

Seats strictly limited



# Classic Botswana & Zimbabwe

## Fully Escorted Africa Safari

16 days from **\$14,799\*** per person twin share

**Includes airfares ex Australia**

Departs Melbourne: 20 August 2025

- Botetie River and Makgadikgadi
- Moremi Game Reserve
- Khwai Community Area
- Savuti & Chobe River Front
- Hwange National Park
- Victoria Falls

Join us on our Classic Botswana & Zimbabwe Safari including Victoria Falls. A fully escorted multi-lodge safari through some of the best wilderness areas of Botswana and Zimbabwe to the mighty Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe. A great value trip offering both comfort and adventure. Accommodation throughout your journey includes comfortable lodges, remote camps and luxe, walk-in meru tents. This activity packed safari is guided from beginning to end by a qualified and experienced local guide.

Explore the dusty Botetie River and stark Salt Pans of the Makgadikgadi on the edge of the Kalahari. Spend time in a secluded private campsite in the Moremi. Immersed in nature and surrounded by an abundance of wildlife we will explore the unique wildlife paradise on the edge of the Okavango Delta. Game drive in fully equipped open 4 x 4 vehicles, following age old migration tracks in search of the abundant wildlife of Moremi Game Reserve and the famed elephant herds of the Chobe River. Hwange National Park, in Zimbabwe is renowned for its dense elephant populations and abundant predators. Finally, enjoy impressive views and the unforgettable roar of "The Smoke that Thunders", Victoria Falls.

An intimate wilderness experience close to nature, intertwined with the local communities. Travelling in a small group of like-minded travellers, offers a unique and intimate atmosphere. With a focus on conservation, game viewing and sustainable eco-tourism, this tour offers the adventurer, photographer, birdwatcher and naturalist the ultimate African wildlife experience.

Following the success of many unique Explorer Group Safaris since 2006, and due to popular demand, we have scheduled another adventure to the fascinating continent of Africa.

In 2025, I will be leading an **accommodated multi-lodge safari** to Botswana and Zimbabwe. These countries are renowned for their spectacular wildlife and pristine wilderness areas.

Travel with highly qualified local guides through the vast and diverse landscapes of the African bush. Get under the skin of the world's most exciting continent with up-close wildlife encounters and meaningful interactions with local communities. An intimate wilderness experience close to nature and intertwined with the local communities.

Dining outdoors under a star-studded Africa night will be a profound experience. This will not be a simple "scenic" experience; we will "touch the heart" of Botswana.

Travelling in late August at the end of the dry season. With clear skies and moderate temperatures, there should be little to no rainfall. Wildlife tends to concentrate along permanent water, making them easier to spot with less vegetation. We should also coincide with the seasonal conundrum of the Okavango Delta flood waters in the dry season. Staying in small lodges and private camps, group size is strictly limited.

Having had the privilege of working as a Professional Safari Guide and Lodge Manager in some of the best lodges in southern Africa, I have experienced what I believe to be true wilderness. I wish to introduce to you to more of these areas and hope to instil a deeper understanding and appreciation of these delicate eco-systems and the communities that live on the edge of these protected spaces.

We have created an affordable adventure with an opportunity to travel with like-minded explorers. A new world of travel awaits, and I look forward to exploring it with you.

Go siame, tsmaya sentle.  
**Safari with Mike**



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Or book at your local licensed travel agent

**Day 1: Melbourne - Johannesburg.** Fly from Australia to Johannesburg.

**Day 2: Johannesburg - Maun - Khumaga.**

(D)

Connect with the flight to Maun and meet your guide on arrival. Travel 150km to Khumaga, a small village of about 1000 people. Home for 2 nights, our simple and comfortable accommodation is located on the outskirts of Khumaga overlooking the Boteti River and the Makgadikgadi National Park beyond. Stay in en-suite chalets with air-conditioning and mosquito nets.

Arriving at camp in the afternoon, we will enjoy a game drive along the Boteti River in the late afternoon. After a long day, the lounge deck is the place to relax and watch animals coming down to the river to drink.

