

ACACIA HOLIDAYS

Victoria Falls & Botswana Safari

Linda Meadors
March 2019



ITINERARY

Victoria Falls & Botswana Safari • Linda Meadors • March 2019

FLIGHT INFORMATION

CHICAGO > VICTORIA FALLS

10 MAR ORD TBD

11 MAR TBD JNB

12 MAR JNB VFA

Or

NAIROBI > VICTORIA FALLS

12 MAR NBO VFA

INTRA-BOTSWANA FLIGHTS

Charter flights, included, scheduled to be determined

MAUN > CHICAGO

19 MAR MUB JNB

19 MAR JNB TBD

20 MAR TBD ORD

Or

MAUN > CAPE TOWN

19 MAR MUB CPT

Flight times, routing to be set April 2018.

ARRIVAL

Guests arriving from East Africa will depart Nairobi, Kenya early on the morning of 12 MAR and arrive Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe by 1030A that morning. Guests joining this itinerary from the US will depart either 10 MAR or 11 MAR, depending on flight schedules. An overnight in Johannesburg will likely be required on 11 MAR, but a same-day connecting flight to Victoria Falls is sometimes available. Flight schedules and Johannesburg overnight will be set in April 2018 once flight schedules are released.

OVERNIGHT: TBD

MEALS: TBD

DAY 1

VICTORIA FALLS

12 MAR

Upon arrival into Zimbabwe, you will be met and welcomed by your local English-speaking guide for a transfer to the Victoria Falls Hotel. Commanding a prime location overlooking the Zambezi River gorge, the Edwardian-style hotel, was built in 1904 as barracks for railway workers building the line from South Africa into Tanzania. For more than 110 years, The Victoria Falls Hotel has been a luxury icon in Africa. Settle in, enjoy the magnificent grounds of the hotel including grand public spaces, gardens, and iconic swimming pool. This afternoon, you'll enjoy a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River aboard the Zambezi Royal. Snack on hors d'oeuvres and sip the beverage of your choice as you explore the river above the falls. You'll spot lots of birds and hippopotamus as you take in your first magnificent African sunset. Fall asleep tonight with the roar of the falls in the distance.



OVERNIGHT: THE VICTORIA FALLS HOTEL

MEALS: UNDER OWN ACCOUNT

DAY 2**VICTORIA FALLS****13 MAR**

One of the seven Natural Wonders of the World, the amazing Victoria Falls is the world's largest waterfall by volume. The native name for the falls, Mosi-oa-Tunya, means "The Smoke That Thunders." The falls are 5,500ft wide, 340ft high at their highest point, and average 300ft above the gorges below. The spray can reach hundreds of feet high and can be seen over 20 miles away. This morning, you will be transferred to the national park for unforgettable walking tour along the gorge opposite the falls. Afterwards, enjoy lunch in town followed by an opportunity to visit the Victoria Falls craft market featuring colourful Zimbabwean textiles, stone sculptures, local crochet, wooden carvings, Zimbabwean jewelry and more. You'll return to the hotel to freshen up before heading across the border into Zambia and dinner aboard the Royal Livingstone Express - a working steam train originally built in 1924. Sip your favorite beverage as the train leaves the siding on the journey to towards the famous Zambezi gorge bridge where you'll watch the sun set. Enjoy a six-course meal on the return journey to Livingstone in the train's antique wood-paneled dining car. Disembark and cross back into Zimbabwe before once again falling asleep to the roar of the falls.

**OVERNIGHT: THE VICTORIA FALLS HOTEL****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 3**CHOBE****14 MAR**

From Victoria Falls, you are transferred by road to Kasane, Botswana situated on the Chobe River. On Botswana's far northern border, at the confluence of the Kwando, Linyanti, and Chobe rivers is series of lakes, islands and floodplains. This area forms Chobe National Park, famous for its large buffalo and elephant herds. An abundance of predators, wild game, and bird life live amongst this labyrinth of rivers, islands, and marshes. This afternoon after lunch at your lodge, you depart on a boat safari on the Chobe River. An unforgettable vantage point from which to view wildlife, a water-based safari allows you to get close to elephants swimming, buffalo drinking, and antelope grazing along the river banks. Afterwards, you can look forward to a hot shower and an excellent dinner at Chobe Marina Lodge.

**OVERNIGHT: CHOBE MARINA LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 4**CHOBE & SAVUTI****15 MAR**

Enjoy a morning game drive activity followed by breakfast and check-out. You will be transferred to Kasane Airport for a scheduled charter flight to Ghotha Hills in the Savuti area of Chobe National Park. Smack-dab in the middle of the Botswana wilderness, you are on a game drive the second you leave the airstrip for camp. Settle into camp before another short afternoon game drive or guided game walk around camp and sundowners in the bush. (Savuti, also known as Savute) lies in the heart of Botswana's beautiful Chobe National Park. This dynamic wilderness is a sweeping expanse of savannah brooded over by several rocky outcrops which guard a relic marsh and the dry channel that was once its lifeline. The Savute goes through wet and dry cycles, where wild dogs hunt in the dry river channel where crocodiles swam only twenty years ago. Abundant wildlife that call Savuti home include: dozens of species of birds, elephants, antelope, lion, black-backed jackal, bat-eared foxes, tsessebe, kudu, hyena, cheetah, buffalo, and thousands of migrating zebra and wildebeest.

