

NAMIBIA & BOTSWANA WANDERER, (YVC)

Victoria Falls to Cape Town 24 Days, departing 15th March 2021



TRIP OVERVIEW

Trip Style: Overlanding
Route: Victoria Falls to Cape Town
Duration: 24 Days
Transport: Overland Expedition Vehicle, Jeep, Mokoro
Accommodation: Camping 19 nights
 Overnight Boat 1 night
 Multishare Hostel 2 nights
 Comfortable Hotel 1 night
Meals: Breakfasts x 21, Lunches x 20, Dinners x 20

Physical Challenge: ● ● ○ ○ ○

Your itinerary may include easy-paced day walks, bike rides, and other activities that are not too strenuous.

Lifestyle Challenge: ● ● ○ ○ ○

You may be camping some of the time but the pace of the trip is fairly relaxed and the facilities and road conditions are generally of a high standard.



DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - Victoria Falls (15th March 2021)

Border Information: If joining the trip in Victoria Falls, you will most likely enter Zimbabwe at Victoria Falls Airport (IATA code: VFA).

There will be a group meeting at 10:00am at the Victoria Falls Rest Camp. Your leader will leave a note on the reception with the details of this important meeting - when you arrive you will easily spot the truck as well (to the right-hand-side of the reception), where you'll be able to meet one of our crew.

This afternoon we will have an included visit to the main viewpoints over the awe-inspiring Victoria Falls.

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Victoria Falls before the start of your trip with us - please contact the Sales team if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation with us to have extra time exploring Victoria Falls.

Our camping ground is centrally located on the Zambezi River only four kilometres from the Falls, the perfect place to use as a base for the vast array of adventure activities on offer in the area. Please note that no meals are included in Victoria Falls.

Accommodation: Victoria Falls Rest Camp and Lodges "A"

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit to the incredible Victoria Falls

Included

Day 2 - Victoria Falls (16th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Today is a free day to allow you to participate in some of the many optional activities on offer. There are various activities and excursions to choose from, including white water rafting and canoeing, horse riding, abseiling or gorge swinging!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Bungee jump or swing from the bridge (111 m) over the Second Gorge of the Victoria Falls

Bridge Swing or Bungee Jump: 160 USD

Enjoy a relaxing canoeing trip on the River Zambezi

Price: 110 USD

Take a relaxing cruise on the Zambezi

Dinner Cruise: 90 USD

Sunset Cruise: 60 USD

See the incredible Victoria Falls from the air with a helicopter flight over the waterfalls

Long Flight (25 min): 294 USD

Short Flight (12-13 min): 162 USD

Horse riding along the scenic banks of the Zambezi

3 hrs: 85 USD

4-5 hrs: 125 USD

8 hrs: 155 USD

White water rafting on the Zambezi

Full day (high water): 140 USD

Full day (low water): 150 USD

Rafting and Riverboarding Combo: 203 USD

Take a guided walk to a local Matabele village

Price: 55 USD

Day 3 - Kasane (17th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: exit Zimbabwe at Kazangula, enter Botswana at Kazangula.

Today our journey begins with a drive across the border into Botswana and the town of Kasane, the gateway to the beautiful Chobe NP.

This afternoon we will visit the park by taking a boat trip down the Chobe river, seeing how many animals we can spot! The boat trip provides a fantastic opportunity to take some stunning wildlife photographs, getting extremely close to the animals without disturbing them.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take a boat trip to view Chobe National Park's prolific wildlife from the water

Included

Optional Activities

Head out on a safari in Chobe National Park in an open-top jeep

Jeep Safari: 280 BWP

Day 4 - Hwange NP (18th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We have an early start today as we head towards Hwange NP, stopping en route to visit the Painted Dog Conservation Group for an insight into the plight of the African Wild Dog. We will take an included afternoon game drive in local safari trucks through Hwange NP.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Jeep safari in Hwange National Park

Included

Visit to the Painted Dog Conservation project near Hwange

Included

Day 5 - Bulawayo (19th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will head out on an early morning game drive within Hwange NP. In the afternoon we will travel to city of Bulawayo in the southeast of Zimbabwe.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit the animal rescue sanctuary at Chipangali

