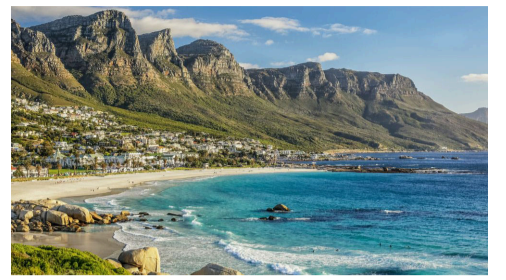
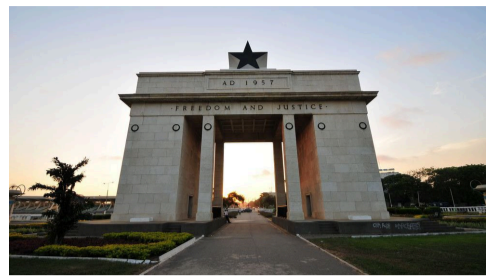




GULF OF GUINEA TO THE CAPE, (ZDV)

Accra to Cape Town 85 Days, departing 9th January 2023



TRIP OVERVIEW

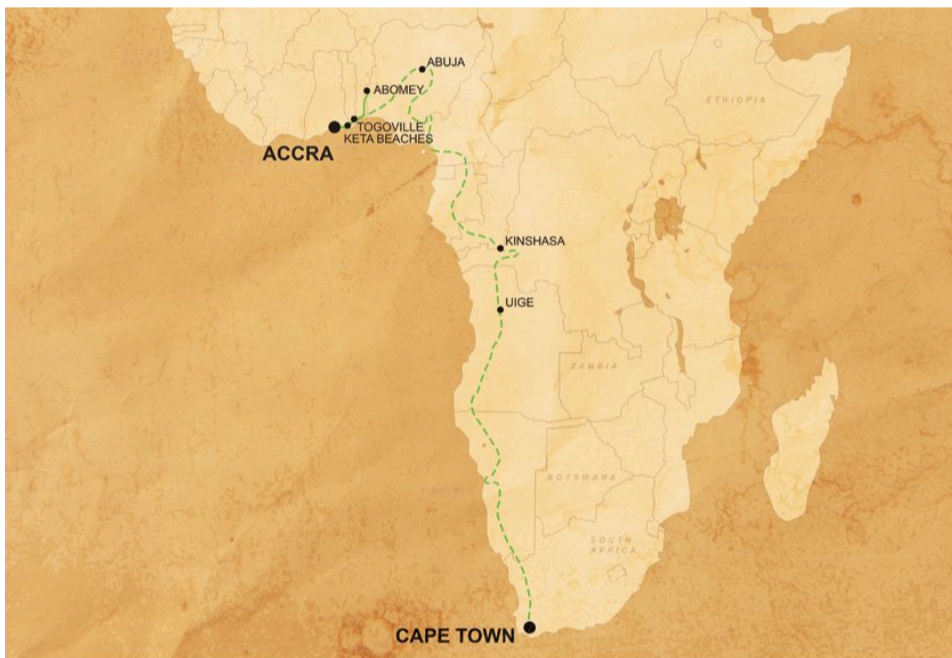
Trip Style: Overlanding
Route: Accra to Cape Town
Duration: 85 Days
Transport: Overland Expedition Vehicle, Jeep, Boat
Accommodation: Comfortable Hotel 4 nights
 Camping 42 nights
 Camping without facilities 21 nights
 Basic Hotel 17 nights
Meals: Breakfasts x 83, Lunches x 63, Dinners x 63

Physical Challenge: ● ● ● ○ ○

Depending on the trip, activities may include treks of 3-4 hours at altitude or across hilly terrain, multi-day treks at sea level, horseback riding, canoeing and other adventurous activities. A moderate level of fitness is required.

