be found today along the shorelines of this tiny island and a circular stone wall and stone cairns suggest that Kubu may have been part of the outer-reaches of the Great Zimbabwe Empire that was based at Masvingo, in modern-day Zimbabwe.

# Overnight: San Camp <u>View IBrochure</u>

Includes: meals, local drinks, activities, park fees, laundry and intermittent wifi

**Excludes:** premium drinks

Activities: day & night game drives, Bushmen Walks, Chapman's Baobabs & Meerkat Visit, and Quad Biking

San Camp is situated on the edge of the vast Makgadikgadi Salt Pans. These spectacular pans are one of the most important wetland sites remaining in Africa. This traditional camp has a romantic essence complemented by the desolate beauty of the pans.

San has six Meru-style tents, well-spaced ensuring privacy and facing the pan. The cream-coloured tents blend in harmoniously with the environment and each tent has an en-suite bathroom with an extensive range of toiletries, a vintage style bucket shower and a flush toilet. The rooms are comfortable with simple furnishings: the high beds that give a great view of the pans, a canvas set of shelves and two trunks at the end of each bed. Lighting is using traditional old spirit lamps which give a gentle glow. The main area of San is a simple white canvas tent, and inside you'll find a long table with chairs surrounded by bookcases. There's an interesting collection of tortoise shells, arrowheads and other artifacts on display.

During the dry months (April to October) four wheeled quad motorbikes are used to explore the vastness of the land. Many of the guides are fully qualified Zoologists/Geologists, often working on PhD research. As such, they are most able to convey all the nuances of the desert and the adaptations of its inhabitants which we consider to be one of the most interesting features of the environment.

San Camp is a complete desert experience focusing on species unique to the area such as gemsbok, brown hyaena and springbok as well as the geology, archaeology and anthropology of the Kalahari and Makgadikgadi.

**Please note:** All activities are subject to seasonal availability and weather conditions during the month of travel. Walking and quad bike activities may be limited in the wet season due to dense vegetation and limited visibility or sticky, muddy trails. Some activities will need to be pre-booked before travel. Please note that quad bike activities are based on 2 people per quad bike. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.



# Day 10: End of Itinerary

#### Day Itinerary

Following breakfast and a possible morning activity (time permitting) you have a light aircraft transfer flight to Maun Airport where you will be met by a representative from Safari Specialists and we hope there will be some time for you to share some of your favourite moments on safari with us before we show you to the checkin counter for your outbound flight.

## **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. Helicopter Flight of the Angels 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 Johannesburg to Maun, Proflight Livingstone Lusaka and so on. 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 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** for further details on preparing for your safari.