

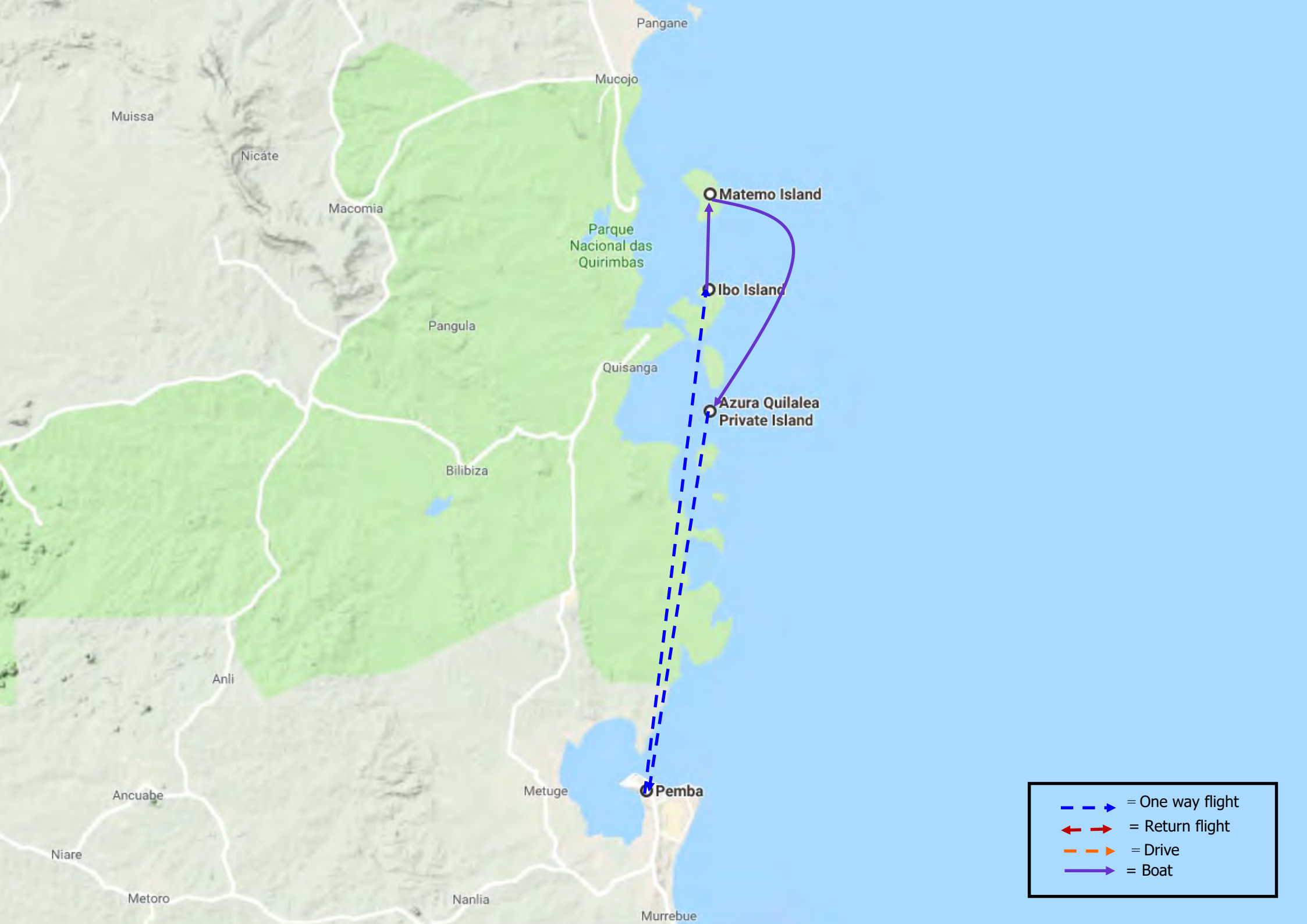
Africa explored, Laterally











In a Nutshell...

Day 1, Overnight flight from the UK to Johannesburg

Day 2, Connecting flight to Windhoek. Am Weinberg Hotel

Day 3, Begin the Safari at Sossus Under Canvas

Day 4, Explore Namib Naukluft National Park. Sossus Under Canvas

Day 5, Ballooning & Continue to NamibRand. Wolwedans Dune Lodge

Day 6, Activities arranged by the lodge. Woweldans Dune Lodge

Day 7, Head north to Swakopmund & Night walk. Strand Hotel

Day 8, Seal & Dolphin Cruise & Sandboarding. Strand Hotel

Day 9, Onwards to Okonjima Nature Reserve. Okonjima Plains Camp

Day 10, On Safari. Okonjima Plains Camp

Day 11, Private Charter flight to Möwe Bay. Shipwreck Lodge

Day 12-13, Discover the Skeleton Coast. Shipwreck Lodge

Day 14, Drive to Kaokoland. Hoanib Valley Camp

Day 15, Activities around the Camp. Hoanib Valley Camp

Day 16, Charter Flight to Windhoek. Am Weinberg Hotel

Day 17, Fly to Maun via Johannesburg. Royal Tree Lodge

Day 18, Onwards flight to Okavango Delta. Footsteps Across the Delta

Day 19-20, On Safari in the Okavango Delta. Footsteps Across the Delta

Day 21, Light Aircraft flight to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans. Camp Kalahari

Day 22, Explore the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans. Camp Kalahari

Day 23, Fly to Victoria Falls & Sunset cruise. Ilala Lodge

Day 24, Visit the Falls, Canopy Tour & Zip-line. Ilala Lodge

Day 25, Zambian Falls, Livingstone Island & Heli Flip. Ilala Lodge

Day 26, Light Aircraft to Lower Zambezi Park. Chongwe River Camp

Day 27-28, On Safari in Lower Zambezi Park. Chongwe River Camp

Day 29, Fly to Mozambique via Malawi. Villa Sands

Day 30, Explore Ilha de Mozambique & Fly to Pemba. Avani Hotel

Day 31, Light Aircraft flight to Ibo Island. Ibo Island Lodge

Day 32, Explore Ibo Island. Ibo Island Lodge

Day 33, Sail to Matemo Island & Camp

Day 34, On Dhow Safari. Camping

Day 35, Sail to Quilalea Island. Azura Quilalea Private Island

Day 36, Helicopter to Pemba & Fly to Zanzibar via Dar Es Salaam. Serena Hotel

Day 37, Discover Stone Town & Spice Tour. Serena Hotel

Day 38, Fly to Ruaha National Park. Ruaha River Lodge

Day 39-40, On Safari in Ruaha National Park. Ruaha River Lodge

Day 41, Overnight Flight to Bangkok & the beginning of your Asian Adventure

Flights...

