

# South Africa, Victoria Falls, and Botswana Private Safari

FROM CAPE TOWN TO BOTSWANA



## WHEN TO GO

January to December

For our Private Journey trips, you choose your own group and your preferred dates—there are no set departure dates. Private Journeys are available to groups as few as two people or as large as you like. Contact us for availability, questions, or to book your adventure!



ITINERARY	3
TRIP COST, PAYMENT & INSURANCE	7
EXTEND YOUR ADVENTURE	8
ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE	9
LODGING	10
TRIP DETAILS	15



# South Africa, Victoria Falls, and Botswana Private Safari

FROM CAPE TOWN TO BOTSWANA

On this Private Journey, discover the captivating beauty and unlimited adventure of South Africa, Victoria Falls, and Botswana. In South Africa, begin in glorious Cape Town, a wonderful base for exploring the Cape's striking landscapes and renowned wine estates, then head to an exclusive private game reserve for the ultimate in big-game viewing and a chance to encounter lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, buffalo, and cheetah in a mosaic of spectacular habitats. Heading to Victoria Falls, experience the majesty of the world-famed Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world, where optional activities include a helicopter trip over the falls, bungee jumping, and whitewater rafting. Your safari ends with a flourish in Botswana's legendary Chobe National Park, with its massive herds of elephants along with great herds of buffalo, zebra, giraffe, and incredible birdlife along the Chobe River.

## ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel's escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—even if it's just the two of you—yet still enjoy a guided adventure.



1102 Ninth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

800-368-2794 • 510-558-2488

[www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com) • [info@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:info@wildernesstravel.com)

# Itinerary

## DAY 1

### CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

Upon arrival in Cape Town, you are met and transferred to your hotel. Long regarded as one of the most beautiful cities in the world, Cape Town is southern Africa's most romantic city. Few cities in the world can match its splendid setting along the spine of the mountainous Cape Peninsula. The view of the Cape that entranced early mariners over the centuries is still here—a spectacular amphitheater formed by Devil's Peak, Table Mountain, and Lion's Head to the west. The summit plateau provides breathtaking views of Cape Town and the Cape Peninsula, and at night in the summer months, the mountain is floodlit. This lively city today is also a rare cultural gem, an amalgamation of African, Indonesian, French, Dutch, British, and German cultures. Overnight at hotel...Meals on your own

Classic Accommodation: Commodore Hotel  
Optional Upgrade: Victoria and Alfred Hotel  
Optional Upgrade: Cape Grace Hotel  
(See Lodging section for photos and descriptions)

## DAYS 2-3

### CAPE TOWN

Your program in Cape Town includes your choice of two of the following full-day private guided options, one each day. The minimum participation is two persons. Dinners on your own and overnights in Cape Town...BL each day

**Full-Day Cape Peninsula / Table Mountain:** Enjoy a morning of exploring the spectacular Cape Peninsula, the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, and Cape Point itself, where the Cape Point lighthouse stands on top of sea cliffs at the very tip of the African continent. Visit the Boulders Penguin Colony, home to a growing colony of rare African penguins. After lunch, take the cable car (weather permitting) up world-famous Table Mountain for incredible views of the city and Table Bay. This mountain is one of the most spectacular urban geographic features in the world and also an incredible environment for hundreds of species of endemic flora. Descent is also by cable car. Note that the order of this program may be reversed. A visit to the National Botanical Gardens at Kirstenbosch, where 10,000 species are cultivated on 1,000 acres, can be substituted for Table Mountain.

