

Victoria Falls & Botswana Itinerary 2018

*Travel is more than having a destination
in mind. It is discovering a place in your
heart you've never been before.*

Anonnoys



Dear Gunther & Claudia,

It is with great pleasure to present to you the itinerary to Botswana and Victoria Falls.

After meeting so many people with the same experience of Botswana and Victoria Falls during our tour in March, it became inevitable; "We have to go!"

Botswana is a country world renowned for its big game, beautiful bird species and excellent service and beautiful smiles from all local people. All tour agents, pilots and tourists have the same to say about Botswana. They all treasure it beyond measures and share the opinion of Botswana being the best safari destination they have been to. Victoria Falls is as breathtaking as it can be during April after the rain season. Showers of water will soak you when you're walking close to the waterfalls and it will drown your heart when you first lay your eyes on it for the first time.

I'm looking forward introducing two more magnificent African destinations to you.

Best Regards

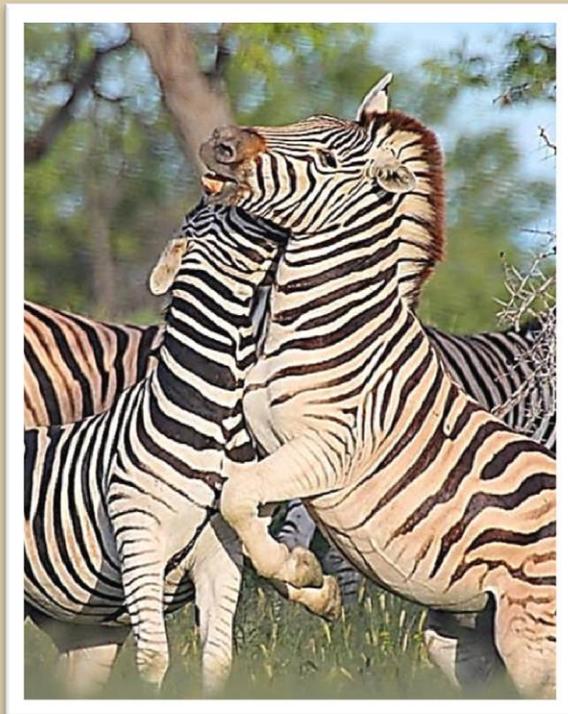
Marco

Popular destinations in Botswana

Okavango Delta – The Delta protects 16,000 square kilometers. It consists out of 4 parts: Eastern Delta, Inner Delta, Okavango Panhandle and Moremi Game Reserve. The Moremi Game Reserve protects over 5000 square kilometers and covers about a third of the Okavango Delta. The Delta is an enormous wetlands area which flows from the high mountains in Angola. From the mountains it flows through a rural area called Bagani in Namibia, as an extremely narrow river and finally into the Okavango Delta. A lot of big game like the 'Big 5' will be spotted roaming through marshes of the Delta. Beautifully created life will be spotted soaring over the strong currents of the water and their chirps create a relaxing melody.



Chobe National Park – The Park protects 11,000 square kilometers of fauna and flora. Chobe National Park is bordered with Namibia by the Chobe River. The Park is named after the river. There are 4 different areas within Chobe: *Chobe Riverfront* (Flows annually and support the largest wildlife concentration in the park), *Nogatsaa* (Known for the big herds of elephants), *Savuti* and *Linyanti* (Both consist of many animals including lions, hyenas and leopards).



Central Kalahari Game Reserve – The Kalahari is an astounding 52,800 square kilometers big. With its big, white pans; the Kalahari makes picture perfect memories as you open your eyes. During and shortly after good rains in the Kalahari, many animals like Springbok, Oryx, Wildebeest, Eland and Giraffes could be spotted in innumerable amounts.

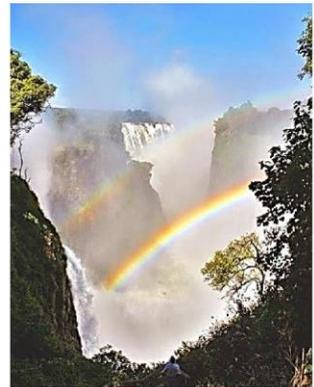
Makgadikgadi and Nxai Pans National Park –

The three pans; The Sowa, Nxai and Ntwetwe Pan together as a group forms the biggest collection of salt pans in the world. In total, the pans cover an area of 12,000 square kilometers. This is the last part of Southern Africa which still gets to experience the rumbling ground from the migration of large amounts of zebras during March and April. If we are lucky, we might still spot them on their long migration of 680km.