Date	Airline & Flight Number	From	Departs	To	Arrives	Class
	BA 057	LHR	21:25	JOHANNESBURG	09:15	
	BA 6275	JOHANNESBURG	12:00	WINDHOEK	14:00	
	CHARTER	OKONJIMA	TBC	MOWE BAY	TBC	
	CHARTER	HOANIB	TBC	WINDHOEK	TBC	
	SA 73	WINDHOEK	06:30	JOHANNESBURG	08:10	
	SA 8300	JOHANNESBURG	11:45	MAUN	13:25	
	LIGHT AIRCRAFT	MAUN	TBC	OKAVANGO	TBC	
	LIGHT AIRCRAFT	OKAVANGO	TBC	KALAHARI	TBC	
	LIGHT AIRCRAFT	KALAHARI	TBC	KASANE	TBC	
	LIGHT AIRCRAFT	LIVINGSTONE	11:50	LOWER ZAMBEZI	13:40	
	CHARTER	LOWER ZAMBEZI	TBC	MFUWE	TBC	
	ULENDO 303	MFUWE	11:00	LILONGWE	12:00	
	KENYA AIRWAYS 756	LILONGWE	14:45	NAMPULA	16:00	
	ETHIOPIAN 81	NAMPULA	19:00	PEMBA	19:45	
	LAM 464	PEMBA	11:50	DAR ES SALAAM	14:00	
	PW 715	DAR ES SALAAM	18:00	ZANZIBAR	18:30	
	LIGHT AIRCRAFT	ZANZIBAR	07:00	RUAHA	09:30	
	LIGHT AIRCRAFT	RUAHA	09:45	DAR ES SALAAM	12:00	
	QR 1357	DAR ES SALAAM	18:05	DOHA	00:10	

Your Final Itinerary...

Day 1, Overnight flight from the UK to Johannesburg

Today fly overnight from Heathrow to Johannesburg on route to Windhoek and the start of your African adventure.

Accommodation: Overnight flight

Meals: In-flight meals

Day 2, Connecting flight to Windhoek

This morning you land in Johannesburg and connect onto an onward flight to Windhoek.

On arrival in Windhoek you will be met and welcomed by a lateral-life representative at Hosea Kutako airport then transferred by private vehicle to Am Weinberg Boutique Hotel where you will stay overnight.

Accommodation: Am Weinberg

Meals: None

Day 3, Begin the Safari & set up camp at Sossus

This morning your private Ultimate Safaris guide will collect you from Am Weinberg Hotel. You then depart Windhoek in your safari vehicle with your private guide and drive southwest through the scenic Khomas Hochland highlands before heading down the Great Escarpment into the Namib Desert below, stopping for a picnic lunch at a scenic location along the way.

You arrive at Sossus under Canvas in the midafternoon and you will stay here for two nights whilst you explore the remarkable sights of the Namib Desert with your guide.

If there is still time today, your guide will take you to visit Sesriem Canyon, a nearby geological attraction, or explore Elim Dune. However, if you prefer, you can just relax and soak in the scenic and tranquil surroundings at Sossus under Canvas.

Accommodation: Sossus Under Canvas

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner





Day 4, Explore Namib Naukluft National Park

This morning you will need to rise early for a magical excursion with your guide in the Namib Naukluft National Park, normally setting off before sunrise to enter the park at sunrise and capture the dunes whilst the light is soft and shadows accentuate the towering shapes and curves. This area boasts some of the highest free-standing sand dunes in the world and your guide will give you an insight on the formation of the Namib Desert and its myriad of fascinating creatures and plants that have adapted to survive these harsh environs. Once you have explored Sossusvlei, Deadvlei and the surrounding dune fields to your heart's content you can enjoy a relaxed picnic brunch in the shade of a camel thorn tree.

You will return to camp for a late freshly prepared lunch and with time to relax at camp during the heat of the day. Later in the afternoon you head out again for a scenic nature drive or walk to explore this vast and astounding ecosystem and to enjoy a magnificent final safari sundowner

Accommodation: Sossus Under Canvas

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 5, Ballooning & Continue to NamibRand

This morning ride in a hot air balloon over the dunes. It will be a very early start but well worth the effort! The balloon safari is a must and offers a unique experience to soar silently above the magnificent sand dunes and desert, with a champagne breakfast being served at your landing site. After breakfast you will continue your safari to the NamibRand, arriving at Wolwedans Dune Lodge.

The particular attraction of NamibRand is its diversity of different desert landscapes, representing virtually all facets of the Namib Desert where expansive sand and gravel plains and endless stretches of grass savannah alternate with majestic mountain ranges and vegetated dune belts of deep red sand. The variety of flora and fauna is as fascinating as the colour nuances of the landscape, which change continuously as the day progress. Before NamibRand became a private nature reserve, it consisted of sheep farms, surveyed and allocated in the early fifties to ex-soldiers of World War II. Today visitors to NamibRand can admire nature in its original state, as animals and plants are back where they belong.

Please note: Wolwedans is located on a private reserve and therefore all camp activities are strictly conducted by the local Wolwedans guides on shared basis with other guests in camp.



Accommodation: Wolwedans Dunes Lodge, Standard Tents

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 6, Activities arranged by the lodge

Scheduled morning and afternoon shared activities as arranged by the lodge.

Accommodation: Wolwedans Dunes Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 7, Head north to Swakopmund & Night walk

The fascinating drive today takes you northwest through ever changing desert landscapes of the Namib Naukluft National Park, including the impressive Gaub and Kuiseb canyons. You will meet the coast at the port town of Walvis Bay and then continue north to Swakopmund where you can enjoy the pleasant seaside location and cooler coastal air for your next two nights. There will be time this afternoon to explore the town and wander along the waterfront on foot, before heading off for dinner at a popular restaurant which specializes in locally harvested seafood.

After dinner, you will head to the Namib's gravel plains where you will be shown the desert adapted night life concentrating on the various species of Gecko, Spiders, Gerbils and Scorpions. During the day the desert looks inhospitable, unfriendly, devoid of any animal life, but once the sun sets, the sand turns into a playground for all kinds of animals. Most of the creatures in the Namib are nocturnal and can be observed only after dark. *What to bring on the night walk: Walking shoes & jacket, head lamp or small torch, photographic equipment.*

Accommodation: Strand Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 8 Seal & Dolphin Cruise & Sandboarding

After an early breakfast your guide will drive you along the scenic coastal road to Walvis Bay for a memorable seal and dolphin cruise on a luxury Catamaran within the outer lagoon and harbour. This is an ideal way of seeing Cape fur seals, Heaviside and bottlenose dolphins, pelicans, flamingos and a wide variety of other sea birds. If you are lucky, there is also a chance of seeing whales, leatherback turtles and sunfish. During the course of the cruise a scrumptious brunch will be served along with local sparkling wine and fresh oysters, but a very kiddie friendly menu is on offer for the family at no additional cost. You will return to the jetty at roughly 12h30 after which you may like to explore Walvis Bay further before returning to Swakopmund for an afternoon at leisure at your hotel or in town.





