



SA TRAVEL
south africa



drifters
ADVENTURES

ENGLISCH-
SPRACHIG
GEFÜHRT

**DRIFTERS SOUTHERN HIGHLIGHTS
16 DAY ADVENTURE SAFARI**
Johannesburg to Victoria Falls

DAUER
16
TAGE



GEFÜHRT

★★
ABENTEUER

11x LODGE  4x CAMPING 

Visiting five countries, South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, this tour explores some of the most spectacular natural wonders and highlights of southern Africa. We engage the cultures, enjoy the scenic splendour, and witness some of the most unique wildlife in the world. Our tour aims to visit as many of the attractions as possible. We make sure to include known highlights like Kruger Park and Victoria Falls, but also venture to places seldom visited, often way off of the beaten track. We visit the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho, and meet the people of the tiny Kingdom of eSwatini. We enjoy game walks, and we relax on the beaches of Mozambique. With a multitude of wildlife experiences in South Africa and Zimbabwe, this tour brings new excitement with each day.

DAY 1: JOHANNESBURG TO LESOTHO

The tour kicks off early this morning and departs at 06h30 from the Greenfire Lodge Johannesburg. We make our way south towards the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho, home of the Basotho people. A small land locked country completely surrounded by South Africa it is the only independent state in the world that lies completely above 1000 metres in elevation. What the country lacks in size is made up for by the beautiful views of the mountains that reach up to the sky. We cross the border in the afternoon and make our way along mountain roads to our destination, a remote lodge set high in the Maloti Mountains, in Tsehlanyane National Park. We spend the night in comfort and fall asleep in the crisp mountain air.

Meals: D (Lunch Own Expense) // Distance: 385 km

ACCOMMODATION: Maliba Lodge - riverside huts

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Lesotho
- + Mountain walk

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

small, but hardy, and are bred for their sure-footed ability to handle narrow, rocky paths, and to endure the cold Lesotho winters. To the Basotho, in a country of steep mountainsides and few roads, they are a vital means of transport.

Meals: B L D // Distance: No driving

ACCOMMODATION: Maliba Lodge

- riverside huts

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Guided Mountain Walk
- + Lesotho landscape

Optional Activities:

- Basotho pony ride



DAY 3: LESOTHO to SWAZILAND

We awake to Maloti Mountain vistas and fresh mountain air, then, after breakfast, we make our way back to South Africa to follow scenic roads, through rolling hills and farm land, to our destination for the next two days - the Kingdom of eSwatini, previously known as Swaziland. Ruled by King Mswati III and Queen Mother Ntfombi, this sovereign state is home to the proud Swazi people, known for their fascinating customs, their traditional beehive huts, and for their friendliness to visitors. The country is rich in natural diversity, from grassland savannah in the east to rain forests in the northwest. We cross the border into Swaziland in the late afternoon, and drive the short distance, through the capital of Mbabane, to our accommodation for the night, located in the Hlambanyatsi Pine Forest region.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 580 km

ACCOMMODATION: Foresters Arms

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Swaziland

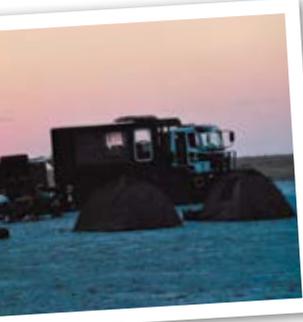
Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 2: LESOTHO

After a scrumptious breakfast at the lodge, we have the entire day at our disposal for exploring the nearby attractions, and our guide will lead a walk that includes several waterfalls and spectacular views of the surrounding mountains and valleys. Our guide will also give us an introduction to the rich history of the country, its geography and its people. Returning to the lodge

in the afternoon, the more adventurous can choose to go on a guided Basotho pony ride (own expense). The ponies are



DAY 4: SWAZILAND

Today we have the opportunity to experience that famed Swazi friendliness and culture. But first we spend the morning exploring one of Swaziland's unique natural wonders, Sibebe Rock. This is the world's largest granite batholith, the result of a volcanic up-welling 3 billion years ago. Our guide will explain the geology and history, and the meaning of the rock to the Swazis. We then return to Mbabane to explore the city and its markets and craft shops, and to interact with the friendly people going about their daily lives. In the late afternoon we return to the lodge.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 100 km

ACCOMMODATION: Foresters Arms

Included Highlights / Activity:

+ Swaziland Landscape

+ Sibebe Rock

+ Swaziland culture, local markets and craft shops

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 5: MAPUTO

This morning we leave Mbabane, transiting through Hlane Royal National Park before crossing the border into Mozambique. For centuries this area has been a crossroads of cultures, influenced first by Bantu people migrating from east Africa, then by Swahili, Arab, Somalian, Ethiopian, Egyptian, Persian and even Indian traders, who used the natural harbour of Maputo as a base to trade deep into central southern Africa. Later Portuguese, then Dutch, then British sailors stopped here en-route to the far east. Boer trekkers and Portuguese colonists made their mark, before Mozambique gained independence in 1975. Over 20 years of civil war followed. But with new-found peace, and a fast growing economy, recently reopened to tourism, Mozambique offers the explorer the wealth of treasures that have attracted so many before us. This afternoon we arrive in the capital, Maputo, and take a tour of the city, still heavily influenced by its Portuguese colonial past, using local transport and a local guide, for a unique and authentic experience. We overnight at a hotel in the city and enjoy an own expense dinner at a local restaurant. Maputo cuisine is famous for its seafood and spicy peri-peri flavours!

