INTRODUCTION TO ZAMIA, BOTSWANA & NAMIBIA

Zambia, a landlocked country covering an area of 752,612 sq. km lies in a tropical belt on a fairly high plateau averaging about 1,300 metres above sea level. Zambia is centrally located in Southern Africa and shares borders with Democratic Republic of Congo and United Republic of Tanzania in the north, Malawi and Mozambique in the east, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe in the south and Angola in the west. With three great rivers and bordered by three lakes, the country has enough surface and ground water reserves. Zambia also contributes about a fifth of the world’s trade in gemstones. The role of the State in the management of companies has been virtually removed. The Government has created a pro-active private sector driven economy and an enabling environment.

Botswana is one of the few remaining destinations in Africa that still provides a good sense of adventure while on safari. Its expansive game parks and preserves, while offering wildlife as diverse and abundant as that found anywhere else, are still largely undeveloped and untamed. Botswana lies immediately to the north of South Africa. It is bordered on the north and west by Namibia, on the north and east by Zimbabwe, and is connected by a narrow strip of land on the northern border to Zambia. Its territory consists almost entirely of a broad, flat, arid subtropical plateau, though there are hills in the eastern part of the country. Nearby is Chobe National Park, a beautiful grassland reserve that has gained international fame for its abundant elephant population. Botswana's two largest parks, the Central Kalahari Game reserve and Gemsbok National Park, are found in this region. The aboriginal inhabitants of Botswana, who have made the Kalahari their home for at least 30,000 years, are the San, or bushmen. The San number about 60,000 today, constituting a small but fascinating cultural minority in the country. Almost two millennia ago, a Bantu people known as the Tswana arrived, supplanting the San and now constituting the great majority of the population.

Namibia is a vast country with a surface area of 824 268 km², it is about four times the size of the United Kingdom and 27 times the size of Belgium. Blessed with bountiful sunshine, an abundance of wildlife and an intriguing variety of flora and fauna. Attributes that make it a country to which visitors return again and again are the friendliness and cultural diversity of its people, and above all, the pristine quality and extraordinary beauty of its landscape. The country derives its name from the Namib Desert, a unique geological feature renowned for the unusual and haunting quality of its landscape. Far from being lifeless and barren, this narrow strip of moist coastal desert features an unusual variety of desert-adapted flora and fauna. The country can be divided into four distinct topographical regions. Of these the most definitive is possibly the Namib Desert, which consists of a 50 km – 140 km wide coastal plain extending along the entire coastline, interspersed with dune belts, dry riverbeds and deeply eroded canyons. The central plateau, which runs from north to south, has an average altitude of between 1,000 m and 2,000 m. This plateau gradually falls away towards the east, where a sandy strip of land merges into the level expanse of the Kalahari Desert. Dense, bush covered plains to the northeast of the Etosha Pan included the high-rainfall areas of Kavango and Caprivi, typified by woodland savannah and riverine vegetation.
INCLUDED IN PACKAGE:

Destinations: Livingstone, Chobe National Park, Caprivi, Mahangu National Park, Etosha National Park, Rundu area, Etosha National Park & Waterberg Plateau Park

Dates: 10 to 24 March 2018

Duration: 15 Days / 14 Nights

Accommodation: En suite accommodation at the following: Camp Nkwazi, Chobe Safari Lodge, Zambezi River Lodge, Mahangu Safari Lodge, Kaisosi River Lodge, Mokuti Etosha Safari Lodge, Halali Resort & Waterberg.

Meals: All meals

Guide: 1x SafariWise Guide

Transfers: 1x Land cruiser with pop top roof throughout the tour

Extras: 2 x 500ml bottled water per day

WIFI inside the vehicle

EXCLUDED FROM PACKAGE:

- All International and/or Domestic flights
- Gratuities
- Optional activities
- Travel insurance
- Laundry
- Beverages
- Items not specified

TOUR PROGRAMME

Day 1 & 2: 10th & 11th March 2018:

Livingstone airport - Camp Nkwazi (Livingstone)

Upon arrival you will be met by a representative of SafariWise and then a road transfer to Camp Nkwazi. Camp Nkwazi is a brand new breath-taking, platinum status awarded lodge that opened on 12/12/12, and is owner managed. Camp Nkwazi, also nick named “Mopanie Lodge”, is nestled on the banks of the mighty Zambezi river, +- 20 minutes’ drive from Livingstone. The river extends the length of the property and there are breath-taking views over the water with the sightings of a variety of game, rich and rare bird life with the likes of Fish Eagle, African Fin Foot, Pel’s Fishing Owl, African Paradise Flycatcher, Horn-Bill, King Fishers, Bee-eaters etc.


