

**BOTSWANA WILDLIFE SAFARI &
HIKING THE DRAKENSBERG**



18 AUGUST - 03 SEPTEMBER 2017



WITH WALKING MATILDA



Tour Cost: \$7,550 twin share (land only)

Single supplement: \$1,310

TOUR OVERVIEW

Tour Style: This is a partly accommodated and a partly mobile camping safari. Transport is with 2 vehicles – one for clients and the other for camp staff who travel ahead and set up and pack down the camps.

Maximum group size: 10 places + escort. A surcharge will apply if the group size is less than 8 people.

Accommodation: Safari lodges (Victoria Falls and Chobe) and comfortable mobile camping elsewhere in Botswana. Tents are walk-in 4.5m x 3m with ensuite bathrooms (chemical toilet and hot bucket shower) with a vanity area and small closet. Tent areas are partitioned and have fully screened large windows for ventilation. Camp staff provide water, soap and all linen including towels.
Accommodation at the Cavern Resort in the Drakensberg is hotel style (standard rooms) on a full board basis.

Meals: Meals are prepared by the camp chefs on an open fire and are varied and fresh. Bread is baked daily. Dining is the mess tent which is set up for the duration of the stay.

Highlights:

- Apartheid Museum and Soweto tour
- Victoria Falls & Zambezi River Cruise
- Savute and Chobe National Parks
- Okavango Delta
- Kwai Community Area
- The Drakensberg and The Royal Natal National Parks

Inclusions:

- Two nights at the Peermont Monidor in Johannesburg with breakfast. Complimentary shuttle transfers
- Soweto tour and Apartheid Museum – 1/2 day
- Arrival transfer Victoria Falls and departure transfer in Maun
- 10 night Mobile Camp Combo safari in Zimbabwe and Botswana, including all guides and transportation with Endeavour Safaris
- All meals whilst on Safari
- All entry fees to national parks, game reserves and Victoria Falls
- All accommodation in mobile tented camps and lodges and hotels as per the itinerary
- Dinner cruise on the Zambezi River
- Four nights at The Cavern Drakensberg Resort and Spa, twin/sharing, fully inclusive
- Return transfers from Johannesburg to The Cavern and local transport in the Drakensberg
- Program of guided walks and visits in The Drakensberg offered by the Cavern Resort
- Escorted from Johannesburg by your tour escort.

Not included:

- Meals and beverages not listed in the itinerary and alcoholic drinks
- Airfares – Approx AUD \$2210 with South African Airways inclusive of internal flights - recommended
- Airfare – Johannesburg / Victoria Falls and Maun / Johannesburg – Approx \$610 if purchased separately from the International airfare ex Australia
- Optional activities (scenic flights, helicopter rides, Walking with Lions)
- Zimbabwe Visa – USD 30 cash at the airport
- Tips to guides – approx USD 150 per person

NB: Elements of the itinerary, hotels and Lodges may change due to circumstances out of our control. Alternative accommodation will be of a similar standard.

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Friday 18 August 2017



Everyone will arrive on 20 August either directly from Australia or from within South Africa. There is a complimentary shuttle service to the hotel from the airport. A free shuttle transfer operates daily every 20 mins from 0600-2300.

Please meet with your tour leader this evening at the Silver Moon Bar at 7.15pm.

Johannesburg is one of Africa's biggest and most vibrant cities. It is the economic capital of Africa and the gateway to Southern Africa. Although not as famous as other South African destinations, there is plenty to do in Johannesburg and nearby Pretoria. The old city is a multi-cultural mixture of traditional medicine shops, Chinese restaurants, taxi ranks and very modern skyscrapers. There are excellent museums, art galleries and organised tours of historical and political interest. The shopping is Southern Africa's best and the many restaurants cater for all tastes. The nearby township of Soweto is Johannesburg's most popular tourist attraction.

Overnight: Peermont Mondior at Emperor's Palace (B), 2 nights, breakfast included

64 Jones Road, Kempton Park

Johannesburg, Gauteng

Ph: +27 (0) 11 225 0557

<http://www.peermont.com/hotels/mondior>

Emergency Contact: Endeavour Safaris

Enjoy elegance at an attractive price...the 4-star Peermont Mondior hotel at Emperors Palace sets an exciting standard in world-class business, conference and leisure accommodation. The hotel features 150 spacious rooms and suites furnished in contemporary African elegance and fitted with cutting-edge technology. Its convenient location next to O.R. Tambo International Airport makes it suitable for business and leisure travellers. Enjoy breakfast and light meals at the chic Oriana restaurant or a sociable cocktail at The Silver Moon bar. Guests have access to the casino, dining, entertainment, convention and relaxation facilities of the Emperors Palace hotel, casino and convention resort.



