

NEW AFRICAN FRONTIERS  
NAMIBIA

TOUR CODE: NA1003

10 DAY – KALAHARI, OKAVANGO DELTA & VICTORIA FALLS

SAFARI TYPE: Scheduled Tour – Accommodated – Guided Safari  
DURATION: 10 Days / 9 Nights  
DEPARTURE DAYS: Fridays (Set departure dates)  
DEPARTURE LOCATION: Windhoek – Namibia  
TOUR ENDS: Victoria Falls – Zimbabwe  
COUNTRIES VISITED: NAMIBIA – BOTSWANA - ZIMBABWE  
MIN / MAX PAX: 2 / 9

ROUTING HIGHLIGHTS:

Windhoek – Kalahari Desert – Gobabis - Ghanzi – Okavango Delta Pan Handle – Mahango Game Reserve - Mudumu National Park – Chobe Waterfront - Chobe National Park - Victoria Falls

Itinerary

This Ultimate Kalahari, Okavango Delta and Victoria Falls Safari allow you to experience some of southern Africa's most spectacular and less easily accessible regions. A combination of fantastic lodges, tented camps and two nights 'roughing it' in a mobile camp on an island in the Delta makes this safari a must for individuals who wish to embrace nature's best. From spending time in the field with the San people, to winding down the channels of the Okavango Delta in a mokoro, to the splendid wildlife of the Caprivi and Chobe National Park, to experiencing the might of Victoria Falls; it is the variety and loneliness of the areas that you will visit, as well as the scenic splendour and unparalleled game-viewing which will reward and astound you, giving one an authentic understanding of the word 'wilderness'.



Namibian Accommodated Guided Safaris  
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Day 1

Windhoek – Kanana Wilderness Area

This morning you will be picked up from your accommodation establishment. You then depart Windhoek in your safari vehicle with your personal guide and drive east, through rural Namibia and commercial farmland to reach the border with Botswana at Buitepos. After completing passport and customs formalities you continue into Botswana and on to Motswiri Lodge within the Kanana Wilderness Area of the Kalahari Desert.

After lunch and settling into your tented accommodation, you will be taken on an exciting game and nature drive in the late afternoon to explore this wilderness area. The game drive offers you the opportunity to see the variety of game on the Kanana reserve, as well as giving an unforgettable sense of the vastness and diversity of the bush. You will hope to see zebra, giraffe and rhino, as well as many types of antelope, from the corkscrew horned kudu and face-painted gemsbok (oryx) to the mighty eland. As your drive crosses the reserve you will be able to appreciate the changing flora and fauna, which mirrors the geological transformation from hard calcrete pans to soft sand-veldt. In the southern parts of the reserve, where there is an abundance of ground water, you will see this reflected in the size and variety of some of the trees.

Accommodation: Motswiri Lodge, including Lunch and Dinner

Day 2

Kanana Wilderness Area

After breakfast this morning you will set off on foot into the Kanana Wilderness with a San guide, who will interpret the world of the Kalahari and demonstrate their distinctive clicking language. You will discover how the San read the seemingly invisible clues left by animals, which give away their movements, and may even be fortunate enough to stalk some game. Your guide will also explain the nutritional and medicinal uses of the various plants, shrubs, roots and insects, which will give you some understanding as to how the San have survived in this harsh environment so successfully for thousands of years. If you are feeling brave, you can participate in the creation of a traditional meal using natural bush products found on the walk. Return to the lodge for lunch and a leisurely afternoon, before heading out for another game and nature drive later this afternoon if appeals.

Accommodation: Motswiri Lodge

Day 3

Kanana Wilderness Area – Okavango Delta

Today's route takes you north and deeper into Botswana to the lush riverine region of the Okavango Panhandle. You will stay two nights on a remote island within the floodplains and permanent waters of the Delta's northern reaches (please note that during months of high water levels the island will be reached by a short boat or mokoro trip). Nxamareri Island Lodge is located on a secluded island within the Nxamaseri waterways, which are fed by back-waters flowing off the main Okavango River channel. The setting and ethos of this wonderful lodge allows you a completely natural experience to embrace this amazing wilderness area and the opportunity to explore the wonders of the Delta Panhandle by mokoro, boat and on foot. True wilderness experiences of this nature are an unforgettable highlight of any safari. All civilization can be left behind for two magical nights with paraffin lamps to light your way and the sound of the bush to lull you to sleep.

