

ACACIA AFRICA

VIC FALLS, GAMEPARKS & OKAVANGO

TOUR DOSSIER

TOUR CODE – VGO11

VICTORIA FALLS – VICTORIA FALLS

11 DAYS

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

HIGHLIGHTS

Chobe National Park
Savuti/Linyanti Game Areas
Moremi Game Reserve
Okavango Delta
Makgadikgadi Pans
Victoria Falls
Zambezi Sunset Cruise
Hwange National Park
Wild dog Project

Chobe, Savuti & Moremi - a patchwork of game parks; Canoe the reed filled waterworld of the Okavango Delta; Learn about the elusive Wild Dog at a Zimbabwe conservation project; search for elephant in the Hwange and Chobe national parks.



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: 11 Days
Countries visited: Botswana, Zimbabwe

DAY 1 Victoria Falls, Chobe National Park Camping (LD)

You have a choice of start points between Livingstone (Zambia) or Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe) [Please advise at time of booking]. The tour begins with the short journey to the frontier of Botswana and - once formalities are complete – crossing into this huge but very flat country. Changing onto our open vehicles we spend the afternoon game driving in the nearby Chobe National Park, a reserve known for elephant, buffalo, lion, a variety of antelope and prolific birdlife.

DAY 2 - 3 Savuti, Linyanti, Moremi Game Reserve Camping (BLD)

We journey to the Savuti Marsh, a relic of a large inland lake fed occasionally by the Savuti Channel. The region is made up of rolling savannah attracting antelope, zebra, wildebeest, buffalo and elephant. These in turn attract predators including lion, leopard, hyena and wild dog. Adjacent to the Okavango Delta we enter the Moremi Reserve for further game viewing. The combination of different habitats, from Mopane woodland to Acacia forest, open floodplains and lagoon make this a stunning place of beauty.

DAY 4 - 7

Maun, Okavango Delta, Makgadikgadi Pans, Kasane, Victoria Falls

Camping / Backpacker Hostel (Bx3, Lx3, Dx1)

We continue to Maun, gateway to the Okavango Delta and journey for a day in the 'Delta' in mokoros (dug-out canoes) and game walk in search of elephant, wild dog, buffalo, lion and antelope. From Maun we then travel to the Makgadikgadi Pans – vast shimmering salt flats on the edge of the Kalahari – and travel back towards Kasane. On arrival at the Zimbabwe border we transfer vehicles and continue onto Victoria Falls. [the Zambezi River sunset cruise listed in the brochure itinerary for Day 7 may be moved to day 10 for operational reasons]

DAY 8 - 9

Victoria Falls, Wild Dog Project, Hwange National Park

Dome Tents, Shared Facilities (BLD)

We travel to Hwange National Park. At over 14,600 sq km in area this is Zimbabwe's largest game reserve. We visit the Hwange Wild Dog project to learn something of these endangered predators in their struggle to survive. We take a night game and a full day game driving in this 'Big Five' game park.

DAY 10 - 11

Victoria Falls

B

Backpacker Hostel

We return to Victoria Falls and have the afternoon at leisure. Explore the curio markets, take high tea at the colonial Victoria Falls Hotel, or enjoy some of the optional activities on offer including bungy jumping, canoeing or a scenic flight over the 'Falls'. Enjoy the Zambezi sunset cruise [if not taken on day 7]. A visit the Victoria Falls National Park is a must and without doubt one of Africa's greatest natural spectacles.

The tour ends with a transfer to the airport for your onward/return flight.

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, transfer to the airport (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe side only)

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 (6 nights); backpackers lodge in twin or double rooms, with shared facilities (2 nights); camping in 2 person dome tents, with shared facilities (2 nights).

TRANSPORT

Minibus or microbus. Maximum group size: 14 passengers. Open 4x4 safari vehicle, minivan (for transfers).

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 you will be sure to have an amazing 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 **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: After Breakfast with a transfer to the airport on Day 11

Or:

Tour starting/ending point in **Livingstone**: **The Waterfront**
Sichango Road
Livingstone, Zambia
Contact details: Tel. + 260 3 320 606/7/8
Tour start time: 08:00 on day 1
Tour end time: After Breakfast on Day 11

PRE TOUR ACCOMMODATION

This tour departs Victoria Falls (or Livingstone) early on day 1; we strongly recommend therefore that you plan to arrive the day before departure to overcome any jet-lag and acclimatise to Africa. We would be happy to book pre-tour accommodation for you – please call or email us (or speak to your agent) with your arrival details and accommodation requirements.

However please book early to avoid disappointment and the risk of having to find more expensive (or less convenient) lodgings.

If time allows, we also suggest planning a night or two extra (after your tour) to make the most of the Victoria Falls/ Livingstone area. This area has become known in recent years for the number of adventure activities such as rafting, canoeing, scenic flights, bungi, gorge swinging (etc).

See below for a guide to extra accommodation costs. These prices are correct at time of print but are subject to change so please check with Acacia or your agent for current prices.

Description	Price (£)	Description	Price (£)
Victoria Falls		Livingstone	
Pre tour accommodation – Single pppn	£59	Accommodation – Twin pppn	£12
Pre tour accommodation – Twin pppn	£29	Accommodation – 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	Tetanus	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	Yes	No												
Zambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes									
Botswana	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	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: US Dollar (for Zimbabwe); Zambian Kwacha; Botswana Pula.
- **ATM machines** are found in Victoria Falls, Maun and Livingstone although they 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 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/Victoria Falls	
Flight	\$80 – US\$90	Vic Falls bungy (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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