Lifestyle Challenge: ● ● ● ● ●

This is a trip for people with a real sense of adventure. You will be camping for the majority of the trip and the trip will include many long drive days and wild camps. The terrain may be very rough and the roads and facilities may be very basic or non-existent. The itinerary may be very flexible.



DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1 - Accra (9th January 2023)

Border information: if you are joining in Accra, then you will most likely enter Ghana at Accra Kotoka International Airport (IATA code: ACC).

There will be an important group meeting at 10:00am at the joining hotel - please look out at the hotel reception for a note from your leader with more details about this important meeting. Your leader will collect your kitty and check your passport, visas, and insurance details at this meeting.

The afternoon will be free to explore the city of Accra.

Please note that many of the options listed below will only be possible for those with extra time in Accra 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 Accra.

Accommodation: Roots Hotel Apartment

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Visit the famous Labadi Beach situated on the outskirts of Accra

Entrance: 5 GHS

Freely explore the huge Independence Square and Black Star Arch in Accra where independence was celebrated in 1957

Visit: Free

Freely explore the area of Jamestown Accra's oldest district and a vibrant fishing area

Visit: Free

Head to this park which is a memorial to one of the founding fathers of Ghana.

Visit: 5 GHS

Learn all about the history and culture of Ghana in the National Museum

Entrance: 40 GHS

Visit the outside of the famous Osu Castle the seat of power in Ghana since the 1600s

See the outside: Free

Day 2 - Accra (10th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will apply for Togo visas at the Togolese Embassy in Accra.

Day 3 - Akosombo (11th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

This morning we will leave Accra and head north to the village of Akosombo.

Day 4 - Akosombo (12th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Border information: Exit Ghana at Klouto, enter Togo at Klouto.

Today we will have a full day's drive to the spectacular Mont Klouto, crossing the border into Togo.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit Akosombo Dam the colossal 1960s project that provides almost all of Ghana's energy needs and created Lake Volta, one of the world's largest man-made lakes

Included

Day 5 - Mont Klouto (13th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will have a free day around the beautiful Mont Klouto region, with the opportunity to head out on optional forest walks or to visit Kpalimé town nearby.

In the evening, we will head to the village centre to see a spectacular show of drumming and dancing from the local villagers.

Day 6 - Mont Klouto (14th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Over the next 2 days we will drive up the length of Togo, all the way through the remote northern border with Benin. We will wild camp for 1 night en route.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

An evening of energetic drumming and dancing from the local villagers in Mont Klouto

Included

Optional Activities

Experience Kpalime, a market town like no other

Taxi: 500 USD

Guided walks around Mont Klouto looking for butterflies and enjoying the beautiful forest scenery

Guided walk: 8,000 USD

Day 7 - Central Togo (15th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we continue our drive through Togo after our wild camp.

Day 8 - Togoville (16th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning we will head to the beach while we are waiting for our visas to be processed. Time to relax before we head into Benin tomorrow!

Day 9 - Grand Popo (17th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Border information: Exit Togo at Ketao, enter Benin at Ouaké.

Today we will cross the border into Benin, before continuing our journey to the Tata Somba region close to the town of Tanguiéta.

Today we will have a free day at Grand Popo for relaxing on the beach or taking a pirogue trip around the nearby ocean and mangroves.

There is also an option this evening to visit an incredible local vodun (voodoo) ceremony in the nearby village, complete with very energetic dancing and incredible magic tricks! It may also be possible to take a night walk in search of Atlantic turtles, which lay their eggs on the beaches between November and March.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Go on a guided tour of the Tata Somba villages of northern Benin learning about the traditional culture and way of life and visiting their incredible 2-storey 'mud castle' homes

Included

Optional Activities

Head out on a guided walk through the beautiful scenery in the hills of the Tata Somba region to visit some local waterfalls

Optional walk: 2,500 XOF

Day 10 - Pendjari NP (18th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

From the Tata Somba region we have a short journey north to the beautiful Pendjari NP.