Accommodation: Camp Nkwazi

Meals: All meals

Included Activities: 1 x Boat cruise, 1 x Victoria Falls excursion & birding with your guide

Optional activities: N.A

Website: www.campnkwazi.com/
Day 3 & 4: 12th & 13th March 2018:
Camp Nkwazi - Chobe Safari Lodge (Chobe National Park)
This morning we travel to the renowned Chobe National Park, for a 2 night stay at Chobe Safari Lodge. Chobe is one of Africa's very finest wildlife reserves covering over 11,700 square kilometres of African bush with the Chobe River forming its northern boundary. It was declared a national park in 1968 and today is probably best known for the huge herds of Elephant and Buffalo which often congregate along the Chobe River in the dry season. In the rainy season these large congregations have largely broken up, but one is still sure to enjoy large numbers of mammals along the river, a focus for wildlife throughout the year. This includes Botswana's only population of Puku, plus Lion, Cheetah, Leopard, Hippo, Impala, Giraffe, Bushbuck, Waterbuck, Spotted Hyenas, Roan and Sable Antelopes, Greater Kudu, Warthog, Baboons and many, many others! Explore Chobe National Park by vehicle in the morning, and take to the water in the evening for a sunset boat cruise on the Chobe River.

Birds to look out for include: Long-toed and Wattled Lapwings, Three-banded Courser, White-faced Duck, Verreaux's Eagle Owl, flocks of vultures, including the menacing Lappet-faced Vulture, African Fish Eagle, Lizard Buzzard, White-fronted Bee-eater, Ground Hornbill, Greater Honeyguide, Grey-headed Bush-shrike, and Red-billed Spurfowl. Eagles such as Lesser Spotted, Tawny and Steppe seem to circle endlessly overhead whilst various bee-eaters, shrikes and rollers adorn every lookout.

Accommodation: Chobe Safari Lodge
Meals: All meals
Included activities: Morning game drives each morning for the length of your stay, afternoon boat cruises each afternoon for the length of your stay at Chobe Safari Lodge & birding with your guide
Optional activities: Additional boat cruises, Game drives
Website: www.chobesafarilodge.com/

Day 5: 14th March 2018:
Chobe Safari Lodge - Zambezi River Lodge (Caprivi)
This morning we travel to Namibia and head into the area known as the Caprivi Strip. Our accommodation tonight will be at Zambezi River Lodge, situated at the town of Katima Mulilo on the banks of the great Zambezi River. Set in natural surroundings on the banks of the Zambezi River, this hotel offers comfortable facilities, ideal for an overnight stay en-route to the many tourist destinations in the area. Accommodation comprises 38 standard twin and 4 luxury double en-suite rooms overlooking the Zambezi River or garden and pool area, with restaurant and bar facilities are available daily. Leisure facilities on-site include a swimming pool, boat cruises and fishing. A golf course is available 140km from the hotel.

The wide, slow-flowing Zambezi River is edged with tall, lush trees, tropical birds and monkeys, with lolling hippo and crocs reminding everyone who's in charge of the waters. Elephants are frequent visitors the river banks for a drink and a bath, and ornithologists of all levels only have to take a short walk along the river's banks to tick-off a wide variety of species. The Caprivi Art Centre is a community-based marketing outlet for artists and craftsmen in the Caprivi Region. Of particular interest are the beautiful clay urns often made using interesting firing techniques, resulting in original and intricate patterns. Also popular are the Mahangu baskets which local weavers make from the leaves of Makalani Palms.
Birds to look out for include: Dickinson’s Kestrel, Western-banded Snake Eagle, Cuckoo Hawk and Racket-tailed Roller, African Skimmer, Rock Pratincole, African Finfoot, Schalow’s Turaco, Grey Go Away Bird, to name but a few.