You then have the opportunity to explore the waterfront area of Walvis Bay further before returning to Swakopmund for your sandboarding experience. You are taken to the Namib desert, the oldest desert in the world, that houses some of the largest sand dunes on this planet. There is no better way to experience these wonders in an environmentally friendly way, than to zoom down them head first on a traditional Swakopmund sand board.

Over the years, the equipment used to whiz down the dune slip-faces, has advanced from a simple piece of cardboard to snowboards, especially adapted for speeding down the sandy surfaces.

Accommodation: Strand Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 9, Onwards to Okonjima Nature Reserve

Continuing your safari today, the road takes you to the famous Okonjima AfriCat Foundation, arriving at Okonjima Plains Camp in time for your first afternoon activity.

Okonjima was a cattle farm since the early 1920s that was bought by Brahman breeders Val (VJ) and Rose Hanssen in 1970. By the time Namibia gained its independence in early 1990, they needed to address increasing livestock losses and growing interest in Namibia as a tourist destination. Three years later their herds of Brahman and Jersey cattle were sold and Okonjima's attention turned to recovering the grass plains and transforming it into a nature reserve, with a primary focus on carnivore conservation through The AfriCat Foundation. Today it's a luxurious African safari destination in the heart of Namibia that's ideal for wildlife photography and famed for its cheetah, brown hyena and leopard sightings.

Accommodation: Okonjima Plains Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 10, Activities arranged within the Nature Reserve

Today you can participate in some of the activities on offer at the camp, on shared basis with other guests.

Accommodation: Okonjima Plains Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 11, Private Charter flight to Möwe Bay

Today set off to the local airstrip where you bid farewell to your private guide before boarding your private charter (Beechcraft Baron 58 – Twin Piston Aircraft) to Möwe Bay.

On arrival you will be met by the local camp guide and transferred to Shipwreck Lodge.

Desert Air (Pty) Ltd: 1 x Beechcraft Baron 58 aircraft

LUGGAGE REGULATIONS FOR THE CHARTER FLIGHT

- *The standard allowable average is 10kg luggage per person. Please note that this allowance may vary and be amended in accordance with a passenger's actual weight.*
- *ONLY SOFT BAGS ARE PERMITTED.*
- *The volume and shape of the aircraft's luggage hold determine the dimensions of the bags to be carried.*
- *No single item of luggage may exceed the following measurements: Length: 62cm (24 inches); Width: 25cm (10 inches); Height: 30cm (12 inches). This includes hand-luggage and camera equipment.*
- *No rigid structures, including but not limited to, frames, tools, wheels etc. are allowed.*

Please note: *If you have additional luggage for other travels, you may leave this with your guide for storage at the Ultimate Safaris office in Windhoek. This will be returned when you come back to Windhoek at the end of your safari. Your guide will be providing soft bags at no additional cost should they be necessary.*

Accommodation: Shipwreck Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 12-13, Discover the Skeleton Coast

These next few days are filled with exciting guided shared activities as arranged by the camp – these include scenic nature drives within the northern Skeleton Coast National Park, drive along the Hoarusib River and sundowner drive to the dune fields. All of these expose the astonishing desert-adapted wildlife, plants and birdlife of the area. One of the main highlight here, is an excursion to the Möwe Bay seal colony.

Skeleton Coast Park: Covering about a third of Namibia's coastline, the legendary Skeleton Coast Park stretches 500km from the Ugab River in the south, to the Kunene River in the north. The attraction of the remote Skeleton Coast Park lies essentially in the colour, changing moods and untouched profile of its landscape. Its aura of mystery and impenetrability is due to the many shipwrecks, dense coastal fogs and cold sea breeze by the cold Benguela Current. The landscape in the park ranges from sweeping vistas of windswept dunes to rugged canyons with walls of richly coloured volcanic rock and extensive mountains ranges. On their slopes grow a surprising variety of xerophytic plants, whose survival is ensured by a wide spectrum of ingenious adaptations. Over a







hundred species of lichen grow on the plains and west facing mountain slopes, which change colour and become soft and leathery to the touch when the coastal fog pushes inland. The cold Benguela Current that sweeps along Namibia's coastline supports some of the highest concentrations of marine life found anywhere in the world. It also played a crucial role in the formation of the world's oldest desert, the Namib.

ACTIVITIES ON OFFER

- Day excursions to Möwe Bay seal Colony There are day excursions by vehicle to the Möwe Bay seal colony. Guests will be shown the remnants of the Suiderkus Shipwreck, along the beach past the remains of the Karimona shipwreck, abandoned Westies diamond mine, remains of the Ventura Bomber, to the beautiful natural wind shelter created by the reeds at the Flamingo pools.
- Sundowner drive to the roaring dunes. This is an afternoon excursion by vehicle to the Oasis water point, which is complimented by the smoothly sculptured roaring dunes of the concession area to conclude the "must do" sundowner.
- Full day Huarusib River excursion A 4x4 trip to the Clay castles, a natural geological formation.
- Fishing weather permitting (catch and release basis)

Accommodation: Shipwreck Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 14, Drive to Kaokoland

At a time to be advised you will be transferred on a stunning scenic drive to Hoanib Valley Camp. Enjoy a picnic lunch en-route.

Deep in the north-western corner of Namibia, Kaokoland is one of the most remote, wild and marvellously unique areas of the country. It's a land characterized by rolling dunes, rocky mountains and desert plains all crisscrossed by ancient, dry riverbeds, the roads of the area. Your days can be spent on scheduled activities as run by the camp exploring this very special area – these include scenic nature drives & walks as well as a visit to the local Himba community.

Accommodation: Hoanib Valley Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 15, Activities around the Camp

Scheduled morning and afternoon shared activities as arranged by the camp.

ACTIVITIES ON OFFER

- Desert drives to track desert adapted lion, rhino, elephant and giraffe.
- Learn about the giraffe research conducted here.
- Nature Walks.
- Himba, Herero and Damara communities in the area.

Accommodation: Hoanib Valley Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 16, Charter flight to Windhoek

At a time to be advised, you will be transferred to Sesfontein airstrip and board your private charter, returning to Windhoek, arrival at Eros Airport. Here you will be met by your driver and transferred back to Am Weinberg Boutique Hotel.

Accommodation: Am Weinberg

Meals: Breakfast

Day 17, Fly to Maun via Johannesburg

This morning, you will be collected by a laterallife representative and transferred to Windhoek International Airport in time to check in for your flight to Maun via Johannesburg.

Upon arrival in Maun, you will be welcomed at the airport by your driver who will transfer you to Royal Tree Lodge where you overnight.

Accommodation: Royal Tree Lodge

Meals: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 18, Onwards flight to Okavango Delta

Fly from Maun to the Okavango Delta where you will stay at Footsteps Across the Delta.

