

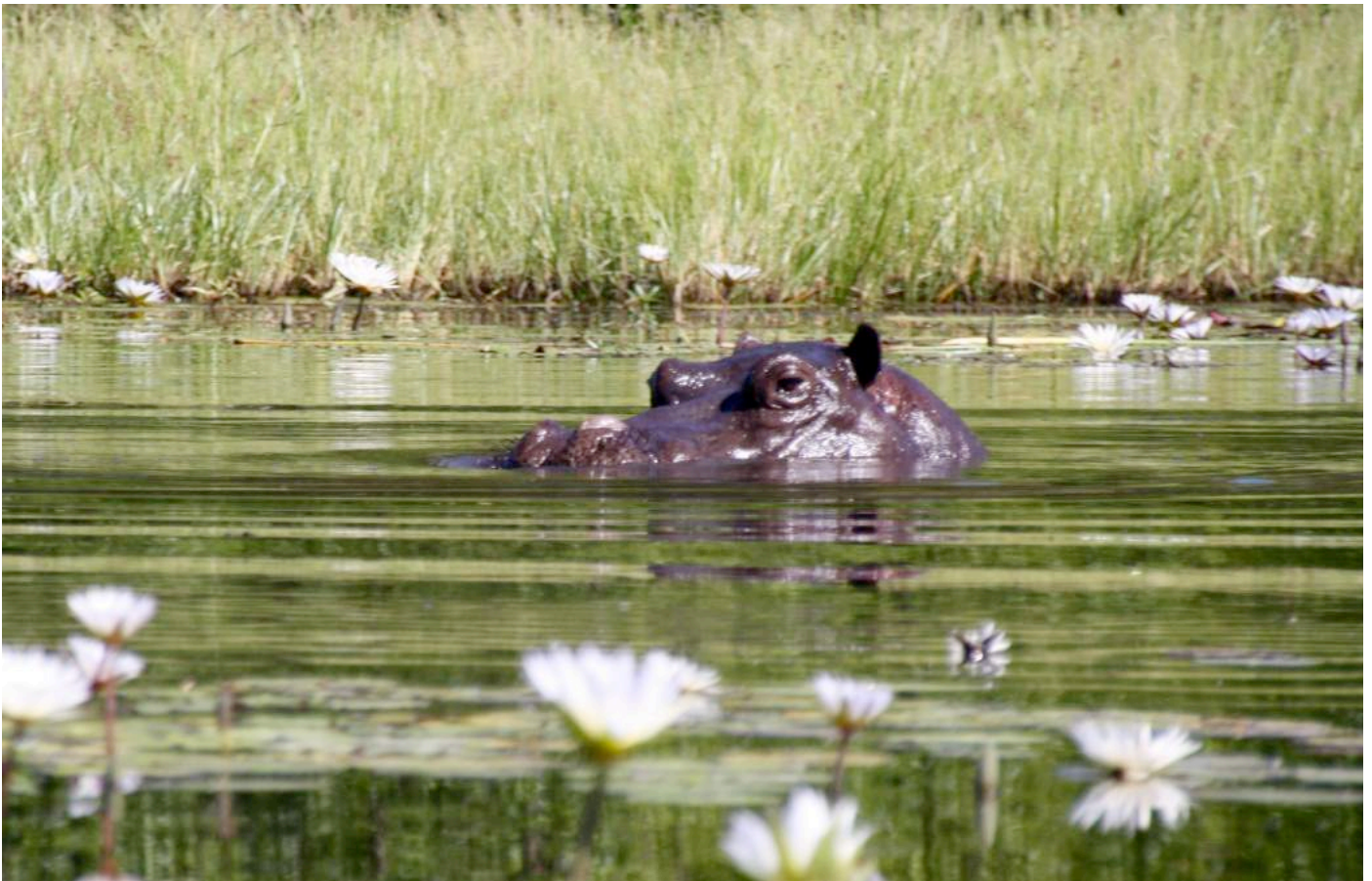
Southern Africa Family Safari

Coincides with
April & September
school holidays

Blue Dot Travel

Go somewhere different





SOUTHERN AFRICA FAMILY SAFARI

Victoria Falls, Chobe National Park and Cape Town

Ever dreamt of taking the family on an African safari? Chances are the answer is a clear, "Yes!" Blue Dot Travel has developed a comprehensive itinerary taking in the best these destinations have to offer, timed to coincide with our local April and September school holidays. It's a once--in--a--lifetime adventure with wildlife, local culture, amazing scenery and diverse activities. Visit Zimbabwe's Victoria Falls (better known to the locals as *Mosi--oa--Tunya*, the smoke that thunders), the famous Chobe National Park in Botswana where you'll stay in both luxury camps and a safari lodge, plus Cape Town which is without a doubt, South Africa's most beautiful and exciting city.

