## **Botswana on Safari**

Join Margot Kalinowsky, one of our resident Africa specialists on this custom-designed, small-group safari program. Margot is passionate about travel to Africa, and particularly loves going on safari in Botswana. She welcomes you on her group and looks forward to sharing her excitement about African safaris with you! Email Margot margot@gctravel.ca for more information on this or one of our other African escorted tours.





# 15 days/14 nights

## **ITINERARY**

## **Day 1: Arrive Johannesburg**

Upon arrival to Johannesburg O.R. Tambo International Airport you will transfer by hotel shuttle to the nearby Holiday Inn Airport for a two-night stay.

The Holiday Inn Johannesburg Airport, located just ten minutes from OR Tambo International Airport, is the perfect place to take time to relax and unwind before or after a long journey. Stay stress free a complimentary airport shuttle service. The hotel has 151 comfortable rooms equipped with all modern amenities and Wireless Internet. For leisure, work out in the in-house gym overlooking the outdoor pool, where you can take a swim or soak up the sun. At the end of the day, dine in at their restaurant or order room service and put your feet up.

## 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.

Today we will take a tour to Soweto and the Apartheid Museum, which takes a close look at South Africa's turbulent past

## **Day 3: Johannesburg - Victoria Falls**

Transfer from the Johannesburg Hotel to the airport for the flight to Victoria Falls. A group transfer takes us to our accommodation, Ilala Lodge or similar, for a two-night stay.

### **Day 4: Victoria Falls**

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!

A variety of local activities are available as optional tours such as river walks, cruises down the Zambezi River,



helicopter tours over the falls and for the adventurers zip-lining or bungee-jumping. Or simply choose to sit with a nice, cool drink and take in the spectacular views. Pre-booking is recommended.

### Day 5: Victoria Falls - Lebala Camp, Kwando Reserve

Today we will transfer by road from our hotel in Victoria Falls to the airport in Kasane, where we will catch the light circuit flight to Lebala Camp in the Kwando Reserve.

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 en-route 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).

The camp is comprised of eight custom-designed tents with unique mosquito net wall, allowing an unobstructed flow of cooking breezes and stunning views. Each spacious text has its own viewing deck, bathroom and luxurious double, outdoor shower. The main area of the camp includes a small swimming pool, a communal fire place and dining room, a curio shop, bar and lounge area and small library. Private, outdoor dinners can be arranged by the poolside or fireplace for special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries and honeymoons. All Kwando camps offer a digital detox (no WiFi, no cell connectivity) allowing guests to truly embrace the natural setting.

#### Day 6 & 7: Lebala Camp, Kwando Reserve

Lebala means "wide open spaces" and the camp is located in the Kwando Reserve's 232,000 hectares of private, unfenced wilderness. Here the southerly flowing Kwando River disappears into the vast marshland to the east. Lebala sits in the floodplains of the Kwando River and the special ecosystem is home to a wide variety of Africa's plains game such as zebra, wildebeest, impala, giraffe and tsessebe. The wonderful variety of wildlife also includes elephant, hippo, buffalo and the ever-present predators of lion, cheetah and hyena. Lebala's location away from the dense mopane woodland to the east of the reserve facilitates the ease of traversing the concession looking for big game.

While staying at Lebala Camp, you will be taken on daily game drives (day, night or offroad) in Land Cruises with 3 rows of 3 seats, max. 6 people per vehicle; guided walking safaris and have time to spend relaxing by the pool or on your own deck, watching the landscape for wildlife.

## Day 8: Lebala Camp, Kwando Reserve - Pom Pom Camp, Okavango Delta

A light aircraft, circuit flight whisks you from the Lebala Camp in the Kwando Reserve to Pom Pom Camp in the Okavango Delta.

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 en-route 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).

