Updated 31 Oct11
FOR 2012 DEPARTURES

ACACIA AFRICA

BEST OF BOTSWANA

TOUR DOSSIER

TOUR CODE – BOB7	LIVINGSTONE- LIVINGSTONE* *CAN START/END VIC FALLS	7 DAYS

Tour Starts – Pick up at 08:00 from the joining hotel

HIGHLIGHTS
Chobe National Park – afternoon game drive
Savuti/Lynyanti Game Areas – game drives
Moremi Game Reserve – game drives
Okavango Delta – mokoro day trip
Makgadikgadi Pans - overnight

Botswana is one of Africa's 'gems' and this short tour shows you the major highlights of Okavango and Chobe National park conveniently starting and finishing in Victoria Falls area.

INTENDED ITINERARY

It is our intention to adhere to the route described below but a certain amount of flexibility is 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: Botswana, Zambia or Zimbabwe

DAY 1
Livingstone or Victoria Falls – Chobe National Park
Camping (LD)

Start in either Livingstone (Zambia) or Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) you transferred to the Botswana border and join your safari vehicle and travel the short distance to Kasane. We spend the afternoon in Chobe National Park. This park is renowned for its herds of elephant that migrate between the Okavango Delta (further to the south-west) and neighbouring Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe. Chobe also has prolific birdlife as well as hippo, buffalo, hyena, wild dog and lion.

DAY 2
Savuti, Linyanti
Camping (BLD)

Accessible by 4x4 wheel drive only we head deep into south west corner of Chobe to Savuti Marsh, a relic of a large inland lake fed occasionally by the Savuti Channel. This region is made up of rolling savannah which attracts many different species of antelope, zebra, wildebeest, buffalo and elephant. These in turn attract many predators including lion, leopard, hyena and wild dog.

DAY 3
Moremi Game Reserve
Camping (BLD)

Nestled up against the Okavango Delta waters is the Moremi Reserve. Smaller and less frequently visited than Chobe it nevertheless offers superb game viewing. The combination of different habitats from Mopane woodland to Acacia forest, floodplains and lagoons make the area a place of stunning beauty, enhanced by a diverse array of wildlife. Sightings of leopard, wild dog, cheetah and lion are not uncommon as are elephant, giraffe and zebra. Common nighttime visitors to our camp are the spotted hyaena and the honey badger.

DAY 4 - 5
Maun – Okavango Delta - Maun
Camping (BLD)

The Okavango is a natural wetland system spreading over some 1.6 million hectares of northern Botswana. The 'delta' results from rivers flowing south from Angola, dividing repeatedly on the flat Botswana plains and forming an intricate floodplain of river channels, lagoons and isolated islands - an inland 'delta', the only one of its kind in Africa. We enjoy a day in the wilderness with experienced and knowledgeable 'polers' who guide you through the labyrinthine channels in dug-out canoe (mokoro).

DAY 6 - 7
Makgadikgadi Pans, Kansane, Victoria Falls or Livingstone
Bx2 Lx2 Dx1
Camping

From Maun we travel to the Makgadikgadi Pans – vast shimmering salt flats on the edge of the Kalahari basin. Sleeping out under the night sky under a blanket of stars is a real 'Africa' experience – not to be missed. We travel back towards Kasane and transfer vehicles once again at the border before crossing into Zimbabwe (or Zambia) for the final journey to Livingstone or Victoria Falls where arrangements end.

TOUR INFORMATION

Camping in Africa allows you to experience nature at its best, is great fun, but it can also be challenging! This is a *participation* tour and your help will be needed in setting up the camp each night. But don't worry it's not all hard work and it's a great way to meet the local people and get to know your fellow travellers. Your contribution benefits the success of the tour - most people find the greater their involvement, the greater their enjoyment of the whole trip.

Africa is an adventure destination and travelling here is not always predictable so be prepared to "expect the unexpected' in difficulties or delays which might come our way! However, you'll soon find that the diversity of the African landscape, the wildlife and the communities we pass on our way, make the sometimes rough travel and long driving days worthwhile.

Come with a sense of adventure and a flexible attitude and you will be sure to enjoy your Acacia overland tour across this amazing continent.

TOUR STYLE
Acacia Small Group Safari
Our Small Group safaris are operated by a locally based (African) ground handlers who have maintained standards at a high level over a period of time. We believe that working with a local operator in this way assists the community to benefit in a sustainable way from tourism. At the same time it provides our clients with the extensive local knowledge and enthusiasm of the local staff and guides employed to ensure your safari is as enjoyable as it is memorable.

WHAT'S INCLUDED
Tour highlights, transport, tents, meals as indicated, camping equipment, services of an English speaking driver/tour leader.

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED
Visas, travel insurance, flights, bedding, airport transfers, optional activities, laundry, tips to driver & local guides, passport & visa fees & items of a personal nature.

ACCOMMODATION
Accommodation is camping in twin share tents, with portable toilets and shower facilities.

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

MEALS
Meals are 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. Livingstone and Victoria Falls are well served by a variety of airlines and easily connects with Johannesburg. Your travel agent can advise on flights to and from the start and finish of your tour.

JOINING INFORMATION

Tour starting/ending point in **Livingstone**:	**The Waterfront** Sichango Road Livingstone, Zambia Tel. + 260 3 320 606/7/8
Tour start time:	08:00 on day 1
Tour end time:	Late afternoon/ early evening on Day 7
Tour starting/ending point in **Victoria Falls**	**Victoria Falls Adventure Lodge**
Address:	Strand 954 Corner Pioneer Rd, Spencer St, Victoria Falls Zimbabwe
Contact details:	Tel. + 263 13 44424
Tour start time:	08:00 on day 1
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. See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. These prices are subject to change so please contact Acacia or your agent to check current prices.

Description	Price (STG)	Description	Price (STG)
Victoria Falls		**Livingstone**	
Accommodation – Single pppn (budget)	£53	Accommodation – Permanent Tented Twin pppn	£12
Accommodation – Twin- double pppn (budget)	£29	Accommodation – Permanent Tented Single pppn	£18

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 sleeping mat and 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.

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	Tetnus	Diphtheria	Polio	Hepatitis A	Hepatitis B	Typhoid	Meningitis	Rabies	Yellow Fever	Malaria
Zimbabwe	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
Zimbabwe	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No
Zambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Botswana	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	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: US Dollar; Zambian Kwacha; Botswana Pula.
- **ATM machines** are found in Victoria Falls, Maun and Livingstone although 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. 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 ACTIVITES

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/Victoria Falls**	
Flight	$80 – US$90	Vic Falls bungi (single/tandem)	$120
		Game walk	$75
Livingstone/Victoria Falls		Croc farm tour	$30
Flight over the Falls	$130	Gorge Swing	$60
Zambezi Sunset Cruise	$60	Horse Riding	$75 - $110
Lion Encounter	$130	White Water Rafting/ Riverboarding	$145/ $175

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 refer to: http://www.acacia-africa.com/travel_info/travel_documents.php for more details.

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

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