The volume of water that tumbles over the Victoria Falls is hard to fathom. The sound is almost deafening and the spray can rise hundreds of metres. While it's not the highest or the widest waterfall in the world, it is classified as the biggest, based on its combined width and height which creates the world's largest sheet of falling water. What can't be disputed that it is one of the most spectacular falls.

Botswana's world-renowned Chobe National Park is a haven for wildlife and has natural beauty that is second to none. You'll spot wildlife from close distance. The park has an abundance of elephants, hippos, giraffes, crocodiles, impala and many other species. Plus, there are dozens of species of birdlife. Make sure you have spare camera batteries and media cards!

No trip to Southern Africa is complete without a visit to Cape Town. With Table Mountain as her backdrop Cape Town offers a plethora of activities, wildlife, great food and scenic drives, which makes it a fabulous family destination. There are too many highlights to list but worthy of mention are the fabulous Victoria & Alfred Harbour with its café's, restaurants and delightful shops, the Cape Peninsular drive including Smith Town, the penguins and Cape Point, the wonderful nearby winelands and the Table Mountain cable car. Too much fun!

Whether you are one family or a group of families, this trip provides a wonderful opportunity that will provide you and the children with memories to last a lifetime.

TRAVEL INFORMATION—SOUTH AFRICA



TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

It is most likely you will fly to on QF63 departing Sydney late morning and arriving Johannesburg some 14 hours later in the early evening but this is to be confirmed. For those who wish to spend more time in Victoria Falls, we can arrange for an earlier departure.

Flights are not included in the tour cost as we find many travellers have their personal preferences across airlines, day or night flights, class of travel etc. We offer a full travel service and can plan and book your flights subject to your preferences or you can book your own flights or use frequent flyer points. We are unable to book frequent flyer flights on your behalf.

While specific accommodation has been nominated throughout the itinerary, if any is unavailable, a suitable and equivalent property and / or room type will be substituted.

CLIMATE

The best time to see plenty of water thundering over Victoria Falls combined with great game viewing in Botswana, one of Africa's legendary Big 5 safari destinations, is in the dryer winter period April to September. The lack of rain draws the animals to the water's edge and large herds of elephants and buffalo come down to the Zambezi to drink. During this time, you can expect warm days and cool nights (as low as 5°C) with little to no rain.

Summer runs from October to April with hot temperatures and dramatic thunderstorms often hitting late in the afternoon. After the dry winter, this is also the time when the water level is typically at its lowest. While this might guarantee panoramic view without any misty spray on both sides of the falls, the Zambian side may have dried up completely. The flow of water on the Zimbabwean side is permanent but ebbs and flows with the seasons.

Day 01 Saturday

AUSTRALIA – SOUTH AFRICA

Today you depart Australia for Johannesburg, South Africa for an overnight stay.

Overnight: City Lodge Hotel Sandton, Johannesburg
Meals: in flight

Day 02 Sunday

VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE

In the morning you'll fly to Victoria Falls (time to be advised) and on arrival, transfer to your hotel and check in. Victoria Falls are on the Zambezi River at the border of Zimbabwe and Zambia while the town itself is on the Zimbabwean side. Deliberately, there are no specific activities planned for today so you are free to explore on your own.

We suggest you experience the Falls by foot. There is a walking track of about 1.5km (each way) located about 1km from your hotel. It's easy to follow the track -- no guide is necessary -- and there's a café there if you wish to have lunch. Take a light weight waterproof jacket unless you don't mind getting wet! The Victoria Falls is an enormous curtain of water over one kilometre wide, falling over 100M into a narrow gorge. In the wet season, the spray created can rise up to 400 m and can be seen from many kilometres away. It's no wonder that the local name *Mosi oa Tunya* means 'the smoke that thunders.'