Entrance: 10 USD

Explore the ancient ruined capital of the Butua civilisation at Khami

Entrance: 10 USD

Visit Bulawayo's National Art Gallery

Entrance: 2 USD

Learn all about the eco-systems of Southern Africa at Bulawayo's excellent Natural History Museum

Entrance: 10 USD

Visit the fascinating Railway Museum in Bulawayo

Entrance: 1 USD

Day 6 - Matobo NP (20th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have an included day trip to explore the Matobo NP, home to a large population of black and white rhinoceros. We have an incredible safari to track them on foot, and also have the chance to visit the grave of Cecil Rhodes and learn all about Zimbabwe's past.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Full day guided tour of Matobo National Park including a visit to the grave of Cecil Rhodes to learn all about the colonial past of Southern Africa and a walking safari in search of White and Black Rhino

Included

Day 7 - Makgadikgadi Pans (21st March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Zimbabwe at Plumtree, enter Botswana at Ramokgwebana.

Leaving Zimbabwe behind, we have a long drive day today into Botswana to the Makgadikgadi Pans NP, home to one of the largest salt pans in the world.

Day 8 - Makgadikgadi Pans (22nd March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have the time for optional excursions into the Makgadikgadi Pans to see the incredible scenery and go in search of meerkats!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a guided walk around the immense baobab trees found in the area

Price: 35 USD

Visit and explore a local cattlepost village

Price: 80 USD

Guided trip to explore the salt pans

Ntwetwe Pan Expedition: 150 USD

Nxai Xini Pan Expedition: 120 USD

Day 9 - Shakawe (23rd March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a big drive from our camp in the Makgadikgadi Pans NP to our base camp for the Okavango Delta experience.

Day 10 - Okavango Delta (24th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive to the village of Sepupa, where we leave our vehicle and board boats out over to Mokoba island.

Here we will meet our 'mokoro' team, who will take us out into the stunningly beautiful area of the Okavango. We'll board the mokoros (which are small dugout-style canoes) and get poled out into the reed beds of the delta. Each canoe takes two people and is poled through the meandering waterways. Reeds and lily pads line the streams, and birds startled by the mokoros rise out of the long grasses. Punting along, the peace may be shattered by the deep grunting of hippos.

We'll be camping out on an island in the middle of a wilderness area (at a permanent campsite with facilities). All food will be provided by our local hosts.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Head on an unforgettable 3-day/2-night guided safari deep into the Okavango Delta including Mokoro trips and bushwalking safaris

Included

Day 11 - Okavango Delta (25th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will explore the island on foot, and then take the mokoros out to a different island for more game walks, lunch, and then mokoro back to camp. Hopefully we will have the opportunity to swim in a safe area of the delta and have a try at poling the canoes ourselves! We will stay overnight at a houseboat.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a scenic flight over the Okavango Delta

6-seater plane: 105 USD

Day 12 - Grootfontein (26th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have an early start and cross the border into Namibia, to the area north of the town of Grootfontein. This region is home to many of the San people, and we will visit a village community project here - we will go on a fascinating 'bushwalk', learning all about the survival skills, crafts and traditional life from our local San guides! After this, we will head to our campsite for the evening.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit to the San Village project near Grootfontein

Included

Day 13 - Etosha NP (27th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we head west to the stunning Etosha NP.

Etosha is one of the world's most pre-eminent wildlife areas, and we have an excellent chance to spot some of Africa's most famous animals such as elephant, lion, giraffe, zebra, leopard, oryx, impala, and rhino!

We will stay in the park for 2 days, giving us plenty of opportunity for game drives in our truck in search of the animals here.

In Etosha NP we will stay in a mixture of the campsites of Namutoni, Halali or Okaukuejo according to availability, all of which are superbly located within the NP, have excellent facilities and are situated next to watering holes where many animals come for a drink at night.

