

## 26-Day Cape to Kruger – ACS0416

### Day 1 South Africa – Cederberg Mountain Region

Two per room L,D

We depart Cape Town heading north for the spectacular Cederberg mountain region. On this first afternoon we spend some time learning about tour-life, the vehicle and equipment, and then we go to one of the local wine farms to learn about the area and a wine tasting.

### Day 2 Namibia - Namaqualand Gariep River

Two per room B,L,D

We travel north through Namaqualand and head for the Gariep/Orange River. The night is spent sitting around the campfire getting to know one another.

### Day 3 Gariep/Orange River - Fish River Canyon

Two per room B,L,D

In the morning we have the opportunity to experience the Gariep/Orange River by canoe. Choose between a relaxing morning on the riverbank or the half-day canoe adventure. After lunch we travel north to visit the Ai-Ais Hot Springs and overnight next to Fish River canyon. Optional Activities: Half-Day Canoe Adventure.

### Day 4 Fish River Canyon - Kokerboom Forest

Two per room B,L,D

After an early breakfast our journey takes us to the mighty Fish River Canyon, we take a scenic walk along the rim of the canyon. After visiting the canyon we travel further inland to the Kalahari area of Namibia. On the way we will visit the Quiver tree Forest.

### Day 5 Bushman Community - Namib Naukluft Park

Two per room/permanent tent B,L,D

This morning those who wish to spend some time with the ( i ) Kung tribe will have the chance to do so. This activity is a local community project and all fees are payable directly to the community. Later we drive west towards the massive dunes of Sossusvlei. Optional Activities: African Tribal interaction, Sunrise game drive into Kalahari desert.

### Day 6 Namib Naukluft National Park

Two per room/permanent tent B,L,D

An early start as we take advantage of the cooler temperatures of dawn and drive into the Namib-Naukluft National Park, where we will set off into the desert with a local expert, for a guided tour, to learn about all the different life in the sands. After the tour you can hike up Dune 45, and gain a different perspective of the desert. This afternoon you can walk down into the smaller Sesriem canyon, before heading back to your lodge.

### **Day 7/8 Swakopmund**

Two per room B,L,D (D day 8 only)

A dramatic drive through the arid Namib-Naukluft, crossing the Tropic of Capricorn sees us arrive at Walvis Bay. We stop to view the flamingos before we head towards the seaside resort town of Swakopmund. Here we will be briefed on the many optional activities available for the following day. Day 8 is left free for each individual to pursue their own interests including many adventure activities. Optional Activities: Quadbiking, Sandboarding, Sky Diving, Scenic Flights, Fishing etc.

### **Day 9 Himba Tribe**

Two per room B,L,D

Heading inland, we drive north towards Kamanjab where we will meet with some of the local people of the area. The Himba are a pastoral people and predominantly breed cattle or goats. The Himba traditionally lead a nomadic life and are easily recognizable by their unique style of dress. Encountering a totally different way of living is very mind opening and a moving experience for many people.

### **Day 10/11 Etosha National Park**

Two per room B,L,D

An early rise sees us on our way to Etosha National Park and some of most unique game viewing experiences in Africa. We spend our days game viewing in the truck and visiting the abundant water holes for some excellent game photography. After our evening meal we relax at some of the finest floodlit waterholes in the world. Occasionally it is not possible to stay inside the park at night, in which case we overnight at a local guest farm.

### **Day 12 Windhoek**

Two per room B,L

After an early morning game drive we set off towards Windhoek in the center of Namibia, on route we stop at a popular craft market. Windhoek is the capital of Namibia, and is located in a basin between the Khomas Highland, Auas and Eros Mountains. Whether due to pure luck or a brilliant stroke of Germanic planning, Windhoek is situated in almost the exact centre of Namibia. In the afternoon we'll take you on a short tour of the city. Optional Activities: Dinner at Joe's Beer House.

### **Day 13 Botswana - Ghanzi**

Two per room B,L,D

An early morning as we start off east towards the Buitepos border, were we then cross over into Botswana. Once at the lodge we'll get to meet with a local Bushmen community and see some traditional Tribal Dancing.