You will arrive in time for lunch and then have a chance to relax and soak in the tranquil surroundings. This afternoon you will go on a memorable boat excursion, exploring the lagoon and hidden channels of the Okavango Delta and enjoying sunset on the lagoon before returning to Camp. These permanent water channels are home to a myriad of birdlife, hippos, crocodiles, fish and the elusive aquatic sitatunga antelope. The floating peat islands provide stable ground for red lechwe, bushbuck and vervet monkeys that feed amongst the lush

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wetland vegetation. Although not a significant game viewing area, the Panhandle is one of the finest birding areas in southern Africa with its contrasting riverine and savannah habitats, over 400 species include a variety of bee-eaters, herons and kingfishers, reed cormorant, jacana, darter, African fish eagle, Pel's fishing owl and much more. Fly or spin fishing can also be enjoyed if appeals (supporting the catch and release policy). Return to Camp for a hot shower to freshen up for dinner and an evening around the campfire.

Accommodation: Nxamaseri Island Lodge, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 4

Okavango Delta

This morning you will be treated to a truly enriching perspective of life in the Delta. You will meet your local guide who will 'pole' you through the winding channels of the Okavango Delta in a mokoro. The traditional dugout canoe, locally known as a mokoro, was the mode of transport chosen by the Okavango's first inhabitants, the Bayei and Banoka people. Originally carved out of tree trunks, mokoros these days are made of fiberglass to protect tree species commonly used in the past. The mokoro is still an important part of everyday life in the Delta, used predominantly for fishing, collecting food and transport. Exploring the waterways and surrounding islands by mokoro provides a rare opportunity to experience a wilderness area in complete peace and quiet, with just the sounds of birds and water to accompany you. Return to Camp in the late morning, in time for lunch. This afternoon you have the option of another boat excursion, or take a guided walk on the island, or visit the local village as appeals.

Accommodation: Nxamaseri Island Lodge, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 5

Nxamaseri Island Lodge - Mahango Game Reserve

You will leave the tranquil waters of the Okavango Delta this morning and head due north to enter Namibia's Caprivi region at the Mohebo border. En-route you will detour to visit the Tsodilo Hills and enjoy the fascinating geology, rock paintings and extensive history dating back thousands of years. You then make your way across the Namibian border and enter Mahango Game Reserve for some exciting game viewing. This small game reserve is well known for its excellent concentration of game including herds of elephants and buffalo, the rare and elusive sable, tsesabee and roan antelope, and with any luck you may even encounter some of the more secretive predators such as lion and leopard. You will arrive at Nunda River Lodge in the late afternoon, in time to enjoy a sundowner overlooking the Okavango River before dinner is served.

Accommodation: Nunda River Lodge, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 6

Mahango Game Reserve - Mudumu National Park

Wake up to the wonderful sounds of the river and the evocative grunt of hippos and call of coucals and swamp boubous around you. After breakfast you will depart to continue into the heart of the Caprivi region. First you will stop along the Okavango River to view Popa Falls and then head east to pass through the Bwabwata National Park to reach Camp Kwando where you will stay in their comfortable tented chalets, with lunch served on arrival. After a short afternoon siesta, you will head out on a remarkable sundowner boat excursion along the Kwando River, observing the variety of game that congregate for a drink at the river's edge. Mudumu National Park is well known for its diverse wildlife, ranging from herds of antelope, elephant and buffalo to elusive predators such as lion and leopard. During your stay here you should have some incredible game-viewing experiences, combined with excellent birding opportunities amidst the picturesque and tranquil riverine surroundings. You return to Camp Kwando just after dark for a sumptuous dinner and first night stay.

Accommodation: Camp Kwando, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

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Day 7

Mudumu National Park

After an early morning wake-up call and a light breakfast you will head out for an exciting game drive within the Mudumu National Park. The coolness of the early hours is ideal for tracking and, with luck, encountering some of the more elusive nocturnal and crepuscular species. The later morning will be great for viewing general game coming down to the river for a much needed drink. You will return to the lodge for lunch and an afternoon siesta. Later this afternoon you will be treated to another memorable boat excursion, exploring the Kwando River which is well known for its bird diversity.

Accommodation: Camp Kwando, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 8

Mudumu National Park - Chobe National Park

Today you will continue east across the Caprivi region, driving via the administrative capital of Katima Mulilo and crossing the border back into Botswana at Ngoma Bridge. Just beyond the border you will enter into Chobe National Park and game drive your way through the Park to reach the town of Kasane. Kasane is a small but busy town situated along a hillside on the eastern boundary of Chobe National Park, with lovely views over the Chobe River and flood plains. You will stay two nights here at Chobe Safari Lodge which has a prime location on the Chobe riverfront, minutes' walk into Kasane town and a short drive from the entrance to Chobe National Park.

