



Fall in Love with Southern Africa

Celebrate Valentine's Day in a special way and fly to South Africa to join this custom-designed, small group safari program, escorted by [Margot Kalinowsky](#), one of our resident Africa specialists. She's been on a number of safaris and would love to share her excitement and passion for safari touring with you.



17 days/16 nights

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive Johannesburg

Upon arrival to Johannesburg O.R. Tambo International Airport you will be transferred by hotel shuttle to the nearby Protea Hotel OR Tambo for a two-night stay.

Protea Hotel OR Tambo has a funky aviation theme that ties into its proximity to OR Tambo International Airport. It is a hotel that is on trend and modish while at the same time a serene escape from the hustle and bustle of the city, with blackout curtains and double-glazed windows. There is an onsite restaurant, The Warehouse, that offers distinctive international cuisine, and it has an outdoor terrace allowing for alfresco dining. There is an outdoor swimming pool as well as a fitness centre.

Day 2: Johannesburg - Soweto

Johannesburg is one of Africa's biggest cities. It is the economic capital of Africa and the gateway to Southern Africa. Although not as famous as other South African destinations, there is plenty to do in Johannesburg. The old city is a multi-cultural mixture of traditional medicine shops, Chinese restaurants, taxi ranks and ultra modern skyscrapers. There are excellent museums, art galleries and organised tours of historical and political interest. The shopping is Southern Africa's best and the many restaurants cater for all tastes. The nearby township of Soweto is Johannesburg's most popular tourist attraction.

SOWETO, acronym for South Western Township, is home to over 2 million people, who, despite living in crowded and chaotic conditions, have a tangible sense of community, one which ironically, the ordered, walled, elitist northern suburbs lack. Inside Soweto, guests visit the Kliptown Open Air Museum where delegates met in 1955 to adopt the Freedom Charter, now the cornerstone of the Bill of Rights and the South African Constitution. This journey continues to Regina Mundi Church, site of many secret underground meetings of the then banned political parties. The next stop is the Hector Pieterse Memorial, and discover the cause of the tragic riots which led to his death; guests will pass Mandela House, and give you time to visit this fascinating little museum (own account). Finally we take you past the largest stadium in Africa, Soccer City, host of the 2010 FIFA World Cup Final. Soweto is unlike a suburb you've ever seen or been to, yet the history of struggle encapsulated here is a cornerstone of the South African Story. Your experience highlights: Kliptown Open Air Museum Regina Mundi Church Hector Pieterse Museum Mandela House (own account) Soccer City, host of the 2010 FIFA World Cup Final.

Day 3: Johannesburg - Victoria Falls

Shuttle from the hotel back to Johannesburg's airport for your scheduled flight to Victoria Falls. On arrival in Victoria Falls, you'll be transferred to Explorers Village Lodge where you will spend three nights.

Explorers Village offers the modern pioneer a perfect haven from which to investigate Victoria Falls, widely recognized as the adventure capital of the African continent. Located merely 400m from the Victoria Falls, 100m from the epicenter of the Victoria Falls town with its craft and curio markets, bohemian cafes and overlooking natural African



bush panorama, the Explorers Village is the perfect Base Camp. Comprising of 5 bespoke Overland camping sites, modern ablution facilities and 42 private rooms, the village represents budget accommodation at its finest – clean, cool, relaxing, elegant, excellent traditional food, ice cold drinks and exceptionally friendly hosts ready to welcome you and guide you through your Vic Falls experience.

Day 4: Victoria Falls

A late afternoon private guided tour of the falls has been arranged.

The Victoria Falls is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. David Livingstone was the first European to visit the Falls, and named it after Queen Victoria. To the locals, it is known as Mosi-oa-Tunya The Smoke that Thunders an accurate description of what happens when the waters of the Zambezi River plunge over the 1700 metre wide and 100-metre deep chasm, creating a shower of spray and a deafening noise. From February to May each year, the Victoria Falls are in full flood and 500 million litres of water tumble over the edge into a series of gorges each minute!

Day 5: Free Day and Zambezi Sunset River Cruise

Enjoy another exciting day in Victoria Falls. The activities are endless. White water rafting on the Zambezi River is an adrenaline thrill. Shopping in Chinotimba Village for school supplies and visiting the local elementary school is always heartwarming. Enjoying afternoon tea or a gin and tonic at the classic historical Victoria Falls Hotel is an experience in itself. A horse back safari offers a unique safari experience like no other. Hop on the hop on hop off Bamba Bus and stop and tour the many sites of Vic Falls.