Hotel: Cresta Sprayview Hotel, Victoria Falls, with the option to upgrade to Victoria Falls Safari Lodge (worth a visit even if you're not staying there)

Meals: Breakfast

Day 03 Monday

VICTORIA FALLS ZIMBABWE

As the adventure capital of Zimbabwe, there are many activities (at own cost) from which you can choose. Take a helicopter flight for a jaw--dropping view of the Falls and Zambezi Gorges; enjoy a Zambezi Sunset Cruise where you'll be keeping a lookout for elephants and hippopotamus while cruising along the banks of the Zambezi River while eating a light snack as the sun



sets over the river; or you can go water rafting, zip--lining or one of the many another activities available.

Overnight: Cresta Sprayview Hotel, Victoria Falls
Meals: Breakfast

Day 04 Tuesday

CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA



After breakfast, depart Vic Falls township along the Zambezi Valley road to Chobe via the Botswana border, which is about a 50--minute drive. After completing border formalities, it's just a short drive to the township of Kasane and then on to Chobe National Park where you'll meet your local safari crew, have lunch and receive a full briefing about your camp stay. For two nights, you'll stay at Camp Savuti in a comfortable tent set up by your crew. Camp Savuti is a traditional, understated camp decorated in African--inspired woodwork and arts and crafts that give it an authentic feel.

Cameras ready! In the afternoon, you'll take a game drive in the back of an open 4WD safari vehicle where everyone has a great view, regardless of your seat. All meals are included during your camp stay, and dinners around the camp fire are very special. Remember to look up and check out the stars. Note that your game drives within Chobe National Park may be shared activities with other guests.

Overnight: Camp Savuti, Chobe
Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 05 Wednesday

CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA

Today includes an early morning and an afternoon game drive with the opportunity to relax back at the





lodge during the middle of the day. The adventures will last around 3 hours each and can be tailored to what you see. There is an abundance of wildlife in Chobe and it's a good idea to have the children list all of the animals and birds you spot as you go.

Overnight: Camp Savuti, Chobe
Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 06 Thursday

CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA

Your last day of camping today! You'll move to the Chobe River camp and take two more game drives with the afternoon safari including a drive along the Chobe River front. This beautiful river attracts wildlife from all around the national park where in particular, elephants come to bathe, drink and play. Across the other side of the river is Namibia.

Overnight: Camp Savuti, Chobe
Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Day 07 Friday

CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA



After breakfast you'll say good bye to your safari crew and transfer from the camp site to the Chobe Safari Lodge for a little luxury! In the afternoon there'll be a river cruise which you are not likely to ever forget because the beauty of Chobe is that you're bound to see wildlife that's equal to anything in Africa—elephants, hippos, crocks, impalas and a whole lot more. The bird life on the river can also be truly spectacular with sightings of saddle-billed storks, malachite kingfishers, fish eagles, goliath herons, vultures and beautiful bee-eaters. Note this is a shared boat trip with other guests of the lodge. The cruise will take about two hours. The boat is basic but has shelter from the sun and is fantastic for taking photos. Hats, sunscreen and water are a must. Dinner is at the Lodge.

Overnight: Chobe Safari Lodge, Kasane, Botswana
Meals: Breakfast and dinner



Day 08 Saturday

CHOBE NATIONAL PARK, BOTSWANA

Today is at your leisure. You may decide to take a game drive, do another boat trip, go fishing, take a scenic flight, do a day trip to a Namibian village or, simply chill by the pool. All activity is at your own expense but dinner is included at the Lodge.

Overnight: Chobe Safari Lodge, Kasane, Botswana
Meals: Breakfast and dinner



Day 09 Sunday

KASANE to CAPE TOWN

This morning is free for you to take a game drive or relax until your flight to Cape Town via Jo'burg departs early afternoon from Kasane airport. Check into the hotel late in the afternoon for a five--night stay. We suggest dinner (own expense) down at the V&A (Victoria and Alfred) Harbour, just a 5--minute walk from the hotel. The area is a hive of activity with buskers, dozens of restaurants, bars, cafés and shops selling local arts and crafts.

Overnight: Commodore Hotel, Cape Town
Meals: Breakfast

Day 10 Monday

CAPE TOWN

Welcome to South Africa's most beautiful city! Today is a long but rewarding day where you will cover the core sites of the stunning Cape Peninsular. You'll see Boulders Beach and its famous penguins, Cape Point and the Cape of Good Hope,





Chapmans Peak Drive, Hout Bay (including a boat trip to see the seals) and Camps Bay. Lunch (at own expense) will be at Simons Town where you can grab fish'n'chips (or similar) at one of the eateries on the water and an ice cream while exploring the town's pretty Dutch colonial architecture.