Day 2: Saturday 19 August

Peermont Mondior Hotel at Emperors Palace, Johannesburg

08.45am: Today enjoy a half day guided Soweto & Apartheid Museum Tour. Soweto is an urban area of the city of Johannesburg, bordering the city's mining belt in the south. Its name, an English syllabic abbreviation for South Western Townships, refers to its origins as a Black township under South Africa's Apartheid government. The population has historically been overwhelmingly black and some of the watershed events in the struggle against Apartheid occurred in this township. On this tour we will discover Soweto and the surrounding area, driving past a hostel in Diepkloof, the well-known Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Orlando Power Station, Winnie & Nelson Mandela's Old house (Entrance fees not included), Desmond Tutu's House, the Hector Peterson Memorial (Entrance fees included), a quick stop at a well-known restaurant, a shebeen, the Regina Mundi Church, Maponya Shopping Mall, Kliptown, Walter Sisulu Freedom Square and Aldorado Park. You will be dropped off at the hotel at the end of the tour with remainder of the time at leisure. With a convenient location close to OR Tambo International Airport, guests at this luxury destination can access all of the facilities of Emperors Palace including the restaurants, casino and myriad of entertainment options.

Overnight: Peermont Monidor (B)

Day 3: Sunday 20 August - Fly to Victoria Falls

Please be at the airport 2 hours prior to departure. We take a flight to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe this morning and will obtain our visa on arrival. Please have USD 30 in cash.

South African Airways

SA 40 Johannesburg / Victoria Falls Departs: 11.50 Arrives: 13.15



Resting on the southern banks of the Zambezi River at the western end of the eponymous falls, this popular tourist town is compact enough to walk around and makes an ideal base for travellers exploring the seventh wonder of the world, the unfathomably vast Victoria Falls. About two thirds of the falls can be viewed from the Zimbabwean side and, while the falls are undoubtedly the star attraction, the area provides both adventure seekers and sightseers with plenty of opportunities to warrant a longer stay. Popular activities include scenic flights over the falls in helicopters or micro lights, bungee jumping off the Victoria Falls Bridge, white-water rafting (seasonal), and day trips to Chobe National Park. The town itself offers some excellent accommodation and restaurant options as well as an eclectic variety of African curios and authentic art sold by friendly Zimbabwean locals who are wonderfully welcoming and eager to help you enjoy your stay.

On arrival we transfer to the Bayete Guest Lodge for a 2 night stay. Remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. You may wish to have afternoon tea at the Victoria Falls Hotel. Tonight, there is a welcome dinner cruise on the Zambezi.

Overnight: Bayete Guest Lodge

Bayete offers comfortable and affordable accommodation and is situated in the heart of the Victoria Falls Residential Area. The lodge is 2 km away from the Victoria Falls Centre and 22 km from the airport. Recently renovated, this family run lodge has 25 rooms which is set in a lush tropical garden. Central to the lodge is the large tear drop pool which is hugged by the Caldecott Boma and Ngwezi Tavern. Breakfast is served in the Caldecott Boma every day. Lunch and dinner are also available on special request and are delicious home cooked meals. Buffets and BBQ's are available for group bookings or by special request.



Day 4: Monday 21 August: Victoria Falls

08.30 am: We will do the Falls Walk this morning and there will be time for optional activities such as the helicopter flight and walking with lions.

Day 5: Tuesday 22 August - Bakwena Lodge, Chobe River Front



The Chobe River forms the northern boundary of the Chobe National Park, renowned for its reliable and diverse game viewing. Safaris are conducted both by boat and on land. This section of the park is best known for its elephant and hippo populations but the waters attract all manner of game including large herds of buffalo and the lions that prey on them.

This morning breakfast and check out where you will have a road transfer from Victoria Falls to Bakwena Lodge for check in. As Bakwena lodge is situated outside the Chobe National Park we have the advantage of river frontage and a neighbouring local village. Rather than an isolated experience in a remote camp our guests have the opportunity to meet the people of Botswana. Visit schools, go on village tours and get to know the real Africa whilst enjoying its abundant wildlife.

