

# Fun 'n' Fair tour (falls, delta, desert and dunes) Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe 21 days

21 DAYS FROM EUR 2995 (see details below)

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Vigorous Victoria Falls • Chobe National Park game drive and cruise • Peaceful Okavango Delta on a mokoro • San Bushmen visit • Otjitotongwe Cheetah Farm • Epic Etosha National Park • Stunning Spitzkoppe • Namib-Naukluft National Park • Photogenic Sossusvlei • Stirring Swakopmund • Penduka women community project

#### THE FACTS:

Tour duration	21 days
Start	Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)
End	Windhoek (Namibia) – or the other way around
Type of trip	overland camping and lodges safari
Means of transport	4x4 safari car, minibus/overland truck
Accommodation	chalets, lodges (eco friendly) and camps
Number of participants	6-12 persons (or 9-20 persons as a whole group)
Crew	a driver mechanic and a guide / cook
Catering	breakfast, lunch, dinner (only when indicated
	on the travel route)

#### ITINERARY (Victoria Falls – Windhoek or vice versa)

#### DAY 1 Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Welcome to Victoria Falls town on the border of Zimbabwe and Zambia! On arrival you will be met and transferred to your absolutely fantastic lodge: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge or Bayete Guest Lodge Victoria Falls. In the afternoon or evening you have to opportunity to get to know your guide and the rest of the group in a pre-departure meeting.

Your accommodation: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge or Bayete Guest Lodge Victoria Falls Travel distance: 0-25 km

#### DAY 2 The Smoke that Thunders: Victoria Waterfalls

After breakfast you will be taken to the mighty Victoria Falls, known by the local Kololo tribe as Mosi-oa-Tunya, which is 'The Smoke that Thunders'. These are among the most spectacular waterfalls in the world. The Zambezi River, which is nearly 2 km wide at this point, plunges noisily down a series of basalt gorges and raises an iridescent mist that can be seen more than 20 km away. (UNESCO World Heritage)

In the afternoon you have an eye opening way of a local life on the Victoria Falls Historic Township tour.

Your accommodation: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge or Bayete Guest Lodge Victoria Falls Travel distance: 0-25 km

#### DAY 3 Free day in Victoria Falls: sportive activities and wildlife

You can use this day for optional activities, such as a helicopter / micro-light flight above the water masses or a bungee jump. Late afternoon you have an option of getting on a sunset cruise on the Zambezi river 4 km upstream of the falls. Enjoy the grandeur of a beautiful sunset on the Zambezi and start spotting some of the big five. [B]

Your accommodation: Victoria Falls Safari Lodge or Bayete Guest Lodge Victoria Falls Travel distance: 0-25 km

#### DAY 4 To the big herds of elephants Chobe National Park, Botswana

An early morning departure takes you from Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe to Botswana. After crossing the Kazungula border into Botswana you immediately jump in a 4x4 safari vehicle right into Chobe National Park for a morning game drive. This third largest park of the country has one of the largest concentrations of game. And is widely known for its spectacular elephant population: it contains an estimated 50,000 elephants, perhaps the highest elephant concentration of Africa. In the afternoon a cruise on the Chobe River will provide a truly unforgettable experience and one of the best ways to view the wildlife and the stunning sunset. [BLD]

Your accommodation: Thebe River Lodge Travel distance: 100 km

#### DAY 5 Drive day to Maun, the gateway of the Okavango Delta

After an early breakfast and departure, we drive the whole day to the small town of Maun, know as the gateway to the Okavango Delta. It is from here that we set off to explore one of the world's largest inland river deltas. There is almost something cinematic about the Okavango Delta, with the rising and falling of its waters, its dramatic wildlife encounters, its soundtrack of roaring lions, maniacal giggling hyenas, growling leopards and grunting hippos, the mysteries concealed by its papyrus reeds and ghostly looking trees. The delta, the up-to-18,000-sq-km expansion of the Okavango River, is Southern Africa's massive outpouring of fertility. The waters never make it to the sea, but they sustain vast quantities of wildlife that shift with the seasons in this mother of waters. (UNESCO World Heritage site)