Zambezi River Cruise: As the sun begins its descent, step on board our floating restaurant for an exceptional evening on the Zambezi River. Like the exquisite bird after which it was named Malachite is one of the Zambezi River's crowning gems. Powered by two 60HP four stroke marine motors, this beautifully crafted double deck vessel silently slices across the surface of the river. On the upper deck, guests are offered a glass of sparkling wine to sip as they settle into the plush cushioned furniture and relax before the journey along the Zambezi River begins; all the while looking out for the various birdlife and animals there are to be seen and then watching as one of Africa's famous sunsets erupts in the sky. After the sun has sunk below the river line, dinner is served on the lower deck of the vessel exemplifying the hallmarks of exquisite cuisine prepared on board by two Chefs. The rich aroma of locally sourced, fresh ingredients wafts around diners as the dishes are plated. Time seems to stand still as the boat gently glides along to the sound of water lapping up against her sides. Far removed from the glare of city lights and noise, the moon and stars shine brightly in the sky and an atmosphere of mystery and romance envelopes the evening's experience. A captain completes the crew and their combined experience promises an insightful and memorable evening.

Day 6: Victoria Falls to Kasane Airport, Botswana. Light aircraft flight to Kwando Splash Camp

Circuit Flights: The light aircraft, circuit flights are subject to weight restrictions based on the aircraft used, weather conditions and season, passenger and luggage weights, routing and fuel required. Some routes may require enroute stops which may involve changing aircraft. Total baggage allowance on these inter-camp flights is 20kg total per person (includes checked bag as well as all carry-on items).

Splash Camp is situated in the heart of the Okavango Delta, within the Private Kwara Reserve. This brand new camp offers a very relaxed, friendly, and authentic atmosphere. The area has long been known as Splash due to the huge water crossings that had to be negotiated to access the camp area.

Located around a pan, each of the 12 rooms is situated on a deck overlooking the pan which attracts game year-round. All include ensuite flush toilets, double sinks, and both indoor and outdoor showers. In addition each room has a private veranda with outdoor lounge chairs, the perfect place to relax and take in the magnificent views and soak up the atmosphere.

The rooms and main area are simply and elegantly decorated with contemporary furniture, complementing the atmosphere of the camp. The main area has a plunge pool, bar, and lounge, as well as an orientation centre and a curio shop.

The Kwara Reserve shares a 30km water boundary with the famous Moremi Game Reserve, and its unique location boasts both permanent water and seasonal flood plains as well as extensive dry bush wilderness. Favoured by labyrinths of permanent water channels and secret islands, this area offers the perfect delta experience and is considered to be among the best in Botswana for game viewing and activities.

Three-night stay on an inclusive basis: accommodation, all meals, twice daily scheduled camp activities, park fees, laundry and all local drinks excluding premium imported brands and champagne.

Day 7 & 8: Splash Camp Activities

While staying at Splash Camp you will be taken on daily off road game drives (day and night) in Land Cruisers with 3 seats, maximum six (6) people per vehicle. Enjoy guided walking safaris, or relax by the pool or on your own deck, watching the landscape for animals. Splash Camp operates game drives using a guide and tracker. This adds to the



experience on two levels: there are two sets of eyes searching out the action, looking for tracks; this ensures a good chance of sightings, especially predators. In addition, having the tracker out front tracking gives the guide more opportunity to interact with clients, leading to a relaxed, convivial game drive atmosphere. As Splash is in a private concession, the opportunity to drive off road in search of sightings means one is able to drive at night with spotlights.

Day 9: Light aircraft - Splash Camp to Pom Pom Camp

Pom Pom Camp consists of nine luxury tents in true traditional safari style, furnished with ensuite, semi-open ablutions. The tents are uniquely positioned under the shade of the surrounding trees that overlook the Pom Pom lagoon. The family safari tent, situated close to the main lodge, accommodates four (two adults and two children) with ensuite facilities.

Morning and evening game drives with qualified guides are an opportunity to view the “big game” and night life that this breathtaking environment can offer. A mokoro trip is a fantastic way to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Okavango’s waterways and wildlife.