Victoria Falls

The Victoria Falls or Mosi-oa-Tunya (Tokaleya Tonga: The Smoke That Thunders) is a big waterfall in the Zambezi River on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Victoria Falls are 1708 meters wide and regarded as the 'Largest curtain of water in the world.' It has been described by CNN as one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the world. David Livingstone, the Scottish missionary and explorer, is believed to have been the first European to view Victoria Falls on November 16, 1855, from what is now known as Livingstone Island, one of two land masses in the middle of the river, immediately upstream from the falls near the Zambian shore.



Kimberley

Kimberley is the capital of the Northern Cape Province. This town has such a rich history literally and figuratively. It was the second city in the world after Philadelphia to have electric street lights on September 2 1882. Kimberley is most famous for the diamond mining which took place from 1871. The Big Hole is the biggest hand-dug hole in the world. 50,000 miners dug the hole with picks and shovels yielding 2,722kg of diamonds. The hole was excavated to a depth of 240 meters.

De Beers Consolidated Mines was established by Cecil John Rhodes, Charles Rudd and Barney Barnato in 1888. De Beers Consolidated Mines had monopoly over the world's diamond trade for many years. At the Big Hole, they perfectly recovered the old city into a museum, saloons and bars to give you the feeling of being in the 19th century with Cecil and his buddies drinking beer.

Itinerary

18th - 20th April (Toka Leya)

OR Tambo – Livingstone (BA6291) – 18th April

Departure: 11:00am, Arrival: 12:45pm

After arrival, you will check through immigration and customs into Zambia. I will meet you at the terminal where we will take a 10 minute drive to Toka Leya which is built alongside the river, 12 kilometers from the Falls. The first day at the lodge you can just relax at the lodge, go on a cruise on the river and enjoy the serenity along the mighty Zambezi River.

After breakfast the next day, the fun and excitement begins where we tour to the Victoria Falls. Toka Leya will send a well-trained tour guide with us to make the day special at the falls. You can enjoy a sun-downer on the deck or take a sun-downer cruise along the Zambezi River.



20th - 23rd April (Kings Pool Camp)

During the morning, you can enjoy a wonderful breakfast and get ready for the wild Botswana awaiting you. After we cleared immigrations at Livingstone, we will board a Cessna 210 for a scenic flight over the Victoria Falls before we depart to Kasane in Botswana. We will have to clear Immigrations at Kasane and from there we will fly to Chobe airfield and stay at Kings Pool.

For the next three days at Kings Pool, you can enjoy the wonderful activities they have to offer; game drives, night drives, nature walks, seasonal barge cruises, hides, seasonal fishing and birding and massage treatments.



23rd - 26th April (Camp Xakanaxa)

After the wonderful breakfast, we're going to embark on a beautiful flight over the Okavango Delta. We will fly to the Moremi Game Reserve and land at Camp Xakanaxa.

For the next three days at Camp Xakanaxa, you can go on afternoon drives, explore the Xakanaxa Lagoon and its surrounding channels and kaleidoscope of birdlife. Experienced guides will take you on game drives, looking for leopards stretching out in the branches of a Mopani tree, herds of elephant grazing through the fields and a pride of lions hunting down its prey.



26th - 29th April (Camp Okavango)

Before our next scenic flight over the Okavango Delta, we can go and have one more breakfast at Camp Xakanaxa. It will be a fairly short flight to Camp Okavango, as we just hop from the one camp to the other in the Delta.

For the next three days at Camp Okavango, you can enjoy the wonderful activities they have to offer; motor boat & traditional mokoro (dugout canoe) game viewing, guided bush walks, bird watching and fishing.



29th April to 2nd May (Jack's Camp)

After breakfast we can relax and enjoy the last bit of the Okavango Delta before we depart to the Makgadikgadi Pans. Patricia might find her perfect retreat as we go to the popular Jack's Camp where Meerkats find themselves home in the surrounding areas.

* Attached to the email with the itinerary, you will find a complete '3 Night Itinerary' for Jack's Camp.



2nd - 4th May (Cape Grace)

This will be our last day in Botswana. After breakfast we will fly from Jack's Camp to Maun at 08:00am. From Maun you will fly to Cape Town International @ 13:35 with South African Airlink (SA8605).

