



SATRAVEL
south africa



**ENGLISCH-
SPRACHIG
GEFÜHRT**

DRIFTERS BOTSWANA SAFARI
16 - Day ACCOMMODATED
Johannesburg to Victoria Falls or Johannesburg

DAUER
16
TAGE

GEFÜHRT

★★
ABENTEUER

11x LODGE 4x CAMPING

The casual visitor to Botswana could be excused for seeing the country as kilometre upon kilometre of flat, desolate scrubland with little or no surface water. But on closer inspection, coupled with local knowledge, a whole new world will manifest itself, and what is arguably Africa's finest wildlife destination can be experienced. Botswana is a country the size of France, with over a quarter of its land set aside exclusively for nature conservation. Our tour will take us through the vast Kalahari plains where we meet with the local Bushmen, among the oldest peoples of Africa. We then venture further north, into the magnificent Okavango Delta, the world's largest inland river delta, which spills water from the faraway mountains of Angola into the vast plain of the Makgadikgadi, creating a unique wildlife paradise. We explore the world renowned national parks in fully equipped, open 4x4 vehicles, our route following the age old game migration tracks, depending on the season. We enjoy a game viewing boat cruise on the Chobe River, in Chobe National Park, and finally we visit "The Smoke that Thunders" - Victoria Falls. Clients may opt to fly out from Victoria Falls or to complete the journey back to Johannesburg, travelling southwards overland. This tour offers the adventure traveller, the photographer, the birdwatcher and the naturalist the ultimate natural paradise.

DAY 1: JOHANNESBURG – KALAHARI

Our adventure starts on departure from the GREENFIRE LODGE JOHANNESBURG, at 06h30. Making our way through the dry thornveld of South Africa's North West Province, we aim to cross the Botswana border near Lobatse. On completion of customs and immigration formalities, we enter the vast Kalahari plains that stretch as far as the eye can see. We will cover quite some distance today before arriving at our accommodation, near the village of Kang. Tonight we enjoy a catered meal while our guide explains what to expect in the days to come.

Meals: Lunch and Dinner Own Expense

Distance: 720 Km

ACCOMMODATION: Kalahari Rest Lodge

Included Highlights/Activity:

- + Scenic drive through North West South Africa
- + Kalahari Desert

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

frontier town of Ghanzi, home to some of the last authentic Bushmen, who continue to make a living in this harsh desert environment. We stay on a game farm owned and managed by a local Bushman community. Apart from deriving an income from tourism, the farm provides the space and habitat for the community to teach their children their customary ways, and to keep their traditions alive. Our experience will include an educational bush walk, led by a member of the community, giving us insight into their daily lives, and teaching us how they survive in these arid conditions. We overnight in comfortable accommodation, hosted by members of the community.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 250 km

ACCOMMODATION: Dqae Qare San Lodge

Included Highlights/Activity:

- + Guided bush walk led by true bushmen/san

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 3 - 5: OKAVANGO DELTA

The Okavango River, emanating from central Angola, far to the northwest, flows south- and eastwards, before slowing and spreading into one of the world's only true inland deltas, creating as it does so a unique ecosystem that supports a huge variety of animal and plant life. The sight of a nervous Lechwe pounding across a flooded plain, the Jacana striding delicately amongst the flowering lilies, the Bee Eater diving to prey on an unsuspecting insect, and of course the familiar cry of the African Fish

DAY 2: KALAHARI BUSHMEN

Waking up to a spectacular Kalahari sunrise, we enjoy our first cup of coffee and a sumptuous breakfast, before continuing to the



Eagle - all combine to create the canvas of one of nature's unique masterpieces. The river, eventually spilling its contents into the vast plains of the Makgadikgadi sands, disappears. We spend our time in the Delta exploring the area on foot and by mokoro (dugout canoe). We will learn about the animals and plants of the Delta from local guides who have grown up in the area, and will also, through informal interaction with the guides, have the opportunity to learn about the local people and their way of life in this isolated wilderness area.