Meals: B L (Dinner own expense) // Distance: 250 km

ACCOMMODATION: Villas Das Mangas

Included Highlights / Activity:

+ Scenic Drive through Swaziland

+ Maputo

+ City tour in Maputo

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 6 – 7: INHAMBANE

Following the coast, we make our way north to the town of Maxixe, from where we take a local dhow (traditional sailing vessel) across the bay to Inhambane, a small town founded at the site of an ancient trading port. Our guide drives around the bay to meet us. We spend some time exploring the town and visit the bustling and colourful local market, before continuing to our comfortable accommodation, literally on the beach between large sand dunes and the Indian Ocean. We spend two nights here, during which time we relax, snorkel and soak up the sun. There are opportunities for long walks on coconut-palm-lined deserted beaches, and for the more adventurous, world class tropical scuba diving, fishing for marlin or tuna from a ski boat, or an ocean safari with the chance to see dolphins, manta rays, whale sharks or whales are options (own expense).

Meals: 2 x B L D //

Distance: 470 km

ACCOMMODATION:

Ngumula Lodge

Included Highlights /

Activity:

+ White sandy beaches

+ Dhow Trip

+ 2 nights on the beach

Optional Activities:

- Snorkelling

- Diving

- Fishing

- Ocean safari

DAY 8: XAI XAI

We depart after a relaxed morning and drive a short distance south along the coastline, to the town of Xai Xai. The capital of Gaza Province, it was developed under Portuguese rule as a port and agricultural centre. Today it is a popular holiday destination, with the off-shore coral reef protecting its beaches from the Indian Ocean waves. Our accommodation for the night is at a remote beach resort, hidden on the large dunes separating the inland fresh water lake system from the pounding ocean. We have a relaxed afternoon to enjoy the surf and to explore the surroundings.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 260 km

ACCOMMODATION: East Africa / Sunset Beach

Included Highlights / Activity:

+ White sandy beaches

Optional Activities:

- Snorkelling

DAY 9: MOZAMBIQUE - KRUGER PARK

We start early today, leaving the beaches behind us, travelling northwest through the Limpopo floodplains and remote, scattered villages, on our way to the world renowned Kruger National Park. We pass Lake Massingir and enter the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Peace Park, before crossing the South African border directly into Kruger Park. We spend the rest of the afternoon game driving, before setting up camp at one of the park's rest camps. Tonight we fall asleep to the sounds of the wild African bush.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 380 km

ACCOMMODATION: Kruger Park Rest Camp - Camping (two person dome tent)

Included Highlights / Activity:

+ Scenic drive through Mozambique

+ Short drive through Transfrontier Peace Park

+ Kruger National Park

DAY 10: KRUGER PARK

Today is all about game driving, so we get up early, have coffee with the sunrise, and then quickly strike camp and head off on our first drive of the day. It is worth aiming to get out of the camp as soon as the gates open. We will drive northwards, covering a lot of ground in search of animals. Those paying attention will notice the changing ecology as we go, and these changes will be attended by changes in the mix of animals we can expect to see. For example, the drier northern parts of the park provide a good opportunity to find cheetah. We will stop for meals and to stretch our legs when it suits us, at some of the park's rest camps or picnic sites. We will exit the park in the late afternoon, at Pafuri Gate, the park's northern-most entrance. Our accommodation for the night is not far from the gate.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 180 km



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

- + Lesotho – "The Roof of Africa"
- + African Village Culture
- + Swaziland Kingdom
- + Sibebe Rock
- + Golden Gate
- + Kingdom of eSwatini (Swaziland)
- + Mountain Walks
- + Maputo
- + Mozambique Beaches
- + Kruger National Park
- + Great Zimbabwe
- + Victoria Falls National Park and Entry Fee
- + Open Vehicle Game Drives
- + Historical Sites
- + Matobo National Park
- + Hwange National Park
- + Rhino Tracking on Foot

Optional Activities

- White Water Rafting
- Bungee Jumping



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ACCOMMODATION:

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Kruger National Park
- + Full Day Game Drive in the Park
- + Northern "Cheetah Country" of the Park

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 11: GREAT ZIMBABWE

Another early start today, we head for Beit Bridge Border Post, Zimbabwe's busiest port of entry. Once through the border, we continue on to the town of Masvingo, and then to Great Zimbabwe, modern Zimbabwe's namesake and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A local guide will take us on a tour of these magnificent historical structures and explain their origins, and the controversy fostered by a previous generation of historians. Tonight we camp in the vicinity of the ruins.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 450 km