**Full-Day Shark Dive:** Enjoy a day in famed Shark Alley for the thrill of a "cage dive" to view magnificent Great White sharks from underwater (no dive experience necessary). You begin with an early morning start and a two-hour drive to Gansbaai, where you have breakfast and an orientation on arrival. A 30-minute boat ride then takes you to Shark Alley, a shallow channel that is the world's best place to see Great White sharks. The skipper anchors the boat and baits the sharks, and you have the opportunity to view from the deck or to enter a special diving cage just below the surface. A light lunch is included, served on board. The boat returns to the dock by mid-afternoon. (Note: Shark sightings



## TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

**Length:** 10 days  
**Arrive:** Cape Town, South Africa  
**Depart:** Kasane, Botswana  
**Lodging:** 9 nights in luxury hotels and game lodges  
**Meals:** All meals included as noted in Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)  
**Activity:** Safaris, Wildlife and Natural History  
**Trip Level:** 1 2 3 4 5 6  
Game walks, game viewing by open 4WD and mokoro (dugout canoe)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Thrilling leopard viewing in famed Greater Kruger National Park
- Watch hundreds of elephants bathe in the Chobe River
- Delightful accommodations from Cape Town to Botswana



# Itinerary (cont'd)



*“A wonderful trip—it could not have been better. Absolutely everything was first class.”*

*John W., Greensboro, NC*



have recently become more difficult due to the presence of orcas in the area, which hunt the sharks.)

**Full-Day Table Mountain and Winelands Visit:** En route to the wine country, take the cable car up spectacular Table Mountain (weather permitting). Descent is also by cable car. Afterwards, head out of the city to spend the rest of the day touring South Africa’s centuries-old wine estates, with their beautiful Cape Dutch architecture. Visit the historic town of Stellenbosch, the oldest town in South Africa, and the Franschhoek Valley, birthplace of South Africa’s wine culture, begun by the French Huguenots who founded Franschhoek in 1688. Also visit the Paarl Valley, where the Afrikaans language came from, and enjoy two wine tastings. Lunch is in the lovely town of Franschhoek. Kirstenbosch Gardens can be substituted for Table Mountain.

**Full-Day Langa Cultural Visit / Robben Island:** One of the most popular explorations for visitors is a tour of Langa, one of Cape Town’s township outside of Cape Town. This visit offers the chance to meet and speak to some of the local people, visit their houses and shops, and learn about this community’s projects, craft centers, and entrepreneurial energy. After lunch, take a boat ride out to historic Robben Island, six miles offshore in Table Bay, where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for many years. The island’s former role as a maximum security political prison made it notorious, but it has now has been developed as a nature reserve, museum, and poignant memorial to South Africa’s long liberation struggle. Some of the guides are former political prisoners.

**Full-Day Langa Township / Table Mountain Visit:** Tour of Langa, one of Cape Town’s nearby townships (as described above). After lunch, take the cable car (weather permitting) up world-famous Table Mountain for incredible views of the city and Table Bay. Descent is also by cable car. Kirstenbosch Gardens can be substituted for Table Mountain.

Please note that the Langa Township tour is not available during school holidays (call for dates); the city tour can be substituted. The Table Mountain tour is weather dependent and may not be available in the event of inclement weather. Also note it is closed every summer for two weeks at the end of July for maintenance; Kirstenbosch Garden can be substituted when Table Mountain is not available.

Note: Our optional 3-day Cape Winelands Extension begins on Day 4. See our website for details.

## DAY 4

### GREATER KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Transfer to the airport for a scheduled flight to the Greater Kruger National Park, one of South Africa’s great tracts of untamed gamelands. Enjoy your first game drive this afternoon. Accompanied by a professional game ranger and tracker in open 4WD safari vehicles, you have an excellent chance to encounter lion, leopard, elephant, rhino, buffalo (Africa’s “Big Five”), cheetah, and many

other species in their natural habitat. The vehicles go off the road, when necessary, to afford you the best possible viewing. The safari continues on into the dark when spotlights are used to follow the game. As most of the predators are nocturnal, this is the best time for viewing some animal hunts. Return to camp for dinner and overnight. Overnight at chosen lodge. Depending on your choice, you will fly to these specific lodges located in Thornybush Private Game Reserve, Mala Mala Game Reserve, or Sabi Sand Game Reserve...BLD