You will arrive at Chobe Safari Lodge in the early afternoon, with time to settle in before you head out on a captivating game drive into the Chobe National Park where you will have the opportunity to see abundant elephant and other big game species, and the possibility of an encounter with one of the large predators.

Accommodation: Chobe National Park, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 9

Chobe National Park

This morning you will head out on another fascinating game driving in an open game-viewing vehicle within Chobe National Park, exploring along sandy tracks within the wooded interior and along the lush riverfront in the hope of spotting some of the many inhabitants of this wonderful Park. You will return to Chobe Safari Lodge in the late morning for lunch and some leisure time.

Later this afternoon you will enjoy a superb boat cruise along the Chobe River, beside the Chobe National Park riverfront and a number of river islands where a remarkable variety and quantity of game can be seen. Birdlife is prolific from a variety of raptors, geese and ducks to flocks of yellow-billed and open billed storks; and game that may be seen includes hippo, crocodile, red lechwe, waterbuck, reedbuck, the rare puku antelope (this is the only place in southern Africa where puku occur), giraffe, impala, lion, buffalo, and an amazing number of elephant that are attracted to the river's edge for their daily afternoon drink and bathe. With luck you may also witness elephant swimming across the river to reach Namibian savannah on the northern banks.

Accommodation: Chobe National Park, including Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Day 10

Chobe National Park – Victoria Falls

After an early start you will depart Chobe Safari Lodge on a transfer to Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe or Zambia side). A combination road and boat transfer brings you to the edge of the mighty Victoria Falls. You will conclude your safari with a guided tour of the Falls and then bid your Ultimate Safari guide farewell (they will be returning to Namibia today), before you are transferred to the airport (either Livingstone or Victoria Falls International Airports as

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required) in time to check-in for your international departure flight (please note your departure flight must be no earlier than 13h00 to allow time to visit the Falls this morning).

NOTE: Please enquire with us should you require accommodation in either Victoria Falls or Livingstone if you are not flying out today. We would be happy to arrange any additional accommodation and activities for you (additional arrangements at extra cost as required).

Departure Dates

- SAFARI 1: Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> April to Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2012
- SAFARI 2: Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012
- SAFARI 3: Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2012
- SAFARI 4: Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> August 2012
- SAFARI 5: Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2012
- SAFARI 6: Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> September to Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012
- SAFARI 7: Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> October to Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> October 2012
- SAFARI 8: Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> November to Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2012

Included:

- Accommodation as stated above.
- Transportation in a luxury air-conditioned safari vehicle.
- Meals stipulated above.
- Services of a registered and experienced English-speaking safari guide.
- Entrance fees and excursions as described in above itinerary.
- Airport transfers from Windhoek International Airport to Windhoek and to Victoria Falls or Livingstone International Airport.
- Mineral water on board the safari vehicle.
- Welcome pack.

Excluded

- International flights and airport taxes.
- Any meals not included in the above itinerary.
- Any entrance fees and excursions not included in the above itinerary.
- All beverages with the exception of mineral water on board the safari vehicle.
- Laundry (laundry service available at lodges at extra cost).
- Gratuities.
- Items of personal nature (telephone expenses, curios, medicines etc).
- ENTRY VISA FEES. Please note that you will need to purchase a Zambia/Zimbabwe visa upon entry which costs roughly US\$ 50 per person; please ensure you have US\$ on hand for this payment.
- BANK CHARGES (as per bank or 3.5% commission for VISA/MASTER and 4.5% commission for AMEX).

Handy Tips

- Visas/Passports: Please ensure: 1) that you have pre-arranged your entry visa if required; 2) that your passport is valid for at least six months after your scheduled departure date from Namibia; 3) that you have a minimum of 2 consecutive clear pages. If this is not the case, there is a danger of being turned away by the Immigration Service on arrival at the airport – assuming your airline has agreed to bring you and risk a fine in the first place.
- Health: No vaccinations are mandatory but please consult your doctor for medical advice. Parts of Namibia, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe are considered to be malarial so we recommend the use of anti-malarial prophylactics (normally

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Malarone), especially if visiting during the summer months (December to April) – subject to advice from your own doctor.

- Luggage: Is normally restricted to 20kg (not including photographic equipment) per person in a *soft, hold all type* bag. Weight is generally less important than volume as everything is carried with you on safari. If adding extensions that involve light aircraft transfers the luggage limit may be reduced further to 12 kg in soft bags (please enquire if this may apply to you). If required, any extra luggage can be stored at our base when visitors are away on safari.
- Vehicles: Vehicles used are normally comfortable 4x4 modified Land Cruisers, equipped with air-conditioning and cool boxes or fridges for drinks and snacks. A trailer for luggage is taken if required.