Meals: 3 x B L D // Distance: 390 km on Day 3

ACCOMMODATION: Twin-bedded tented units

Included Highlights/Activity:

+ **Okavango Delta**

+ **Guided Game walks in the Delta led by local Motswana guides**

+ **Mokoro excursion in the Delta**

+ **Extensive Sunset Cruise**

Optional Activities:

- **Scenic Helicopter Flight over the Delta**

DAY 6: OKAVANGO – MAUN

Starting early, we begin our journey back to relative civilisation. This afternoon we arrive in the 'tourism capital of Botswana' – Maun. We will spend some time stocking up on basic supplies, before travelling the short distance out of town to the DRIFTERS MAUN TENTED LODGE, our stop for the night. The lodge is situated on the banks of the Boteti River. This river is known to change its flow direction, depending upon the season and rainfall patterns. The lodge offers comfortable accommodation, swimming pool, bar and restaurant.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 354 km

ACCOMMODATION: Drifters Maun Lodge - Twin-bedded tented units

Included Highlights/Activity:

+ **Boteti River Sunset**

Optional Activities:

- **None, all included**

DAY 7 - 10: FLEXIBLE GAME RESERVE SCHEDULE (5 Days in National Parks)

We enjoy a scrumptious breakfast at the Lodge before departing on the game viewing part of the trip, undoubtedly one of the highlights of the tour. We travel in well-equipped, open 4x4 Land Cruisers, with our local Motswana guides. The 4x4s aren't just for show, as the national parks are truly wild places, the roads just tracks in the sand. We carry only our cameras and day packs, a picnic lunch, and drinks for the road, while a support vehicle goes ahead with our luggage and all the camp equipment. This leaves us free to game drive as much as we want during the day, to stop at hides and water holes as long as we like, and to make the most of our time here. Towards sunset we arrive at our camp in the bush, to find that the support staff has erected our tents, set up bush showers and toilets, and have a friendly campfire going to welcome us. We use exclusive private campsites in the national parks, which are no more than a GPS point in the bush, completely secluded and undeveloped – it is as if we are the first people here, and are alone in the world. We bring everything we will need with us, and leave nothing behind when we depart.

Our route is flexible and depends on the season. An example could be: starting in Moremi Game Reserve, we spend the first night near the well-known Third Bridge. Drift off to sleep to the howl of the distant hyena or the earthy roar of a lion, and even the deep grunt of a half-submerged hippo. We might then head north via Xakanaxa, to camp near North Gate. This area is excellent for game viewing and we will conduct

afternoon and morning drives along the wetland areas. Then we might go on up to Savuti, an area that offers a multitude of game drive options and is a very active game area (keep the fruit well hidden from the roving elephant, the meat from the prowling hyenas, and everything from the monkeys). The vegetation is constantly changing, from open plains with palm trees, to marshland, to dense Mopane woodlands or Acacia scrub. This variety of habitats makes for excellent game viewing. Our backup crew remain with us throughout, moving the camp for us, so we can concentrate on the game. Depending on the conditions in the national parks we might also venture into the Central Kalahari Game Reserve or the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park.

Meals: 4 x B L D // Distance: +- 125 km Day 7

ACCOMMODATION: Fully-Serviced Camping (Camp bed, Linen, Pillow and Sleeping Bag Provided)

Included Highlights/Activity:

+ **4x4 open vehicle game drives**

+ **Private non-fenced campsites**

+ **Extensive first-hand game viewing experience**

+ **Explore the heart of National Geographic's photography region**

Optional Activities:

- **None, all included**

DAY 11: MAUN

Our last morning in the parks, we slowly game drive our way back to Maun. We enjoy an own-expense lunch, and have some time to explore the town, before heading out to the comfort of the DRIFTERS MAUN TENTED LODGE. This afternoon we relax at the lodge before enjoying a catered meal and a comfortable night.

Meals: B; D; (Lunch on this day is own expense in town) // Distance: +- 225 km

ACCOMMODATION: Drifters Maun Tented Lodge - Twin-bedded tented units

Included Highlights/Activity:

- **Game Drive on the way out of the park**

- **Visit to Maun**

Optional Activities:

- **None, all included**

DAY 12: MAKGADIKGADI PANS

After the early mornings of the last few days, we enjoy a relaxed start at the lodge today, spending time along the river bank enjoying the tranquillity of the area, or lounging at the swimming pool. For those interested, we recommend going on a local village walk. Chenoga Village, not far from our lodge, is not on a regular tourist route, so you have the opportunity to explore an authentic village with one of our staff from the lodge, who lives in the village. We have an early lunch, before continuing our journey eastward into the spectacular Makgadikgadi Salt Pans area. Oceans of golden grass give way to the stark white pans, under a very big sky. We stop to take in the isolation and serenity of this expanse, before continuing to our accommodation for the night, Elephant Sands Lodge. Close-up sightings of elephants at the water hole are almost guaranteed.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 300 km