### **Day 14/15/16 Botswana Maun - Okavango Delta**

Two per room/permanent tent B,L,D

Another early day! Our journey takes us from Ghanzi towards Maun. We spend the night here in this gateway to the Okavango Delta preparing for our two night bush experience. Your guides will provide you with a briefing about the next few days' activities, the environment and the community run tourism operation. From here in the morning we board small planes that transport us over the Delta to our destination. The flight is both practical and scenic. During our three days in the Delta we will go on a nature walk and if possible we will take mokoro (dugout canoes) rides with the local people.

### **Day 17 Botswana - Gweta**

Two per room B,L,D

After our scenic flight out, we leave the Delta behind us and travel east to Gweta. Gweta is located halfway between Maun and Nata, right next to the Makgadikgadi Pans National Park. The Makgadikgadi Pans National Park area was once a super lake almost 30 meters (100 feet) deep, over an area of 80,000 sq. km. When the climate changed 10,000 years ago Lake Makgadikgadi was well on the way to drying up. As the water evaporated, huge glistening salt-encrusted pans were left.

### **Day 18 Botswana – Kasane - Chobe National Park**

Two per room/permanent tent B,L,D

Leaving Gweta we head towards Kasane, where we stay on the banks of the Chobe River. The afternoon is spent game viewing on a boat cruise, into the renowned Chobe NP. Viewing game from a boat is one of the most successful ways to see the animals in their own environment.

You will also have the chance to experience an optional early morning game drive the next day.

### **Day 19 Zimbabwe - Victoria Falls**

Two per room B,L

Arriving early at our final destination, we head off to visit the spectacular Victoria Falls and experience the thundering sound of the mighty Zambezi. The popular optional sunset cruise includes dinner and drinks. Optional Activities: Chobe Game Drive, Zambezi Sunset Cruise, dinner in local restaurant.

### **Day 20 Victoria Falls**

Two per room B

Most people will spend the day white water rafting, a not-to-be-missed experience of a lifetime! Vic Falls offers many exciting alternatives. Optional Activities: White Water Rafting, Bungee Jump, Elephant Excursion and many more.

### **Day 21 Victoria Falls to Martinsdrift**

Two per Room No Meals

Departure is at 6 am from your lodge. If you would like to avoid Zimbabwe you can arrange a transfer to Kasane where you will be collected at about 7.30 am. It is a long and uneventful drive through Botswana to the border at Martinsdrift where we will spend the night.

### **Day 22 Martinsdrift to Johannesburg,**

Two per room No Meals

Another 6 am departure will ensure that we cover the next 750 km and get to Johannesburg as early as possible.

### **Day 23 Kruger National Park**

Two per Room L,D

Leaving behind Johannesburg, the city of gold, we head through the province of Mpumalanga to the world famous Kruger National Park. The next two days are spent exploring the southern part of this vast reserve and we stand a good chance of sighting elephant, lion, rhino, leopard and buffalo, Africa's famed "Big Five", on our game drives in the truck. Optional activities: Game drives and morning walk with park ranger.

### **Day 24 Kruger National Park**

Two per Room B,L,D

Our game drives continue and an early start usually rewards us with some great sightings. Keep your eyes open for the diverse bird life and some of the more elusive animals. An optional night drive with one of the South African National Park rangers is an excellent way to see some of the nocturnal animals. Optional activities: Game drives and morning walk with park ranger.

### **Day 25 Traditional Cultural Village - Timbavati**

Two per Room B,L,D

After a morning game drive in the truck or an optional game walk, we leave the Kruger NP and head for Timbavati. In the afternoon we visit a Shangaan village, and then make our way to a wildlife concession area adjacent to the KNP. This evening we experience an evening game drive. Tonight's game drive allows us another opportunity to view the mysterious nocturnal creatures that inhabit the African bushveld.

### **Day 26 Panorama Route - JHB**

Tour Ends Own Arrangements B,L

We complete our Kruger Park experience with an early morning game walk before heading back towards Johannesburg. We will be traveling the Panorama Route through some spectacular scenery. Blyde River Canyon, the 3rd largest canyon in the world, offers breathtaking view points, including God's Window and three Rondavels. The Bourke's Luck Potholes are the fascinating results of erosion caused by the Treur River. Tour ends on arrival in Johannesburg and we do not recommend any onward travel on this day.