The Okavango Delta is exceedingly beautiful. A jewel in the middle of the Kalahari Desert, it is Africa's largest and most beautiful oasis - an isolated, lush green paradise with some of the richest wildlife in the world. The maze of waterways, lagoons, vast grassy plains and palm-fringed and wooded islands is home to crocodile, hippo, elephant, lion, leopard, hyena, giraffe, wild dog, rare antelope and around 400 bird species. But wildlife is just one of many elements that combine to make the Delta a treasure house. It is the brooding quietness of the waterways, the plaintive cry of the African







fish eagle, the Malachite kingfisher reflected in the translucent waters, the scent of the water lilies and the Okavango's glorious sunsets, which will stay with you forever.

Accommodation: Footsteps Across The Delta,

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 19-20 On Safari in the Okavango Delta

The area offers incredible birdlife and game viewing opportunities and you can expect to see hippos and multitude of water birds. The plains game includes giraffe, zebra, tsessebe, impala, wildebeest and herds of lechwe on top of lion, buffalo, elephant, wild dog and cheetah as well as a multitude of general game in the area.

The Footsteps experience offers guests the opportunity to get their feet on the ground and explore the area with expert guides who know the area like the back of their hand. The emphasis here is on guided walking safaris; however game drives, mokoro excursions as well as fishing are also available options.

After your safaris, return to camp for a piping hot bucket shower under the stars followed by a tasty dinner. Around the campfire you will discuss the lessons of the day and learn more about Botswana, the history of the country and its people. For those that can stay awake long enough you can examine some of the stars in the African night sky before heading to bed - ready for an early start the next day.

Accommodation: Footsteps Across The Delta

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 21, Light Aircraft flight to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

Today you are driven back to the nearby airstrip in time for your light aircraft flight to the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans.

The Makgadikgadi Salt Pans are the legacy of a great lake, larger than Lake Victoria, which once covered most of Southern Botswana about two million years ago. Vast shallow white pans make up an extraordinary landscape - deceptively animated by mirages that shimmer and dance in the heat-blasted air. However when rains come in the summer the pans are transformed into shallow lakes and attract spectacular bird life including flamingos, pelicans and cranes - a majestic spectacle after especially good rains.

No visit to Botswana can be said to be truly complete without experiencing the desert as well as the delta. This truly is a magical place away from all the cares of the world, you gain a unique appreciation of the Kalahari and an insight into the traditions and culture of the nomadic Bushmen.



Accommodation: Camp Kalahari, Double & Triple Rooms

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 22, Explore the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans

Take part in some of the activities available here. Go walking with the San Bushmen and learn about their way of life or visit the local Khumaga village. You can of course head out on day and night game drives to spot lion, zebra and wildebeest as well as Chobe bushbuck, leopard, cheetah, brown- and spotted-hyena, impala, kudu, jackal, porcupine, genet and caracal amongst others.

Accommodation: Camp Kalahari

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 23, Fly to Victoria Falls & Sunset cruise

This morning after a hearty breakfast you will fly to Kasane Airport and be met by a representative from the transfer company to be driven across the 4 countries border crossing (quadripoint is the technical term!). En route you go through various check points and drive past the huge queue of lorries queuing for the ferry—they can be here for weeks at a time.

Please note: Remember to buy a KAZA visa allowing entry to both Zimbabwe and Zambia at the border.

Upon arrival in Zimbabwe, you will be driven to your hotel, in the heart of Victoria Falls Town.

Victoria Falls is one of nature's greatest spectacles, and one of the natural wonders of the world. On the Zimbabwean side of the falls the town itself, referred to locally simply as 'Vic Falls', straddles the banks of the Zambezi River. It is a great place to be based in close proximity to the falls and with a number of hotels and lodges, a couple of good restaurants and some great bars to enjoy.

Known as both an adventure centre and romantic getaway, there is an excellent selection of things to see and do around Victoria Falls, from a mist-soaked stroll to the viewpoints that run the length of the falls to adrenaline-packed activities like white-water rafting and bungee jumping. There are canoe trips, river cruises, safaris and fishing trips available in Vic Falls, as well as first-rate national parks to visit nearby.

Arrive in time to settle in and then head out for a sunset boat cruise on the Zambezi River. Using specially designed jet propelled boats, your boat can reach the very shallow water amongst the islands directly above the Victoria Falls. Meandering between the islands gives you a glimpse of the 'Smoke That Thunders',







after it has rumbled over the edge of the Victoria Falls. Enjoy delicious canapés and afternoon tea whilst relaxing on the river, viewing the wildlife and birds and watching the sun go down! You will be collected from your hotel at 3:30pm and be back around 6.30pm.

Accommodation: Ilala Lodge

Meals: Breakfast (*1 dinner included at Palm restaurant)

Day 24, Visit the Falls, Canopy Tour & Zip-line

This morning at 10:00 am your guide will take you on a walking guided tour of the falls. After the walk carry on with your guide to the impressive Victoria Falls Bridge. Nearby is the launch point for the zip wiring as well as the brilliantly located The Look-out restaurant where you can enjoy drinks with a view. Here you will test your courage and sense of adventure with a Canopy Tour and the Zip-line.

Slide, zipline and bridge walk your way around the canopy and observe the forest from a variety of different vantage points. Look out for forest bird-life, which can include the Knysna and Purple crested Turaco (Lourie) and Peregrine Falcons.

The Zip Line - The longest zip line ride in the world. You will be attached to a pulley then launched over the edge picking up speed as you descend over the water reaching a speed of estimated 106km/h.

After the Zip line your guide will transfer you 5 minutes to the Victoria Falls Hotel where you can enjoy a light lunch (*payable direct*) with a view.

Transfer back to your hotel and spend the remainder of the afternoon at your leisure.

Please note: A sunrise cruise and a dinner at Palm restaurant are included in your stay. We have booked both for today but you can confirm at reception whether you would like to take part in the cruise this morning.

Accommodation: Ilala Lodge

Meals: Breakfast (*1 dinner included at Palm restaurant)

Day 25, Zambian Falls, Livingstone Island & Heli flip

At 8 am you are picked up for your heli flip over the falls. Enjoy the 12 minute Flight of the Angels over the majestic Victoria Falls, seeing the Falls from a unique point of view.

Head on the Zambian side where there is a trail that runs along the cliff adjacent to the waterfall which you can use to reach various scenic viewpoints.

From this side of the falls you catch a boat above the falls to Livingstone Island right on the edge. Only 14 people are allowed on the island at any one time. Explore Livingstone Island with your guide and if the water levels are right take a dip in the Devil's Pool right on the edge of the falls. A real experience! (Of course this is optional and you may just prefer to enjoy Livingstone Island). Enjoy lunch on Livingstone Island before returning by road and boat to your hotel in Zimbabwe for some down time.

Please note: *Today's activities are dependent on the levels of the water and may be changed at the last minute if deemed necessary.*

7 pm. This evening enjoy dinner at The Boma. It's slightly cheesy but a bit of fun especially for the kids. The restaurant is located just a few kms out of town. The Boma, Place of Eating - An interactive evening of drumming, dance and local cuisine including a variety of game meats and traditional dishes. Entertainment from traditional dancers, the sangoma (story teller) and a local witchdoctor who is available for fortune telling.