ACCOMMODATION: Elephant Sands Lodge

Included Highlights/Activity:

+ **Village walk**

+ **Visit to Makgadikgadi Salt Pans**



DEPARTURES

This tour departs from Johannesburg on selected Mondays. Please note – during peak season we may run two departures. At this time clients may be required to travel in the reverse direction. The tour can be reduced to 15 days by flying out of Victoria Falls. At time of going to print the above itinerary was correct but Drifters continually strive to offer our clients the best available tour options and as such we reserve the right to change aspects of the itinerary at our discretion. During the validity of the published itinerary conditions will change, roads are improved or deteriorate often opening up new routes, contracted camps and accommodation facilities change standards, optional activities become available or are discontinued, new border posts open and old ones become congested, etc. Drifters are continuously monitoring all of the factors that make up a successful tour and as such will make amendments to the published itineraries if circumstances demand or if we believe that the change will enhance the tour.

Included Highlights

- + Kalahari - Bushman walk
- + Okavango Delta
- + Okavango mokoro excursion
- + Game Walks
- + National Parks (Moremi/Savuti – 5 days)
- + Extensive Open-vehicle Game Drives in National Parks
- + Wild remote serviced camping in national parks
- + Makgadikgadi Salt Pans
- + Chobe River Boat Cruise
- + Chobe National Park
- + Victoria Falls National Park and entry fee

Optional Activities

- White Water Rafting
- Bungi Jumping
- Scenic Flight – Okavango Delta
- Zambezi River Sunset Cruise



SA TRAVEL
south africa

fon 0521 33676880

www.sa-travel.de

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 13: CHOBE RIVER – VICTORIA FALLS GREENFIRE

Venturing north today, we make our way to the slow, placid Chobe River, an ideal habitat for hippos and crocodiles, and an attraction to some of the biggest herds of elephant and buffalo on earth. This afternoon we enjoy an extensive boat cruise on the river, within Chobe National Park. Gliding close to the banks, we hope to silently approach the animals that come down to the river to drink. Back on land, we cross the border into Zimbabwe and make our way to our accommodation for the next two nights. The lodge is centrally situated and within walking distance of the falls and other attractions.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 320 km

ACCOMMODATION: TBA

Included Highlights/Activity:

- + Chobe National Park
- + Extensive Boat Cruise on the Chobe River

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 14 : VICTORIA FALLS

Awaking in the adventure capital of Africa, it is with new excitement that we explore the amazing Victoria Falls, known to the locals as "Mosi-oa-Tunya", meaning "The smoke that thunders". This is the place where, according to ancient traditions, the Zambezi River God "Nyami Nyami", who takes the form of a snake spirit, is in hiding. Your entry fee to the falls is included in the tour price, and you are free to spend as much time as you like viewing the falls and exploring the surrounding rain forest. Various other attractions can be visited and activities enjoyed, including the tribal village or curio market. Victoria Falls is also home to a multitude of adventure activities, such as an aircraft flip over the falls, a boat trip on the Zambezi River, white water rafting or bungee jumping, but allowance must be made for the extra expense of these optional activities.

We spend two nights here, thus allowing you some time to explore the town and all it has to offer, with the freedom to choose the sights and activities that interest you. Tonight we will eat out at a local restaurant (own expense). Relax to the sound of the African night and the distant roar of the falls and drink the farewell toasts to your adventure.

Meals: B (Lunch and dinner is own expense in town)

Distance: (Free day to explore town or do some activities)

ACCOMMODATION: TBA

Included Highlights/Activity:

- + Victoria Falls National Park
- + Entry Fee for viewing the Falls

Optional Activities:

- Scenic Helicopter Flight
- White water rafting
- Bungee jump
- Gorge swing
- Many more available

DAY 15: VICTORIA FALLS – FRANCISTOWN

The guests flying out on the 15-day tour will do so today, while the rest will cross back into Botswana, to continue south toward Francistown, Botswana's second city. Tonight we stay in comfortable accommodation, enjoying the African night and celebrating our adventure with our last tour meal.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 568 km

ACCOMMODATION: Woodlands Lodge

Included Highlights/Activity:

- + Last opportunity to view game on route to Francistown
- + Scenic drive from Zimbabwe to Botswana

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 16: FRANCISTOWN – JOHANNESBURG

Crossing the Limpopo River, we return to South Africa and make our way back to Johannesburg, arriving at the GREEN-FIRE LODGE JOHANNESBURG in the early evening. Post-tour accommodation and airport transfers can be booked through DRIFTERS.

