



11 day Northern Adventure CAS0904 JOHANNESBURG TO VICTORIA FALLS

This trip starts in Johannesburg and travels north through South Africa, finishing in Zimbabwe.

Please note that this trip departs Johannesburg on a Wednesday, early morning. Should you wish to spend extra time there an earlier arrival should be planned and additional accommodation booked.

Pre Departure Meeting: Held at departure point at 5:00pm the day before your departure.

Departure Point: Ritz backpackers 1A North Road, Dunkled West.

Check In Time: 7:45am

Departure Time: 8:00am

DAY 01: Johannesburg to Hazyview – Kruger Park Backpackers

Departing Johannesburg we head towards the Lowveld and the very famous Kruger National Park, our camp for the next two nights is 8km from Kruger Parks Numbi Gate. Spoilt with a swimming pool and good hot showers we spend the evening around the campfire anticipating our game drive tomorrow. (L,D)

DAY 02: Kruger Park Backpackers, Hazyview

Today we explore the wonders of Kruger National Park. This is one of the most famous wildlife parks in the world.

Covering an area of 21, 497 sq km – 60km wide and over 350km long, this conservation area has more than 500 bird species, 114 reptile, 49 fish, 33 amphibians, 146 mammals and over 23000 plant species have been recorded. Today is spent in the Park on a full day game drive to see how many of the species can be found. Tonight there is an option of a night drive in the park (B, L, D)

DAY 03: Hazyview to Graskop

After a quick replenishing of our stocks we leave the Lowveld, climbing up in altitude to the beautiful town of Graskop, it is from this gateway that we get to explore the beauties of Mpumulanga, known for some of the best landscape in South Africa. Our stops for the day include the ever striking Blyde River Canyon and Gods Window. There is a chance to view the Canyon from the many viewpoints, which offers fantastic photographic opportunities. We then set up camp on lush green grass and enjoy the luxuries of a swimming pool with the most amazing view. For those in a party mood the small town of Graskops nightlife is something to be indulged in. (B, L, D)



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DAY 04: Graskop to Messina

A long yet lovely days drive as we head up north toward Zimbabwe, this is your chance to sit back, relax and enjoy the ever changing scenery, tonight is our last night in beautiful South Africa in a town called Messina – said to be one of the hottest areas in South Africa. Years back this was a flourishing copper mining area, but with the mines closing down in the early 1990's it tumbled into the darkness of a small quiet ghost town. With the discovery of diamonds it has again once flourished into its former self, and now a sphere filled with history. (B, L, D)

DAY 05 Messina to Masvingo

Leaving South Africa we enter Zimbabwe a country of tradition, culture, soul and a lot of scenic beauty. We make our way to the town of Masvingo, which lies in the outskirts of the Great Zimbabwe Ruins. Great Zimbabwe was the greatest medieval city in sub-Saharan and provides evidence that an ancient African civilization reached a very high level of civilization. The name Zimbabwe is derived from the Shona word meaning *great stone houses*. The grand setting and history soaked walls certainly qualify as one of the highlights of our trip. You will have the time to wander around this ancient wonderland before setting up camp for our first night in Zimbabwe. (B, L, D)

DAY 06: Masvingo to Gweru

Once we have finished exploring this historic area we continue our journey to Gweru, situated in the Zimbabwe Midlands. Here we stop over at The Antelope Park. People say you have not been to Zimbabwe until you have visited the Victoria Falls ... AND The Antelope Park. Here you have the opportunity to partake in an incredible experience unique to The Antelope Park - 'Walking with the lions'. In addition to the lions there is an abundance of other wildlife species in the park such as elephants, giraffe, zebra, wildebeest and over 150 bird species. (B, L, D)

DAY 07: Gweru – Antelope Park

Today is spent as leisure with a variety of activities to enthrall you. From walking with Lions, elephant riding, swimming on the majestic elephant, to trying your hand at fishing the list is endless. (B, L, D)

DAYS 08: Gweru to Bulawayo

Bulawayo is the second largest city in Zimbabwe with a laid back atmosphere. It is noted for the exceptionally wide streets, which were originally designed to allow space for a full span ox wagon. The city is still characterised by the many old British colonial buildings, maintained by the Bulawayo City Council as heritage sites. There are a number of interesting places to visit in Bulawayo such as The natural History Museum, the National Arts Gallery and the Mzilikazi Arts and Crafts Centre, providing work for over 70 people. (B, L, D)

DAY 9: Bulawayo

Today we take in Matobo National Park. The park is one of the last strongholds of both black and white rhino, and the region is renowned for its high concentration of leopards and black eagle. There are numerous caves and rock painting which once again is evidence of the ancient San inhabitants of this area. Cecil Rhodes (after whom Rhodesia was named) is buried here at his own request, but there is some controversy over whether he will stay! We spend time game driving through the park giving you an insight into the unique geological, ecological and historical environment. (B, L, D)

DAY 10: Bulawayo to Victoria Falls

Heading north we make our way to the mighty Victoria Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world. Victoria Falls is one of the memorable sights on your African safari.

DAY 11: Victoria Falls

Your final day on safari allows you the opportunity to partake in the adrenalin rush that Victoria Falls is renowned for....or just relax and take in what is one of the true natural wonders of the world, Victoria Falls.

There are many activities available all year round such as, flights can be taken which gives you a panoramic view of the Falls, Batoka Gorge and the islands above the falls. Back on the ground, the Falls can be seen from the Victoria Falls Park (entrance US\$20) with its many viewing points, or from the Zambian side. All offer fantastic photographic opportunities.

White water rafting in the Batoka Gorge is considered to be world class. Besides the excitement of the grade 5 rapids, there are "floats" where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

Bungee jumping enthusiasts can take the plunge from the Zambezi Bridge, which connects Zambia and Zimbabwe. The leap into the Batoka Gorge is certainly not for the faint-hearted.

Other optional activities in the area include trips into the Zambezi or Hwange National Parks, walking with lions, elephant rides, horse riding, visit to the crocodile ranch, golf at Elephant Hills Hotel, parachuting, elephant safaris and the Falls craft village.

Please note: This itinerary should be used as a guide only and may vary from day to day depending on road conditions, weather, political situations, and group decisions.

Local Payment: US\$290



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Optional Excursions:

Night Game Drive in Kruger National Park	US\$45
Walking with Lions – Gweru	US\$45
Victoria Falls National Park (Prices subject to change)	US\$20

Please note: This itinerary should be used as a guide only and may vary from day to day depending on road conditions, weather, political situations, and group decisions. Due to new tourism laws in some of the countries we operate in there may be a truck and crew change during the trip. All prices & Local Payments are subject to change with prior notice.

Free Trip

Please note that when you book this trip you are entitled to receive a free 3 day Hwange Safari. The Local Payment is still applicable for the trip. This offer must be taken up when booking your main trip. Please ask us for details. Conditions apply.



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