Tonight we prepare ourselves for a 3-day / 2-night exploration of this iconic and greatest aquatic landscapes. After dinner we pack our provisions and daypacks for our excursion. Your trip leader will brief you fully on what supplies are needed, and what to expect prior to your trip to the delta. [BLD]

Your accommodation: The Old Bridge Backpackers / Sitatunga Camp Travel distance: 600 km

#### DAY 6 To one of the world's largest inland river deltas

Today you will witness a huge expanse of water, which has travelled from the Angolan highlands, spreading out to form the largest inland delta in the world. Studded with exotic islands, the delta is renowned for its incredible variety of bird life and animals. The region is crowded with many local villages where 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, a dugout canoe.

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. From here we take part in a 3-day / 2-night drive in and mokoro excursion into the delta. We meet our 'polers', local guides who are going to manoeuvre us through the waterways by 'poling' the mokoros through the reeds. After some time on the channels, our guides find us a place to camp, situated in an open outback area with no ablution facilities. Later we will experience the remote wilderness on foot. Tonight we sit on the campfire and share story telling with our local guides. [BLD]

Your accommodation: bush camping (sustainable tourism) Travel distance: 25 km

#### DAY 7 Peaceful Okavango delta

A day of rest, relaxation and delta experiences awaits. Today we have the opportunity to partake in a number of activities including swimming, game walks, mokoro cruises and even a chance to try our hands at poling our own mokoro! During the hotter hours of the day you may want to do nothing or challenge your new friends to a game of cards, or chat with your guides about their culture and lifestyle. Or simply lie back and enjoy the sounds of the surrounding wildlife habitat. Make sure you always have your camera ready as you get guided through the dozens of mazes. The network of water pathways covered by thick vegetation beholds a variety of birds and mammals living in this water filled paradise. It's a bird lover's paradise, with over 400 species of birds. And there are 70 species of fish and an abundance of wildlife. Your experience in the delta will leave you wanting to explore the whole of Africa! [BLD]

Your accommodation: bush camping (Sustainable tourism)

#### DAY 8 Back to Maun

Time to bid farewell to the delta. After a morning walking safari our Mokoros will bring us back to re-unite with our truck to get back to Maun. We will arrive there in time for taking an optional scenic flight over the delta (depending on weather conditions & availability). [BLD]

Your accommodation: The Old Bridge Backpackers / Sitatunga Camp Travel distance: 25 km

#### DAY 9 San Bushmen visit in Dqãe Qare Game Reserve

This morning we will drive south into the Kalahari Desert to the village D'kar in the district of Ghanzi, Botswana. In the afternoon we have a visit to the Dqãe Qare Game Reserve, a community based tourism project of the Bushmen (Ncoakhoe - meaning Red People) from D'Kar Village. The aim of the project is to create employment, preserve the Ncoakhoe indigenous knowledge through tourism activities and to generate income. Here we will go on a bush walk to learn all about the lives and culture of the San. Enjoy the evening camp fire stories by the master tribe in storytelling, and maybe join them for a dance around the fire. Tonight we will camp at a well equipped camp site at the Dqãe Qare Game Reserve. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camp site at the Dqãe Qare Game Reserve (sustainable tourism) Travel distance: 285 km

#### DAY 10 City vibes of Windhoek

After breakfast we head towards the Mamuno border and cross over into a new country:

Namibia! Today we have chance to sample the Namibian cuisine as we will go out for an optional dinner in the capital city. Windhoek is not only the capital; it is also the cultural, social and economic centre of Namibia. In the evening we go out for a delicious dinner at Joe's Beerhouse, where you can taste the real local (game) specialities. [BL]