Three-night stay on an inclusive basis: accommodation, all meals, twice daily scheduled camp activities, park fees, laundry and all local drinks excluding premium imported brands and champagne.

Day 10 & 11: Pom Pom Camp Activities

The mokoro trip is the quintessential delta experience. There is nothing more relaxing than poling along the lagoon and channels with your guide, soaking up the atmosphere and seeing things from a totally different perspective. Seasonal boating and fishing are possible at Pom Pom, and our guides are happy to take you to their secret spots to fish for African pike and a variety of bream species. *Mokoros, boat cruises, and fishing are water-level dependent.*

It is also possible to do guided walks year round. An area is chosen at the guide’s discretion and in keeping with safe distances from large herds of elephant and buffalo. The distance and area for each walk may vary seasonally at the guides’ discretion.

Helicopter Tour Option (additional cost)

Helicopter Horizons – Scenic Helicopter Flights

Doors off (seatbelts on!) for unrestricted views and the best photo opportunities imaginable. Fly deep into the Delta to experience inaccessible areas and wildlife that is concealed from ground-level observers. Wildlife and birding enthusiasts will value the aerial view laid out below. See the tapestry of hidden channels, islets dotted with termite mounds and the flooded glory of the Okavango Delta that you only truly appreciate from above.

A helicopter tour over the Okavango Delta is a once in lifetime experience you will never forget.

Departures can be arranged from Pom Pom Camp at anytime between dawn and dusk – your choice. Duration options: 30, 45 and 60 mins

Day 12: Maun to Cape Town

Light aircraft transfer to Maun Airport. Scheduled commercial flight to Cape Town.

The modern City Lodge V&A Waterfront is situated centrally in the city of Cape Town and is at the entrance of the premier V&A Waterfront. This is where you will find exclusive shops, restaurants and bars as well as the Two Oceans Aquarium, a fascinating insight into ocean life.

Situated at the entrance of this iconic mixed-use precinct, the 207-room City Lodge Hotel Victoria and Alfred Waterfront allows guests easy access to this great Cape Town attraction, as well as the Cape Town International Convention Centre and colourful Bo-Kaap neighbourhood.

A nautical theme runs through the property in keeping with its seaside location.

The hotel features the #Café restaurant serving Full English and Continental breakfast, lunch and dinner daily; sundowner bar and spa pool with views; uncapped WiFi, 12-seater meeting room; and fitness room.

Day 13: Cape Town, South Africa Free Day

Resting at the confluence of the Indian and Atlantic Ocean, sandwiched between the slopes of the iconic Table Mountain and the glistening sapphire waters of Table Bay, the exceptionally scenic city of Cape Town is in a class of its



own. Some cities boast rich culture, vibrant nightlife, a cosmopolitan atmosphere and extraordinary architecture, while others boast breath-taking landscapes and extraordinary natural wonders. Cape Town is lucky enough to be blessed with all of these attractions and so much more. With its bustling harbour, world-class beaches, top-notch vineyards, and its mountainous surroundings brimming with diverse flora and fauna, Cape Town consistently captivates the hearts of all who visit.

Day 14: Cruise along Millionaires Paradise from Clifton Camps Bay and on to Llandudno

Experience the 114 curves and 9km drive of the one of the world's most scenic and majestic drives, Chapman's Peak. Hope off at one of the many picnic spots where you can enjoy and take photographs of the breathtaking view of the rugged cliffs, beaches, ocean, whales. and dolphins!

Visit the Jackass penguin colony at Boulders Beach in Simon's town. Observe their fascinating behaviours up close.

Visit the Cape Point Ostrich Farm and see the largest and heaviest bird in the world. Observe these towering birds trot and show their plumage. The lovely gift shop stocks ostrich eggs, leather goods, and African gifts.

Hike up to or take the funicular to the spectacular view from Cape Point lighthouse. Explore the Cape of Good Hope.

Explore the stunning botanical gardens at Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens. The gardens cover five of South Africa's six different biomes. (entrance fee not included)

Day 15: Full Free Day

Free Day to explore Cape Town. We suggest Robben Island, Victoria & Alfred Waterfront Park, Two Oceans Aquarium, and the many beautiful beaches in the area.

Robben Island: Robben Island is most famous as the place where Nelson Mandela, the first democratically elected president of South Africa, was imprisoned for 18 of his 27 years in jail. The island has since become a symbol of the triumph of democracy and freedom over oppression.