Classic Accommodation: Kambaku Safari Lodge

Optional Upgrade: Londolozi

Optional Upgrade: Mala Mala Game Reserve

#### DAYS 5-6

#### GREATER KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

At your safari lodge, enjoy splendid food, good wines, dinners by candlelight, an intimate atmosphere, an abundance of wildlife, and interesting bush walks. Typically there are two game drives a day. The first is early in the morning, when the wildlife is the most active, after which you return to camp for brunch and time to freshen up. Following afternoon tea, you set out on a second game drive that lasts until dusk, with a stop at a scenic spot for sundowners before returning to the lodge for dinner. Being on private land means there are few restrictions on bushwalks, game drives, or night drives. You can off-road with your tracker-guide as much as you like. Overnights at chosen lodge...BLD each day

#### DAY 7

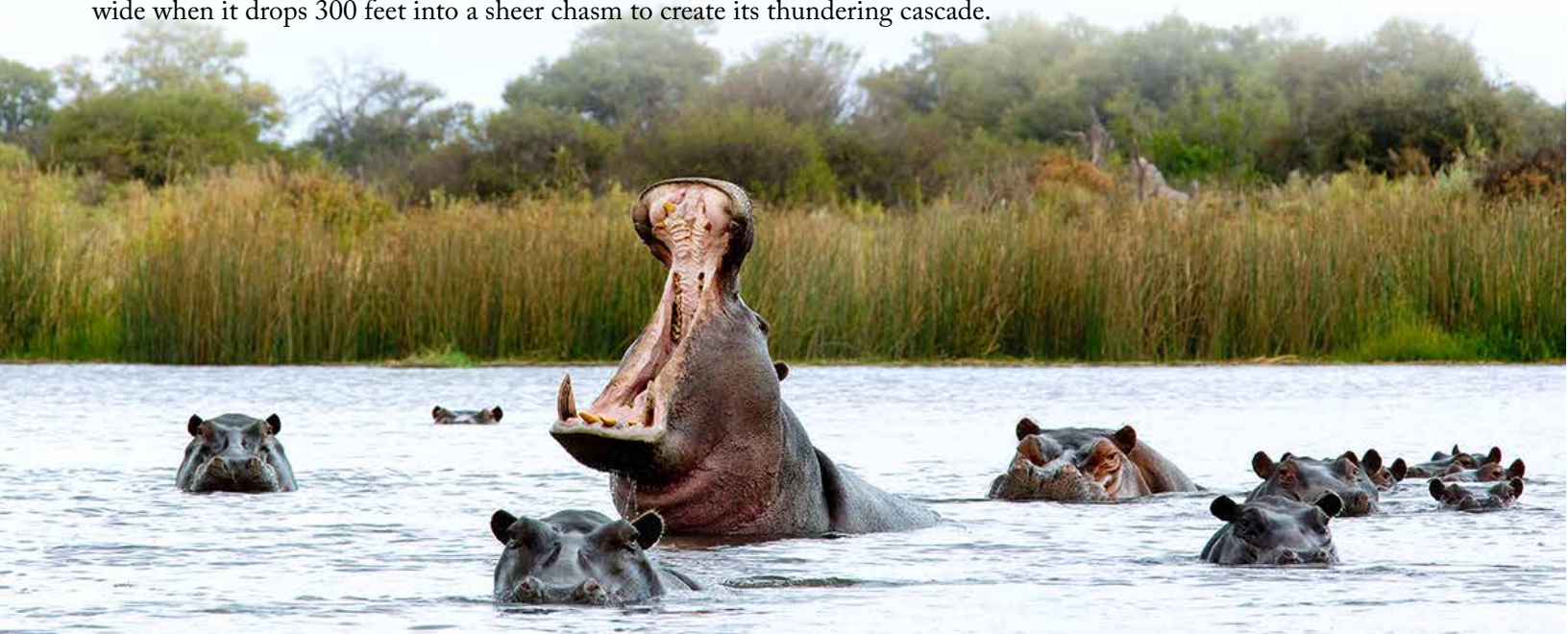
#### VICTORIA FALLS

After a final morning game drive (time permitting), transfer to the airport for a flight to Livingstone, Zambia. On arrival, transfer to your hotel. The afternoon is free to enjoy optional activities. The huge Zambezi River is more than a mile wide when it drops 300 feet into a sheer chasm to create its thundering cascade.



