

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Accommodation based 4x4

32 Days

13 Apr - 14 May 2027

Accommodation Based

Guided 4x4 Adventure

Namibia | Botswana | Zimbabwe

Embarking on a guided self drive adventure through Namibia and Botswana, with a side trip to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe, promises a thrilling and diverse experience. This 4x4 self drive adventure promises a mix of desert landscapes, wildlife encounters, cultural experiences and the majestic Victoria Falls, providing an unforgettable experience. At the end of each day you will have a comfortable bed in a guesthouse, lodge, family run B&B or exclusive mobile safari camp, all with private ensuite facilities.



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The Route

Highlights Include...

Moremi National Park: Part of the Okavango Delta, renowned for its prolific wildlife. Witness elephants bathing, lions on the prowl, and herds of antelope navigating the lush landscapes.

Chobe National Park: Nestled in the pristine landscapes of Chobe, Savuti Camp beckons travelers seeking an authentic and immersive safari experience.

Victoria Falls: Overnight trip to Victoria Falls, known as "Mosi-oa-Tunya" or "The Smoke That Thunders," is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Etosha National Park: Renowned as one of Africa's premier safari destinations, Etosha, meaning "Great White Place," is a vast national park which is a sanctuary for an incredible array of wildlife.

Damaraland: A rugged and remote region characterised by rocky landscapes, ancient rock engravings at Twyfelfontein, and the chance to encounter desert adapted elephants and rhinos.

Skeleton Coast: A desolate coastline known for its shipwrecks and seal colony at Cape Cross, one of the largest seal colonies in the world.

Swakopmund: A charming coastal city that blends German colonial architecture with activities like quad biking with a nature historian or searching for the "small five" in the Namib Desert.



Please Note: Proposed route is approx. 5,000km. Guide decides on final route as per current conditions on day of travel.

Sossusvlei and Deadvlei: These iconic landscapes within the Namib-Naukluft National Park feature towering red sand dunes and a surreal white clay pan dotted with ancient dead camel thorn trees.

Kolmanskop Ghost Town & Luderitz: Explore the abandoned diamond mining town near Luderitz, now filled with sand, offering a glimpse into its past grandeur.

Fish River Canyon: The second largest canyon in the world, this geological marvel offers dramatic landscapes.





The Itinerary

Itinerary is subject to change. The final route may change due to accommodation availability, weather, road conditions, decisions by authorities or the local guide.

1

Windhoek

Arrive in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia. You will be met on arrival and transferred to your hotel. The international airport is 40 km east of Windhoek. Afternoon briefing followed by a welcome dinner at the famous "Joe's Beer House".
Dinner included



2

Windhoek

Transfer to collect our 4x4s and purchase a few provisions for the road. Your car will have "picnic" gear and fridges so you can cater for your own lunches, tea/coffee and cold drinks along the journey. There could be time to explore Windhoek, which is a cosmopolitan city with an abundance of restaurants, shops, entertainment venues and accommodation. City centre sights include: the Alte Feste (Old Fortress) museum; Christuskirche (Christ Church), consecrated in 1910; and the massive Independence Memorial Museum.
Breakfast included



3

Windhoek to Kalahari Ainib

The Kalahari Basin covers most of Botswana and large parts of Namibia and South Africa. The name Kalahari means 'the great thirst' and describes the world's largest continuous area of sand. It is an exceptionally beautiful semi-desert. In Namibia it is characterised by low red dunes, acacia trees and wispy, mostly golden grass.
Breakfast included



4

Kalahari Ainib to Fish River Canyon

Almost at the border with South Africa is the Fish River Canyon. It is the most impressive natural wonder in southern Namibia and the second largest canyon in the world after the Grand Canyon in the USA. Hopefully the Naute Kristall distillery will be open on the way and we can try their "dandy" (date brandy) or gin that includes some indigenous ingredients. We stay two nights while we explore the area.

Breakfast included

5

Fish River Canyon day trip

The Fish River Canyon is the result of millions of years of erosion by the Fish River, which has carved a deep and meandering gorge through the rocky terrain. It measures approximately 160 kilometres in length, up to 27 kilometres in width, and in some places, over 550 metres deep. It's a short drive from our lodge and there are other activities that can be enjoyed here including walks from the lodge located in a remote and scenic area, surrounded by the dramatic landscapes of southern Namibia. The short walk to the sunset bar nestled in a rocky outcrop is definitely recommended before dinner.