Day 14 - Etosha NP (28th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will spend the day exploring Etosha on our truck

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Overland safari through Etosha National Park with excellent wildlife

Included

Day 15 - Spitzkoppe (29th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive south to the stunning mountains of Spitzkoppe. This remote region has breathtaking sunsets and sunrises as the colour of the landscape takes on remarkable oranges and reds.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Spend time exploring the area around Spitzkoppe (nicknamed the Matterhorn of Africa), a granite peak rising 1728 metres above sea level

Included

Optional Activities

Guided walk around the stunning landscape of Spitzkoppe

1-4 persons - NAD50pp/hour, 5-10 persons - NAD35pp/hour: 75 NAD

Day 16 - Swakopmund (30th March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will continue to the old German colonial town of Swakopmund, where we will have 2 nights to explore the town and enjoy some of the many optional adventure activities on offer.

We will also have an included visit to Cape Cross en route from Spitzkoppe, to experience the sight, sound and smell of thousands of olive-coloured seals on the shore.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the seal colony at Cape Cross

Included

Day 17 - Swakopmund (31st March 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have free time for all of the amazing optional activities available in Swakopmund

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Learn about Namibia's marine life at the Swakopmund Aquarium

Entrance: 30 NAD

Explore the ocean by boat and search for dolphins seals and other marine life

Approx price, depends on numbers: 600 NAD

Take a boat out for off-shore fishing in the seas near the Forbidden Coast

Offshore fishing trip: 1,200 NAD

Take a scenic flight over the Forbidden Coast and the Skeleton Coast

2 hrs: 150 USD

All day: 450 USD

Go in search of dolphins on a sea kayak trip off the coast of Swakopmund

Scenic tour: 800 NAD

Learn all about the German colonial history of the area at the Swakopmund Museum

Entrance: 25 NAD

Tour to the Rossing Uranium mine: 40 NAD

Head out sandboarding and quad-biking on the dunes near Swakopmund

2hr Quad-biking: 600 NAD

Lie-down Sandboarding: 400 NAD

Stand-up Sandboarding: 450 NAD

Combo Quad Biking and Sandboarding: 1,000 NAD

Explore the townships of Swakopmund meeting the local Damara Herero and Ovambo people

Price: 400 NAD

Head out on horseback to explore the beautiful area around Swakopmund

2hr trip: 690 NAD

Day 18 - Namib Desert (1st April 2021)

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Today we will drive from Swakopmund to Sesriem, our base for exploring the spectacular Namib Desert. If time allows, en route we will have the option to take a short walking tour of the desert around Solitaire where we can learn all about the ecosystem of the desert - please note that our time available for this is dependent on the time of the sunset, as they close the gates to our Sesriem campsite at sunset.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the famous Dune 45 and explore the other-worldly landscapes of the Sossusvlei and the Dead Vlei salt pans

Included

Day 19 - Sesriem (2nd April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have an early morning start to climb to the top of the famous Dune 45 for a dramatic and incredible sunrise view across a vast sea of sand. We will also have chance to explore the otherworldly landscape of the Dead Vlei. In the afternoon, we head south to our river camp near the small town of Bethanie.

At Bethanie we will camp at an eco-tourism campsite.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Take a balloon trip over the Namib desert and Dune 45

Price: 5,950 NAD

Explore the Sesriem Canyon

Entrance: 50 NAD

Go on a scenic flight over the Sossusvlei

1hr trip (price per plane, taking max 5 pax): 4,280 NAD

40min trip (price per plane, taking max 5 pax): 3,000 NAD

1hr 30min trip (price per plane, taking max 5 pax): 7,075 NAD

Day 20 - Fish River Canyon (3rd April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we head south to the dramatic scenery of the Fish River Canyon. Here we will have some time for exploration and taking in the beautiful sunset over the canyon.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Take in the jaw-dropping vistas at the Fish River Canyon

Included

Day 21 - Noordoewer (4th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will drive to Noordoewer, next to the scenic banks of the Gariep (Orange) River - the natural border between Namibia and South Africa. If there is sufficient water in the river we may be able to take an optional canoeing tour on the Orange River.