“An excellent holiday to the highest standards for quality and comfort.”

*Anthony C., Singapore*



# Itinerary (cont'd)



*“A flawless trip. It could not have better met our expectations of a dream vacation.”  
Jim B., Carrollton, TX*



Above the falls, the river is placid with palm-fringed islands and rainforested banks. In 1860, David Livingstone was the first Westerner to report the falls' existence, and since then, it has attracted visitors from around the world. Activities available at extra cost include the popular 15-minute helicopter ride over the falls, guided walk along the falls, a day of exciting whitewater action on the Zambezi (extra day needed for this option), and for the fearless—bungee jumping from the 300-foot-high Victoria Falls Bridge, with the falls as a backdrop...B

Classic Accommodation: Victoria Falls Hotel  
Optional Upgrade: Royal Livingstone Hotel  
Optional Upgrade: Elephant Camp

## DAY 8

### CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA

This morning, a transfer by road brings you to your lodge in Chobe National Park. Enjoy an afternoon game drive in the great savannas of Chobe. Overnight at chosen lodge or camp...BLD

Chobe National Park: At nearly 12,000 square kilometers of plains, woodland, savanna, and forested floodplain, Chobe is one of Africa's premier reserves. Named for the Chobe River at its northern boundary, Chobe covers a vast diversity of habitats, from riverine forests to marshlands. It is home to the largest concentration of elephants in Africa, and truly impressive herds gather in the park during both the wet and dry seasons. Chobe is renowned as the quintessential place to watch the spectacle of hundreds of elephants crashing out of the woodlands to drink in the Chobe River. The river is also known for magnificent birdlife, with 400 species recorded. They range from eagles, kingfishers, and storks to bright red carmine bee-eaters nesting in the thousands along river banks.

Classic Accommodation: Chobe Game Lodge  
Optional Upgrade: Chobe Chilwero  
Optional Upgrade: Linyanti Bush Camp  
Optional Upgrade: King's Pool Camp

## DAY 9

### CHOBE NATIONAL PARK

Enjoy a full day of exploration in Chobe. Options include gameviewing by open 4WD vehicle, water safaris by specially adapted motorboats on the Chobe River, and sundowner cruises. Overnight at chosen lodge or camp...BLD

## DAY 10

### CHOBE / KASANE / DEPART

Transfer to the Kasane airport and depart on homeward-bound flights...B

# Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

## TRIP COST

**Prices are per person, valid through 2024**

\$8595 per person, double occupancy

Single supplement: \$1490

Internal airfare: \$1690 (subject to change)

*Prices are based on double occupancy and not guaranteed until services are confirmed.*

### Make it *Your* Trip!

The prices above are for the ready-to-book adventure outlined in this Detailed Itinerary, a popular option that has been handcrafted by our Area Specialists to include the best of every destination. While many travelers choose to book this tour as is, our Area Specialists are also happy to work with you to customize this Private Journey to suit your specific interests and style of travel. We can arrange for longer or shorter stays, offer hotel upgrades (see below for sample costs), or add an extension to additional places of interest. We can even add special activities or customize excursions depending on your interests. We invite you to contact us to discuss your options!

### Optional Hotel Upgrades

*All upgrade pricing is per person, per night, based on double occupancy. Please call for single occupancy pricing.*

Cape Town: The Victoria and Alfred Hotel, from \$140

Sabi Sand Game Reserve: Londolozi, from \$690

Timbavati Game Reserve: Kambaku River Sands, from \$250

Mala Mala Private Game Reserve: Mala Mala Game Reserve, from \$690

Victoria Falls: Royal Livingstone Hotel, from \$450

Linyanti Game Reserve: Linyanti Bush Camp, from \$640

## TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Accommodations as noted
- Choice of two full-day guided excursions in Cape Town on Days 2-3
- All meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Land and internal air transportation as noted
- Park entrance fees
- Airport transfers as noted
- Services of safari guides and camp staff

## TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, meals not specified (BLD) in this itinerary, any activities described as optional, airport departure taxes, optional tipping or gratuities to staff, additional hotel nights made necessary by airline schedule changes or other factors, pre-trip expenses such as medical immunizations (if any), travel insurance, or passports and visas; and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.).