Accommodation: Ilala Lodge

Meals: Breakfast (*1 dinner included at Palm restaurant)

Day 26, Light Aircraft to Lower Zambezi Park

Today your guide will pick you up from Ilala and transfer you across the border into Zambia and to Livingstone Airport in time for your light aircraft flight to the Lower Zambezi.

Upon arrival, you will be collected and driven to Chongwe River Camp, which is about a 10-15 mins drive depending what you see on the way. This camp is located on the banks of the Chongwe River just a short distance from the confluence with the mighty Zambezi. Stay here for the next 3 nights.

At just over 4000 sq km, the **Lower Zambezi Park** stretches in a narrow swathe from the Chongwe river in the west to the Luangwa river in the east. Rich in biodiversity, there are a number of biomes or eco-systems in the park, ranging from montane thickets on the slopes of the escarpment to Miombo woodlands, grassy floodplains and riparian forests.







The Lower Zambezi National Park is home to all of the major species in the valley with excellent sightings of elephant, buffalo, lion and leopard which are a regular occurrence.

Accommodation: Chongwe River Camp, 2x Classic Tents

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 27-28, On Safari in Lower Zambezi Park

There are a variety of activities available at Chongwe: classic safari drives in open 4x4 vehicles, boat cruises on the mighty Zambezi, walking safaris, canoe safaris on one of the smaller channels off the main river or indeed fishing on the river. (Walking safaris and canoeing for those aged 12 and over on guides discretion).

Accommodation: Chongwe River Camp

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 29, Fly to Mozambique via Malawi

Rise early this morning for a long travel day from Zambia to Mozambique via Malawi.

You will be driven to the nearby Royal airstrip where you board the 8:30am private charter flight to Mfuwe (Zambia) in time for your connecting light aircraft flight to Lilongwe at 11:00am. Upon arrival in Lilongwe connect to the Kenya Airways scheduled flight at 14:45 to Nampula where a laterallife representative will welcome you at the arrivals area holding a board with your name. You will then be driven approximately 1h50 to Ilha de Mocambique where you spend the night.

It's a lengthy journey through remote areas but that's part of the fun!

Accommodation: Villa Sands

Meals: Breakfast & dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 30, Explore Ilha de Mozambique & Fly to Pemba

This morning explore and enjoy Ilha de Mozambique before heading back to Nampula airport in time for your 5 pm flight to Pemba where you will overnight.

Please note: Villa Sands will organise a guided tour of Ilha de Mozambique for this morning with a Portuguese speaking guide. This is not included and is payable direct with the guide. The prices start from 60-75 USD for all the family.



Accommodation: Avani Pemba Beach Hotel & Spa

Meals: Breakfast

Day 31, Light Aircraft flight to Ibo Island

Road transfer from Avani Pemba Beach Hotel to Pemba Airport in time for your light air transfer to Ibo Island in the Quirimbas Archipelago.

On arrival at Ibo's tiny 'airport' you will be met and transferred to Ibo Island Lodge just a 7 minute drive away.

Ibo Island, with its coral reefs, mangroves and magnificent old fortresses, has a fascinating and disturbing history. With its prime location off the East African coast, the island became a significant trading post for gold, ivory and later slaves between the 16th and 19th centuries. Today visitors can visit relics from the slave trade and watch silversmiths hand-fashion intricate silver jewelry as they have for generations.

Virtually unknown to the outside world and undisturbed for centuries Ibo Island, or as the locals call it, Ilha do Ibo, is a place where time has stood still. Located in the beautiful Quirimbas Archipelago of northern Mozambique, and nominated for World Heritage status, Ibo is an island that is remote and untouched by large scale commercial developments and today is one of the most fascinating, idyllic, African islands you could dream of visiting.