Accommodation: Zambezi River Lodge
Meals: All meals
Included activities: Birding with your guide
Optional activities: N.A.

Day 6, 7 & 8: 15th, 16th & 17th March 2018:
Zambezi River Lodge - Mahangu Safari Lodge (Divundu)
Our next destination is Mahangu Safari Lodge for a 3 night stay. The Mahangu Safari Lodge lies 22 kms south of the town Divundu, at the western bank of the Okavango River, en route to the Mahango National Park. It is in the western Caprivi region of north east Namibia. It is a convenient stopover en-route to or from Maun, the Okavango Delta in Botswana or the famous Victoria Falls. The word ‘Mahangu’ means ‘food of the local people’. The thatched lodge is built amongst Jackalberry trees and wild date palms. Activities include game drives to Mahango National Park and to the West Caprivi National Park, trips to the nearby Popa Falls, bird and game viewing boat trips on the Okavango River, guided Tiger and Bream River fishing trips and the river areas are a bird watchers paradise. There is no shortage of elephants, crocodiles, hippos and fish eagles in this area. The lodge has 7 boats available for fishing.

Birds to look out for include @ Mahangu Safari Lodge: Bradfield’s hornbill, Broad-billed roller, Arrow-marked babbler, Long-toed lapwing, African pygmy goose, Grey-rumped swallow, Brown firefinch, the beautiful Carmine bee-eater and perhaps even the localised Greater swamp warbler. Mahango also marks the western-most limit of several kavango specialties including Wattled Crane, Lesser jacana, Coppery-tailed coucal and Black coucal.

On day 7 we do a full day excursion to Xaro Lodge, situated in the pan handle of the Okavango delta.

Birds to look out for include @ Xaro (Okavango Delta): Pied Kingfishers, Martial Eagle, Brown snake Eagle, Wahlberg’s Eagle, Bataleur and Tawny eagle, Shikra, Dark chanting Goshawk, Steppe Buzzard, African Golden Oriole, Carmine, Little and Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters, Pygmy Goose, Red Bishop, Golden Weaver, Rufous crowned and Lilac breasted Rollers, Red billed, Yellow billed and Bradfield’s hornbills, Magpie, Lesser grey and Red backed Shrikes, Red crested Bustard, Yellow billed Kite, Grey go-away bird, Tawney flanked Prinia, Lesser striped, Eurasian and Grey rumped Swallows and the elusive Pel’s Owl.

Accommodation: Mahangu Safari Lodge
Meals: All meals
Included activities: Birding with your guide, Game drives into Mahango National Park & breakfast cruise each morning of stay, boat cruise at Xaro on day 7
Optional activities: Boat cruise
Website: [www.mahangu.com.na/](http://www.mahangu.com.na/)
**Day 9: 18th March 2018:**

**Mahangu Safari Lodge – Kaisosi River Lodge (Kavango)**

After breakfast our next destination is Kaisosi River Lodge, situated 7kms outside the town of Rundu. The lodge is set on the banks of the perennial Okavango River, and is a convenient stopover for visitors on the way to the Popa Falls and the Caprivi. The Rundu area itself has one of Namibia's most beautiful landscapes, and its spectacular sunsets and friendly people make it a popular destination for travellers. This is a perfect location for both fishing and bird watching, with many great spots dotted along the banks of the Kavango River. Guided fishing trips and river cruises can be also be organized from the lodge. For the visitor with interests in local culture, guides can take you to a local village and on a market trip. Tribal dances can be arranged in advance.

**Birds to look out for include:** Giant-, Pied and Woodland Kingfishers, Long tailed Cormorants, Yellow-billed and Cattle Egrets, Rufous bellied and Green backed Herons, Village Weavers, Open billed Storks, Swamp Bou-bou, Hartlaub’s Babblers, Osprey and Black Crane.

