

21 DAY SOUTHERN SUN - SOUTHBOUND

This trip begins in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe and travels south through Botswana and Namibia before ending in Cape Town, South Africa.

This trip starts in Victoria Falls on Sunday morning and departs Victoria Falls on Monday morning. Should you wish to explore Victoria Falls extensively, ATC or your travel agent can assist you, in booking your activities as well as accommodation. However, costs due to earlier arrival, will be for your own account.

Trip code:	VC21
Accommodation style:	Camping
Length of trip:	21 Days
Starts in:	Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe
Finishes in:	Cape Town, South Africa
Pre-departure Meeting:	Held at the Departure Point at 17h00, the day before your departure.
Departure point:	Explorers Village, Stand 1756, Victoria Falls
Check-In Time:	08h45
Departure Time:	To be advised at the pre-departure meeting
Countries visited:	South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe

PLEASE NOTE:

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

All prices & Local Payments are subject to change.

Due to Tourism Laws in some of the countries we visit, there may be a truck and crew change during the trip. Your arrival transfer and pre-trip accommodation in a dorm bed is included in your trip price. Should you choose not to make use of these, or in the event that Africa Travel Co was not updated with your arrival details, no refund will be paid for services not used.

Please ensure you've received a copy of our pre-departure information document with information on what to expect on this overland safari.

This comprehensive three-week trip begins in Victoria Falls, and ends in Cape Town. We go through some incredibly diverse landscapes - richly fertile winelands, arid and hauntingly beautiful deserts, dramatic canyons and tranquil lagoons. Highlights include game watching in Etosha National Park, climbing giant sand dunes in Sossusvlei, camping out in the Okavango Delta, and an overnight excursion in the Chobe National Park. There are plenty of optional activities to choose from too, from white water rafting on the Zambezi River to quad-biking through the Namib Desert. As our most popular safari - this trip is sure to leave you loving Africa and wanting more!

INCLUDED HIGHLIGHTS

Entrance to Victoria Falls, Chobe Overnight Excursion, Chobe National Park, Okavango Delta Excursion, Etosha National Park, Spitzkoppe, Swakopmund, Transfer to Sossusvlei, Namib Naukluft National Park, Fish River Canyon, canoeing on the Orange River & wine tasting.



ZIMBABWE

This landlocked country is situated in the southern part of Africa, between the mighty Zambezi and Limpopo Rivers. The word Zimbabwe is believed to have two meanings, 1) it is believed the word Zimbabwe is derived from dzimba-dza-mabwe, which means "large house of stone" in the Shona (Karanga Dialect) language. 2) It is also believed to be derived from the word dzimba-hwe which means venerated houses in the Zezuru dialect of Shona.

DAY 1: Victoria Falls (No Meals)

Included Activity: Entrance to Victoria Falls

Today is spent relaxing or participating in a myriad of Optional Excursions. Named after the famous World Heritage site and Water Falls, the town of Victoria Falls is situated on the Zambezi River and surrounded by the Victoria Falls National Park. Our campsite is conveniently situated in the centre of town, and within walking distance of the adventure booking agents, restaurants and shops. A short walk down the main road takes you to the entry point to view the falls, which are situated between Zimbabwe and Zambia. Victoria Falls, or Mosi-oa-Tunya (the Smoke that Thunders), was named by David Livingstone on his explorations, and is one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

At 1700 m wide and around 100 m high, this is the world's largest sheet of falling water and a memorable sight on any African Safari! After our adventure activities briefing (see price guide at the end of this document for options), the day is spent viewing the Victoria Falls, or exploring the many sights and delights of this town!

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

Optional Activities. Adrenalin junkies can bungee from the Victoria Falls Bridge connecting Zimbabwe and Zambia or abseil down the Batoka Gorge - neither activity is for the faint hearted! All year round, flights in fixed wing, micro light and ultra light aircraft or helicopters provide an aerial perspective over this magnificent World Heritage Site. White water rafting on the Zambezi is world class. Beside the excitement of the Grade 5 rapids, there are the "floats," where there is time to admire the scenic cliffs and the occasional wildlife on the riverbanks.

BOTSWANA

The size of this successful country can be compared to countries such as Kenya or France, and fairly smaller than Texas. Botswana is a landlocked country with borders such as South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe which can all be crossed overland. For such a small country, it boasts an array of spectacular game viewing opportunities such as, hundreds of elephants splashing in the Chobe River and the Okavango Delta and its maze of lagoons.