*Accommodation: Boteti River Camp, Khumaga - Standard chalets - 2 nights.*

**Day 3: Khumaga, Makgadikgadi.**

(B,L,D)

Morning and afternoon game drives in Makgadikgadi National Park to explore the vast open plains and one of the world's largest salt pans. This harsh environment is home to a fascinating variety of wildlife such as Springbok, Giraffe, Kudu, Elephant, and predators including Lion, Hyena and Cheetah. Unusual species include Meerkat, Bat-Eared Fox and Brown Hyena.

**Day 4-5: Western Moremi Game Reserve, Premium Camping.**

(B,L,D)

After breakfast, travel north through the 'Gateway to the Okavango Delta', Maun. Embark on an exciting journey into the Moremi Game Reserve, where your premium mobile camp awaits. Leaving civilisation behind, there is a gradual change through small villages and rural farmland to Wildlife Management Areas and pristine, protected National Parks. Moremi Game Reserve is a varied landscape of savannah, dense forest, seasonal flood plains and winding waterways.

Experience the thrill of camping in the heart of the wild, surrounded by pristine nature and an abundance of wildlife. The next two days will be spent searching for the wide variety of wildlife and birds that this area is renowned for while absorbing the sounds and beauty of this region. Game drives in the early morning and in the late afternoon will be the norm. On our second day enjoy a boat cruise to explore the deep channels and tranquil waters of the of the Okavango Delta.

Camping will be in private designated campsites in fully serviced ensuite tents with bucket shower and bush toilet.

*Accommodation: Fully serviced Camping, Moremi Game Reserve.*

**Day 6-8: Khwai Guest House, Khwai Community Area.**

(B,L,D)

Heading east, we will continue our journey to Khwai, a wilderness area that borders Moremi Game Reserve, allowing for free movement of wildlife.

The next 3 days will be spent on game drives in the early morning and late afternoon while absorbing the sounds and beauty of the region. Renowned for a wide variety of wildlife and birds, there is a chance of excellent sightings of Lion, Elephant, Hippo and African Wild Dog, all roaming freely through the unfenced park and concession areas. The Khwai Community Area offers the added ability to off-road and night drives and traditional dugout canoe (Mokoro) excursions on a channel bordering the game reserve.

Nestled on the edge of the traditional village, Khwai Guest House offers comfortable ensuite bungalows on the edge of Moremi Game Reserve. Committed to employing local staff and supporting their dependant families in the community, the lodge generates the positive impact of having community members deriving direct benefits from tourism. Through authentic experiences and a strong conservation ethic, local communities benefit from the value of conserving the wildlife and environment.

There is an option of taking a scenic helicopter flight over the Delta (own expense). With no windows and doors, allowing magnificent views, this magical experience provides another perspective of the Okavango Delta's distinctive water system. During the flight it is possible to spot large game animals such as Elephant, Giraffe and Hippo.

*Accommodation: Khwai Guest House, Khwai Village - 3 nights.*



Little Bee-eater



African Wild Dog



'Ghost elephant' of the Makgadikgadi



Zebra herds and Giraffe on the Boteti River



Spotted Hyena



Custom Game Drive vehicle



Chobe Elephant Camp - Room

**Day 9-10: Khwai - Savuti - Chobe River Front.**

(B,L,D)

The drive north will be a full day game drive through the Savuti area with a lunch break en-route. This remote region of the Savuti is famous for its predators, especially its resident lion prides, large packs of African Wild Dog and Spotted Hyena clans. Head towards our eco-friendly lodge situated on a rocky ridge, overlooking the spectacular Chobe River floodplains. All rooms are en-suite with indoor and outdoor showers and private verandas to fully enjoy the views and surroundings.

The following day is spent exploring the banks of this life giving river on a game drive and boat cruise to immerse ourselves into this incredible area from both land and water. An area incredibly rich in wildlife sustained by the Chobe River, this section of the park is known for its dense concentration of wildlife including large herds of Elephant and Buffalo. August is usually when the vast herds of Zebra congregate on the grassy floodplains of the Chobe. Due to the high density of herbivores in this area, many predators, such as Lion and Leopard, can be found.

*Accommodation: Chobe Elephant Camp, or similar - 2 nights.*

**Day 11-12: Chobe - Hwange National Park.**

(B,L,D)

Our journey takes us across the border into Zimbabwe to Hwange National Park. Hwange is the largest natural reserve in Zimbabwe and offers a rich wildlife experience in a remote and peaceful setting. The park is home to one of the biggest elephant populations in the world, as well as over 100 mammal species including the endangered African Wild Dog and rare Roan and Sable antelope. Around 500 bird species also inhabit the area.