Your accommodation: Roof of Africa or something similar Travel distance: 520 km

#### DAY 11 To Etosha National Park, the greatest wildlife sanctuary in Namibia

From the outskirts of Windhoek we head to Etosha National Park, where we stop along the way to do some shopping at the markets. We stay the night in the park, so we can enjoy a whole full day of game drives the next day. Etosha National Park ranks as one of the world's great wildlife-viewing venues. It was declared a National Park in 1907 and it is home to approximately 114 mammal species, 340 bird species, 110 reptile species, 16 amphibian species and, surprisingly, one species of fish. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping at Okaukuejo Camp Travel distance: 450 km

#### DAY 12 Full day game drive in Etosha National Park

Etosha is the venue for some of the most unique game viewing experiences in Africa. Its unique nature is encapsulated by the vast Etosha pan – an immense, flat, saline desert that, for a few days each year, is converted by the rains into a shallow lagoon teeming with flamingos and pelicans. In contrast, the surrounding bush and sparse grasslands provide habitat for Etosha's diverse wildlife and allow great opportunities to see animals normally hidden in dense vegetation, like some of the big five as well as cheetah, giraffe, zebra and a numerous different types of antelope. You may even see some of them crossing the road in front of our truck! We will go on various game drives and spend our evening at the abundant waterholes for some excellent game photography.

We will stay in the campsites of Okaukuejo, which has excellent facilities and is situated next to floodlit watering hole where many animals come for a drink at night. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping at Okaukuejo Camp Travel distance: 140 km

#### DAY 13 Otjitotongwe cheetah guest farm

Today we will leave Etosha (via one last short game drive!) as we head to one of our community projects. We start by stopping over in Outjo for shopping and proceed to Otjitotongwe Cheetah Farm where we will learn more about these animals and why they stay here. The farm is run by a non-profit organisation aimed at conserving cheetahs in a natural environment. It has both tame and wild cheetahs, many bought from farmers to prevent them from being killed. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping at Otjitotongwe Cheetah Farm (sustainable Tourism) Travel distance: 200 km

#### DAY 14 Spitzkoppe

On the move again onto the spectacular scenery of Damaraland, with final destination the incredible and photogenic mountain Spitzkoppe. We will travel to the sparselypopulated centre of Namibia starting with a short stop at Outjo for shopping and proceed to Spitzkoppe mountain. Rising high above the surrounding plains the Spitzkoppe mountain became known as the Matterhorn of Namibia. A group of imposing granite peaks is similar in shape to the Swiss alpine mountain. The mountains formed some 700 million years ago and a number of San rock painting proves human habitation two to four thousand years ago. We will wild camp in the midst of this remote region, a great chance to absorb the nightlife of the open skies of Namib Desert. Explore the primeval landscape of Spitzkoppe mountain, and witness the peak take on remarkable oranges and reds during the breath-taking sunset. For those who can't get enough (and manage to get up at 5.30 am!): take an early morning hike after a good night sleep and witness the spectacular sunrise. [BLD]

Your accommodation: bush camping (sustainable Tourism) Travel distance: 340 km

# DAY 15 Swakopmund playtime!

Today we continue to the German-colonial town of Swakopmund, located at the southern end of the famous and barren 'Skeleton Coast'. We will detour to visit the incredible Cape Cross seal colony, the largest breeding place of the Cape Fur Seals. On arrival in Swakopmund we stop over at an adventure tour centre where we can book all other optional activities happening over there and in the surroundings. Think sandboarding, quad biking, sky diving, deep sea fishing, etc. etc. Here we also have time to taste the rich African (or German?) cuisine. Lunch and dinner are optional. [B]

Your accommodation: Amanpuri Travellers Lodge Travel distance: 200 km

# DAY 16 Swakopmund, more playtime

On our second day here we will have a free day to explore the town (try the delicious German pastries!) and the wider area, go to the beach, or participate in some of Swakopmund's many exciting adrenaline activities. [B]