Accommodation: Ibo Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

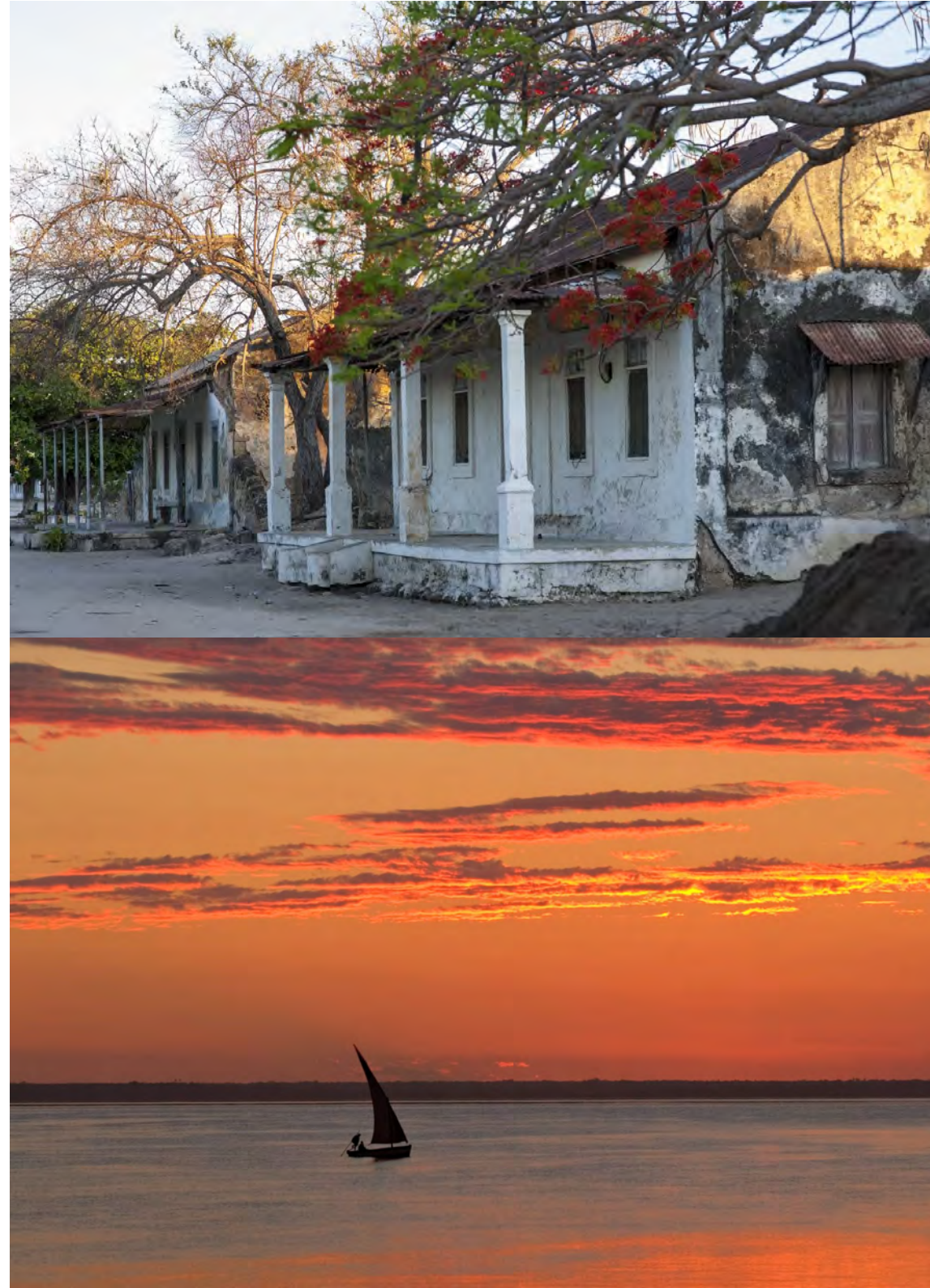
Day 32 Explore Ibo Island

Explore Ibo Island. We highly recommend the historical walking tour where you have the chance to meet old-timer Joao Baptiste. He's a bit of a legend and loves interacting with visitors on the island. Another thing not to miss is seeing the silversmiths at work hand-fashioning intricate silver jewellery as they have for generations.

Accommodation: Ibo Lodge, Sea Facing Room and Garden or Historical Room

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Day 33, Sail to Matemo Island & Camp







This morning board a traditional dhow boat and set sail from Ibo.

Spend tonight camping with the bare basics on remote Matemo Island in the Quirimbas Archipelago. An experienced proguide and crew accompany you on your adventure.

Accommodation: Dhow Safari

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 34 On Dhow Safari

Explore the shoreline by kayak or the underwater world with a snorkel and mask. Meet local fisherman, explore coconut plantations and see incredible varied marine life on coral reef.

Accommodation: Dhow Safari

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 35, Sail to Quilalea Island

This morning you set sail for Quilalea Island and on reaching the beach wade ashore. This private island has just 9 rooms and is the ultimate in barefoot luxury. Spend your final night in Mozambique here doing as much or as little as you like.

The Quirimbas archipelago is a largely unexplored chain of 32 Indian Ocean islands along the northern Mozambique coast. The Quirimbas National Park, just north of Pemba, includes 11 of these islands and is an area of great importance, with an abundance of exotic fish and rare marine species such as sea turtles and humpback whales.

Accommodation: Azura Quilalea Private Island

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brands of drinks included)

Day 36, Helicopter to Pemba & Fly to Zanzibar via Dar Es Salaam

Today leave the island in style by helicopter and chopper back to Pemba where you connect onto the 11:50 am flight to Zanzibar via Dar Es Salaam.

You arrive in Zanzibar at 6:20 pm where you will be met and transferred (approx. 15 min drive) to Stone Town where your hotel is located. On arrival, check in for your 2 night stay.

The Spice Island Zanzibar lies 25 miles off the coast of Tanzania - an alluring combination of rich slave trade history and beautiful beaches, interspersed with villages, palm groves and orange gardens. It is a bewitching place; the rich green valleys are filled with the aroma of spices whilst historic Stone Town, once the capital of a vast Arabic empire, is an atmospheric maze of narrow streets, street markets and coral stone steps. The astoundingly white beaches of Zanzibar's east coast lead out to turquoise coral waters. There is excellent diving to the north of the island and the opportunity to swim with dolphins. The climate is tropical with a hot rainy season from November to April.

Accommodation: Serena Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 37, Stone Town & Spice Tour

This morning your guide will pick you up from your hotel at 9 am to walk through Stone Town's magnificent architecture, narrow alleys, sand and stone ancient built houses, some of which are over 200 years old and have Arab/Indian carved doors.

Begin at the main City market which was opened in 1904, where tropical fruits, vegetables, spices and fresh fish are still sold today. Your next stop is the Anglican Church of Christ which was built by Bishop Steers in 1873 on the site where slaves used to be auctioned.

Other highlights on the historical stone town tour are visits to:

- Sultan's Palace Museum - Built in the late 1890's for members of the Sultan's family.
- House of Wonders - Built in 1883 as a Royal Ceremonial Function Palace.
- The Africa House - Formerly the English Club.
- Forodhani Park - Where you can spend your evenings leisurely watching the brilliant sunset while sipping freshly squeezed sugarcane juice or enjoy charcoal barbeques and locally made dishes.
- The Old Fort - Built by Arabs as defence against the Portuguese.

After lunch (*not included*), your guide will show you why this island is known as "The Spice Island". Drive through a profusion of greenery in the countryside seeing, smelling and tasting a variety of spices and tropical seasonal fruits such as jack fruit, pineapple, banana, green coconut juice, durian, love apple, litche, soursop etc. Spices such as cloves, cardamom, cinnamon, black pepper, turmeric,





nutmeg - are as exotic as their flavours....etc.

Your exploration involves much more than spices and you will also have a chance of discovering the iodine plant, heena bush, ylang-ylang, the lipstick tree, cocoa, and coffee bean trees.

You will also visit:

- Kidichi Persian Baths - built in 1850 by Seyyid Said bin Sultan for his Persian wife Princess Sheherezade granddaughter of the Shah of Persia.
- Maruhubi Palace Ruins - built by the third Sultan of Zanzibar Seyyid Barghash for his 99 concubines.
- Dr Livingstone House - built in 1860 for Sultan Majid. Dr David Livingstone lived here before commencing on his last journey to the mainland interior.

At 5:40 pm, you are met at your hotel and guided to the Emerson Spice Restaurant for dinner (*drinks payable direct*).

Accommodation: Serena Hotel

Meals: Breakfast & Emerson Spice Dinner (drinks payable direct)

Day 38, Fly to Ruaha National Park

This morning you will be driven to the airport to board a light aircraft east to Ruaha.

Upon arrival you will be met and driven to Ruaha River Lodge, your home for the next 3 nights.

For those seeking an authentic African adventure, a visit to Ruaha National Park is essential. Remembered for the rapids of the Great Ruaha River and its rugged landscape of undulating hills, rocky outcrops, and a horizon studded with the imposing silhouettes of the iconic baobab; no other park in Tanzania epitomises the definition of "wild Africa" quite like Ruaha.

Whilst being the largest National Park in Tanzania, Ruaha also holds a special significance as it covers a unique transition zone where the Eastern and Southern biomes intersect offering an extraordinary diversity of animals, plants and birds. There are upwards of 560 species of birds; half of all Tanzania's birds may be

glimpsed in this park making it one of the continents premier birding destinations. Ruaha also holds one of the greatest populations of elephant in any African park, buffalo gather in large herds as well as giraffe, zebra, impala, eland, hippo, crocodile, lion and leopard. The rarer, less-seen creatures can also be found including sable and roan antelope, dikdik, greater and lesser kudus, Grants gazelle, honey badgers and is second to only Selous Game Reserve for the largest population of wild dog.

Accommodation: Ruaha River Lodge

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (local brand drinks included)

Day 39-40, On Safari in Ruaha National Park.