NB: If we have arrived late the previous day, the Tour Leader may opt to spend more time at Fish River Canyon before driving to Noordoewer.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Head out on a short canoe trip on the Orange River which marks the boundary of Namibia and South Africa

Full-day Canoe trip incl packed lunch: 300 NAD

Day 22 - Citrusdal (5th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border Information: Exit Namibia at Noordoewer, enter South Africa at Noordoewer.

Today we cross the border into South Africa and head down the Western Cape to camp site near Citrusdal. In the evening we will have the option for some wine tasting!

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Sample the delicious wines from the vineyards at the base of the Cederberg Mountains

Price: 100 ZAR

Day 23 - Cape Town (6th April 2021)

Meals: Breakfast

Our final day takes us down the Western Cape to the charming and beautiful city of Cape Town.

This evening you will have the opportunity to enjoy a final group meal to say goodbye to your fellow travellers.

Day 24 - Cape Town - End Date (7th April 2021)

Today marks the end of our fantastic adventure.

Border Information: If finishing in Cape Town, you will most likely exit South Africa at Cape Town International Airport (IATA code: CPT).

Please note there is no accommodation included on the trip tonight - please contact the Sales Team if you are interested in booking extra nights of accommodation in order to fully explore and take part in some of the optional activities listed below.

Accommodation:

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

See the sights of Cape Town on a Hop On - Hop Off bus tour

1-day ticket: 200 ZAR

Cable car trip to the top of Table Mountain

One way ticket: 200 ZAR

Return ticket: 395 ZAR

Tour to the Cape of Good Hope and the Boulders Penguin Colony

Additional boat trip to Cape Seal colony: 60 ZAR

Visit the District Six Museum to learn about the old vibrant neighbourhood that was destroyed by the apartheid government in the 1960s

Entrance: 45 ZAR

Excursion to the former jail on Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was once imprisoned

Excursion: 280 ZAR

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

The routes, activities and places visited described in these notes are intentions and are meant as a rough guide only. By their very nature, overland itineraries need to be flexible and the regions that we are travelling through are often unpredictable. We intend to follow the planned route but exact night stops and inclusions cannot be guaranteed and it sometimes happens that we decide to make a change to our planned itinerary. This may be for a variety of reasons; climatic, road or bureaucratic conditions may demand it. Changes to the itinerary may occur with little notice so please be prepared for modifications to your trip.

Drive Times

Drive times are listed in the day-to-day itinerary. These are the approximate number of hours that the vehicle will be in motion, and does not include any time taken for coffee or lunch stops, border crossings, photo stops, activities en route, comfort breaks, shopping stops, toilet stops, etc. The times given are approximate estimates only and whilst given with the best of intentions, the drive times are heavily dependent on traffic, road conditions, weather, police roadblocks, and many other factors.

Accommodation and Meals Included

The type of accommodation and included meals are listed for each day of the itinerary. These listings show our intention and on most departures the listings will be accurate. However due to the flexible nature of overland itineraries, climatic, bureaucratic or road conditions may demand changes to our listed intentions or groups may simply decide to amend the plans from time to time.

Optional Activities

A selection of optional activities is listed in the day-to-day itinerary. This list is designed to be a helpful guide as to what is commonly available in each location, and is neither an exhaustive list, a guarantee that the activity is available, or an endorsement or recommendation. Certain activities may not be available on your particular visit and it may not be possible to do all the activities listed in the time available at each destination. It is recommended to give yourself extra time in your joining or ending city if you would like to participate in some optional activities there. Prices listed are for entrance only and do not include transport costs to and from the sites or local guides unless indicated. The prices are displayed according to our latest information and in the best faith, but prices do fluctuate due to exchange rates, season, numbers of participants, and simple increases from the operator, and therefore any prices listed are a guide only and cannot be guaranteed. If you partake in any optional activities, you do so at your own risk and it must be clearly understood that your participation is your own decision and does not form part of your contract with Dragoman. You may be required to sign/complete a waiver form or optional activity form for some optional activities. For more information around activity safety and insurance, please see the Essential Information document.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a real emergency once you have left your home country, please contact us on our out of office hours number. If you cannot get through on the phone, please leave a message with your name, reference number, contact details and a message with the help that you need and we will get back to you. Please bear in mind that real progress or action may not be possible until normal office hours, depending on the issue.