Your accommodation: Amanpuri Travellers Lodge

#### DAY 17 Namib-Naukluft Park and Sesriem Canyon

After breakfast we say goodbye to Swakopmund and we continue our trip to the Namib-Naukluft National Park. This is desert country and the swirling sand dunes here are one of the highlights of a visit to Namibia. Nowhere else defines the country more as the muchphotographed sand hills: silent, constantly shifting and ageless. We will set up camp, then take a short hike into the Sesriem Canyon. Tonight we enjoy the star-studded sky and enduring silence of the Namib Desert, only occasionally interrupted by the call of a jackal or, a rather unique lizard, the barking gecko! [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping Sesriem Travel distance: 350km

#### DAY 18 Namib-Naukluft Park: Dune 45 and Sossusvlei

This is our earliest morning as we prepare for our hike up Dune 45 to marvel at the sunrise. After our hike, we will have breakfast before we visit the Sossusvlei. Situated in the largest conservation area in Africa (the Namib-Naukluft National Park), Sossusvlei is possibly Namibia's most spectacular and best-known attraction. It is a large, white, salt and clay pan, characterised by the large red dunes that surround it. The dunes in this area are some of the highest in the world, reaching almost 400 meters. We join a local expert on a guided hike and learn more about the unique desert ecosystem and how the Bushmen survived in the harsh desert conditions. [BLD]

Your accommodation: camping Sesriem Travel distance: 54 km

# DAY 19 Windhoek: Penduka Community Project

After breakfast we head to the outskirts of Windhoek where we will take part in three different workshops for our last very special community project: The Penduka women project. Penduka means 'wake-up', It is a none-governmental organization established in 1992 to help rural women from all over Namibia. Preferences is given to women with physical disabilities and physically mishandled women who are given a chance to use their talent, and taught skills to survive through making batiks, pottery, embroidery and beads from recycled glasses and many more other different projects. In the evening our dinner is prepared by the Penduka crew. [BLD]

Your accommodation: Penduka Lodge (sustainable Tourism) Travel distance: 306 km

# DAY 20 Another day Penduka

Today we have a day of participating in a number of workshops Penduka offers. These will be explained to us on arrival and we will be divided into groups, and have a whole day of learning some of African's old trade and culture, while we support these ladies make a living, and maybe make our own souvenir to take back home. [BLD]

Your accommodation: Penduka Lodge (sustainable Tourism)

# DAY 21 The End

All good things come to an end... unfortunately. After breakfast we bid each other farewell and drop those going home at the airport in Windhoek. [B]

# SUM 21 DAYS / PRICED FROM EUR 2995

Fun 'n' Fair tour (falls, delta, desert and dunes) Sensational and sustainable tour to Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe

# EUR 1900 + local payment EUR 1095 (for accommodation and meals and National Parks fees, payment to be done at the pre-departure meeting)

#### Total EUR 2995

Single supplement: EUR 300 (only at request not to share)

#### INCLUDED

- 11 nights in luxury and comfortable lodges, 9 nights camping accommodation
- Meals as per itinerary: 19 x breakfast, 15 x lunch and 14 x dinner
- Entrance fee for Victoria Falls, Etosha National Park, Spitzkoppe and Namib Naukluft Park
- Activities\*
- Victoria Falls township tour
- Chobe National Park game drive and cruises
- Okavango Delta 3 days/2 nights
- San Bushmen visit
- Otjitotongwe Cheetah walk
- Guided walk in Sossusvlei
- Penduka Women project visit

- All transport in an air-conditioned overland truck/ 4x4 safari land cruiser
- Experienced (Dutch and English speaking) local guide / cook and a driver mechanic
- Camping and kitchen gear (sleeping bags NOT included)

# NOT INCLUDED

- Travel insurance and visa if necessary
- Flights
- Pre and post tour accommodation
- Optional activities and excursions
- All drinks, tips and curios
- All personal expenses

Our tours are conducted by SRC-Reizen op Maat, a tour operator with ANVR and SGR accreditation. This means that you are covered for the calamity fund and fully insured (note: only applies if you arrange your flights also via Afari Adventures at SRC!). You should also take out a private travel insurance, which can also via SRC-Reizen op Maat.

\* If you want more insights in the prices of activities, please contact us.