Ruaha National Park is renowned in East Africa for its excellent guides and truly wild landscape. Whether you're tracking lions by vehicle, discovering the smaller wonders on foot or just relaxing in camp, the expert guides at your Camp will enhance your wildlife experience with their superb knowledge.

Game drives - Guided game drives are offered twice a day. In the morning, maximise your game-viewing time by taking a breakfast picnic with you to enjoy under the shade of a tree. In the evening, sip a cold gin & tonic in the heart of the bush as the sun sinks below the horizon.

Night drives - When the sun descends, the elusive night animals come out to play. Explore the secrets of these shy creatures on a night game drive through Ruaha National Park.

Recommended Activity (not included):

Balloon Safari - Your Balloon Safari adventure starts early morning when you depart your lodge or camp. It is still dark and you may be fortunate to see nocturnal animals on the way to the launch site. A balloon offers an opportunity to see the land from a unique perspective. You will notice wildlife trails made by generations of animals impossible to see from the ground.

Day 41, Overnight Flight to Bangkok via Dar Es Salaam & begin your Asia adventure

Board your 9:30 am light aircraft flight to Dar Es Salaam where you connect to the overnight flight to Bangkok.







Accommodation: Overnight flight

Meals: In-flight meals



Laterally sleeping...

Am Weinberg, Windhoek

The 41-bedroom hotel wraps around a heritage building, creating an inviting courtyard. This design complements its historic character, while modern amenities ensure the utmost comfort. Aside from the location and spectacular views, hotel guests also have access to facilities including the Estate's Soulstice Day Spa, two upmarket restaurants and the Conference Centre.

www.amweinberghotel.africa

Sossus Under Canvas, Sossusvlei

Located on the private 24,000ha Namib Tsaris Conservancy and nestled between the Nubib and Zaris Mountains, this camp is a mere thirty minutes' drive from the Sossusvlei gate, the gateway to the Great Namib Sand Sea which has recently been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The camp offers eight tents, two of which are family units, and is open seasonally between April and November, offering a fantastic alternative to any traditional lodge in the Sossusvlei area as it also offers exclusivity which is beyond compare. Activities include visits to Sossusvlei with your private guide and general exploration of the private Neuhoof Nature Reserve, including nature walks and drives, magic moments in desert pools (yes, isn't that intriguing) and star gazing. It is also a great venue for photographers, offering fantastic landscapes, iconic quiver trees, and the opportunity for night time photography which is often very difficult to arrange elsewhere.

Wolwedans Dunes Lodge, NamibRand

Wolwedans is located in the heart of NamibRand Nature Reserve. Their portfolio of camps provides the perfect base from which to explore vast stretches of awe-inspiring and undisturbed nature. The Dunes Lodge is perched on top of a dune plateau, overlooking panoramic vistas in all directions and capturing the beauty of the desert in a most memorable way. Building style is a combination of wooden structures and canvas blinds, opening up to the desert beyond. The lodge reflects the ambience of a tented camp, but provides the comfort and protection of a permanent building. Each of the nine spacious chalets with en-suite bathrooms sports a private veranda, which connects you to vast stretches of untouched sand. Sleeping with your canvas blinds open is just like sleeping under the stars.

The main complex consists of two lounges, a number of sundowner decks, a fireplace, a tea deck, a library, the wine cellar and two dining rooms. The lodge also has a swimming pool, which is suspended above the sand. All communal areas of the lodge open out onto decks with superb views. The variety of recreational space makes a visit both exciting and relaxing.

www.wolwedans.com/lodges-camps/dunes-lodge



...sleeping Laterally

The Strand, Swakopmund

The hotel is situated where the Namib Dunes meet the Atlantic Ocean, providing warm sunshine with cool breezes. The hotel is equipped with restaurants, bars, a Deli, Sea Facing Terraces and a Beach kiosk. Due to its location there are numerous activities to explore the Dunes as well as Ocean orientated activities.

www.strandhotelswakopmund.com

Okonjima Plains Camp, Okonjima

The camp has 10 spacious rooms set in the heart of Okonjima Nature Reserve all not closer than 20 metres to each other to feel that exclusive seclusion to nature. As well as the 6 Garden Rooms that are situated in the original homestead garden and also 14 standard rooms. The Plains Camp Barn is an entertainment area and gathering place that includes: a dining and lounge area, with Wi-Fi facilities and cellphone reception, a bar, a swimming pool and curio shop, all of which overlook a waterhole and the Okonjima plains. Undercover parking is available.

<https://okonjima.com/accommodation/the-plains-camp/>

Shipwreck Lodge, Skeleton Coast

The lodge is located in the famous Skeleton Coast Central Concession between the Hoarusib and Hoanib Rivers in the Skeleton Coast Park, only 45 km north of Möwe Bay. The lodge is situated on the southern bank of the Huarusib River Mouth, nestled between the dunes with a view of the Atlantic Ocean where the cold Benguela current pushes a refreshing breeze over the shipwreck shaped cabins.

Located only 1km from the beach, it is the closest you can get to the Skeleton Coast. See the ocean in the distance across the sandy Huarusib River floodplain and hear the waves roar from the camp. The design of the lodge is quirky and unusual, yet cozy and well insulated against the cold West Wind.

<https://naturalselection.travel/camp/shipwreck-lodge-2/>

Hoanib Valley Camp, Kaokoland

Hoanib Valley Camp is an elegant, intimate affair that immerses you into the wilds of the desert. The six rooms blend seamlessly with the environment, offering a simple aesthetic that matches the rugged landscape down to a tee. Days are spent tracking endangered rhino, desert-adapted elephant, and of course desert-adapted giraffe, before retiring to your private veranda to marvel at the magnitude of your surroundings (G&T in hand).

In a country jam-packed with vast, spectacularly beautiful landscapes, Kaokoland may just be the most incredible of them all. Deep in north-western Namibia, the area is a melee of towering mountains, sand dunes, and huge expanses of desert, scattered with unique wildlife and nomadic Himba settlements. It's also one of Namibia's most remote and wild environments, and one that not many will get the chance to discover in a lifetime.

<https://naturalselection.travel/camp/hoanib-valley-camp/>



Laterally sleeping...

Royal Tree Lodge, Maun

Accommodation is in hardwood tented rooms on raised decks beneath shady trees, all ensuite with hot outdoor showers. In the main area, you can mingle with other guests over an ice cold drink from the bar, or share your travel experiences over candlelit dinner served on the deck. Activities to enjoy include spending the day on a game drive to the Moremi Game Reserve, exploring the region on horseback, or taking stunning pictures of the Okavango Delta from above on a scenic flight.

www.royaltreelodge.com

Footsteps Across The Delta, Okavango

The camp is for 6 guests only in three specially designed twin-bedded tents with sewn-in floors. Each tent has its own bucket shower and bush toilet, and even a daily laundry service. There is also a 'bush kitchen' run by an experienced chef. Footsteps Across The Delta offers what you could call a 'true safari' experience.

www.okavangodelta.com

Camp Kalahari, Makgadikgadi Salt pans

Camp Kalahari is the best way to experience the Kalahari and Makgadikgadi in a fresh and affordable way. You'll find Camp Kalahari nestled amongst the acacias and Mokolwane palms of Brown Hyaena Island, on the edge of the Makgadikgadi Salt Pans, adjacent to the Makgadikgadi-Nxai Pans National Park, Botswana. The style of the camp is refreshingly simple, cosy, comfortable and traditional. Guests can relax in a traditionally built thatch library, living and dining area. There's also a separate lounge area strewn with cushions - an ideal area to lie back and unwind.