Breakfast included

6

Fish River Canyon to Aus

We will travel scenic backroads today including one that follows along the Orange River, the border with South Africa. Our destination is the tiny town of Aus, known for its historical significance and the presence of wild horses. These horses, often referred to as the "Aus wild horses" or the "Namib Desert horses," are a unique and iconic feature of the region. We stay two nights while we explore the area.

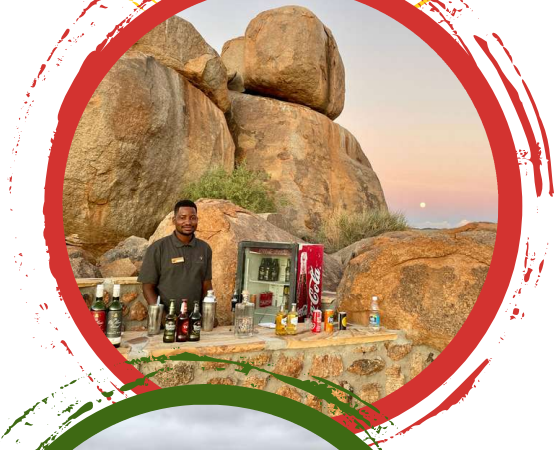
Breakfast included

7

Lüderitz & Kolmanskop day trip

From our hotel we'll take a day drive to Lüderitz, a charming coastal town located in the southwestern part of Namibia, along the Atlantic Ocean. It is known for its unique blend of German colonial architecture, stunning coastal landscapes, and a rich history. Just a short drive from Lüderitz is the famous Kolmanskop Ghost Town. This abandoned diamond mining town, with its sand-filled buildings and eerie atmosphere, is a popular tourist attraction and a photographer's paradise.

Breakfast included



8

Aus to Sesriem

Travelling north we will reach Sesriem Canyon. This deep chasm carved through the rocks by water is a striking natural feature of the area that is best explored on foot. Stony walls rise up sharply on both sides of the canyon, while birds roost in its crags and lizards dart along the ledges. The canyon's name was coined when early settlers used it as a water source, using six lengths of leather (sesriem – six thongs tied together to lower buckets into the water at the base of canyon.) We have two nights in our lodge within the national park.

Breakfast included

9

Sossusvlei day trip

Sossusvlei is a famous and iconic destination located within the Namib-Naukluft National Park. It is renowned for its mesmerising and otherworldly landscapes, characterised by towering red sand dunes, vast salt pans, and unique desert vegetation. These are the largest free standing dunes in the world with "big Daddy" the largest at 305m. These dunes get their striking red colour from the iron oxide in the sand. It is the most visited place in Namibia and you will understand why when you visit. It is a 65km drive from our lodge at Sesriem.

Breakfast included

10

Sesriem to Swakopmund

Travelling north we'll stop in at Solitaire, famous for its Moose McGregor's bakery and we'll cross the tropic of Capricorn as we journey to our destination of Swakopmund. The mix of Namibian influences with picturesque buildings from the German colonial era, palm-lined streets and seaside promenades, the laid-back holiday atmosphere plus the cool sea breeze make Swakopmund one of the most attractive places in the country.

Breakfast included

11

Swakopmund

This is the perfect place for a "rest day". There are many optional activities which include quadbikes in the dunes with a nature historian, seeking out the "small five" in the desert, visiting the local museums or strolling the streets. Specialist shops sell hand-made leather work, art & crafts, hand-woven carpets and wall hangings, hand-embroidered bed and table linen and other items proudly made in Namibia. Superb jewellery, designed and crafted with local gemstones by master goldsmiths, are another special feature of Swakopmund.

Breakfast included



12

Swakopmund to Cape Cross

We continue north along the desolate to the Skeleton Coast which is notorious for its treacherous waters and unforgiving coastline, resulting in a high number of shipwrecks over the centuries. Estimates on the exact number of wrecks vary, but it is believed to be in the hundreds. Some sources suggest around 500 wrecks, while others claim the number could be closer to 1,000. We will visit the wreck of the Zelia which was stranded on 25 August 2008 in the early morning hours.

Our destination is Cape Cross, an historic area that was landed on by the Portuguese in 1486, and they erected a stone cross here in honour of the Portuguese King. Cape Cross best known for its extraordinary breeding colony of Cape fur seals and has been made a reserve. Optional visit to the seal colony.
Breakfast & dinner included.