Meals: B (Lunch and Dinner own expense)

Distance: 700km

Included Highlights/Activity:

- + Border Crossing back into South Africa

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This trip is an accommodated tour and linen/towels will be supplied on all nights. PLEASE NOTE: During our time in the national parks (Days 7, 8, 9, 10) Drifters staff will set up mobile camps at un-fenced sites, using dome tents, camp beds, full linen, mobile showers, mobile toilets, etc, and meals will be prepared by staff on an open campfire. This will allow us to experience the premium areas of the national parks and to enjoy a pure wilderness experience in relative comfort.

Accommodation may vary from tour to tour, depending on availability, but clients will enjoy the same standard of accommodation on all tours.

A valid passport is required by everyone. The tour will visit South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe. It is the client's responsibility to ensure that they have the appropriate visas required for this trip, for all the countries we visit. Some nationalities might need to obtain visas before departure as they might not be obtainable at the border.

Seasonal malaria precautions are necessary and are locally obtainable. A barrel bag or backpack is best suited for this trip (suitcases might not fit into the luggage space provided). An extra day bag or camera bag is advised. Spending money will be required for restaurant meals, drinks, visas, tips, curios, airport transfers, and any other optional excursions. (A Zimbabwe airport tax of US\$30-00 is payable by those flying out on day 15 - subject to change.)

Our price includes all meals as specified, coffee, tea, juice at breakfast, transport, professional guide, mokoro hire, accommodation, group equipment, permits and park entrance fees.

Our price does not include restaurant meals where stipulated, visas, tips, curios, optional excursions, alcohol, bottled water and soft drinks, airport tax, airport transfers and airfares. Before departure clients will be required to enter into an agreement pertaining to our booking conditions and general information, as elaborated on our website and in our brochure. Clients are required to have their own comprehensive personal travel insurance.

DEPARTURES

This tour departs from Johannesburg on selected Tuesdays. Please note – during peak season we may run two departures, in which case clients may be required to travel in the reverse direction. The tour can be reduced to 15 days by flying out of Victoria Falls.

At time of going to print the above itinerary was correct, but Drifters continually strive to offer our clients the best available tour options, and as such we reserve the right to change aspects of the itinerary at our discretion. During the validity period of the published itinerary, conditions may change, roads may be improved or deteriorate, contracted camps and accommodation facilities may change standards, optional activities might become available or be discontinued, new border posts open or existing ones become congested, etc. Drifters are continuously monitoring all of the factors that contribute to a successful tour, and will make amendments to the published itinerary if circumstances so demand, or if we believe that the change will enhance the tour.

PREISLISTE 2019/20

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 28.05.2019-12.06.2019 | € 2.795,00 | 24.12.2019-08.01.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 07.07.2020-22.07.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 11.06.2019-26.06.2019 | € 2.795,00 | 07.01.2020-22.01.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 21.07.2020-05.08.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 09.07.2019-24.07.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 21.01.2020-05.02.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 04.08.2020-19.08.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 23.07.2019-07.08.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 04.02.2020-19.02.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 18.08.2020-02.09.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 06.08.2019-21.08.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 18.02.2020-04.03.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 01.09.2020-16.09.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 20.08.2019-04.09.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 03.03.2020-18.03.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 15.09.2020-30.09.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 03.09.2019-18.09.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 17.03.2020-01.04.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 29.09.2020-14.10.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 17.09.2019-02.10.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 31.03.2020-15.04.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 13.10.2020-28.10.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 01.10.2019-16.10.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 14.04.2020-29.04.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 27.10.2020-11.11.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 15.10.2019-30.10.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 28.04.2020-13.05.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 10.11.2020-25.11.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 29.10.2019-13.11.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 12.05.2020-27.05.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 24.11.2020-09.12.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 12.11.2019-27.11.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 26.05.2020-10.06.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 08.12.2020-23.12.2020 | € 2.995,00 |
| 26.11.2019-11.12.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 09.06.2020-24.06.2020 | € 2.895,00 | 22.12.2020-06.01.2021 | € 2.995,00 |
| 10.12.2019-25.12.2019 | € 2.895,00 | 23.06.2020-08.07.2020 | € 2.895,00 | | |