**Accommodation:** Kaisosi River Lodge

**Meals:** All meals

**Included activities:** Birding with your guide, visit water works

**Optional activities:** Boat cruises, fishing trips, Visit to traditional village / school

**Website:** www.kaisosiriverlodge.com/

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**Day 10 & 11: 19th & 20th March 2018:**

**Kaisosi River Lodge - Mokuti Etosha Safari Lodge (Etosha National Park)**

After breakfast this morning we drive to Mokuti Etosha Safari Lodge. Mokuti Lodge, is situated on the border of the Etosha National Park in Namibia. The lodge combines unique African charm with the tradition of excellent service and supreme quality. “Mokuti” means “in the forest” in Owambo, a traditional language spoken in Namibia. The lodge is hidden in between 4300 hectares of farmland being home to giraffes, oryx, kudu and many other species of wildlife.

Besides private scheduled game drives into Etosha National Park the Mokuti Lodge offers various facilities to enjoy some active or relaxing moments, such as 2 tennis courts, some walking trails, swimming pools, billiard room and to end off the day after an exciting journey in the Etosha National Park try and experience a moment of relaxation in the new spa & gym or a refreshing cocktail in one of the two bars.

Join our guide on a game drive at the Etosha National Park and catch a glimpse of the animals before they settle down and the heat of the day dawns upon them. And as the day winds down, observe the animals as they head to the waterholes to quench their thirst, as a scorching day turns into a magical night. The early morning hours promise breath-taking moments in Etosha National Park. A morning bush walk brings you up close and personal with nature. Allow our experienced guides to take you on a journey of discovery filled with entertainment, awakening all your five senses. Afterwards, enjoy a scrumptious breakfast and nature's sweet serenade especially for you. Experience a game drive on our 4300 hectares reserve. A sundowner leads you into the starry night and an opportunity to discover the thrill of nocturnal life and splendour not seen during the day. Sit down to a boma fire; enjoy a traditional meal alive with flavour and authenticity. Sink into the call of the wild, owls hooting and the 'sawing' of the ever elusive leopard.

Join their Conservation Team on a visit to the Ontouka Reptile Park and learn fascinating facts about African reptiles. Book your front row seat at a spectacular crocodiles feeding session! Inhabitants of the park include some of the world’s most dangerous snakes, crocodiles, turtles, goanna, chameleons and many more.
Birds to look out for include: Ostrich, Whitebacked vulture, Lappetfaced vulture, Tawny eagle, African hawk eagle, Martial eagle, Black chested snake eagle, Pale chanting goshawk, Redcrested bustard, Namaqua sandgrouse, Doublebanded sandgrouse, Monotonous lark, Spikeheeled lark, Redcapped lark, Bare cheeked babbler, Carp’s tit, White tailed shrike, Golden tailed woodpecker, Long billed crombec, Acacia pied barbet, Shaft tailed wydah and Paradise wydah.

Accommodation: Mokuti Etosha Lodge
Meals: All meals
Included activities: Birding with your guide
Optional activities: Game drives
Website: www.mokutietoshalodge.com/

Day 12 & 13: 21st & 22nd March 2018:
Mokuti Etosha Safari Lodge - Halali Resort (Etosha National Park)

After breakfast our next stop is within the Etosha National Park for a 2 night stay at Halali Resort. Halali is strategically located halfway between Okaukuejo and Namutoni in Namibia’s Etosha National Park. It is surrounded by some of the most popular water holes in the Park. The resorts name, of German origin, is derived from the bugle call made to announce the end of a hunt. Halali has a secluded, scenic, flood-lit waterhole. At Halali, the waterhole is a short walk from the camp. The major benefit here is that you will not be disturbed or distracted when viewing the abundant game. Etosha is one of the largest and best game viewing parks in the whole of Africa. The reason is in the Ovambo name Etosha, which means 'huge white area' or 'place of dry water', depending upon whom you ask.