**OVERNIGHT: GHOHA HILLS SAVUTI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 5**SAVUTI****16 MAR**

Today is a very special day of safari! You wake with the sun and join the group for early morning tea and breakfast before setting out into the spectacular Botswanan wilderness. You'll visit the Cathedral of Baobabs where you can stretch your legs and take some outstanding photographs. The camp's professional guides will ensure that you are exposed to all the different landscapes and wildlife the area has to offer including: waterholes, marshes, baobab forests, riversides, and grasslands. Highlights include Harvey's Pan, Savuti Sand Ridge, Kudu Hills, and Quarry Hill where you'll be able to view bushmen rock paintings. Lunch today is enjoyed as a picnic lunch along the riverbank. A full afternoon of game viewing concludes, and you return to camp to enjoy a late afternoon refreshment stop at the local watering hole or thatched viewing deck. Throughout the day, depending on nature, there will be sightings of elephant, lion, giraffe, leopard, roan antelope, kudu, warthog, buffalo, impala, waterbuck, cheetah and dozens of bird species. Dinner is served overlooking the bush from your perch atop the ridge.

**OVERNIGHT: GHOHA HILLS SAVUTI LODGE****MEALS: B/L/D**

This morning you will enjoy another activity – game drive or game walk - before checking out and flying directly from Ghoja Hills to Moremi Crossing. Flying low, you will see the dryness of the Savuti region give way to the lush water-filled wonderland of the Okavango Delta. An immense river that never meets the sea, the Okavango's crystal-clear waters spread across the Kalahari Desert, forming Africa's largest wetland. A labyrinth of meandering and intercepting channels, the delta is a haven for wildlife and an unforgettable treat for any lucky enough to visit. Enjoy lunch upon arrival into the lodge, a new 16-tent camp built on a palm fringed island surrounded by the Moremi's game-rich seasonal floodplains and overlooking Chief's Island. Moremi Crossing is a new style safari camp combining luxury with simplicity. This is a 100% eco-friendly development featuring the latest in solar and waste disposal technology. Enjoy your first afternoon activity – boat safari or walking safari - followed by sundowners and dinner at the camp.

Situated in the northwestern corner of Botswana, the Okavango Delta is a World Heritage Site as it is the largest inland delta in the world. The magnificent Okavango River sprawls out over the dry sands of the Kalahari Desert forming this flourishing waterlogged oasis featuring countless meandering waterways and crystal-clear lagoons studded with water lilies, as well as fertile floodplains and reeded islands inhabited with abundant wildlife. The Okavango Delta stretches over 6,000 square miles. Visitors can enjoy many wonderful activities such as game viewing, fishing, bird watching or taking an authentic guided mokoro excursion through this wetland paradise in a traditional dugout canoe. The varied terrain includes savannah, winding waterways, and dense forest. This diverse ecosystem supports an incredibly wide spectrum of wildlife, ranging from large herds of buffalo, wildebeest and zebra, to the rare sitatunga, red lechwe antelope, lion, cheetah and packs of wild dog in the open grasslands. The birdlife is prolific and includes most of the 550 bird species recorded on Botswana's national bird list.

**OVERNIGHT: MOREMI CROSSING****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 7**OKAVANGO DELTA****18 MAR**

Today you are free to explore the delta in your preferred style: by mokoro, walking, or shallow-draft boat. Activities can be half or full day and combined however you wish. All scheduled activities and guides are included with your package.

Mokoro Excursions: become part of the bustling river life by easing between the papyrus clad banks on traditional 'mokoro' canoes. These are propelled from the stern by skilled 'poler' guides, allowing the guests to sit back and absorb the scenery. You may opt for a full-day expedition where a delicious picnic lunch can be enjoyed on a Delta island after an exhilarating bush walk.

Bush Walks: explore the wilderness on foot under the guidance and education of your own personal guide. Feel your senses ignite as you become part of life in the bush and encounter game without the parameters of a vehicle.

Boat Safari: A great way to explore the crystal-clear channels surrounding the camp. Boat safaris are organized in time to toast the unprecedented African sunsets while drifting on a lagoon in the middle of the Okavango Delta. Vibrant colors of the Botswana sky and lush vegetation are reflected in the smooth waters, disturbed only by dipping swallows or curious hippos.

**OVERNIGHT: MOREMI CROSSING****MEALS: B/L/D**

DAY 8**OKAVANGO & DEPARTURE****19 MAR**

This morning, wake to one last tranquil morning in the Okavango. You will have time for one final safari activity this morning before returning to camp and heading to the airstrip for your bush flight to Maun, Botswana. Once in Maun, you will continue to either Johannesburg and home or take a direct flight south to Cape Town. You may opt for a picnic lunch packed by the camp or, if your layover is long enough, pop across the street from the sleepy Maun airport for lunch before connecting onward.