## SIGNING UP FOR A TRIP

Early reservations are recommended since accommodations often sell out far in advance. Please call 1-800-368-2794 and ask for our Asia Manager or email us at [asia@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:asia@wildernesstravel.com) with any questions that you may have about this trip. To reserve your Private Journey, we will need to know your preferred dates of travel. We will then check availability and send you a proposed itinerary with exact pricing for your adventure. We can typically hold a provisional booking for one week. At that time, we must collect your initial deposit or accommodations will be released. We accept Visa, Mastercard, or American Express card. Upon receipt of your deposit, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a letter of confirmation, Detailed Itinerary, Trip Application, Medical Form, and Pre-Departure Information Booklet with information to help you prepare for your adventure. Please see our Cancellations and Transfer Fee Schedule for specific payment information.

## PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Upon trip confirmation	25% of trip cost
90 days prior to departure	Balance

## CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Minimum fee: 25% of trip cost  
90 days or less: 100% of trip cost

\*Please note that this differs from our regular catalog departures.

## TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details:

<http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan/travel-insurance>

# Extend Your Adventure!

To help you make the most of your adventure, we've created several exciting trip extensions. For detailed information, including full itineraries and complete pricing, please visit our *South Africa, Victoria Falls, and Botswana Private Safari* webpage and click on the "Extensions" tab: [www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/south-africa/southern-africa-private-journey/extensions](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/south-africa/southern-africa-private-journey/extensions)



## OKAVANGO DELTA SAFARI EXTENSION

The 800-mile-long Okavango—the river that never finds the sea—is rightfully considered one of the most incredible wilderness sanctuaries in Africa. Its inland delta system is the largest in the world, 8,000 square miles filled with water channels, lagoons, swamps, and islands. Apart from the outstanding beauty of the wetland habitat, this unique area supports and sustains a huge diversity of fauna and flora so that game viewing is excellent throughout the year, with elephants congregating along the lagoons and waterways and impala, wildebeest, red lechwe, zebra, giraffe, sable, and buffalo found on the game-rich floodplains, along with their predators—lion, leopard, cheetah, and hyena.

*4 days. From \$4595.*



## AMONG THE ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS EXTENSION

Magnificent Hwange National Park, one of the largest national parks in Africa, is home to some 40,000 elephants along with lion, hippo, cheetah, and more. You'll also have the unique opportunity to visit two white rhinos at the Ngamo Rhino Sanctuary in Hwange—these are the first white rhinos to be reintroduced in this part of Zimbabwe. Enjoy game drives with the flexibility to get out and walk, lantern-lit dinners in the bush, a ride on a vintage railway car, and a walk to school with the local kids (you'll even learn a few words of their click language).

*4 days. From \$2495.*



# Arrival & Departure

---

## ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

Cape Town, South Africa, is the meeting point for the trip. At the end of the trip on Day 10, you are transferred to the airport in Kasane, Botswana, for departure. Our Arrival & Departure Logistics memo, included in your confirmation packet, has details.

## INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from Africa. Airlines with the most convenient schedules for this trip include:

### **British Airways**

Phone: 800-247-9297

[www.ba.com](http://www.ba.com)

### **South African Airways**

Phone: 800-722-9675

[www.flysaa.com](http://www.flysaa.com)

### **Virgin Atlantic**

Phone: 800-862-8621

[www.virgin-atlantic.com](http://www.virgin-atlantic.com)

### **Delta/KLM Airlines**

Phone: 800-225-2525

[www.delta.com](http://www.delta.com)

[www.klm.com](http://www.klm.com)

### **Air Botswana**

Phone: 818-990-7083

[www.airbotswana.co.bw](http://www.airbotswana.co.bw)

### **Air Ethiopia**

Phone: 800 445 2733

[www.flyethiopian.com](http://www.flyethiopian.com)

British Air and Virgin Atlantic have a more spacious economy class that is an inexpensive alternative to business class. British Air calls it “World Traveler Plus” and Virgin Atlantic calls it “Premier Economy.”

