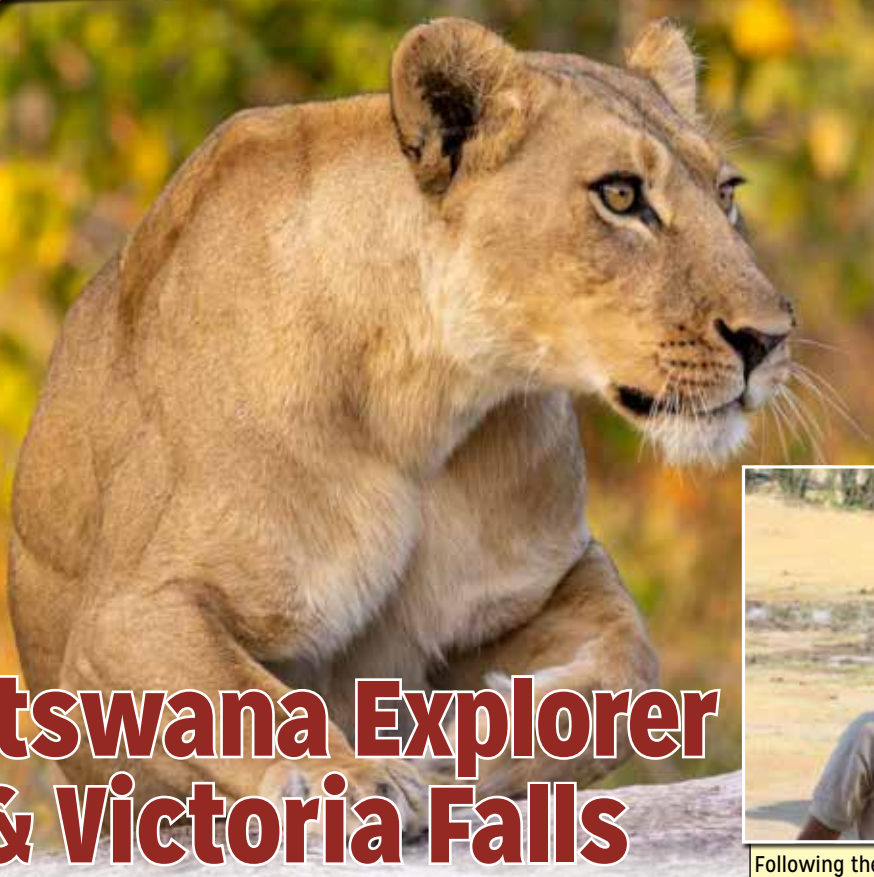


Seats strictly limited

Affordable Africa



Botswana Explorer & Victoria Falls

Fully Escorted Africa Safari

18 days from **\$9590*** per person twin share

 **Includes airfares ex Australia**

Departs Melbourne: 30 April 2025

Highlights Include

- Makgadikgadi National Park
- Nxai Pan National Park
- Okavango Delta island camp & mokoro excursions
- Okavango Delta Boat Cruise
- Moremi, Savuti and Chobe
- Chobe River cruise
- Victoria Falls

Join us on our a fully escorted camping and lodge safari through some of the best wilderness areas in Botswana to the mighty Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe.

Spend time in the stark Salt Pans of the Kalahari and surrounding grasslands. Explore the unique wildlife paradise of the Okavango Delta on foot and by traditional mekoro. Game drive in fully equipped open 4 x 4 vehicles, following age old game migration tracks in search of the abundant wildlife of Moremi Game Reserve. Meander along the banks of the Chobe River in search of its famed elephant herds. Finally, enjoy impressive views and the unforgettable roar of "The Smoke that Thunders", Victoria Falls.

Camping in remote private campsites offers an intimate wilderness experience close to nature. With a professional guide and camp chef taking care of the cooking, cleaning and other camp chores, guests are only required to set up and pack their tents. Days are spent traversing remote areas, in search of African Wild Dogs, huge herds of Elephant, prides of Lion, the elusive Leopard and much more.