Overnight: Bakwena Lodge

Welcome to Bakwena Lodge, an eco-luxury retreat on the banks of the Chobe River. We are located in the Chobe area and arrived at through the friendly village of Kazangula. Botswana is safari country and Bakwena is ideally positioned, 1.5kms from the meeting place of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana, and around a 15 minute drive from the entrance to the mighty Chobe National Park.

Bakwena Lodge comprises 10 chalets rooms, all situated under the shady canopy of Acacia trees, each site has been selected for its river view and is surrounded by indigenous riverine bush. Built around both ecological and traditional African principles, each chalet offers laid-back luxury with its own raised deck overlooking the river. Built-in daybeds offer ample opportunity to absorb the changing moods of the Chobe.

Each chalet has an interior bathroom opening onto an outside garden with an outside shower – to shower under an African night sky surrounded by the sounds of the bush is a must-do experience that cleanses and energizes both body and soul. Bakwena offers its own game drives and boat cruises but offers a host of other activities from daytrips to Victoria Falls or Mekoro (dugout canoe) rides in Namibia to sedate bicycle tours around our friendly village.



Fully Inclusive, Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Day 6: Wednesday 23 August - Bakwena Lodge, Chobe River Front

Morning and afternoon activities. Chobe has a great diversity and concentration of wildlife. The park is home to the largest concentration of Elephant in Africa. During the dry season the herds congregate along the fertile flood plains of the Chobe River. Large herds of Buffalo are common and other species such as Lion, Wild Dog, Puku, Red Lechwe, Sable and Roan Antelope are encountered in many areas of the park.

Chobe River Front

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Chobe Game Viewing

Chobe is renowned for its excellent game viewing, especially for herds of elephants which come down to the river to drink. Activities Include: game drive, boat cruise, mekoro trip, village tour or birding walk.



Day 7: Thursday 24 August

Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp, Savute - Chobe National Park



In the heart of Botswana's Chobe National Park lies a dynamic wilderness, 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. This is Savute, where mysterious wet and dry cycles mould the landscape and dictate the nature of its wild inhabitants. Currently it is dry, and wild dogs hunt in the channel where crocodiles swam only twenty years ago. The Gubatsa Hills shelter leopard and klipspringer and rock paintings of early man's wildlife sightings. During the arid winter month's game viewing concentrates on Savute's resident bull elephants, antelope and lion prides, and black-backed jackal, bat-eared foxes, tsessebe, and kudu, abound. The summer rains bring a feast for lion, hyena and cheetah as thousands of migrating zebra and wildebeest assemble in a chaotic pattern on the marsh. Cape buffalo herds arrive and migrant birds swell Savute's 300 resident species, thrilling bird-watchers with their spectacular antics.

Road transfer from Bakwena Lodge in Kasane to Savute Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp.

Overnight: Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp

The concept of adventure camping in comfort and safety. These safaris have been designed in such a way as to ensure maximum comfort and respond to the demand for freedom and security for any adventurous travellers who prefers a semi luxurious, but still adventurous, African style product. In our camps we set up large tents of 4.5 m x 3m, which have en-suite bathrooms and a partition between the bedroom and private bathroom interior. The tents have large windows with mosquito gauze. In the bathroom there is a chemical toilet and a hot bucket shower, ensuring that you do not need to exit the security of the tent at night. Further to this there is also a small linen closet with shelves, a mirror and containers for soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, brush, comb We provide towels and amenities such as soap, shampoo and insect repellent.

En-suite safari tents: We also provide high-density mattresses, pillows, quilts, sheets, and during the winter, blankets and hot water bottle. Between the beds there is a small table with a light and rechargeable battery. At the entrance of the tent there is a water container which is filled by our staff every morning and evening to wash your hands and face and clean your teeth. The camp is set up with a mess tent, which includes a dining table and buffet table, and a coffee station which is available all day. The table for lunch and dinner is prepared by our camp staff with porcelain plates, glasses for water and wine, and metal cutlery. The meals are prepared by our brilliant bush chefs on the fire and our menus include a variety of foods, including chicken, beef, pork and lamb, pasta, rice, potatoes, cooked and raw vegetables & fruits in season. Daily, our chefs prepare fresh bread and cakes for dessert.