A driver from Cape Grace will pick you up and take you to the hotel where you will spend the next two nights. The hotel is at the Waterfront which is a hotspot for shopping, restaurants and entertainment.

On the 4th May the driver will take you back to OR Tambo where you will board your flight to Kimberley. (South African Airlink (SA8617) @ 16:50) The duration of the flight is 01h30.



4th - 6th May (Wedding @ Kimberley)

Arriving at Kimberley Airport, a transfer from the Kimberley Anne Hotel will pick you up and take you to your hotel for check-in and dinner.

During the morning after breakfast on the 5th, you can go on a city tour through Kimberley and visit the biggest hand-made hole in the world. "The Big Hole" is where Cecil John Rhodes' story began. A driver from Kimberley Anne will drop you at the Big Hole and after the tour pick you up again. It starts at 09:00am and last between 2 and 3 hours long.

The wedding will take place at 15:00 and you need to be there by 14:30. Jimmy, a very good friend of mine, will also stay at The Kimberley Anne Hotel and you will drive with him to the wedding venue and back afterwards. The drive is approximately 40 minutes one way.

The festivities will be till late night, possibly till early morning. You can just speak to Jimmy ahead of time what time you would like to go back to the hotel.



6th May (Back to Europe)

Your flight from Kimberley back to OR Tambo is at 15:20 (South African Express (SA1108)). Your ETA for OR Tambo is 16:30.

You will depart OR Tambo for London at 21:10 (BA0054).

For more photos and information about the lodges, go to these links:

Toka Leya (<http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/camps/toka-leva-camp>)

Kings Pool Camp (<http://www.wilderness-safaris.com/camps/kings-pool-camp>)

Camp Xakanaxa (<http://www.desertdelta.com/botswana-safari-lodges/camp-xakanaxa-okavango.html>)

Camp Okavango
(<http://www.desertdelta.com/botswana-safari-lodges/camp-okavango-botswana.html>)

Jack's Camp
(http://www.unchartedafrica.com/page.php?p_id=33)

Saxon Hotel (<http://www.saxon.co.za/>)

Kimberley Anne Hotel
(<http://www.kimberleyanne.co.za/>)

Things to do in Johannesburg
(<http://www.joburgtourism.com/things-to-do>)

Things to do in Kimberley
(<http://www.kimberley.co.za/places/attractions/>)

Safety tips to keep in consideration.

Malaria – Victoria Falls and Botswana are both areas where Malaria is a danger. Please consider the necessary precautions:

- Take Malaria prescriptions as advised by your medical practitioner.
- Use mosquito repellent regularly while in the two areas.
- Always use your mosquito nets in your rooms for protection.
- Wear long sleeve clothes as far as possible, especially when sleeping.

Wildlife – Most of the animals you will encounter on this tour will be wild and dangerous. Do not go by foot near any animals, especially when you're alone. Animals such as a Meerkat won't be a hazard. Do not leave the safari car without the permission of your guide. Make sure that the clothes you wear on safari are of light colors such as beige, weight and light grey.

Visitors Visas – You do not need a visitor’s visa for South Africa or Botswana. You will be granted entrance through any Immigration officer. We have received both VISAS for Zambia.

Passports – Most countries require you to have a 3 months valid passport from the date of entry but all of them recommend a 6 months valid passport. They also require you to have a few open pages in your passport for entry and exit stamps.

Satellite Phone – I have booked one satellite phone to rent for our 2 weeks tour. It will be at your disposal for emergency purposes and also to ensure that the lodge from our next destination is informed of our updated ETA for our pickups.

Quotation: NAD 605,670.00

This price includes:

- All accommodation
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner (Cape Grace and Kimberley Anne - only breakfast)
- All transfers to and from the airports
- Activities at all the lodges
- Cessna 210 private charter flights
- Flights from Maun to Cape Town, Cape Town to Kimberley, Kimberley to OR Tambo

These prices exclude:

- International flights between Europe and RSA
- Tips to guides/ staff at lodges
- Not mentioned excursions (The Big Hole cost R110 per adult payable at entrance.
- Drinks where lodge/hotel is not booked as fully inclusive
- Premium brand wines, liqueurs and other alcoholic beverages for fully inclusive package
- Any changes in government taxes
- Personal travel insurance