For most of the year a vast shallow pan, which was once a lake the size of Holland, shimmers a glaring bright white from crystallised salt across its entire surface. Surrounding the pans is a variety of grass and woodlands amongst which live a wonderful variety of animals and birds, insects and reptiles. The inhospitable pan is 75 miles (120km) long and 45 miles (72km) at its widest, and lone wildebeest or herds of oryx can be seen crossing it or just standing as if mesmerised. If ever you are likely to see a mirage it will be here, as the intense hazy sun reflecting against the shimmering pans distorts your eyesight and makes you see all sorts of things that are not really there. In complete contrast, when the rain arrives, up to three feet (1metre) of water turns the parched surface into an algae-rich soup attracting thousands of birds. The pink mist shifting slowly across the water is a huge flock of flamingos, for which this is an important breeding ground. After a good watering, the surrounding woodland savannah and scrubland, which is normally sparsely vegetated, bursts with an abundance of yellow blooms and rich grasses. Etosha has dozens of waterholes; some are natural while others are artificially fed from boreholes. During the dry season, staking out a position at a waterhole viewpoint is a rewarding way to watch game without moving from one spot. A veritable 'Noah's Ark' of species queue up to take a drink, with elephants hogging the lion's share!

Birds to look out for include: Ostrich, Admin’s Stork, Whitebacked Vulture, Lappetfaced Vulture, Tawny eagle, Booted eagle, African Hawk Eagle, Martial eagle, Black chested Snake Eagle, Pale Chanting Goshawk, Northern Black Korhaan (White quilled bustard), Namaqua Sandgrouse, Double-banded Sandgrouse, Monotonous Lark, Spikeheeled Lark, Red-capped Lark, Stark’s lark, and Greybacked Sparrowlark.

Accommodation: Halali Resort
Meals: All meals
Included activities: Birding and game drives with your guide, game viewing at the floodlit waterhole
Optional activities: Night drives with Halali Resort (NWR)
Website: www.nwr.com.na/halali_camp.html/
Day 14: 23rd March 2018:
Halali Resort – Waterberg Rest Camp (Waterberg Plateau Park)
Today we travel to the Waterberg Plateau Park. Rising almost 200 metres above the surrounding African bush, the Waterberg Plateau, with its dramatic brick-red sandstone formations and thick green vegetation forms an island of colour above the flat acacia covered plains. The park covers 405 square kilometres and was originally created in 1972 as a haven for rare and endangered species of the Caprivi region of Namibia such as Cape buffalo, Sable and Roan Antelopes and Tsessebe. Birdlife is abundant with over 200 species recorded in the park.

**Birds to look out for include:** Verreaux's Eagle, Cape Vulture, African Scops Owl, the endemic Hartlaub’s Sparrow, Bradfield’s and Monteiro’s Hornbill, Jacobin Cuckoo, White-tailed Shrike, Ruppell’s Parrot, Rosy-faced Lovebird, Marico and White-bellied Sunbirds, Rockrunner, Pied and Bare-cheeked Babblers, Violet backed Starling and Violet Woodhoopoe.

**Accommodation:** Waterberg Rest Camp  
**Meals:** All meals  
**Included activities:** Birding  
**Optional activities:** Game drives on the plateau with Waterberg Resort (NWR)  
**Website:** [www.nwr.com.na/waterberg_camp.html](http://www.nwr.com.na/waterberg_camp.html/)

Day 15: 24th March 2018:
Waterberg - Departure
After breakfast this morning you will be transferred to Windhoek International airport for your return flight home.

**Accommodation:** N.A.  
**Meals:** Breakfast  
**Included activities:** Birding en route to Windhoek  
**Optional activities:** N.A

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END OF SAFARI!

**Quoted price: 2018**

Days 1 – 15

6 Pax:  
USD 4,600.00 per person sharing  
USD 700.00 single supplement

**Notes:**

a) The costing for the Tour Programme is based on a minimum of six (6) guests.  
b) This is a quotation only and the price is valid for the above dates.  
c) No reservations have been made and all accommodation, flights and transport are subject to availability.  
d) Should any of the accommodation mentioned not be available, we reserve the right to substitute it with an alternative suitable venue, which might affect the final quoted price.  
e) Quoted price is also subject to availability, fuel/gas price and possibly exchange rate fluctuations.  
f) 20% non-refundable deposit is required on confirmation of safari.
g) Full payment is required sixty (60) days prior to arrival.

Please consult our webpage, www.safariwise.com.na for the Terms & Conditions. Please call on the office of SafariWise™ for bookings and/or enquiries:

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