

TRAVELBOECKER ADVENTURES

"Authentic Journeys ~ Unforgettable Memories!"

SOUTHERN CROSS

South Africa, Namibia, Botswana & Zambia



**21 day GRAND EXPLORER from Cape Town to Livingstone (SuS05)
&
14 day EXPLORER from Cape Town to Windhoek (SuS06)**

Detailed Itinerary:

Day 1 CAPE TOWN

Cape Town is one of the most picturesque cities in the world, with the majestic Table Mountain providing its central focus. After a tour briefing at 8:00am, we visit the African Penguin colony en route to Cape Point Nature Reserve, and spend the rest of the day relaxing on Hout Bay beach. We sample some of Cape Town's culinary wonders at a local restaurant in the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront (own expense). [guest house]

Day 2 CEDARBERG

guided walk included The Cederberg is a massive rock wilderness with giant sandstone boulders that have been sculpted by wind and rain into bizarre and artistic shapes. We head north to the Cedarberg and explore the rugged landscape on foot before relaxing in chalets for the evening. [chalet BLD]

Day 3 GARIEP RIVER

We make our way into the more arid regions and upon entering Namibia, we stay at a lodge on the Gariiep River. Namibia's southern border river flows quietly and peacefully and the river valley is hardly affected by tourism. The riverbed is sandy, the water clean and clear. Time free for swimming and relaxing or you can adventure down the river in canoes (own expense). [tented lodge BLD]

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Day 4 FISH RIVER CANYON

The Fish River Canyon, situated along the lower reaches of the Fish River, is one of the most impressive natural beauties in the southern part of Namibia. With its depth of up to 550 metres, the Fish River Canyon is the second largest canyon in the world. We make our way to the canyon and in the afternoon and watch a spectacular sunset as the sun slips over the canyon's rim. [Lodge BLD]

Day 5 - 6 NAMIB DESERT

guided walk included The parched Namib Desert has endless orange dunes blown into sharp ridges by the sand-shifting wind and at Sossusvlei they form a gateway into the Namib Desert. We will walk to Sossusvlei, explore Sesriem Canyon and watch dramatic sunsets over the world's highest sand dunes. [lodge or tented lodge BLD]

Day 7 – 8 SWAKOPMUND

Swakopmund is a popular seaside resort with a slightly nostalgic atmosphere, characterized by numerous colonial buildings. In terms of flora, both the Welwitschias Mirabilis and the Kokerboom grow on the stony plains of the Namib and many beautiful specimens surround the coastal town. Swakopmund is also the adventure activity capital of Namibia. Day free to explore the town or try quad biking / dune boarding (own expense). [guest house Bx2 Lx1]

Day 9 – 10 DAMARALAND

Namibia is a land of great contrasts and Damaraland demonstrates this with stark plains, petrified forests and ancient valleys leading to rocky outcrops and the soaring peaks of the Brandberg Massive Mountains. We'll also visit the rock engravings at Twyfelfontein. [chalets BLD] guided walk included

Day 11 - 12 ETOSHA NP

Once a vast lake fed by the Kunene River, the pan that is Etosha NP dried up thousands of years ago when the river waters chose a new course. Etosha is big game country. We take game drives around the huge pan to find the elephants, herds of antelope and lions around the waterholes. We stay at a lodge on the outskirts of the national park. [guest lodge or tented camp BLD]

Day 13 WINDHOEK

This pretty town, beautifully situated in a valley, combines the architecture of a modern city with numerous buildings in the style of the German colonial era. The charm of the city of Windhoek lies in its harmonious blend of African and European cultures and the friendliness of its people. We visit the cosmopolitan capital and enjoy a restaurant meal (own expense). [Guest House BL]

EXPLORER tour ends at 8:00am on the morning of day 14. [B]

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Day 14 KALAHARI

Crossing into Botswana we overnight in rustic, grass huts in the heart of the Kalahari. The sand masses were created by the erosion of soft stone formations. The wind shaped the sand ridges, which are so typical of the landscape in the Kalahari. We take a walk with the local Bushmen to learn fascinating bush skills. [San bushmen Huts BLD] guided walk included

Day 15, 16, 17 OKAVANGO DELTA

The Okavango Delta is the only inland delta in the world. Instead of flowing into the sea, the annual flood of fresh water, spreads over 15000sq km of the Kalahari sand in a maze of lagoons and channels. We journey deep into the Okavango Delta on Makoro (dugouts). We have 2 nights at our tented camp and enjoy game walks, swimming, the birdlife and game in this pristine wilderness area. We return to Maun late in the afternoon on day 17. Mokoro trail and guided walk included

For the two nights spent in the Okavango Delta you stay in a pre-erected tented camp. The facilities are very basic but you will be provided with a simple bucket shower and a toilet (of the "sand and bury" variety). All water, equipment and provisions need to be taken with us and all garbage taken out again. All camping equipment is supplied, including a sleeping bag and pillow. We use dome tents with built-in insect nets. Mattresses are supplied and are about 5cm thick.

Please note: Our local guides are wildlife experts and it is important to pay close attention to their requests in terms of safety.

The Delta is an exciting place to explore, but it needs to be understood and respected, and following their advice is paramount. [tented camp x2 BLD] [tented lodge x1 BL]

Day 18 MAKGADIKGADI PANS

The shimmering salt pans of Makgadikgadi are the size of Switzerland and most of the time appears as a glaring, white, endless plain. When the rain comes a dramatic change takes place as the pans come to life with frantically feeding water birds and great herds of zebra, wildebeest and springbok. [Tented Lodge or Chalets BL]

Day 19, 20, 21 ZAMBIA / VICTORIA FALLS

Magnificent Victoria Falls is one of the seven natural wonders of the world. David Livingstone 'discovered' the falls in 1885 and named them after his Queen. The scene he encountered was a mile-wide (1.6 km) sheer basalt fault line over which the mighty Zambezi tumbled to a depth of 100m, creating a cloud of spray.

The Falls are also the centre of a wide range of activities, including white water rafting on the mighty Zambezi, elephant back rides, scenic flights or a 111m bungi jump (own expense). [tented camp Bx3] guided walk included

The tour ends after breakfast on day 21. We hope to welcome you on another one of our African adventures soon. [B]

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