DAY 2: Victoria Falls to Chobe National Park (Botswana) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

After breakfast, we cross the border into Botswana and head to Kasane where we have a chance to explore the town of Kasane. After lunch, once we are packed and prepared, we leave for our Chobe National Park Overnight Mobile excursion – an overnight experience in the wilds of the Chobe National park. Chobe is one of Botswana's premier game parks, renowned for its large elephant herds. Spend the afternoon in search of wildlife while we game drive to our camp within the park where we spend the evening surrounded by the night-time noises of the local wildlife. Look out for the rare Sable and Roan Antelope on your game drive, with their majestic backward slanting horns, or try keep a count of the Lilac Breasted Roller's that swoop by! After our night in the bush, we head out early to continue our search for wildlife, before packing up the camp and heading back to Kasane.

Included Activity: Chobe National Park Overnight Mobile excursion



DAY 3: Chobe National Park to Kasane (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Once returning to camp, we have a bit of free time to relax at leisure. You can either partake in the boat cruise on the Chobe River which is an optional excursion, or you can just spend your time relaxing at the swimming pool.

DAY 4: Kasane to Maun (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Maun is the starting point for travel into the Delta and it is from here that we set off to explore the Okavango Delta. Tonight, we prepare our provisions and packs for our overnight excursion. We suggest bringing along a smaller daypack on your trip which can be used to pack the supplies needed for this short excursion. Your trip leader will brief you fully on what is needed, and what to expect prior to your trip into the Delta.

DAY 5: Maun to Okavango Delta (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Included Activity: Overnight Delta excursion

Here we have the opportunity to take the included overnight excursion into the Delta. After an early rise, we pack our expedition vehicle and from Maun we drive north for a couple of hours to reach the mokoro poler's station. The Delta region is studded with many local villages where many families live in a traditional way. Some of the villages are very remote and can only be reached by the traditional mode of transport – the Mokoro. Mokoros are dugout canoes manoeuvred through the waterways by local guides who “pole” them through the reeds. At the Mokoro station, we meet our ‘Polers’ and pack our supplies before heading out into the waterways. After a couple of hours along the waterways, we arrive at our mobile tented camp situated in the heart of the Okavango.

On arrival, you will meet the local staff who will be your host during your stay. A brief introduction to the camp will show you your dome tent with twin beds and a **bush en-suite bathroom** – long drop toilet and a bucket shower. Relax in the tent with a cold drink or take a paddle in the Delta in a canoe. The activities at the camp include Mokoro trails and guided walking.

DAY 6: Okavango Delta to Maun (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

After our Mokoro ride and vehicle transfer, we arrive back around lunch time and have the chance to complete our picture of the Okavango Delta by taking an optional scenic flight over The Delta (dependent on weather conditions & availability).

DAY 7: Maun to Ghanzi (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today we head towards the small village of Ghanzi which will be our last night in Botswana. Ghanzi is home to the San / Bushman and you can learn more about them by partaking in the Bushman experience offered by the campsite.

Optional Activity: Bushman Experience



DAY 8: Ghanzi to Windhoek (Namibia) (Breakfast / Lunch)

Today's drive will take us through small rural towns and scenic landscapes. Nestled between the hills, Windhoek is a rather small capital city but has many places of historical interest. This afternoon is spent at your leisure with time to visit the local museum or haggling at the street side markets. There are also many shops for those in need of a bit of retail therapy.

Optional: Dinner at Joe's Beer House

Day 9: Windhoek to Etosha National Park (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today we make our way across the park, keeping a look out for the many different mammals, reptiles, birds and insects in the various regions. As the vegetation types change, so does the animal and bird life that relies on it, and so different sections of the Park offer a variety of different game options. After a full day of game viewing, we exit the park through Anderson gate and head to our camp just 10kms away; perhaps the chance for a quick dip in the pool before dinner, followed by a relaxing evening in this very interesting bar.

DAY 10 & 11: Etosha National Park Area (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today's drive takes us further south through the Namibian countryside to our campsite, located in the vicinity of Etosha National Park.

Included Activity: Game Drive in ATC Truck

Optional Activity: Night Drive

DAY 12: Etosha National Park area to Brandberg (UIS) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Today we head down south to the area of the Brandberg. All depending on the time of arrival we will have the opportunity to explore the area.

DAY 13: Brandberg (UIS) to Swakopmund (Breakfast)

Today we head for Swakopmund, via Spitzkoppe (**day trip**). Founded by the Germans in 1892, their colonial influence is still evident today. Swakopmund has a selection of excellent coffee shops, restaurants & bars as well as many arts and crafts shops selling Namibian curios. There are fine beaches to walk along as well as a great museum, aquarium and galleries to visit. Alternatively, the lovely beach and promenade make for a great relaxing walk – though bathing in the ocean waters may be somewhat chilly!

DAY 14: Swakopmund (Breakfast)

The next day can be spent relaxing or participating in a myriad of Optional Excursions.

Optional Activities: Include sky diving, quad biking, sand boarding, scenic desert flights, dolphin cruises, fishing trips, golf, horse riding and more. An activity briefing will be held on arrival in Swakopmund (see price guide at the end of this document).