Travelling in a small group of like-minded travellers, offers a unique and intimate atmosphere. With a focus on conservation, game viewing and sustainable eco-tourism, this tour offers the adventurer, photographer, birdwatcher and naturalist the ultimate African wildlife experience.



Following the success of many unique Explorer Group Safaris since 2006, and due to popular demand, we have scheduled another adventure to the fascinating continent of Africa.

In 2025, I will be leading another mobile camping safari adventure to Botswana. A peaceful country of extremes and renowned for its spectacular wildlife and pristine wilderness areas. Possibly the ultimate way to experience remote African wilderness. Get under the skin of the world's most exciting continent with up-close wildlife encounters and meaningful interactions with local communities. Travel with highly qualified local guides through the vast and diverse landscapes of the African bush and be filled with awe and wonder. Camping under the star-studded Africa night will be a profound experience. This will not be a simple "scenic" experience: we will get our feet dirty and "touch the heart" of Botswana.

Having had the privilege of working as a Professional Safari Guide and Lodge Manager in some of the best lodges in southern Africa, I have experienced what I believe to be true wilderness. I wish to introduce to you to more of these areas and hope to instil a deeper understanding and appreciation of these delicate eco-systems and the communities that live on the edge of these protected spaces.

We will be travelling in early May which is at the start of the dry season. With clear skies and moderate temperatures, there should be little to no rainfall. After the blasting summer heat, cooler daytime temperatures are a blessing in the Kalahari. We should also coincide with the arrival of the seasonal flood waters entering the Okavango Delta from the North.

We will be staying in private campsites and smaller lodges and group size is strictly limited.

We have created an affordable adventure with an opportunity to travel with like-minded explorers. A new world of travel awaits, and I look forward to exploring it with you.

Go siame, tsmaya sentle.

Mike Papenfus



Updated: 05 Jul 2024 Botswana-Explorer-Victoria-Falls

Toll Free: 1300 136 330

www.adventuredestinations.com.au
sales@adventuredestinations.com.au



Booking conditions and cancellation fees do apply. Please refer to www.adventuredestinations.com.au for our booking conditions and cancellation policy.

Or book at your local licensed travel agent

Day 1: Melbourne - Johannesburg. Fly from Australia to Johannesburg.

Day 2: Johannesburg - Maun. Connect with the flight to Maun and meet your guide on arrival. Transfer to our comfortable hotel located on the banks of the Thamalakane River. There will be time for shopping for safari drinks, visit a local brewery or join a local village cultural tour (own expense). Safari briefing on arrival with time to refresh and prepare for our adventure ahead.

Accommodation: Sedia Riverside Hotel or similar, Maun - 1 night.

Day 3: Nxai Pan National Park, Camping. Depart after an early breakfast. Travel west into the desert, through the Makgadikgadi National Park to Nxai Pan, part of the largest salt pan complex in the world. Explore the striking landscape of grasslands, ancient baobab trees and vast salt pans. Picnic lunch en route. Unusual game species that can be found here include Springbok, Bat-eared Fox, Oryx and Brown Hyena. Evenings at the campsite are a time to relax and unwind under the African sky, with the sounds of the bush as your backdrop. Enjoy delicious meals prepared on-site, and gather around the campfire to share stories of the day's adventures. Camp within the park at a private campsite with bush ablutions. (B,L,D)

Accommodation: Camping at a private designated campsite - 2 nights.

Day 4: Nxai Pan National Park, Camping. Explore Nxai Pan and the grassy plains which are often dotted with grazing herds of Zebra, Impala and Springbok. Spend time sitting by one of the water holes watching game come down to drink, with the chance of seeing a predator stalk their prey as they approach. Visit the magnificent Baines Baobabs, that have stood, unchanged, for hundreds of years. These regal trees, immortalised by the explorer Baines' painting, are situated on the edge of an expansive salt pan. (B,L,D)

Day 5: Nxai Pan - Maun. After a morning game drive, leave Nxai Pan and return to Maun - the gateway to the Okavango Delta. Picnic lunch enroute. Return to the comforts of hotel accommodation to refresh and restock before embarking on the next part of the adventure into the reserves the next day. Take a refreshing plunge in the large swimming pool and enjoy a cold drink from the bar. In the afternoon, have the option of taking a scenic helicopter flight over the Delta (own expense). With no windows and doors, allowing magnificent views, this magical experience provides another perspective of the Okavango Delta's distinctive water system. During the flight it is possible to spot large game animals such as Elephant, Giraffe and Hippo. (B,L)

Accommodation: Sedia Riverside Hotel or similar, Maun - 1 night.