V&A Waterfront: The V&A Waterfront is one of South Africa's most visited destinations, with 24 million visits annually. Situated in the oldest working harbour in the southern hemisphere, the property boasts the iconic Table Mountain as its backdrop and extensive views of the ocean, city bowl and mountain peaks.

Day 16: Half Day Stellenbosch Wine Tour

After breakfast you will depart on your half day Winelands tour. Explore the beautiful Boland region in South Africa's breath-taking winelands. Visit wine estates that suit your preferences, and taste delicious wines while enjoying stunning views. Relax over lunch at one of the local, award- winning restaurants (lunch is included) and soak up the rich history and culture of Stellenbosch and Franschoek.

Day 17: Free Day - Depart Cape Town

Enjoy your free day before departing Cape Town.

Details

Group Size: max. 12

Trip Code:

008676-W20

INCLUDED

- Transfer between Johannesburg airport to hotel, round trip
- Two nights of accommodation in Johannesburg at Protea Hotel OR Tambo or similar, including breakfast
- Scheduled circuit, light aircraft flight from Kasane to Kwando Splash Camp, Kwara Reserve
- Three nights of camp accommodation at Splash Camp
- Scheduled circuit, light aircraft flight from Splash Camp to Pom Pom Camp, Okavango Delta
- Three nights of accommodation at Pom Pom Camp
- Scheduled circuit, light aircraft flight from Pom Pom Camp to Maun
- Accommodation at all camps in tented rooms
- All meals, daily scheduled camp activities/drives, park fees, laundry service, all local drinks (excludes premium imported brands and champagne)



- Services of lodge guides and staff
- Half day wine tour in Stellenbosch
- Transfer by road from Victoria Falls to Kasane Airport
- Three nights of accommodation at Explorers Village, Victoria Falls
- Transfer from Cape Town airport to City Lodge Hotel at V&A Waterfront
- Five nights of accommodation at City Lodge Hotel V&A Waterfront hotel
- Accommodation taxes, Tourism Levies, VAT and GST
- Entrance fees to Boulders Beach Museum and Cape of Good Hope Park
- Accompanied by Great Canadian Travel Africa Specialist

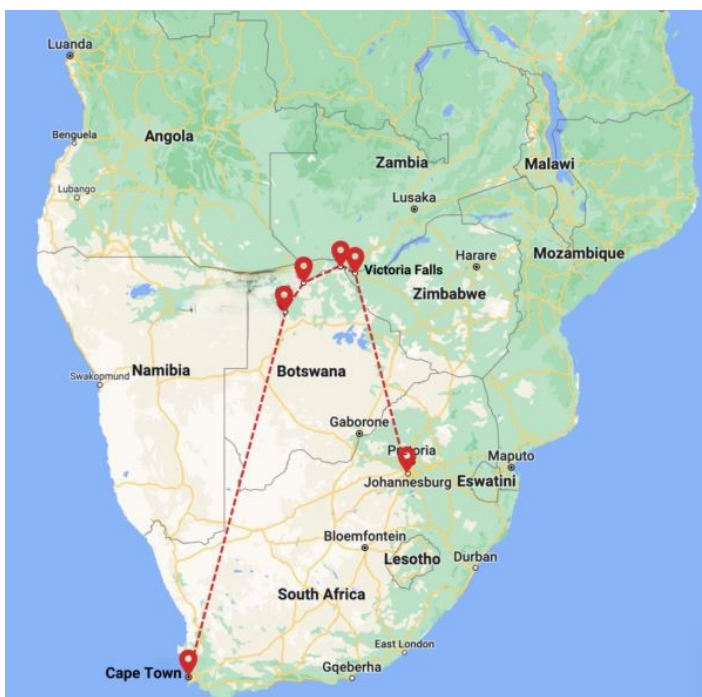
NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to/from Africa
- Inter Africa flights - Johannesburg to Victoria Falls and Maun to Cape Town
- Taxes and fees on airfare
- Meals not specified
- Drinks, park and entrance fees, portorage, extra tours/excursions and transfers not specified
- Guide, tracker and camp staff gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Any new government taxes, levies, fuel surcharges or industry increase beyond our control
- Entrance fee to Boschendal Gardens

TOUR NOTES

Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.

ROUTE MAP





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