

ACACIA AFRICA

OKAVANGO WILDERNESS TRAIL (CAMPING)

TOUR DOSSIER

TOUR CODE – OWT7

LIVINGSTONE - JOHANNESBURG

7 DAYS

Tour Starts – Pick up at 10:00 from joining point on Day One

HIGHLIGHTS

Chobe National Park - optional activities
Okavango Delta
Khama Rhino Sanctuary

Check out the major highlights of Botswana including Chobe National Park, the magical channels of the Okavango Delta and the renowned Khama Rhino Sanctuary - all in a week!

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. This tour is operated in association with a local operator. Acacia is proud to work with local companies and support local communities.

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

DAY 1 Livingstone – Chobe National Park D camping

Victoria Falls is one of nature's wonders of the world and a fabulous place to start your tour. We base ourselves on the Zambian side of the Falls, in the town of Livingstone. Our starting point is situated on the banks of the mighty Zambezi River only a few kilometres from the Victoria Falls - if at all possible we recommend you plan a few days in Livingstone before the tour departs in order to visit the Falls and to try some of the activities typically available (white water rafting, canoeing, scenic flights etc).

We begin our tour with the drive to the Botswana frontier which we cross by simple ferry across the confluence of Chobe and Zambezi rivers. Upon entering Botswana, a land rich in both diversity and culture, we travel the short distance to the town of Kasane where we overnight. Optional activities here include a relaxing afternoon 'Fish Eagle' cruise or a game drive inside the Chobe National Park (each is at your own expense). This area has a huge elephant population and whichever of the activities you choose, you may well see some of these magnificent beasts. We return to our accommodation for dinner and overnight.

DAY 2 - 5 Maun – Okavango Delta - Maun Bx4 Lx3 Dx4 2 nights camping – 2 nights island 'bush camping'

You have another opportunity to take gamedrive in Chobe (own expense) before travelling to Maun, the gateway to one of the world's most complex ecosystems: the Okavango Delta.

This beautiful region is a natural wetland system spreading over some 1.6 million hectares of northern Botswana resulting from rivers that flow south from Angola, and dividing repeatedly on the flat Botswana plains to form an intricate floodplain of channels and an inland 'delta', the only one of its kind in the world. We spend two nights camping in the wilderness with experienced and knowledgeable 'polers' who guide you through the labyrinthine channels in dug-out canoe (mokoro), and on foot. We camp on one of the islands in the middle of the Okavango, a true wilderness experience, especially so at night when you sleep to the sounds of the African bush which stretches for miles all around.

DAY 6 – 7
Khama Rhino Sanctuary - Johannesburg
Bx2 Dx1
Camping

For those wanting more adventure there is an opportunity for scenic flights over the Okavango area (time permitting and at own expense), which is a superb way to appreciate the immensity of this 'water world'.

Eventually we leave Maun for the Khama Rhino Sanctuary situated not far from the South African border. In 1989 a group of locals wished to convert the Serwe Pan, previously a hunting area, into a conservation region for the rhino that inhabit the area. The Pan was chosen because of its 'rhino-friendly' habitat and its proximity to a Botswana Defence Force base which could provide 24 hour protection. Located on the edge of the vast Kalahari, which is a prime habitat for white rhino, zebra, wildebeest and giraffe we can see game at several of the reserve's natural waterholes. Khama is a community based wildlife project which benefits the local community and protects a great many endangered rhino.

On our last day we travel into South Africa to Johannesburg ending our tour in the late afternoon/early evening.

TOUR INFORMATION

TOUR STYLE

Acacia Small Group Safari

WHAT'S INCLUDED

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

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

Visas, travel insurance, flights, airport transfers, optional activities, laundry, tips to driver & local guides, passport & visa fees & items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is twin share dome tents with ground sheets and mosquito nets. We stay in designated campsites in comfortable and in picturesque locations with toilets and shower facilities and perhaps a swimming pool, restaurant and bar allowing you to relax at the end of the day. Two nights are spent bush camping on an island in the Okavango Delta with basic facilities.

TRANSPORT

Minibus or microbus, safari vehicle (Chobe), dug-out canoe (mokoro)

MEALS

Although this is an accommodated tour, meals are still mainly prepared in camp by the tour leader and your help in preparing meals is requested throughout the tour. This is part of your contribution to the success of the tour and most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment. Please 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

Tour meeting point in Livingstone :	The Waterfront Sichango Road Livingstone Tel. + 260 3 320 606/7/8
Tour start time:	09:00 on day 1
Tour end point in Johannesburg :	Backpackers Ritz
Address:	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 end time:	Late afternoon/ early evening on Day 7

EXTENDING YOUR STAY

We recommend you arrive the day before and take a few extra days in Livingstone/ Vic Falls before the tour to enjoy more of the activities on offer in the area. We also recommend a stay overnight in Johannesburg the night of day 7. 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.

Description	Price (GBP)	Description	Price (GBP)
Johannesburg		Livingstone	
Post tour accommodation – Dorm pp/pn	£16	Pre tour accommodation – twin tent	£13
Post tour accommodation – Twin pp/pn	£23	Pre tour accommodation – single tent	£19
Post tour accommodation – Single pp/pn	£30		

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. We recommended you pack a small torch or headlamp, mosquito spray and a money pouch/ belt which can be worn comfortably beneath your clothing. Please try to avoid bringing unnecessary valuables and use your hotel safe to store the bulk of your money, passport, and airline tickets. You will need a sleeping bag (for the Okavango Delta), which are available for hire (but must be booked in advance) for ZAR 100.

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 local currency on arrival. Your guide can advise how and when you can change the rest of your money throughout the tour.
- **Currencies** are as follows: South Africa – Rand; Zambia – Zambian Kwacha; Botswana – Pula.
- **ATM machines** are found throughout South Africa, Botswana and Livingstone although may be unreliable (and so we ask that you please do not rely on them). Please bear in mind funds will only be dispensed in local currency and therefore cannot be used to draw your local payment.
- **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. Fees may be high by western standards (5% is not uncommon).
- **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, tipping has become a custom, especially where for local guides for services rendered. Naturally however this remains a decision for you and you alone and would in any event depend on the level of service provided.

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\$)
Okavango Delta		Livingstone	
Flight	\$80 – US\$90	Elephant back safari	\$160
		Zambezi Sunset Cruise	\$45
Chobe National Park		Bungy Jump over the Falls	\$90-\$120
Chobe Open Vehicle Safari	\$45	Riverboarding	\$150
Chobe 'Fish Eagle' River Cruise	\$45	Flights over the Falls (various modes)	\$140-280
		Flying Fox	\$35
		Abseiling/ Gorge Swing x 2	\$100-130
		Zambezi Jet Boating & Cable Car	\$110
		Horse Riding	\$60 - \$73

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 help provide specialist travel insurance for this tour through our local operator. Please contact Acacia for more information.



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

