CRUISE OF 17 DAYS / 16 NIGHTS - REF. 18A_PP

Safari Cruise along the Zambezi River - South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe with the pre-cruise itinerary "The Cape Peninsula" and the post-cruise program "From Zimbabwe to South Africa on an iconic Train" (port-to-port cruise)

SOUTH AFRICA - BOTSWANA - ZIMBABWE

Your journey in Southern Africa begins with the Cape Peninsula. Discover Robben Island, a historic site listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site, as well as breathtaking views from Table Mountain or along Chapman's Peak Drive before meeting the penguins of Simon's Town. Then, from Johannesburg to Victoria Falls, explore spectacular landscapes, the path of Nelson Mandela, great mammals and predators inhabiting the most beautiful nature reserves, as well as fine gastronomy, not forgetting the secrets of Lake Kariba and the impressive Victoria Falls. After your safari-cruise, continue your exploration of Southern Africa aboard a legendary train, the Rovos Rail, crossing the grand landscapes of the Zimbabwean and South African high plateaus. Get ready for a legendary experience!





HIGHLIGHTS

- Stay in a luxurious lodge in the heart of African nature
- Exceptional cruise on Lake Kariba through its mystical landscapes
- Overflight of the African savannah in private planes
- Johannesburg and the history of South Africa with the immersive Apartheid Museum
- Victoria Falls helicopter ride (optional), an exceptional experience
- Land safaris in the heart of the Chobe and Matusadona National Parks
- Water safaris: an immersion into the world of mammals and birds
- Discovery of local culture and traditions with the inhabitants of Namibian villages.

THE CROISIEUROPE DIFFERENCE

- All meals included - DRINKS INCLUDED with meals and at the bar
- Refined local cuisine
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Tour leader or cruise director on board
- Onboard activities and/or lectures
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included

Day-by-day itinerary

DAY 1

Cape Town

Passengers are welcome to check in to their 4-star hotel LS starting from 3:00 p.m. (please make sure your travel agency is aware of the arrival times of your flight). After settling into your room, enjoy dinner on your own before spending the night at the hotel.

DAY 2

Cape Town - Groot Constantia Wine Estate

We'll have a panoramic tour of the city. Afterwards, we'll take the Table mountain Cableway(1) and admire the magnificent panoramic view of the surrounding mountains (if the weather allows it). After the lunch, we'll visit the Groot Constantia estate followed by a tasting*. Dinner and overnight at a 4-star hotel LS.

DAY 3

Robben Island - Cape Town

We'll first visit famous Robben Island and its cells (if weather allows it). We'll return to Cape Town for lunch on the waterfront. We continue our tour of Cape Town, nicknamed the "Mother City" because it is the oldest city in South Africa. We'll have dinner and spend the night at the hotel.

DAY 4

The Cape of Good Hope

Today, we'll set out for the legendary Cape of Good Hope. We'll ride along Chapman's Peak Drive and take the famous Flying Dutchman funicular to the summit. Enjoy lunch before discovering the penguin colony near Simon's Town. We'll have dinner and spend the night at the hotel.

DAY 5

Cape Town - Johannesburg (South Africa)

Flight to Johannesburg. We'll have lunch before visiting the Apartheid Museum (the Museum is open from Tuesday to Sunday. In case of a visit a Monday, this museum will be replaced by the Mandela House.) Afterwards, we'll set off for a panoramic tour of Johannesburg, the city of superlatives. We'll arrive at our five-star hotel LS. You'll enjoy dinner and spend the night at the hotel.

DAY 6

Johannesburg - Kasane - Arrival at the LODGE (South Africa-Botswana-Namibia)

We'll take a regular flight from Johannesburg to Kasane, Botswana. You'll be transferred from the airport to your CroisiEurope lodge on board small private boats. You'll settle into your comfortable lodge ideally located at the heart of the wilderness. We'll have dinner and spend the night at the lodge.

DAY 7

LODGE: Chobe National Park (Namibia-Botswana)

Enjoy a full-day dedicated to the discovery of Chobe National Park and its majestic fauna. African lunch in the heart of nature. Afterwards, we'll board small private boats and sail off on Chobe River all the way to Sedudu Island and its marshes. We'll have dinner and spend the night at the lodge.