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito’s website at [www.exitotravel.com](http://www.exitotravel.com).

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the U.S. one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the U.S.

**Please do not purchase your tickets until your dates are confirmed and you have reviewed your proposed air schedule with our office.** Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule so we can reserve your airport transfers.

# Lodging

## DAYS 1 TO 3 (3 NIGHTS): CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

In Cape Town, we stay at one of the following properties, based on availability and choice of accommodation:



### COMMODORE HOTEL

The Commodore Hotel has an unbeatable location just a short walk from the shops and restaurants along the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. The hotel has very helpful staff and concierge, an extensive breakfast buffet in the courtyard, and a small but friendly bar. There is a pool area with adjacent gym facilities. Spa treatments are available.



### THE VICTORIA AND ALFRED HOTEL (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

Built in 1904 as the North Quay Warehouse and converted in 1990 to a hotel, the V&A is just a few minutes' walk from the shops, bars, and restaurants of the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. It offers well-appointed rooms, a spa, a small gym, and an outdoor pool and bar. Breakfast and lunch are served al fresco on the terrace.



### CAPE GRACE HOTEL (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

The Cape Grace has understated elegance and a unique location on its own private quay on the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Not surprisingly, it is a member of the prestigious Small Luxury Hotels of the World. The rooms and common areas are very stylish, the staff is superbly trained, and there are wonderful views of the harbor, marina, and Table Mountain. This hotel is extraordinary for its tasteful decor and exceptional location. Readers of Condé Nast Traveler voted the Cape Grace “the best hotel in the world” in the magazine’s Readers’ Choice Awards.

## DAYS 4 TO 6 (3 NIGHTS): GREATER KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH AFRICA

In the Greater Kruger National Park, we stay at one of the following camps, based on availability and choice of accommodation:



### KAMBAKU SAFARI LODGE

*Timbavati Private Game Reserve, Greater Kruger Park, South Africa*

Kambaku Safari Lodge is set on the wild savannas of Timbavati Private Game Reserve, a vast and magnificent stretch of private game lands bordering Kruger National Park. There are no fences between Timbavati and Kruger, so the animals move freely between the reserves. The lodge has eight lovely thatched rooms with four-poster beds, en suite bathrooms, and private verandas. When you're not out searching for game with the Trip Leader and your expert Shangaan spotter, you can watch wildlife right from the lodge's dining room or from your private veranda. Leisurely brunches are served on the veranda or around the pool, and guests are often entertained by the resident warthog family on the lawn. The lodge is entirely solar powered, adding to its green footprint. Dinners are lighted by the Milky Way, a bonfire, and lanterns. The name Kambaku is the Shangaan word for "solitary bull elephant," a tribute to the seven famous big tuskers who roamed Kruger during the last century.



### LONDOLOZI (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

*Sabi Sand Game Reserve, South Africa*

Londolozi, meaning "protector of all living things" in Zulu, was the first game reserve in the world to be accorded Relais & Chateaux status. The camp started as a hunting lodge in the 1920s and it is one of the most deluxe safari accommodations in Africa, setting the standards for decor, luxury, and personal service. Londolozi has been named Top Safari Resort in Condé Nast Traveler's Readers' Choice Awards. Lodging at Londolozi is divided into five distinct camps. For your Private Journey, we book either Varty Camp or Founder's Camp (depending on availability) with eight chalets or seven chalets, respectively. Londolozi's luxurious chalets featuring striking African designs, canopied beds, and inlaid mosaic floors. The chalets are air-conditioned and have elegant bathrooms that include a grand bathtub with a wonderful view. The service is excellent, from the restaurant staff to the wonderful rangers and trackers that accompany you on the game drives. Dinners are served under the stars in the large boma (enclosed outdoor area). With over 40,000 acres of private land to explore and an unfenced border with famous Kruger National Park, the "big five" gameviewing is out of this world. Leopard sightings are famous here and it's a thrill to photograph these beautiful creatures as they prowl the bush and lounge in the tree limbs.