Robins Camp is situated in the rugged northern area of the park. Home to some of the last great buffalo herds in Africa. Given the abundance of prey animals, it is no wonder that it also has the highest concentration of lion in the Park. Activities include morning and afternoon game drives and optional game walks. Enjoy refreshing beverages are served from the Hyena Bar or relax around the pool for siesta time.

*Accommodation: Robins Camp or similar, Hwange National Park - 2 nights.*

**Day 13: Hwange National Park - Victoria Falls.**

(B)

Transfer through the park towards Victoria Falls for 2 nights at a comfortable lodge. After a few weeks on safari, Pioneers - Victoria Falls, is a great option for those who value comfort and elegance. Situated in a peaceful residential suburb, this lodge is in an ideal location. A short 2.5 km from the impressive Victoria Falls and set in lush gardens with beautifully manicured lawn and 2 refreshing swimming pools. With spacious and tastefully decorated rooms styled to reflect the nostalgic era of the pioneer explorers and blended with modern amenities to meet all the requirements of today's traveller. Guests have the option of relaxing and dining on the expansive terrace, overlooking lush gardens. There is a large bar area which serves a variety of cold and hot beverages, including local craft beer made with water from the mighty Zambezi River nearby.

*Accommodation: Pioneers Victoria Falls or similar, Zimbabwe - 2 nights.*

**Day 14: Victoria Falls.**

(B)

Today is at leisure with time to explore the town. Visit the iconic Victoria Falls, explore the surrounding rain forest and craft markets. Perhaps high-tea at the grand Victoria Falls Hotel or take a sunset cruise on the Zambezi River. Adrenaline activities like a helicopter flight over the Falls, bungee jumping or white-water rafting (own expense) are also available. There is also an opportunity for a Wildlife Conservation Safari to explore the conservation efforts in the Zambezi National Park (own expense). Tonight dine at a local restaurant (own expense). Relax to the sound of the African night with the distant roar of the Falls and drink a farewell toast to our adventure.

**Day 15: Victoria Falls - Johannesburg.**

(B)

A leisurely breakfast then transfer to Victoria Falls Airport for the flight to Johannesburg. Transfer to overnight accommodation including breakfast.

*Accommodation: Peermont Metcourt at Emperors Palace, Johannesburg - 1 night.*

**Day 16: Fly Johannesburg - Australia.**

(B)

**Day 17: Arrive Australia.**



Victoria Falls - The Smoke that Thunders

Prices per person twin share ex Melbourne		
Departs	Twin Share	Single Supp
20 August 2025	\$14799*	\$2500

**Price includes all pre-paid taxes**

**→ Call about our airfares ex other Australian cities →**

**Price Includes:**

- Return economy class airfares from Melbourne to Johannesburg with Singapore Airlines via Singapore. Subject to confirmation.
- Economy class airfares Johannesburg to Maun and Victoria Falls to Johannesburg with Airlink.
- Accommodation, tours, meals and transfers as indicated in the itinerary.
- 12 nights comfortable hotel and lodge accommodation.
- Camping for 2 nights in fully serviced ensuite tents with camp bed, mattress and all necessary bedding, ensuite ablution section with bucket shower and bush toilet.
- Okavango Air Rescue medical emergency evacuation cover from remote locations whilst in Botswana.
- \*Prepaid taxes and park fees. Subject to alteration until final payment has been received by our office.
- Escorted ex Australia by Mike Papenfus.

**Notes**

- \*Prices are correct at time of printing but are subject to availability, currency fluctuations and surcharges and are only guaranteed when paid in full.
- Deposit of \$2000 per person due within 7 days of confirmation.
- Ask about our companion register for single travellers.
- Optional extensions to South Africa, Kenya & Tanzania can be offered post safari, please contact us for details.
- Tour is based on a minimum of 11 passengers travelling together. Therefore should final number not reach this minimum number it will be necessary for this tour to be costed accordingly.



Premium Camping\_Botswana



Chobe River game viewing by motorboat



Local markets for curios and souvenirs



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