

ACACIA AFRICA

KRUGER & VICTORIA FALLS (ACCOMMODATED) TOUR DOSSIER

TOUR CODE – KVF7A

JOHANNESBURG – LIVINGSTONE

7 DAYS

Tour Starts – Pick up at 05:00 from joining hotel on Day One

HIGHLIGHTS

Mpumalanga Province - Blyde River Canyon,
Bourkes Luck Potholes & The Three Rondavels
Cheetah Project
Greater Kruger Private Reserve
Kruger National Park
Polokwane Game Reserve
Victoria Falls – Livingstone

A great week long trip taking in 'Big Five' game drives in Kruger and the edge of the immense Kalahari on the way to the white water spectacle of Victoria Falls



INTENDED ITINERARY

Whilst it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the tour and on occasion it may be necessary or desirable to make alterations to the published itinerary.

Duration: 7 Days
Countries visited: South Africa, Botswana, Zambia

DAY 1
Blyde River Canyon, Cheetah Project & Private Game Reserve
Dx1
Twin Share/en suite

Leaving Johannesburg we drive through the scenic province of Mpumalanga, passing through some spectacular scenery as we ascend the Drakensberg escarpment and view Blyde River Canyon. We stop to see the beautiful rock formations of the Three Rondavels, which dominate the area. After lunch we visit a cheetah rehabilitation project to see the remarkable work done by volunteers rehabilitating cheetah and other endangered mammals in the area. We complete our first day on arrival at our accommodation at Shona Langa, a private site within the Greater Kruger situated on the Oliphants River, In this relaxed setting, enjoy a swim before dinner and we look out across untamed bush and perhaps have our first glimpse of African game.

DAY 2&3
Oliphant's River Cruise - Kruger National Park
Bx2 Lx2 Dx2
Twin share/ En suite

We rise early for a cruise on the Olifants River, hoping to see wildlife coming down to the river to drink and bathe. We then drive into Kruger National Park itself, South Africa's premier game reserve. With over 2 million hectares of fertile land and an unrivalled diversity of wildlife, as well as historical and archaeological sights, Kruger is a South Africa 'must see' attraction. Over 500 species of birds, 148 species of mammals and many

varieties of reptile live within the park's boundaries. We explore the wilderness and may view the 'Big 5' (elephant, rhino, leopard, lion and buffalo) at some stage during our game driving. We also visit an old colonial town for an insight into some of the early pioneers' way of life in this area. Our route through the park is dependent on recent sightings and on seasonal conditions but we focus our game drives near the Transfrontier National Park - a remote area away from the larger numbers of visitors that frequent the park in the south. Recently established, when fences between countries were removed, this special area provides natural migration routes for wildlife between South Africa and neighbouring Zimbabwe and Mozambique, and promises some rewarding game drives. While here we stay in bush camps, using simple twin bungalows. A typical day in the park generally involves an early morning game drive, a return to our camp for lunch and rest during the heat of the day, and another drive in the late afternoon when predators come out to hunt.

DAY 4 – 5
Polokwane Game Reserve, Botswana - Nata
Bx2 Dx2
Twin share/En suite

This morning we game drive out of the park towards Botswana, stopping short of the border in Polokwane. We stay in chalets in a bush camp in the Polokwane Game Reserve, one of the largest municipal owned reserves in South Africa. There is usually time to enjoy a walk around the reserve, which is home to over 20 species of mammal, including the white rhino. The next morning we continue into Botswana and spend the day driving around the Kalahari, a huge expanse of arid land extending through much of southern and central Botswana. We overnight at a small lodge near Nata, a tiny settlement near the Magkadikgadi Pans. This region was once a vast lake; today it is a shimmering expanse of flat white dry salt pans. Occasionally, it fills with seasonal rains and then it becomes a large lake, attracting birds and animals to feast on its brief harvest of algae and plant life.

DAY 6 – 7
Livingstone
Bx2 Dx1
Twin Share/En suite

We leave Nata early for the drive to Kasane and the ferry crossing border into Zambia. A short drive further on we arrive in Livingstone. The local name for the Victoria Falls is 'Mosi oa Tunya' ('the smoke that thunders') referring to the spray that this huge curtain of falling water creates in full flood. We have two days here near Livingstone in our riverside accommodation on the Upper Zambezi. We take a tour of the 'Falls' themselves to see the spectacle and look down into the 90-100 metre deep Batoka Gorge into which the Zambezi plunges. The rest of our time is at leisure. Some of the optional activities typically available here include scenic flights, white water rafting, canoeing, bungee jumping, gorge swinging, jet boating, game drives, elephant back safaris and river cruises. Our accommodation also has small pool, a bar, restaurant and riverside deck - so there is plenty of opportunity to relax and enjoy the tranquil surrounds. Our tour ends after breakfast on Day Seven.

TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR STYLE

Acacia Small Group Safari

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Tour highlights, transport, accommodation, sleeping mat, meals as indicated, camping equipment, services of an English speaking driver / tour leader.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport transfers, sleeping bag, optional activities, laundry, gratuities, passport & visa fees, meals not mentioned in the itinerary, items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is in twin en suite lodges/ cabins/ rondavels or chalets with two night's camping in twin share dome tents with ground sheets and mosquito nets. We stay in picturesque locations with perhaps a swimming pool, restaurant and bar, allowing you to relax at the end of the day.

TRANSPORT

Minibus or microbus; maximum group size 14 passengers.

MEALS

Meals are mainly prepared in camp by the tour leader and group members are invited to assist. We use fresh produce wherever available and are able to cater for special dietary requirements, providing you advise us in advance.

PARTICIPATION:

This is a participation tour and your help is needed (usually on a roster basis) with the various day to day chores - shopping, cooking and pitching and striking camp etc. But it's not all hard work, and joining in like this is a good way to meet local people and get to know your fellow travellers. This is part of your contribution to the success of the tour and most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment. Come along with a sense of adventure and a flexible attitude and we are sure you will have a wonderful time

TOUR PREPARATION

BOOKING INFORMATION

When you make a confirmed booking for your tour you will be sent pre-departure information and related documents. Once you have paid in full you will receive a Travel Voucher giving details of your joining hotel. Johannesburg is well served by a variety of airlines and easily connects with Livingstone. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

Meeting point in Johannesburg : Address:	Backpackers Ritz 1A North Rd Dunkeld West Johannesburg
Contact details:	Tel. +27 11 325 7125/2520 Fax +27 11 325 2521
E-mail:	ritz@iafrica.com
Website:	www.backpackers-ritz.co.za
Tour start time:	05:00 (5am) on day 1
Tour end point in Livingstone :	The Waterfront Sichango Road Livingstone Tel. + 260 3 320 606/7/8
Tour end time:	After breakfast on Day 7

EXTENDING YOUR STAY

We recommend you arrive the day before and stay overnight in Johannesburg the night prior to departure. If time allows you may also like to take a few extra days in Livingstone/ Vic Falls before or after the tour to enjoy more of the activities on offer in the area. Any additional nights can be booked on a direct pay basis. See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. These prices may be subject to change so please contact Acacia or your agent to check current prices.

Description	Price (£)	Description	Price (£)
Johannesburg		Livingstone	
Pre tour accommodation – twin pppn	£23	Accommodation – Twin Adventure tent pppn	£13
Pre tour accommodation – single pppn	£30	Accommodation – Single adventure tent pppn	£19
Pre tour accommodation – dorm pppn	£16		

WHAT TO BRING

Please try to keep your luggage to a minimum, bearing in mind that most airlines impose a 20kg limit. It should be brought in a soft holdall or rucksack along with a smaller day bag. You will need to bring a mixture of lightweight clothing and warm clothing for the evenings and early morning game drives. A **sleeping bag** is required. We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/ belt that is easily hidden. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use your hotel safe to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets.

VACCINATIONS/HEALTH

The table below indicates the vaccinations suggested for travel on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. You should seek professional medical advice from your GP or clinic at least six weeks prior to departure. Please note some areas visited are **malarial**. We recommend you speak to your doctor or travel clinic about appropriate anti-malarial tablets

Country	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
South Africa	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	-	*	R
Zambia	R	R	R	R	R	R	-	R	R	R
Botswana	R	R	R	R	-	R	-	R	*	R

C = Compulsory, **R** = Recommended, * = If travelling from infected countries a certificate of proof may be required.

VISA REQUIREMENTS

The table below indicates the visas required for travel to the countries on this tour but **should be treated as a guide only**. At least one month prior to travel seek confirmation from embassies or a visa specialist, that these requirements are still current. For UK citizens the Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) offers free up-to-date travel info: www.fco.gov.uk For other nationalities a number of travel advice websites are listed on the Acacia website.