# Lodging (cont'd)

## DAYS 4 TO 6 (3 NIGHTS): GREATER KRUGER NATIONAL PARK, SOUTH AFRICA (CONTINUED)



### KAMBAKU RIVER SANDS (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

*Timbavati Game Reserve, South Africa*

Set in the heart of Timbavati Game Reserve, Kambaku River Sands lies along the banks of a dry riverbed, and since the camp is unfenced, you'll enjoy watching a variety of wildlife as they amble through. Ten thatched cottages offer private viewing decks, canopy beds, and a private bath with spa tub and double shower (and outside shower!). The main lodge features a lounge with two huge fireplaces, ideal places to relax on cool winter nights. There's also a spa with swimming pool, sauna, and gym.



### MALA MALA GAME RESERVE (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

*Mala Mala Private Game Reserve, South Africa*

One of South Africa's original safari venues and still one of the finest, Mala Mala retains an authentic safari camp atmosphere amid shady trees and lawns overlooking the Sand River. Mala Mala Main Camp has eight suites and ten rooms. Guest rooms are large, thatch-roofed, air-conditioned bungalows with his and her bathrooms and high ceilings. Dinner is served under the stars in the boma (enclosed outdoor area), a Mala Mala tradition for over 60 years. Of course, the wildlife viewing is world class here. With 33,000 acres of private land and an unfenced border with the world-renowned Kruger National Park, Mala Mala Private Game Reserve gets you close to some of the most amazing animals in the world. The swimming pool by the river is a pleasant place to relax between game drives.

---

## DAY 7 (1 NIGHT): VICTORIAS FALLS, ZIMBABWE OR ZAMBIA

In Victoria Falls, we stay at one of the following properties, based on availability and choice of accommodation:



### VICTORIA FALLS HOTEL

The stately Victoria Falls Hotel is a “grand dame” with a true British colonial ambiance, from its manicured gardens to its renowned elegant afternoon tea service. It was built in 1905 and is just a 15-minute walk from Victoria Falls. The halls, reading rooms, photos lining the walls, and grand terrace offer a vivid sense of a bygone era, and guest rooms, with en suite bathrooms, are furnished in period pieces. The service is exceptional at this classic hotel.



### ROYAL LIVINGSTONE HOTEL (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

The Royal Livingstone has a location that simply can't be beat—just a 10-minute walk from mighty Victoria Falls, one of the world's natural wonders. It's right on the edge of the river, and the long, shaded sundeck is a great place for a drink and uninterrupted views of the Zambezi River and the huge spray of the falls in the distance. The well-laid-out complex and the grounds are often full of wildlife from monkeys to giraffes and zebras. The buffet breakfast here is a lavish spread. The Royal Livingstone was rated among Africa's Top 10 Hotels by readers of Travel & Leisure.

# Lodging (cont'd)

## DAYS 8 TO 10 (2 NIGHTS): CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA

In Chobe National Park, we stay at one of the following camps, based on availability and choice of camp:



### CHOBE GAME LODGE (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

Chobe Game Lodge, the only permanent accommodation right inside the national park, offers very easy access to the renowned savannas of Chobe. The lodge has a prime location on the banks the Chobe River, with a great viewing deck and a terrace restaurant fronting the riverside, which teems with elephants, impalas, baboons, and wildebeest. River gameviewing cruises are one of the delights here.



### CHOBE CHILWERO (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

At this quietly luxurious lodge, enjoy spacious thatched chalets appointed with touches such as a sunken bath, indoor and outdoor shower, private garden, and a terrace overlooking the magnificent Chobe River. The elegant bar, lounge, and dining room have spectacular viewing decks, and there is a full-service spa, including a treetop treatment room, as well as a split-level swimming pool. Meals are top notch, enjoyed with good wines, and afternoon tea is served on the shaded lawn. The staff and game trackers at Chobe Chilwero are wonderful, as is the game viewing, whether by boat or by 4WD vehicle. The lodge earned Condé Nast Traveler's "Best Lodge in Botswana" in the Readers' Choice Awards.