We will stay for two nights wild camping in the NP, where we will have freedom to explore and head out on game drives in the truck in search of wildlife.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit the stunning landscapes of Pendjari National Park famous for being one of the best wildlife reserves in West Africa

Included

Day 11 - Pendjari NP (19th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have the entire day to enjoy this national park. One of the only places left in West Africa where wildlife continues to thrive. A lot of work is put into maintaining this park by African Parks who are responsible for many of the lesser known national parks in Africa.

Day 12 - Abomey (20th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Our journey today continues to Abomey, the ancient capital of the Dahomey kingdom. On arrival we will take an included tour of the Dahomey Palace and Museum.

Day 13 - Abomey (21st January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we have a free day in Abomey to relax and prepare for the rest of our journey.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

A guided tour of the capital of the ancient Dahomey empire including the Dahomey Palace and Museum.

Included

Day 14 - Grand Popo (22nd January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We will drive from Abomey to Grand Popo today and enjoy some well deserved time at the beach.

Day 15 - Grand Popo (23rd January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Free day in Grand Popo.

Daily Activities

Optional Activities

Explore the rivers mangroves and villages of Grand Popo on a pirogue trip around the local area

Boat trip: 5,000 XOF

Head out at night to walk to the remote beaches where Atlantic Green Turtles are often seen laying their eggs between November and March (please note that sightings of turtles are not guaranteed and the chances of seeing them are more like 50-50!)

Donation: 5,000 XOF

Observe a local voodoo celebration in the nearby village of Grand Popo watch the hypnotic drumming and dancing of the 'Nightwatchman' and see some mind-blowing black magic!

Ceremony per group: 60,000 USD

Day 16 - Ouidah (24th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Today we will take a very interesting half-day tour of the sites in Ouidah, including the Voodoo Python Temple, the "Route des Esclaves" (Slave Route), La Maison du Brésil art gallery and the Ouidah Museum of History in the old Portuguese Fort of São João Baptista de Ajudá.

We may hopefully see many of the local fishermen bringing their catch in.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Half-day tour of Ouidah including the museums and exhibitions at La Maison Bresil learning about the history of slavery on the 'Route des Esclaves' and the Point of No Return and a visit to the voodoo Snake Temple.

Included

Day 17 - Ganvie (25th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

This morning we will drive to Abomey-Calavi (a port on the outskirts of Cotonou), where we say goodbye to the truck for the night and jump aboard motorised pirogues to Ganvie, a fascinating town built entirely on stilts in the middle of Lake Nokoué.

Today we will have an included tour of the stilt town of Ganvie, exploring deeper on our pirogues and soaking up the unique way of life in the floating village.

In Ganvie we will stay in the stilt village itself!

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Visit to the incredible stilt village of Ganvie where an entire community of fisherman live in a town entirely built on stilts in the middle of Lake Noukoe near Cotonou

Included

Day 18 - Nigeria (26th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today is where our true adventure begins! We will be making our way through the next 6 countries without a fixed itinerary. We will be keeping a close eye on the travel advice for each area that we head towards. This starts with the next 8 days through Nigeria. Some of the highlights we may experience include the impressive Usman Dam, Abuja National Mosque, Lekki Market and the beautiful Yankari NP.

We will be wild camping for the majority of this trip from now on, experiencing the true life and culture of the towns and villages we stop in.

Day 19 - Nigeria (27th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 20 - Nigeria (28th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 21 - Nigeria (29th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 22 - Nigeria (30th January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 23 - Nigeria (31st January 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 24 - Nigeria (1st February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 25 - Nigeria (2nd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 26 - Nigeria (3rd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Nigeria

Day 27 - Cameroon (4th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Now we will head out of Nigeria into Cameroon. We have allocated another 8 days here. We may have the chance to apply for some visas during our time in Cameroon.

Highlights of the country include Douala with its bustling shopping and nightlife as well as Yaounde which is where we will find the National Museum. There will be opportunities to relax by the beach as well as spend time in the foothills of Mount Cameroon which is one of Africa's biggest volcanoes.