If your flight is delayed, please inform us as soon as you can and then make your way to the joining hotel as instructed in the Joining Point section of these notes.

Out of hours Number: +44 (0) 7985 106564

A FEW RULES

We expect all group members to act respectfully towards our staff and other group members. Bullying will not be tolerated.

Engaging in commercial or exploitative sexual activities, committing acts of violence or threatening violence towards local people, other group members or any member of our staff is not allowed. Any customer engaging in such activities will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

You must at all times comply with the laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations of all countries visited and conduct yourself in accordance with our responsible travel policy. Any customer found contravening such laws or regulations will be required to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price.

Although we are aware that in some parts of the world taking, carrying or selling drugs, or carrying weapons may be legal, it is not acceptable for Dragoman customers and our tour leaders have the right to ask you to leave the trip immediately with no refund of the trip price if you are found to be engaging in such activities.

ISSUES ON THE TRIP

While we always endeavour to provide the best possible holiday experience, due to the nature of travel and the areas we visit sometimes things can and do go wrong. Should any issue occur while you are on your trip, it is imperative that you discuss this with your group leader or our local partner straight away so that they can do their best to rectify the problem and save any potential negative impact on the rest of your trip.

We recognise that there may be times when your group leader may not be able to resolve a situation to your satisfaction. If this is the case please contact our customer relations department on customer-relations@dragoman.co.uk.

You may also choose to provide details in your feedback questionnaire which we ask you to complete at the end of your trip, but we do ask you to be aware that it is very difficult for us to provide any practical help after the trip is complete.

IMPORTANT NOTES

OVERLANDING LIFESTYLE

Dragoman was founded in 1981, and has had many years of experience of leading overland trips across 4 continents. Overlanding is all about sharing a great travelling experience with like-minded people. On your trip you'll travel in one of Dragoman's purpose-built iconic expedition vehicles on an off-the-beaten-track adventure along rugged roads, experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the world up-close. Your journey will be overland, sometimes across vast distances, so some long days spent driving are inevitable - but these will be interspersed with breaks of a day or two at a destination or activity.

On an overland journey, you are more than just a passenger and everyone gets involved setting up camp - we supply the tent but it's up to you to pitch it! As part of your trip, you will be assigned a truck job which could be collecting firewood or water, luggage loading, organising food, stores, etc. Like all great adventures, the more you put in the more you'll get out! For more details of how an overland trip works, please see the Essential Information document.

SAFETY STANDARDS

We run adventure journeys in off the beaten track areas, which often have poor infrastructure. You should expect that some of these areas do not adhere to 'Western' safety standards. For more information, please see the Essential Information document

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN REMOTE AREAS

We will be travelling to areas in remote locations where medical assistance will not be available, and communications may be sparse. We do not carry satellite phones on our regular trips. Therefore, if you have a medical condition such as a heart condition that would put you at risk, we would suggest that this is not the trip for you. Also, please be aware that should an emergency occur, there is likely to be a considerable delay in accessing medical care, and by joining our trip you accept this risk.

VISAS, HEALTH, INSURANCE & MONEY

Before you travel there are vital things to consider such as:

- Any visas needed for your trip
- Any vaccinations needed (please consult your GP or travel clinic)
- Organising your local payment (the kitty)
- Buying travel insurance (insurance is compulsory to be allowed to join our trips)

For more information on these topics, please see the Essential Information Document.

ZIMBABWE NOTES

ZIMBABWE NOTE

Please note that due to a shortage of money in banks and ATMs in Zimbabwe, many ATMs are running dry of cash and some local banks are putting restrictions on international cards being used. It is also illegal to exit Zimbabwe with more than **USD1000** per person, so please make sure that you do not bring a greater amount than this out of Zimbabwe.

SOUTH AFRICA NOTES

BOTSWANA NOTES

NAMIBIA NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 25th September 2020**