DAY 8

LODGE: Impalila Island (Namibia)

Discover traditional villages on Impalila Island. We'll return to our lodge for lunch. This afternoon, you can enjoy time at leisure at the lodge, then join us for a discovery of the Zambezi River on small private boats. We'll have dinner at the lodge. Tonight, let your guide tell you all about the traditions of this particular island. Night spent at the lodge.

DAY 9

Lodge - Kasane - Lake Kariba - BOARDING THE SHIP (Namibia-Botswana-Zimbabwe)

Enjoy one last water safari in the Chobe National Park area. After lunch along the water, we'll set out for the Kasane airport. On board small private planes, you'll discover the stunning panoramas during your flight to Lake Kariba(2). You'll be transferred to board the ship and comfortably settle into your cabins. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.

DAY 10

SHIP: LAKE KARIBA - MATUSADONA NATIONAL PARK (Zimbabwe)

At sunrise, we'll set sail through Lake Kariba. We'll set out on a small private boat to discover the small waterways going into the Matusadona National Park and their unique wildlife. We'll return on board for lunch. The afternoon will be spend cruising. Later, we'll set out on small private boats to admire the sunset. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.

DAY 11

SHIP: LAKE KARIBA - MATUSADONA NATIONAL PARK (Zimbabwe)

We'll journey out this morning on a safari to discover the area around Matusadona National Park and its numerous wild animals. We'll enjoy lunch on board and start sailing again. During this time, a round table will be the opportunity to learn more about the creation of the Lake, its inhabitants as well as its ecosystem. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.

DAY 12

SHIP: KARIBA - Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

At sunrise, we'll set sail towards Kariba to disembark and journey out to the airport. We'll discover the gigantic Kariba Dam which was created to form Lake Kariba before flying out to Victoria Falls on board private planes. Lunch cruise on the Zambezi River. Afternoon at leisure, with moments of relaxation by the hotel pool and views over the surrounding savannah. Optional: Helicopter flight over Victoria Falls. Optional: A unique opportunity for a final safari through the wild landscapes of a private reserve! This time, set off in a comfortable 4x4 vehicle in search of Africa's black rhinos, accompanied by an experienced ranger. (Excursions are compatible and take place one after the other. Must be booked at the time of registration. The safari is offered on a private basis and accompanied by our guide for CroisiEurope passengers from 6 participants. Below this number, participants may join other clients without accompaniment.) Tonight, enjoy dinner and spend the night at a four-star hotel LS.

DAY 13

Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe)

Breakfast. We'll leave for a tour on foot of the falls where the views are among the most exceptional in the world. We'll also see where the Zambezi River plunges over the cliff to become the widest waterfall in the world, creating the "smoke that thunders." Lunch will be served at the hotel. Guided tour of Victoria Falls Bridge. Built at the beginning of the 20th century, this superstructure spans the Zambezi River and connects Zimbabwe and Zambia. Learn about the history of the bridge and set off on a stroll across its walkways for some impressive views. You'll then head to the Victoria Falls train station, where you'll settle comfortably in your suite as the train sets out for a 932-mile trip (1,500 km). Enjoy dinner in the Dining Car and the night on board as the train begins its travels towards Southern Zimbabwe.

DAY 14

Hwange National Park (Zimbabwe)

Morning dedicated to exploring Hwange National Park in four-wheel-drive vehicles. The best place for safaris in Zimbabwe, Hwange National Park, was delineated in 1928 and is one of the best places to observe the impressive "Big Five" animals: lions, African buffalo, leopards, rhinoceroses, and elephants. The park is home to the largest elephant population in the country. The train will continue on its way while lunch is served on board. You'll travel along one of the longest straight-line railroad tracks in the world this afternoon, approximately 71 miles (114 km). The line passes through Bulawayo, the second largest city in Zimbabwe and the industrial capital of the country. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.

DAY 15

Matobo National Park (Zimbabwe)

Enjoy a morning in Matobo National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2003. You will discover caves once inhabited by hunter-gatherer peoples, along with their rock paintings, as well as spectacular granite hills. It is also in this park that the tomb of Cecil John Rhodes is located. Founder of Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, he requested to be buried at the top of Malindidzimu Hill. Lunch is served aboard the train as it crosses landscapes dotted with baobabs. The afternoon is free on board as you enjoy the scenic views offered by the Zimbabwean nature. Dinner and overnight aboard.