### LINYANTI BUSH CAMP (OPTIONAL UPGRADE)

On the western edge of Chobe in the Chobe Enclave, Linyanti Bush Camp offers an incredibly intimate tented camp with six spacious, finely appointed tents with en suite bathrooms. The exclusive camp is set on the banks of the Linyanti marshes in a private reserve, best known for its large herds of elephants that come to the river during the dry season, and providing spectacular birding all year round. Lion, sable and roan antelope, leopard, and wild dog are also frequent visitors as is the elusive sitatunga antelope, red lechwe, hippo and crocodile. This is the ideal spot for a remote safari experience (away from the busier routes in Chobe National Park!) with a superb level of personalized service. Options at Linyanti include game drives, walking safaris, game viewing from hides, spotlighting, bird watching, boating and fishing safaris as well as guided mokoro safaris (subject to water levels).

# Trip Details

---

## WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated Level 2, easy to moderate. It is a luxury camping and lodge safari with game viewing by 4WD vehicle and can be enjoyed by anyone in reasonably good health. On safari, there are long driving days over rough roads and rugged dirt tracks. Guided bush walks are available and they take place at a moderate pace.

## CHILDREN

This is an excellent trip for children and families. The recommended minimum age is 8. Triple rooms (subject to availability) can be requested.

## WEATHER

The lodges on this program offer excellent gameviewing year round. Game viewing is often at its best from the end of March to the end of August, the drier season, when vegetation becomes sparser, causing greater animal congregations around waterholes. Most rainfall occurs usually between December and February in the form of afternoon or evening thunderstorms. In general, there is a warm climate with cool nights in “winter” (March–August in the Southern Hemisphere).

Cape Town’s peak season is September to March, with highs of 65F in September up to 80F in February. September to February, there is little rain. Southeasterly winds occur in November and early December. In the cooler months, the daily highs are in the mid-60s. The highest rainfall is in July and August. For those who are interested in the shark diving option, the best season is May to August, and the intermediate season is March/April and September/October. At Victoria Falls, the months of May to September are like Mediterranean summers, with warm, sunny days and cool nights. Frosts at night are not uncommon. Most of the rain comes between October and April in the form of afternoon thunderstorms.

## PRIVATE SAFARI GUIDED SERVICES

In Cape Town, you will have a private guide and vehicle for your two excursions. In the game parks, there will be resident naturalists guides at each camp. They are all keen, experienced conservationists. Please note that other guests at the camp will join you for the guided safari activities. There are usually several guides at camp, so the size of your group will be small. Over the course of your stay at each camp, local guides will try their best to accommodate any special interests you have.

## VEHICLES

You will have a private vehicle for the Cape Town excursions. At the game parks, game drives are typically in open-sided 4WD vehicles. The vehicles will be shared with other guests.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Africa Manager or email us at [africa@wildernesstravel.com](mailto:africa@wildernesstravel.com).

## REFERENCES

We’d be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

## ABOUT PRIVATE JOURNEYS

Wilderness Travel Private Journeys are designed for people who want to travel with their own small private group, but who still want to experience the same superb itinerary design, great accommodations, and signature quality of Wilderness Travel’s escorted group trips. These Private Journeys allow you to choose your own dates and your traveling companions—even if it’s just the two of you—yet still enjoy a guided adventure.

## TOUCAN CLUB

Please note that Toucan Club discounts do not apply for our Private Journeys. However, your participation on these trips will count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel’s regular expeditions. For more information regarding our Toucan Club bonus program, please visit our website at [www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan](http://www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan).

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At [www.wildernesstravel.com](http://www.wildernesstravel.com), you can find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and special WT Expeditions that aren’t listed in our catalog. You can also access a complete library of our detailed itineraries and browse the customized reading guides for each of our adventures.



## WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

**World's Best Tour Operators:** *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner

**Best Travel Specialists in the World:** *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row

**Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips:** *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *USA Today*

**Trip of the Year:** *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

**50 Tours of a Lifetime:** *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

**Best Adventure Travel Companies:** *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

March 18, 2024 4:33 PM