13

Cape Cross to Damaraland

Our morning drive will take us into Damaraland. This vast, arid landscape is among the most beautiful regions in Namibia and famous for a huge open-air gallery of prehistoric rock engravings or petroglyphs at Twyfelfontein. This is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is the largest concentration of rock engravings in Africa, with over 2,500 petroglyphs which depict lion, giraffe and even sea creatures like seals. We also plan to visit a local community and their "Living Museum of the Damara."

Breakfast included



14

Damaraland to Etosha

We will enter Etosha National Park from the Anderson Gate then onto to the Okaukuejo Waterhole. In this park you may see a variety of wildlife including: lion, giraffe, elephant, white and black rhino, and a multitude of plains game. Popular optional activities include: enjoying an open 4x4 safari with an expert guide, half day or full day drives with the option of a picnic lunch with wine on the full day game drive.

Breakfast included



15

Etosha

Day at your leisure. Etosha is well organised and it is easy to venture out on your own game viewing at your own pace. Relaxing by the waterhole is also a great way to spend the day as your room is close by.

Breakfast included



16

Etosha - King Nehale Gate

We have the day to slowly explore on the way to the most northern gate of Etosha National Park - King Nehale. Our lodge is strikingly set on the Andoni plains and each chalet is spacious and stylishly adorned with a touch of Oshiwambo cultural ornaments, and each has its own plunge pool. Breakfast included



17

King Nehale to Hakusembe

Today we head east then north to the Caprivi Strip, a narrow protrusion of land located in the north eastern corner of Namibia, sandwiched between Angola to the north and Botswana to the south. Our lodge a short distance outside of Rundu in the Kavango region. Hakusembe River Lodge provides a break from the road in a tranquil river setting. Breakfast included



18

Hakusembe to Namushasha

We travel east along the Caprivi Strip to the Namushasha River Lodge on the banks of the Kwando River. We stay for two nights to explore this area. Breakfast included



19

Namushasha

Free day for optional activities or relax in the lodge. Stroll past the green-lawned campsite to the traditional heritage centre; hop aboard the river boats for early morning or late afternoon river cruises to explore the channels and discover the diverse bird life; or take a trip to the Bwabwata National Park, first by boat along the waterways to later transfer to a game vehicle for an excursion into African bush. At the end of the day, there's a stunning sunset in store. Breakfast included



20

Namushasha to Kasane

We leave Namibia and cross into Botswana to our lodge on Chobe River and the bustling tourist town of Kasane. Get ready for an epic sunset over this magnificent river. Our lodge borders the Chobe National Park and it is not uncommon to see some game like monkeys, warthogs and small buck wandering through. Breakfast included



21

Kasane to Victoria Falls

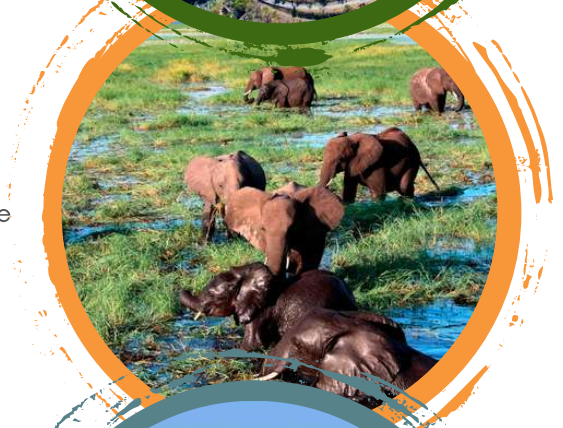
We leave our cars in Kasane and transfer to Victoria Falls "the smoke that thunders". Enjoy lunch, high tea or a drink at the famous colonial style Vic Falls Hotel. Many optional activities which include helicopter fights, river cruises and walking along the paths opposite the falls. There are many places in this vibrant town to enjoy lunch or dinner. Optional upgrades to the famous Victoria Falls hotel available. Breakfast included



22

Kasane

It's back to Botswana and an afternoon sunset cruise on the Chobe River. A sunset cruise offers a serene and unforgettable experience, allowing you to witness the beauty of the African wilderness as the sun dips below the horizon. Breakfast included



23

Kasane to Chobe (Savuti)

Our journey to Savuti campsite, nestled in the heart of Chobe National Park's prime game-viewing area, takes us along sandy tracks. Here, our mobile safari team awaits, ready to move our pre-erected dome tents with comfortable beds and en-suites every two days for the next six days. The experienced camp staff will take care of all meals and drinks, leaving you free to immerse yourself in Botswana's incredible wildlife. A local wildlife guide will accompany you on morning and afternoon game drives each day in an open-sided safari vehicle, maximising your wildlife viewing opportunities. Breakfast & dinner included