Day 28 - Cameroon (5th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Cameroon

Day 29 - Cameroon (6th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Cameroon

Day 30 - Cameroon (7th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Cameroon

Day 31 - Cameroon (8th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Cameroon

Day 32 - Cameroon (9th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Cameroon

Day 33 - Cameroon (10th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Cameroon

Day 34 - Cameroon (11th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Cameroon

Day 35 - Cameroon (12th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Cameroon

Day 36 - Gabon (13th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We now pass into our next destination, Gabon. We will spend 6 days travelling through this vibrant country. This is the point where the tarmac runs out, we will be getting used to dirt roads from now on!

There may be options for time on safari here as much of Gabon is rainforest. This could be in Lambarene or Loango NP which are barely inhabited by people and the wildlife is protected. There are also many Bwiti rituals in these areas.

Day 37 - Gabon (14th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Gabon

Day 38 - Gabon (15th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Gabon

Day 39 - Gabon (16th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Gabon

Day 40 - Gabon (17th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Gabon

Day 41 - Gabon (18th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Gabon

Day 42 - Republic of the Congo (19th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Now onto 8 days in the Republic of the Congo. This is where we really prepare for the unexpected! Digging out the truck, huge potholes and overgrown passages can make this country feel truly wild. We will only pass through this country with the whole team working together.

The people in this country are renowned for their hospitable welcomes and we will find smiling faces wherever we go, from Nouabalé-Ndoki NP (home to Gorilla's), to Pointe-Noire (where the beaches are renowned) we will be greeted with open arms.

Day 43 - Republic of the Congo (20th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 44 - Republic of the Congo (21st February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 45 - Republic of the Congo (22nd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 46 - Republic of the Congo (23rd February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 47 - Republic of the Congo (24th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 48 - Republic of the Congo (25th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 49 - Republic of the Congo (26th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 50 - Republic of the Congo (27th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Republic of the Congo

Day 51 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (28th February 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We will be passing through a small portion of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as we make our way to Angola. Here we have the option of travelling West and visiting Kinshasa or, if it is in our best interests to do so, we can visit the enclave of Cabina, which is part of Angola.

We should be able to view the Crystal Mountains range and have the option to climb Mont Mangengenge, a pilgrimage site for local people. You will probably be overtaken by the Congolese praying step by step as they ascend. The DRC is also home to the only Bonobo sanctuary in the world, definitely worth a visit!

Day 52 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (1st March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 53 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (2nd March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 54 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (3rd March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 55 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (4th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 56 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (5th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 57 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (6th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 58 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (7th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 59 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (8th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 60 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (9th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 61 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (10th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 62 - Democratic Republic of the Congo (11th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Day 63 - Angola (12th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Our final country with no fixed itinerary is Angola. This is a country that is still making it's way back from years of civil war. Due to this tourists are not seen very regularly, in fact, we may be the first tourists to travel through some villages. We also have the chance to test out our Portuguese here.

Close to where we enter the country is Turtle Beach where endangered Olive Ridley Turtles hatch through September to March. The National Museum of Slavery near Lobito is a stark reminder of Angolas past. Other highlights include Kalandula Falls and Quicama NP.

Day 64 - Angola (13th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Angola

Day 65 - Angola (14th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Exploring Angola

Day 66 - Angola (15th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Angola

Day 67 - Angola (16th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Angola

Day 68 - Angola (17th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Angola

Day 69 - Angola (18th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Angola

Day 70 - Angola (19th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Angola

Day 71 - Angola (20th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Angola

Day 72 - Etosha NP (21st March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we head 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.

Daily Activities

Included Activities

Overland safari through Etosha National Park with excellent wildlife

Included

Day 73 - Etosha NP (22nd March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Full day in Etosha National Park.

Day 74 - Windhoek (23rd March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we drive to Windhoek.