An optional Cape Town extension follows this program

***** END OF ACACIA HOLIDAYS ARRANGEMENTS *****

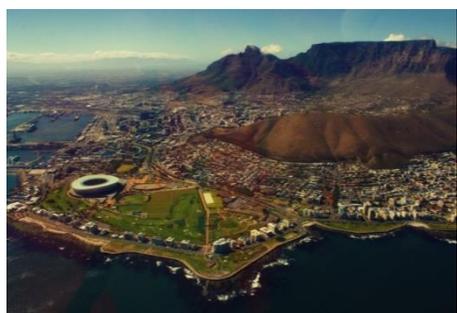
MEALS: B/L

Day 8 // 19 March: Upon arrival in Cape Town, clear customs and immigration and meet with your local Cape Town-based guide for a transfer to the Commodore Hotel in the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Dinner is under own arrangements tonight and we recommend taking a short stroll to the many restaurants of the V&A Waterfront to soak up the scene. Resting at the confluence of the Indian and Atlantic Ocean, sandwiched between the slopes of the iconic Table Mountain and the glistening sapphire waters of Table Bay, the exceptionally scenic city of Cape Town is in a class of its own. Some cities boast rich culture, vibrant nightlife, a cosmopolitan atmosphere and extraordinary architecture, while others boast breathtaking landscapes and extraordinary natural wonders. With its bustling harbour, world-class beaches, top-notch vineyards, and its mountainous surroundings brimming with diverse flora and fauna, Cape Town consistently captivates the hearts of all who visit!

Day 9 // 20 March: This morning after breakfast you will be collected from the hotel for a full day Cape Town city tour including Robben Island. The tour commences with a ferry trip across the bay to Robben Island, the site of Nelson Mandela’s imprisonment by the Apartheid government of South Africa (weather permitting). From the 17th to the 20th centuries, Robben Island served as a place of banishment, isolation and imprisonment but today is a World Heritage Site and museum, a poignant reminder of the price paid for freedom. Upon return to the mainland, enjoy a drive through Bo-Kaap to discover how the Malay slaves influenced the culture, food and aesthetics of this beautiful city and its people. Next, enjoy a walk through the Company Gardens and a visit to the South African Museum followed by a visit to the Castle of Good Hope – the oldest surviving colonial building in South Africa. Continue to Table Mountain where you shall reach the top by cable car (weather permitting). Enjoy the panoramic views over the city with Robben Island lying sleepily in Table Bay!

Day 10 // 21 March: Today will be an early start. Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and depart on awe-inspiring tour to the towering headland known as Cape Point. Magnificent beaches, breathtaking views, historic and picturesque coastal villages are to be seen along the way. The Cape Peninsula is one of the world’s most scenic areas and stretches from the City centre to Cape Point. We travel along the Atlantic Seaboard via Sea Point, Clifton and Camps Bay, continuing to Hout Bay and on through Chapman’s Peak. Visit Boulders Beach penguin colony in Simonstown and continue to Cape Point and the Good Hope Nature Reserve, which has magnificent fynbos vegetation, birdlife, endemic antelope species and zebra, historic lighthouses and shipwreck. From here continue, to Cape Point Vineyards for a wine tasting and lunch. If time permits you can still visit Kirstenbosch Gardens today before heading back to your hotel.

Day 11 // 22 March: Check out and transfer to Cape Town International Airport for your flight home.



*** END OF ACACIA HOLIDAYS ARRANGEMENTS ***

OVERNIGHT: THE COMMODORE HOTEL

MEALS: B

S U M M A R Y

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ITINERARY: **Zimbabwe:** Victoria Falls
Botswana: Kasane/Chobe | Savuti | Moremi/Okavango Delta | Maun
South Africa: Cape Town (optional extension)

DURATION: 8 days / 7 nights

LAND ONLY (USD)	PRE-SAFARI	MAIN PROGRAM	POST-SAFARI
	Extra night in Johannesburg (If Necessary)	Victoria Falls & Botswana	Cape Town
Per Person Sharing	TBD	\$7,435	\$1,540
Single Room Supplement	TBD	\$905	\$645

Optional Supplements:

Costs Include

From the moment you arrive until your departure, we make sure you are free to relax and enjoy your safari!

- **Flights wholly within Botswana**
- English-speaking chauffeur/guide
- Exclusive use of a 4x4 Land Cruiser
- Bottled mineral water while on safari
- Transfers to/from airport upon arrival/departure
- Meals as specified in itinerary
- Full board accommodation while on safari
- Victoria Falls Walking Tour
- Zambezi River Sunset Cruise
- All safari activities in Botswana
- Cape Town Tours on post-safari extension

Costs Exclude

- **International flights**
- All items of a personal nature
- Laundry
- Tips and gratuities
- Telephone calls
- Visas (Zambia & Zimbabwe)
- Botswana tourism levy
- Travel insurance
- Add-ons and supplements
- All other items not mentioned in inclusions
- Meals not specified in itinerary



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