ACCOMMODATION: Norma Jean's - Camping (two person dome tent)

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Great Zimbabwe Ruins

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 12: MATOBO

This morning, after breakfast, we leave for Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second city, and the capital of Matabeleland Province. Bulawayo was founded in 1840 by the Ndebele King, Mzilikazi, who was a lieutenant of King Shaka Zulu, but who escaped Zululand following a dispute with Shaka to found his own kingdom in Matabeleland. We don't stop here for long, but continue to our camp nestled amongst the precarious boulders of Matobo. This afternoon we are collected at our camp by a local expert guide, and taken in open vehicles to Matobo National Park, where we will track rhino on foot. The thrill of getting close to wild rhinos in the bush is an experience that will not be soon forgotten.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 355 km

ACCOMMODATION: Big Cave - Camping (two person dome tent)

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Matobo National Park
- + Rhino tracking on foot

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 13: HWANGE

In the morning we travel the relatively short distance to Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe's largest park, famous for its large herds of elephant. We will arrive in time to set up camp and have lunch, before departing on an extensive open-vehicle game drive. We will return to the camp for

dinner, and then go out again on a night drive to try and find some of the nocturnal species we can't easily see during the day.

Meals: B L D // Distance: 310 km

ACCOMMODATION: Hwange Main Camp - Camping (two person dome tent)

Optional Activities: Spend time at the waterhole watching the animals come to drink

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Game Drive

- + Night Drive

Optional Activities:

- None, all included

DAY 14 – 15: VICTORIA FALLS

We leave Hwange in the morning and head for Victoria Falls, known to the locals as "Mosi-oa-Tunya", or "The smoke that thunders". The falls are a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and are regarded as the biggest in the world if both breadth and height are considered. 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 here, including the tribal village and 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 – these are just a few suggestions among a plethora of options.

We spend two nights here, 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. One dinner and both lunches will be eaten at local restaurants (own expense). On the last night we celebrate at a local nightspot and thrill to the vibe of Africa's adventure playground.

Meals: B D; B // Distance: 180 km on day 14

ACCOMMODATION: TBA

Included Highlights / Activity:

- + Victoria Falls National Park
- + Victoria Falls Entry Fee

Optional Activities:

- Scenic Helicopter Flight
- White water rafting
- Bungee jump

DAY 16: VICTORIA FALLS

Our tour ends after breakfast and the guide will depart shortly thereafter. Post tour accommodation and airport transfers can be booked via the Drifters office.

Meals: B

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A sleeping bag, towel and pillow are required for this tour. Seasonal malaria precautions are advised and are locally obtainable. During winter the temperature can drop very low at night, clients should be prepared for this.

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

Our price includes transport, food, (no food kitty), coffee, tea, fruit juice at breakfast, a professional guide, group equipment, accommodation, permits and park entry fees, Vic Falls entry. The price does not include alcohol, bottled water and soft drinks, tips, curios and optional extras. Before departure, clients will be required to enter into an agreement pertaining to our booking conditions and general information. Clients are required to have their own comprehensive personal travel insurance.

PREISLISTE 2019/20

01.06.2019-16.06.2019	€ 2.095,00	11.04.2020 - 26.04.2020	€2.195,00
22.06.2019-07.07.2019	€ 2.095,00	02.05.2020 - 17.05.2020	€2.195,00
13.07.2019-28.07.2019	€ 2.095,00	23.05.2020 - 07.06.2020	€2.195,00
03.08.2019-18.08.2019	€ 2.095,00	13.06.2020 - 28.06.2020	€2.195,00
24.08.2019-08.09.2019	€ 2.095,00	04.07.2020 - 19.07.2020	€2.195,00
14.09.2019-29.09.2019	€ 2.095,00	25.07.2020 - 09.08.2020	€2.195,00
05.10.2019-20.10.2019	€ 2.095,00	15.08.2020 - 30.08.2020	€2.195,00
26.10.2019-10.11.2019	€ 2.095,00	05.09.2020 - 20.09.2020	€2.195,00
16.11.2019-01.12.2019	€ 2.095,00	26.09.2020 - 11.10.2020	€2.195,00
07.12.2019-22.12.2019	€ 2.095,00	17.10.2020 - 01.11.2020	€2.195,00
18.01.2020-02.02.2020	€ 2.195,00	07.11.2020 - 22.11.2020	€2.195,00
08.02.2020-23.02.2020	€ 2.195,00	28.11.2020 - 13.12.2020	€2.195,00
29.02.2020-15.03.2020	€ 2.195,00	19.12.2020 - 03.01.2021	€2.195,00
21.03.2020-05.04.2020	€ 2.195,00		

DEPARTURES

This tour departs every third Saturday from Johannesburg.