Day 75 - Spitzkoppe (24th March 2023)

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

Optional Activities

Guided walk around the stunning landscape of Spitzkoppe

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

Day 76 - Swakopmund (25th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

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 77 - Swakopmund (26th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

Free day in Swakopmund.

Day 78 - Sesriem (27th March 2023)

Meals: Breakfast, 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

Optional Activities

Guided walk through the landscapes of the Namib desert learning all about the delicate desert ecosystem

Price: 260 NAD

Day 79 - Bethanie (28th March 2023)

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.

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

Optional Activities

Take a balloon trip over the Namib desert and Dune 45

Price: 5,950 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 80 - Fish River Canyon (29th March 2023)

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 81 - Noordoewer (30th March 2023)

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

Enjoy a dip in the hot springs at Ais Ais

Entrance: 25 NAD

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 82 - Citrusdal (31st March 2023)

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 83 - Cape Town (1st April 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

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

Day 84 - Cape Town (2nd April 2023)

Meals: Breakfast

This evening you will have the opportunity to enjoy a final group meal to say goodbye to your fellow travellers after what is certainly the journey of a lifetime.

Day 85 - Cape Town - End Date (3rd April 2023)

End Day

Accommodation:

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 overlanding 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.

EXPLORATORY TRIP WARNING - THIS IS A NEW TRIP FOR US!

Please note that all or part of this trip is a brand new itinerary, and is going through completely new areas for Dragoman. This is what we call an Exploratory trip, and it means that all the passengers on this trip will be the route's pioneers for the first season!

While we have thoroughly researched all aspects of this new route and put the itinerary together with the best of intentions, please note that your crew will be finding a lot of information out for us on the ground and will be playing a lot of things by ear. The itinerary may be altered in places where it becomes necessary and the drive times may differ significantly from the published estimates.

Most Exploratory trips will have slight or significant changes made to them after this first season, and frankly we would be very surprised if an Exploratory trip was to run perfectly to the published itinerary. Usually we find that this is rarely a problem but rather an exciting feature and that there are much more pleasant surprises in store than unpleasant ones. You will be immersing in to the camaraderie with your crew and fellow travellers and give you the fantastic opportunity to shape the trip as a group.

However, the warning is sincere and this trip must be viewed as Exploratory - if this concerns you or you would rather stick to a tried-and-tested itinerary, then we recommend that you wait a year or two until we have this itinerary perfected following operating it many times, or of course to consider one of the more established trips in our extensive portfolio.

There will be numerous challenges on this trip including border delays, visa and paperwork delays, potential re-routing at short notice, lack of western facilities, road closures and other obstacles and unforeseen issues.

There is a risk of cancellation if the FCDO advise changes (as of now the route is safe to travel all the way through).

West and Central Africa will test everyone's patience due to potential issues with obtaining visas. This is likely to lead to long delays in places where there may not be much to do. It may also be necessary to fly over some places which would be at your own expense.

This trip will have a higher level of participation compared to our other Dragoman trips and you will be required to help out with setting up camps, cooking etc. The campsites are also likely to be basic for much of the trip along with a high number of bush camps.

This will be a challenging trip and you must be fit in order to participate. If you have a pre-existing medical condition or any medical concerns you should check with your doctor prior to travel that this would be a suitable trip for you. You should also be aware that in the event of accident or illness, access to medical centres will be limited.

On the flip side, we'll be visiting regions and areas very rarely seen by Western travellers. Meeting people who have perhaps never seen foreigners. Enjoying the chaotic and buzzing cultures of West and Central Africa. And of course, the immense satisfaction of completing a classic adventure that only a handful of people ever get the chance to complete.

GHANA NOTES

SOUTH AFRICA NOTES

TOGO NOTES

BENIN NOTES

NIGERIA NOTES

CAMEROON NOTES

GABON NOTES

CONGO NOTES

CONGO DRC NOTES

ANGOLA NOTES

NAMIBIA NOTES

Please ensure you have an up to date version of these notes. **These notes were printed on the 25th February 2021**