Pom Pom Camp is accessed by a short, 5-minute road transfer from the local airstrip. Known for its soul and appeal to safari traditionalists, the eco-friendly camp is located on Pom Pom Island, in a private concession in the heart of the south-western region of the Okavango Delta. At the head waters of the Xudum river system and on the western boundary of the Moremi Game Reserve, Pom Pom offers superb Okavango scenery and consistent game viewing year-round. It's the real deal for those who live and breathe Africa.

There are nine luxury safari tents, set up in true, traditional safari style with en-suite, semi-open ablutions. The tents are positioned in the shade of the surrounding trees and overlook Pom Pom Lagoon. Each tent has stunning, private views. The camp also boasts a communal building, accessed from the guest tents along sandy paths. It's classic canvas, timber and thatch structure with open sides allow everyone to enjoy the views from the open-plan dining room, lounge and bar. Beside the main building is a swimming pool surrounded by a sundeck with lounge chairs – the perfect spot for relaxing in between activities. You might even catch sight of local wildlife like bushbucks, baboons and black-collared barbets!

## Day 9 & 10: Pom Pom Camp, Okavango Delta

While staying at Pom Pom Camp, you will be taken on morning and evening game drives with qualified guides, with the opportunity to view the "big game" that this breath-taking environment offers. Guided bush walks are also possible. A mokoro (traditional dugout canoe) trip is a fantastic way to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Okavango's waterways and wildlife. Seasonal boating and fishing may also be offered. All water-based activities are dependent on the water levels in the delta and, as such, cannot be guaranteed. There will be time in between wildlife drives and bush walks to spend relaxing by the pool or on your own deck, watching the lagoon for wildlife.



Time to say goodbye to camp life and transfer to Maun airport. From here fly to your next destination, exciting and beautiful Cape Town, South Africa. We'll transfer to the centrally located Radisson Red Hotel for a four-night stay in this fabulous city.

## Day 12 - 14: Cape Town, South Africa

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.

We'll enjoy two tours while in Cape Town. A private peninsula tour will take us to the Peninsula and Table Mountain, including a cable car ride. Our private Winelands Tour in the nearby Boland Mountains will feature lunch and wine tasting.

#### **Day 15: Depart Cape Town**

Today, our tour ends with a transfer from the hotel to the Cape Town airport to catch your departing flight.

Should you wish to extend your time in Cape Town or continue on to another destination in Africa or beyond, please ask us to quote you for the additional arrangements.

#### Details

Group Size: min. 10

#### 2020 Dates:

November: 18

### 2020 Pricing:

From US\$7,059 - twin

Prices are "starting from" rates, in US\$, per person based on two people sharing a twin room. Single pricing may be available on request (limited availability), please inquire.

### **Trip Code:**

008676-W20

### **INCLUDED**

- Transfer between Johannesburg airport to hotel, round trip
- Two nights of accommodation in Johannesburg at The Holiday Inn Airport, or similar, including breakfast
- Two nights of accommodation at Ilala Lodge or similar, Victoria Falls
- · Scheduled circuit, light aircraft flight from Kasane to Lebala Camp, Kwando Reserve
- Three nights of camp accommodation at Lebala Camp
- · Scheduled circuit, light aircraft flight from Lebala Camp to Pom Pom Camp, Okavango Delta
- Three nights of accommodation at Pom Pom Camp
- 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
- Park Fees
- Road transfer from Pom Pom Camp to Maun Airport
- Transfer from Cape Town airport to downtown hotel and return
- Four nights of accommodation at Radisson Red, Cape Town
- Accommodation taxes, Tourism Levies, VAT and GST
- Great Canadian Travel Africa Specialist escort throughout

### NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to Johannesburg, from Cape Town
- Airfare from Johannesburg to Victoria Falls and Maun to Cape Town
- Taxes and fees on airfare
- · Meals not specified
- Drinks, park and entrance fees, porterage, extra tours/excursions and transfers not specified
- Guide and camp staff gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Passport and visa fees, as required
- Items of a personal nature
- Local airport taxes, payable in US\$, cash only
- · Any new government taxes, levies, fuel surcharges or industry increase beyond our control

## **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**



## Contact

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