DAYS 15 & 16: Swakopmund to Sesriem (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Leaving Swakopmund, we head south to the industrial Walvis Bay before turning inland and toward the desert. Continuing our journey, we enter the Namib-Naukluft Park in one of the oldest deserts in the world. We base ourselves at Sesriem, a great place to experience the Namib and its many moods. A short distance away is Sossusvlei, surrounded by a dramatic sea of sand dunes reputed to be the highest in the world. Magnificent views of the desert can be seen from the top of the dunes, some over 300 m high. We spend the afternoon exploring this amazing area.



Included Activity: Climbing Dune 45
Included Activity: A Visit to Sossusvlei

DAY 17: Sesriem to Fish River Canyon (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

Heading out early, we see the sunrise over this beautiful area and we leave the serenity of the dunes to head south to the Fish River Canyon. At 161 km long, 27 km wide and about 550 m deep, it's the second largest canyon in the world. The outer canyon was formed by tectonic activity, while the erosion of the Fish River formed the inner canyon. A road follows the eastern rim, giving us access to several viewing points from where we can take in the spectacular vistas.

DAY 18: Fish River Canyon to Gariep River (South Africa) (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

This morning we continue south, where, after a short drive, we reach the Gariep River - the natural land border between Namibia and South Africa. We camp at a beautiful campsite on the South African bank of the river. This afternoon we partake in a half-day canoe trip on the beautiful Gariep River, affording us the opportunity of some bird watching or just a scenic and relaxing paddle. Tonight, there's a chance for some fun at the awesome camp bar overlooking the river!

Included Activity: Canoeing on the Gariep River

DAY 19: Orange River to Cederberg (Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner)

An early morning start see us travel south through the Richtersveld and the town of Springbok, before reaching the region known as Namaqualand, well known for its prolific display of Namaqua wildflowers that occur each spring. We spend tonight in a picturesque campsite surrounded by local wine farms and have the opportunity to sample some of the nectar of the gods or to explore the surrounding beautiful Cederberg Mountains. Tonight, is our last night under the stars!

Included Activity: Wine Tasting in Cederberg Area

DAY 20: Cederberg to Cape Town (Breakfast)

We leave the scenic Cederberg area and travel south towards Cape Town. We travel through the rich fruit growing area of Citrusdal before crossing the Piekenierskloof Pass into the Cape Winelands region. Our first sighting of the Mother's City Table Mountain across Table Bay means we've reached our final destination. Tonight's accommodation is in dormitories in one of Cape Town's best loved hostels.

DAY 21: Cape Town (No Meals)

This morning we exchange addresses and part ways, having just experienced a trip of a lifetime!

There are a wide range of activities available in Cape Town and the surrounding areas, including day trips, short tours and longer tours travelling up the picturesque coast of South Africa. We suggest you extend your stay by a few days to participate in some of the exciting activities available here. Post tour accommodation can be booked directly at: info@ashanti.co.za or through your agent & the Africa Travel Co office.

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

International flights, Airport departure taxes, Departure transfer, Visas, Meals unless otherwise stated, Travel Insurance, Laundry, Personal Items, and Tips, Sleeping bag, Pillows & Bottled Water.

Meals on tour

Meals and menus vary as food is purchased en-route, and is subject to produce that is available seasonally in the areas we travel through. As we support the local communities along the way, fresh produce is mostly purchased direct from the producer or local grower and therefore has an organic appearance. Our safari cooks are able to offer a wide variety of menus with the ingredients available, even if the produce on offer is not of the same selection as what you may be used to back home.

The breakfast spread consists of bread (toast when time allows), spreads and cereals with a hot breakfast every few days. Lunches are mostly prepared en-route with a supply of 'build your own' sandwich ingredients available. Dinners are cooked in the evenings on arrival at the campsite. A wide array of dinner menus is on offer during your safari, consisting of curries, stews, pastas, BBQ's and even roasts!

Transport on tour

Our overland vehicles are custom built converted trucks that have seating space for our passengers and a storage area for luggage and all trip equipment. The trucks seat between 27-30 passengers on our camping trips. Most seats are forward facing, though some models have a combination of forward, backward and some inward facing seats with tables. Vehicles have sliding glass windows, and the seating area is raised providing a great advantage for game viewing and photography. Seats are cushioned and there is storage space for personal items like cameras, snacks and day packs in the seating area.

Participation on tour

All of the tours operated by ATC are participation trips meaning that all passengers are expected to help out around camp. The crew members running the trip will set up a rota system that will be followed. One day you may be on cleaning duty, the next day you may be on cooking duty and so forth. This is not only to make the trip easier for all involved but also for you as the passengers to get to know one another while on trip.

Social Media on tour



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The staff and management look forward to welcoming you aboard and trust that you will enjoy your trip with us.

Please feel free to email us at sales@africatravelco.com with your trip comments, or post a review on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. | #africatravelco |

“Safari Njema”