Nationality	UK	AUS	NZ	USA	CAN	BEL	IRE	NED	DEN	ITA	GER	AUT	SWE	FIN	NOR	MEX	KOR
S. Africa	No	Yes	No														
Zambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes									
Botswana	No	Yes															

MONEY MATTERS

PERSONAL EXPENSES

Naturally you will require extra money for your own personal spending on the tour, for snacks, drinks, souvenirs, tips and items of a personal nature. Everybody has different spending habits but as a guideline we suggest you budget US\$15-20 per day. Also keep US\$ cash for any relevant airport taxes and visas needed, optional activities and any additional accommodation before or after your tour.

- **Spending money** is best carried as cash in US dollars, Sterling or Euro which can then be exchanged into the local currency on arrival. Your guide can advise how and when you can change money throughout the tour.
- **Currencies** are as follows: South Africa – Rand; Zambia – Zambian Kwacha; Botswana – Pula.
- **ATM machines** are found in Johannesburg & Livingstone although note may be unreliable (and so we ask that you please do not rely on them).
- **Credit cards** may be used to pay for larger optional activities although fees for use may be higher than you are accustomed to at home.
- **Travellers cheques** can be difficult to cash but make suitable emergency funds.

LOCAL PAYMENT

The Local Payment (LP) set out in the brochure is to be paid to the tour leader on arrival at the start of the tour in US\$ cash. It is used to pay for running costs on the road. NB Travellers' cheques and credit cards are not accepted as means of paying your Local Payment; it is a US\$ cash only payment.

TIPPING

As in many areas where tourism is an important contributor to the economy, it has become customary to give a small gratuity to local staff at the end of a tour for services rendered. However naturally any decision on this is entirely at your own discretion.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

In order to give you maximum flexibility on tour we offer a number of optional activities on the tour. To help budget, approximate prices are listed below (subject to change and availability).

Activity	Price (US\$)	Activity	Price (US\$)
Kruger National Park		Livingstone	
Kruger night game drive	\$45	Zambezi Sunset Cruise	\$45
Livingstone/Vic Falls		Bungee jump over falls	\$90-155
Abseiling/Gorge Swing	\$100-130	Elephant back safari	\$160

Zambezi Jet Boating	\$110	Flights over falls (various)	\$140-280
		Lion Encounter	\$140-225

NB The above costs have been converted into approximate US dollars for convenience. Expect to pay for some optional activities in the local currency.

INSURANCE

It is a booking condition of Acacia that you have full travel insurance valid for the duration of your tour to cover you for medical emergency and repatriation to your home country. Your guide will ask you for a copy of this when you join the tour. It is also important that you leave a copy of your insurance with the person nominated as your emergency contact. We can recommend a respected, specialist travel insurance provider for this tour. Please contact Acacia for more information.

ACACIA ON THE ROAD



RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL

We strongly believe that you get the most out of a journey by respecting the culture and people of the places you visit. On our tours we try to travel in a way that benefits the communities we pass through and minimises negative impact on the environment. This can be from ensuring the campsites we use are clean when we leave and dressing respectfully in conservative areas to getting involved with local charity projects. We ask that you are open to this when you travel with us. Being proactive in responsible travel helps develop cross-cultural understanding and friendships with the local people, and will greatly enhance your experience in Africa.

GET CONNECTED

Join our facebook group www.facebook.com/AcaciaAfrica and get connected with other Acacia travelers, check out the pictures, videos and feedback from their tours and meet up with other people booked on your tour

Follow us on twitter @AcaciaAfrica and get the latest buzz. Got a question? Ask us on twitter!

Follow our blogs from the road <http://acaciaontheroad.blogspot.com/> and <http://africastuckonyou.blogspot.com/> get regular updates from our crew on the road as well as other Acacia Travellers

Don't forget to sign up to our newsletter to get regular updates and special offers www.acacia-africa.com

For information on our Premium Overlanding, Acacia Small Group Safaris, Short Safari's & Treks, Short Breaks & City Stays, Voluntours and Dive Tours please visit www.acacia-africa.com



Acacia Adventure Holidays Ltd

London

23A Craven Terrace
London
W2 3QH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7706 4700
Fax: +44 (0)20 7706 4686
Email: info@acacia-africa.com

Cape Town

PO Box 27632
Rhine Road
Cape Town 8005
Tel: +27 (0)21 556 1157
Fax: +27 (0)21 557 5983
Email: info@acacia-africa.com