24

Chobe (Savuti)

Day of game viewing in the Chobe National Park. Savuti is known for having one of the highest concentrations of elephants in Africa. It is also known for its large prides of lions. The open landscapes provide excellent visibility, and you may witness these apex predators hunting, resting, or interacting with their pride.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner included



25

Chobe to Khwai

Khwai is renowned for its diverse ecosystems, rich wildlife, and the convergence of the Khwai River and Moremi National Park. This region offers a unique blend of riverine forests, open savannahs, and mopane woodlands, creating an ideal habitat for a variety of wildlife. Our mobile safari camp continues for the next two nights within the Khwai conservancy. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included



26

Khwai

Day of game viewing in the Khwai Conservancy. Located just outside the north-eastern boundaries of Moremi, Khwai is a small rural village hosting some 400 inhabitants, the majority of which are Babukahwe, more generally referred to as "river bushmen". The Khwai villagers founded in 2000 the Khwai Development Trust, empowering the community with the management of the surrounding natural wonders and resources and allowing the community to benefit from and get involved in the preservation of the environment and the development of sustainable tourism. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included



27

Khwai to Moremi

Our two nights in Moremi are in an exclusive campsite nestled in the wilderness of the national park. We will leave the cars for two days at the entrance to the park so that you can enjoy the game viewing experience from the safari car with your expert guide. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included



28

Moremi

The Okavango Delta and is renowned for its diverse ecosystems, making it a prime destination for wildlife enthusiasts. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the world's largest inland deltas. Some of the wildlife species you are have a good chance to encounter during a safari include: lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo, impala, giraffe, wild dog, hippo, crocodiles and many colourful birds. Breakfast, lunch and dinner included



29

Moremi to Maun

Sadly, our wilderness adventure must end and we'll say farewell to our mobile safari team and arrive in Maun. There is time for an optional "doors off" helicopter ride over the area you have just travelled through. Breakfast included



30

Maun to Ghanzi

We drive back into the Kalahari Desert heading south and spend the night in the small town of Ghanzi. Breakfast included

31

Ghanzi to Windhoek

After breakfast, we must have an early start for our final drive back to Windhoek (including a border crossing) and return our 4x4s in time to get organised to depart tomorrow. Breakfast and farewell dinner included



32

Depart

Transfer to airport for departure flights. Breakfast included



Prices, Dates....

Prices...

AUD21,790* per person

- Prices are based on 2 people per 4x4 on a double/twin share basis
- 3rd & 4th passenger: we can provide pricing if you have more than 2 people per 4x4

*Prices are based on 2026 and assume a minimum of 5 vehicles and a maximum of 6 vehicles (plus support vehicles). 2027 pricing will be available in early 2026 approximately in April. Prices are subject to exchange rate fluctuations – please see booking form for all terms and conditions.

Inclusions...

Arrival and departure transfers, accommodation, vehicle hire including unlimited kilometres, premium cover, contract fee, unlimited additional drivers, tyre and glass damage and zero excess (Hilux or similar), picnic equipment (fridge, table, chairs, cutlery, cups etc), two-way radio, all accommodation on a twin/double basis, meals include daily breakfasts and other meals as per itinerary (including all meals and soft drinks, beer and wine while on the 6 nights of the mobile safari in Botswana), support vehicle escort and staff, Botswana guide in National Parks with safari vehicle, return road transfer to Victoria Falls and activities as listed in the itinerary. The first aid equipment is in the escort car, as is all recovery equipment.

Exclusions...

Airfares return to Namibia (approx. AUD2,500-3,000 from Australia economy fare), fuel (approx. AUD1,800 per car), fuel deposit (approx. AUD250 block on credit card), cross border fees/taxes approx. AUD30 per person, Namibia Visa (approx AUD130 per person), Zimbabwe Visa (USD30 per person), Victoria Falls park entry (approx. USD35 per person), Namibia national park entry fees (which are usually part of the price of optional activities), alcoholic drinks, meals not included in the itinerary approx. AUD25 to AUD40 per meal depending on location, local tips, travel insurance, activities over and above those detailed in the itinerary, visas (if required), immunisations (if required) and any personal expenses.

Pre & Post Tour Accommodation...

If you'd like arrive a day or two early to acclimatise and get over a long flight or stay longer, we can arrange additional nights in the same hotel. Prices to be advised closer to the date.