Day 6: Okavango Delta, Camping. Our adventure will take us to the southern tip of the Okavango Delta, a special corner of paradise. On the edge of the Delta, we will meet our polers from the local community with their mekoro (traditional dugout canoes). Quietly cruising along reed lined channels and floodplains, enjoy the spectacular landscape of this unique region during the tranquil transfer taking us deeper into the Delta. Spend 2 days exploring this beautiful area with mokoro excursions and guided nature walks on the islands and floodplains of the Okavango. Camping wild with bush ablutions on a remote island for 2 nights. (B,L,D)

Accommodation: Okavango Delta island camp - 2 nights.

Day 7: Okavango Delta, Camping. Mekoro excursions and nature walks to explore the islands and waterways of the Okavango Delta. (B,L,D)

Days 8: Western Moremi Game Reserve (Xakanaxa Area), Camping. Leaving the channels of the Okavango Delta we return to our safari vehicle and travel to Moremi Game Reserve, one of the best wilderness areas of Botswana with swamp, seasonal flood plains and dry areas. The next 6 days will be spent exploring the remote beauty of this region in search of the wide variety of flora and fauna that this area is renowned for. Morning game drives leave at first light, when predator activity is expected. Return to camp for lunch and a siesta. Set out again in the late afternoon. The guides are flexible and will adjust their drives depending on animal sighting and interactions. (B,L,D)

Accommodation: Camping at a private designated campsite with bush ablutions - 2 nights.

Day 9: Western Moremi Game Reserve (Xakanaxa Area), Camping. Game drives to explore the Moremi Game Reserve around the Xakanaxa areas. Scattered woodland and savannah adjacent to the permanent channels of the Okavango make this a prime game viewing area. A boat cruise will allow us to explore the permanent channels, lagoons, lush vegetation and remote islands that also make up this incredible landscape. As you glide quietly through channels and lagoons, you'll have the opportunity to observe an abundance of wildlife up close. (B,L,D)



Day 10-11: North-East Moremi Game Reserve (Khwai Area) Camping. Transfer / game drive to the region surrounding the Khwai River to explore a different area of this diverse park. Another unique wilderness area with very high concentrations of game. The next day will be spent searching for the wide variety of wildlife on a game drive with the chance of excellent sightings of Lion, Elephant, Hippo and African Wild Dog all roaming freely through the unfenced park and concession areas. Enjoy game drives in the early morning as the sun rises and late afternoon while absorbing the sounds and beauty of the region. (B,L,D)

Accommodation: Camping at a private designated campsite with bush ablutions - 2 nights.

Day 12-13: Southern Chobe National Park (Savuti), Camping. Chobe National Park, with its diverse and striking landscapes, will be the next destination. The drier Savuti region offers a dynamic landscape, from teeming marshlands to vast savannahs where bull elephants dot the open plains. This remote area of the Savuti is famous for its predators, especially its resident lion prides, large packs of African Wild Dog and Spotted Hyena clans. Explore the expansive landscape of rocky outcrops, vast grassy plains, the mysterious Savuti Channel and perhaps the Savuti Marsh. (B,L,D)

Accommodation: Camping at a private designated campsite with bush ablutions - 2 nights.

Day 14: Northern Chobe National Park. A scenic drive and head north to the Chobe River floodplain with picnic lunch en route. Game drives will meander along the banks of this life giving river. Large herds of elephant and buffalo are frequently seen. Also expect to see Tsessebe, Waterbuck, Roan, Eland, Sable and, if we are lucky, the rare Puku. Listen out for the iconic call of the African Fish Eagle. Check-in at our comfortable lodge accommodation overlooking the Chobe River floodplain. Time to relax and seek out the perfect sundowner spot to conclude the day. (B,L,D)

Accommodation: Chobe Elephant Camp - 1 night.