Camp Kalahari has 6 Twin spacious Meru tents with en-suite bathrooms, flush loos and running water. Along with comfy beds, crunchy cotton sheets, stripy African blankets and hot water bottles in winter. The meals at Camp Kalahari are plated, not buffet style, and are comprised of interesting and delicious dishes from all over Africa.

www.makgadikgadipansnationalpark.com/entries/camp-kalahari



...sleeping Laterally

Ilala Lodge, Victoria Falls

The perfect base from which to explore one of the World's Seven Natural Wonders, the majestic Victoria Falls. Victoria Falls accommodation at Ilala Lodge Hotel provides distinguished yet affordable accommodation in a gracious and secluded setting. Ilala Lodge Hotel is ideally situated on the Zimbabwean side of the mighty Zambezi river, where it is the closest hotel to the magnificent Victoria Falls. The falls, recently voted one of the World's Seven Natural Wonders, are within easy walking distance for guests, as is the Victoria Falls town centre. Wild animals often graze on the hotel lawns and restaurant diners can see the spray of the falls in the background while they listen to the majestic roar of "the smoke that thunders" and enjoy Zimbabwe's finest cuisine in Ilala's Palm Restaurant. With just 56 rooms and suites on the property service remains personalized. Ilala does a great job of maintaining a 'lodge' feel despite its 'small-hotel' size.

www.ilalalodge.com

Chongwe River Camp, Lower Zambezi

The spacious, open-fronted suites offer private views across the Zambezi; this is a most romantic destination with the steep escarpment behind you and the Zambezi in front.

Downstream from Lake Kariba this is Zambia's youngest park where the Zambezi river forms small reed islands, which are feeding grounds for an abundance of wildlife. The beauty of this park is in its state of absolute wildness. There are some spectacular opportunities to get close to the game wandering in and out of the Zambezi channels as you explore the area by boat. The game is generally found at the bottom.

www.lowerzambezi.com/chongwe-river-camp.html

Villa Sands, Ilha de Mozambique

Villa Sands is a boutique hotel formed from three old warehouses, located in the unique island town of Ilha de Mozambique. The island was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991. Villa Sands is the perfect starting point for exploration of the rich cultural history of the island, and experiencing all the adventures of the Indian Ocean. There are eight chic double rooms available on the ground floor, each beautifully decorated, and all with comfortable king size beds, A/C, ceiling fan and en-suite bathrooms.

www.villasands.com



Laterally sleeping...

Avani Pemba Beach Hotel, Pemba

The gateway to the pristine Quirimbas Archipelago, Pemba Beach Hotel & Spa blends African and Arabian influences to make a striking architectural statement in the ancient port town of Pemba. On a quiet side of the town and only a short drive from the airport this hotel is very convenient if you need to spend a night in Pemba. There are 102 rooms, all with sea views and individual balconies, providing a truly sumptuous rendition of Mozambique east coast living. The Indian Ocean glitters on your doorstep, whilst inside your room the Arabian influences are apparent.

www.avanihotels.com/pemba

Ibo Island Lodge, Ibo Island

Located on Ibo Island in the Quirimbas Archipelago and with a prime waterfront location, Ibo Island lodge consists of three magnificent mansions, each over one hundred years old and lovingly restored. All bedrooms are unique and individually designed, with many opening onto private verandas. Indigenous teak and mahogany handcrafted furniture can be found in all rooms, along with antique fittings.

The rooftop terrace is the perfect spot for sundowners and the food here - prepared by a local team from the island - deserves a special mention. The overall feeling here is one of quirkiness and tranquillity. Relax, dip in the pool, explore the island or head out to the sandbank to go snorkelling. Ibo Island itself has a rich cultural history dating back to at least AD600 and you can learn of the Island's Arab, Portuguese and Dutch influences on a guided historical excursion. Dhow safaris, sunset cruises, mangrove forest excursions, fishing and relaxing massage treatments are all also available.

www.iboisland.com

Dhow Safari in the Quirimbas

Ibo Island Lodge offer tented mobile dhow safaris in the Quirimbas Archipelago and the optimum time to spend out on one of these adventures is 3 nights. This is a brilliant way to explore the coastline fringed by tropical islands on a sturdy motorized Arab dhow complete with experienced crew and pro guide.

Sea kayak or sail up wide coastal river mouths teeming with red listed bird species and pristine mangrove forests. Snorkel off deserted white sandbanks and into the turquoise sea, and sleep in mobile fly camps on uninhabited tropical islands. In the evenings chef will conjure up fresh seafood (catch of your day!) or traditional cuisine over an open fire under the stars. A true adventure.

Azura Quilalea Private Island

Azura Quilalea is a hidden gem, somewhere to retreat from the hustle and bustle of daily life, with a relaxed and understated 'Robinson Crusoe' castaway style that belies the comforts and experiences on offer. It is the second luxury Indian Ocean Retreat from the Azura Retreats group, bringing Azura's trademark African-chic style to Quilalea Private Island, a wholly uninhabited island paradise surrounded by the pristine waters of the Quirimbas Archipelago marine sanctuary.

www.azura-retreats.com/quilalea-introduction



...sleeping Laterally



Serena Hotel, Zanzibar

Idyllically situated on the sea-front of ancient Stone Town, and flanked by an exotic mix of sultan's palaces, Portuguese forts, ancient dhow harbours, and bright bazaars, the Zanzibar Serena Hotel is a haven of tranquillity and opulence amongst the bustle of one of Africa's most ancient and most enchanting towns. A member of the prestigious Small Luxury Hotels of the World, it has been styled to represent the epitome of Swahili style, ethnic elegance and Arabic opulence, setting it apart as one of the finest hotels in Zanzibar.

www.serenahotels.com/serenazanzibar/default-en.html



Ruaha River Lodge, Ruaha National Park

Set on one of the most stunning stretches of the Great Ruaha River, you can see game throughout the day from the comfort of your veranda.

Ruaha River lodge is the only 'lodge' in the Ruaha, consisting of 24 stone chalets stretching along the river bank. Each chalet has stunning views from a large veranda out the front, while the huge interiors feature a sitting area, writing desk and either twin or double beds. At the rear of each chalet is a large bathroom decorated with found timber, a shower and double basins.

There are two dining options split across two locations, with one dining banda along the river, and the other perched high on a nearby kopje, offering a completely different perspective.

www.ruahariverlodge.com