These safaris are organized with a minimum of 2 vehicles: one vehicle for passengers and the local professional guide, and a back-up vehicle for equipment, supplies and camp staff. The back-up vehicle departs before our clients, providing them with the required time to prepare the camp and meals before the clients arrive, where possible. Our staff efficiently ensure the cleanliness and order of the camp and the tents at all times, and they takedown and reset the camp when you move from one place to another. In this way, our clients can relax when in camp and spend more time in search of animals and observing the flora and wild places of Botswana.



Fully Inclusive, Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Day 8: Friday 25 August
Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp, Savute - Chobe National Park

Morning and afternoon activities included.

Savute - Chobe National Park

In the heart of Botswana's Chobe National Park lies a dynamic wilderness, 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. This is Savute, where mysterious wet and dry cycles mould the landscape and dictate the nature of its wild inhabitants. Currently it is dry, and wild dogs hunt in the channel where crocodiles swam only twenty years ago. The Gubatsa Hills shelter leopard and klipspringer and rock paintings of early man's wildlife sightings. During the arid winter season game viewing concentrates on Savute's resident bull elephants, antelope and lion prides, and black-backed jackal, bat-eared foxes, tsessebe, and kudu, abound. The summer rains bring a feast for lion, hyena and cheetah as thousands of migrating zebra and wildebeest assemble in a chaotic pattern on the marsh. Cape buffalo herds arrive and migrant birds swell Savute's 300 resident species, thrilling bird-watchers with their spectacular antics.



Fully Inclusive, Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Day 9: Saturday 26 August
Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp, Savute - Chobe National Park

Morning and afternoon activities included.

Day 10: Sunday 27 August
Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp, Khwai Community Area

Morning and afternoon activities.

Khwai Community Area

The Khwai area of the Okavango lies along the northern boundary of the Moremi Game Reserve. This is an unfenced boundary allowing wildlife to move freely between the woodlands in the wet season when water is plentiful and back to permanent rivers and lagoons in the dry season. The Khwai area offers the same wildlife experience as the reserve with the added advantage of being a private concession which means the ability to do walking safaris and night drives.



Day 11: Monday 28 August
Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp, Khwai Community Area

Morning and afternoon activities.



Fully Inclusive, Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Day 12: Tuesday 29 August
Endeavour Fully Serviced Mobile Camp, Khwai Community Area

Morning and afternoon activities.

Fully Inclusive, Drinks (Local Brands) Included

Day 13: Wednesday 30 August – Departure – Maun / Johannesburg / Drakensburg

Your journey ends today and you will be transferred to Maun Airport in time for your departing flight. We hope to welcome you again one day on another of our African adventures.

South African Airways

SA 3801

Maun / Johannesburg

Departs: 14.00

Arrives: 15.40



On arrival our transfer vehicle will meet us and transfer us to the Cavern Resort for a 4 night stay. The transfer time is 4 hours. The Cavern Drakensberg Resort and Spa, is a small, lovely resort set in a private nature reserve in the Northern Drakensberg. It is a designated Site of Conservation Significance adjacent to the Royal Natal National Park (RNNP) providing full board in a beautiful and peaceful setting. The Cavern management also supports a number of local community education projects. We do day walks each day. The Royal Natal National Park has some of the best mountain scenery in Africa. The main feature is the famous Amphitheatre, a great curving rock wall that is 500 metres high

and about 5kms in length. The Amphitheatre is a listed World Heritage site and over its edge comes the slender band of the beautiful Tugela Falls, the second highest in the world. The park is also home to important rock art sites of the Bushmen people.

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa

Ph: + 27 36 438 6270

Day 14: Thursday 31 August Drakensberg Hiking

A visit to the Royal Drakensberg Primary School followed by walk to the 'Silent Woman'.

If you wish you can take along books and stationery to leave at the school and/or make a donation (optional). This walk can be extended to Jackal Hill. Return to the Cavern for lunch. Afternoon hike to 'Lone Rock' where we can see the 'Bushman Paintings'.

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa, 4 nights fully inclusive

Day 15: Friday 01 September Drakensberg Hiking

Optional: Day hike to the Tugela Gorge <http://www.cavern.co.za/tugela-gorge-trail/>

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa

Day 16: Saturday 02 September Drakensberg Hiking

There are two guided walks to choose from today with our Cavern guides. Free afternoon

Overnight: The Cavern Drakensberg Resort & Spa

Day 17: Sunday 03 September Drakensberg – Johannesburg - Depart

We return to Johannesburg today departing at 11.00am, arriving early afternoon in time for onward flights to Australia.

END OF ARRANGEMENTS



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