Day 15: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, Comfortable Lodge. Enjoy a leisurely buffet breakfast overlooking the Chobe River. A boat cruise on the Chobe River promises an exhilarating and scenic adventure through one of Africa's most wildlife-rich waterways. After the cruise, drive to the border for the transfer to Victoria Falls. Spend 2 nights at a comfortable lodge with a blend of comfort, tranquillity, and proximity to one of the world's most iconic natural wonders. Nestled in a lush, serene garden setting, Bayete provides a welcoming ambience. Dinner will be at own expense. (B)

Accommodation: Bayete Lodge, Victoria Falls or similar, Zimbabwe - 2 nights.

Day 16: Victoria Falls. Today is at leisure with time to explore the town and all it has to offer. There will be time to visit the thunderous Victoria Falls, surrounding rainforest and craft market. Victoria Falls is also home to many adventure activities, such as a helicopter flight over the falls, a boat trip on the Zambezi River, white water rafting, bungee jumping or gorge swing (own expense). There is also an opportunity for a Wildlife Conservation Safari to explore the conservation efforts in the Zambezi National Park. Dine tonight at a local restaurant (own expense). Relax to the sound of the African night with the distant roar of the falls and drink a farewell toast to our adventure. (B)

Day 17: Victoria Falls - Johannesburg. A leisurely breakfast then transfer to Victoria Falls Airport for the flight to Johannesburg. Transfer to overnight accommodation including breakfast. (B)

Accommodation: Peermont Metcourt at Emperors Palace, Johannesburg - 1 night.

Day 18: Fly Johannesburg - Australia. Transfer to the airport for return flight to Australia. (B)

Day 19: Arrive Australia.

Prices per person twin share ex Melbourne		
Departs	Twin Share	Single Supp
22 April 2024	\$9590*	\$900

Price includes all pre-paid taxes

→ Call about our airfares ex other Australian cities →

Price Includes:

- Return economy class airfares from Melbourne to Johannesburg with Singapore Airlines via Singapore.
- Economy class airfares Johannesburg to Kasane and Victoria Falls to Johannesburg with Airlinc.
- Accommodation, tours, meals and transfers as indicated in the itinerary.
- Camping for 10 nights is based on semi participation camping in 2.1m x 2.1m x 1.75m bow tents with mattresses and shared ablutions.
- 6 nights comfortable hotel and lodge accommodation.
- Okavango Air Rescue medical emergency evacuation cover from remote locations whilst in Botswana.
- *Prepaid taxes and park fees. Subject to alteration until final payment has been received by our office.
- Escorted ex Australia by Mike Papenfus.

Notes

- *Prices are correct at time of printing but are subject to availability, currency fluctuations and surcharges and are only guaranteed when paid in full.
- Deposit of \$1500 per person due within 7 days of confirmation.
- Ask about our companion register for single travellers.
- Optional extensions to South Africa, Kenya & Tanzania can be offered post safari, please contact us for details.
- Tour is based on a minimum of 11 passengers travelling together. Therefore should final numbers not reach this minimum it will be necessary for this tour to be costed accordingly.



Victoria Falls - 'The Smoke that Thunders'



Chobe Elephant Camp - Room



Local markets for curios and souvenirs



Bayete Lodge



Updated: 05 Jul 2024 Botswana-Explorer-Victoria-Falls

Toll Free: 1300 136 330

www.adventuredestinations.com.au
sales@adventuredestinations.com.au



Booking conditions and cancellation fees do apply. Please refer to www.adventuredestinations.com.au for our booking conditions and cancellation policy.

Or book at your local licensed travel agent

Botswana Explorer & Victoria Falls

Fully Escorted Africa Safari

19 days from \$9590*

per person
twin share



Includes airfares ex Australia