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Other Information

Accommodation...

Accommodation varies from cosy thatched roofed stone cottages, to spotlessly run family B&Bs to comfortable lodges. All accommodation has private amenities. The lodges and hotels have been hand chosen for location and access to the route on the itinerary. There are 6 nights on an exclusive mobile safari in the heart of the Okavango Delta (think "glamping") in safari style tents with solid beds (one on each side of the tent), foam mattress, comfortable linen and your own private en-suite.

Driving Ability & Conditions...

The skills required are a driver's license and some 4x4 experience or rough gravel track driving recommended. The route is planned largely avoiding main roads, however, there will be some tar as well as plenty of dirt, gravel, some sand and rough tracks.

Vehicles...

The vehicle used for this tour is a 4 door 4x4 Hilux or similar. Mostly likely automatic. The cars will be equipped so that you can self cater for lunches, tea/coffee and cold drinks. There will be a fridge and picnic equipment (table, chairs, cutlery, plates, gas bottle and spin off top with pots and pans etc).

Convoy Size...

The minimum number of 4x4s in our convoy is 5, unless a small group surcharge is added, and the maximum is 7. This excludes support vehicles. Most vehicles tend to have just two guests, however, up to four can be accommodated. The convoy does travel together for most of the journey, so you need to be willing to be flexible to fit in with the determined start time each day, stops for breaks etc. We try to allow breaks for photos, toilet stops, sightseeing, activities, wildlife viewing, lunch, morning and afternoon tea. In some places part of the day may be "free" where we will give a certain meeting point to regroup.



Food & Drinks...

Meals included are daily breakfasts plus some dinners. While on our mobile safari (6 days) all meals as well as soft drinks, beer, wine and local spirits. You will mostly self cater for lunches and you can stock the vehicle with most of the items you would normally have access to at home. The shopping in Windhoek is particularly good and we will have other opportunities to restock along the way. Dinner will be available in the lodges and hotels or at restaurants in towns like Swakopmund. Most of the lodges will have a "buffet" dinner and some will have "a la carte" menus.

Activity Level...

There are some long days of driving, however, otherwise this trip is not physically demanding as any walking activity is usually optional. There are walks available from 1-2km to longer and a trekking pole is recommended if you have some difficulty on rough terrain or stairs.

Weather...

This is Autumn in Namibia and Botswana—it will range from cool to cold at night, 7-10 degrees C and from 20—35 degrees C during the day depending on the location. There is the chance of some rain but most likely just some short showers.

Guide & Support Team...

You will have a Self Drive Adventures escort for the entire journey. In Botswana you will be joined by a local expert wildlife guide with their safari vehicle so you can focus on enjoying the wildlife experience. The decision of Self Drive Adventures is final on all matters likely to affect the safety or well-being of any person participating in the trip.

Amenties & Toilet Breaks...

All accommodation has private bathroom facilities. There will be times when a toilet is not available during the day and we will stop for a "bush toilet" where there may be cover of trees or bushes for privacy.

Wildlife...

The wildlife ("game") will be in pockets along the route. The main game viewing areas are Moremi National Park, Khwai Conservancy, Chobe National Park and Etosha National Park.

Flights...

Before booking flights and other arrangements it is your responsibility to confirm with us that we have the minimum number of cars required for this adventure to depart.

Risks & Health...

By participating you acknowledge that the nature of the trip is adventurous, and participation involves a degree of personal risk. To visit Namibia there are no mandatory vaccinations, however, you should discuss the risks with your doctor before agreeing to join this trip.

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FAN MAIL

Adventure I will Never Forget



I would like to thank you so much for providing me with an adventure I will never forget. I continue to talk to friends and family about my amazing visit to Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe. I am very impressed with your passion and experience of Africa that I felt relaxed and in safe hands from the start. Thank you again for that. What a fantastic time I had. I loved the many surprises along the way. A true African experience. I experienced many different and spectacular landscapes and scenery of Namibia remotely and the wildlife was amazing at Etosha National Park. Since returning home I have been asked what the highlight was and I have had difficulty answering because there were so many things I loved, all for different reasons. I am missing my 4x4 everyday driving through the canyons, national parks, and etc. Our guides were friendly and remained professional at all times. I would recommend this adventure to those that are looking to sharing their African dream with someone that is professional and knows how to plan a fun holiday that you will treasure for a lifetime.

Erwin Wong, Sydney Australia



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