Overnight: Commodore Hotel, Cape Town
Meals: Breakfast

Day 11 Tuesday

CAPE TOWN



There are plenty of activities to choose from in this stunning city so we have deliberately left the time free to maximise flexibility over the next few days. Our suggestion today is a boat trip to Robben Island where Nelson Mandela spent many years in prison – a great education for kids and parents alike. In the afternoon, we suggest you make the not-to-be-missed trip up Table Mountain's cable car for the amazing view and a walk around the national park. Blue Dot Travel or the hotel can provide you with contacts for a guide.

Overnight: Commodore Hotel, Cape Town
Meals: Breakfast

Day 12 Wednesday

CAPE TOWN

No trip to Cape Town is complete without visiting the winelands including Stellenbosh, Franschhoek and Paarl, driving past the Groot Drakenstein prison where Nelson Mandela was released in February 1990. We can arrange for a driver/guide whom you would pay direct or the hotel can assist. Starting around 9.00am, you'll visit a wonderful part of the country with its vineyards, fine food and colonial architecture, lunching at one of the many vineyards. Both adults and children will enjoy this because of the eclectic blend of numerous ice

creameries, fascinating history and lovely colonial townships with their delightfully quaint shops.

Overnight: Commodore Hotel, Cape Town
Meals: Breakfast

Day 13 Thursday

CAPE TOWN

For the really adventurous, today you might decide to take the kids shark cage diving to see the great whites up close. This really is a special experience and comes with serious bragging rights. No experience is necessary (other than the ability to swim) and all the gear is provided. For those less heroic, you can still join the tour but not do the cage swim. You could opt for a full day tour, driving to the delightful township of Hermanous for a lovely lunch. Another option is to visit to the District 6



Museum to learn about the history of this inner city region. Many thousands of poor local and mainly black community of ex-slaves and labourers were displaced from their homes to make way for a new development by order of the white government at the time. The museum only takes about 30 minutes to visit but is very interesting. Exploring the V&A harbour is also a great way to spend a few hours.



Overnight: Commodore Hotel, Cape Town
Meals: Breakfast

Day 14 Friday

CAPE TOWN

Today after breakfast you'll be collected from your hotel and transferred to Cape Town airport for your onward flight, schedule TBA.

Meals: Inflight

Day 15 Saturday

ARRIVE HOME

Arrive home, leaving you all of Sunday to sort your photos and relive the wonderful memories.



South Africa Family Tour

Please contact us for a quote.

Minimum numbers: The tour requires a minimum of 4 people to guarantee departure.

How to book: To secure your place on the tour, complete a booking form and provide a \$250 deposit per person at the same time (or before). We offer a full travel service and can plan and book your flights subject to your preferences across airlines, schedules and availability. Please call for a quote.

Payment terms: If not booked on a group basis, payment for flights falls due within 5 days of booking them. If booked on a group basis, total tour cost less deposit paid is due no later than 60 days prior to departure. Failure to meet these terms may mean your place on the tour is forfeited.

Payment for optional excursions: Your in-country guide will keep a tab of all of the extra excursions and additional expenses incurred by you and your family. The final amount due will be advised on the last day and is payable by cash only (not credit card) in local, Australian or US currency. For costs of the optional excursions, please refer to the separate brochure which will allow you to budget.

This brochure provides general information and photos are for representation only. Information is correct as at time of printing, however changes may occur without notice.

It is the traveller's responsibility to check individual itineraries in detail in conjunction with the complete Terms and Conditions (including for currency fluctuations) available on our website at www.bluedottravel.com.au before making a decision to travel.

ACCOMMODATION

All accommodation is of good quality, around 3½ to 4½--star. At a minimum, you will have clean rooms and comfortable beds wherever you go and sometimes, impressive luxury. The local service can be different to here at home but just remember you are on holidays in a very special part of the world.

The properties and room types mentioned in this itinerary are those we have requested. Should any not be available, an equivalent alternative will be provided. Please view the links below only as an indication of what awaits.

- [City Lodge Hotel Sandton, Johannesburg](#)
- [Cresta Sprayview Hotel, Victoria Falls](#)
Or upgrade to ...
[Victoria Falls Safari Lodge](#)
- [Camp Savuti, Chobe National Park](#)
- [Chobe Safari Lodge, Kasane](#)
- [Commodore Hotel, Capetown](#)