DAY 16

Relaxing day on board (Zimbabwe - South Africa)

Sit back and enjoy the scenery from the Observation Car as the train crosses the border and the Limpopo River before arriving in Musina, South Africa. We'll have lunch on board. We'll cross the Tropic of Capricorn, the southern-most latitude where the sun appears directly overhead at noon during the December solstice. Enjoy the tea service in the Lounge as the train continues its trips through the spa town formerly known as Warmbaths, now renamed in the local language as Bela Bela ("boiling, boiling"). Next is the city of Nylstroom, called Nyl by its first inhabitants, who believed they had discovered the source of the Nile River. The vast golden plains of Highveld, where zebras and antelope abound, will close out this adventure. We'll have dinner and spend the night on board.

DAY 17

Pretoria - Johannesburg

Enjoy one last breakfast on board before disembarking. Visit the Rovos Rail museum to see its antique rail collection. You'll be transferred to the center of Pretoria—called Jacaranda City, as the tropical jacaranda trees turn the city a magnificent purple hue each spring. Enjoy a panoramic tour of the "Executive Capital" of South Africa. Discover its famous Union Building, home to the South African presidential offices. The building has been the site of many important events, including Nelson Mandela's inauguration. We'll have lunch in the city. You'll be transferred to the airport in Johannesburg. End of our services at OR Tambo airport around 5:00 pm.

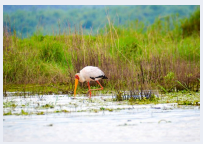
Excursions

Included excursions (5)



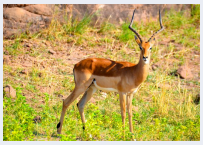
Fly to Lake Kariba on board small private planes

2h Classic



Water safari

2h Classic



Land and water safari in Matusadona National Park

3h Classic



Visit Lake Kariba's "Dam Wall"

0h15 Classic MATIN



Victoria Falls walking tour

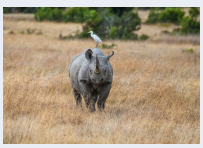
2h Classic

Optional excursions (2)



Soar over Victoria Falls in a helicopter (optional excursion)

0h12 Classic PM



SAFARI IN SEARCH OF AFRICA'S BLACK RHINO (optional excursion)

3h30 Classic DIVERS

Our price includes

>> CORE PROGRAM

the regular flight Johannesburg/Kasane - the private flights Kasane/lake Kariba/Victoria falls - airport taxes (150€ - 2024 rates) - your cruise with double-occupancy cabin in your choice of category - double-occupancy accomodations at a first-class CroisiEurope lodge and at 4-and-5-star hotels LS - all meals - drinks served by CroisiEurope at all meals and drinks served at the bar on the ship and at the CroisiEurope lodge - in Johannesburg and Victoria falls, drinks include: 1 water, 1 glass of local wine* or 1 soft drink or 1 local beer*, 1 tea or coffee per person and per meal - the excursions mentioned in the program (excluding optional excursions) - travel assistance and repatriation insurance - tips (excluding tips for crew members on board the ship and at the lodge).

Tips :To make your vacation worry-free, the equivalent of €20 per passenger will be given to service providers in your destination countries (excluding tips for crew members on board the ship and at the lodge) as tips. We feel this amount is appropriate in consideration of local customs and practice.

>> EXTENDED STAYS

Pre-cruise: the domestic flight and its taxes (30€ - 2024 rates) - the coach transfer from the hotel to the airport - accomodation at a 4-star hotel - all meals - drinks include: 1 glass of wine* or 1 beer* or 1 soft drink + 1 water + 1 tea or coffee per person and per meal - the excursions mentioned in the program - the services of a local guide - tips.

Tips :To make your vacation worry-free, the equivalent of €40 per passenger will be given to service providers in your destination countries as tips. We feel this amount is appropriate in consideration of local customs and practice.

Post-cruise: Transfers – accommodations according to category booked on board the Rovos Rail train from Victoria Falls to Pretoria, with all meals included – drinks package: one glass of local wine* or one local beer* or one non-alcoholic drink + one bottle of water + one tea or coffee per person/per meal in Victoria Falls and Pretoria - beverages included at all meals on board the train (except champagne) - tours and excursions mentioned in the program.

*Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.

*The tour itinerary can change depending on the weather. The order of the visits can change. The observation of wildlife can't be guaranteed. The helicopter ride, the ascent of Table Bay by the Cableway and the visit of Robben Island depend on suitable weather conditions. Helicopters accommodate groups of 3 to 5 passengers, which may occasionally result in couples being seated separately during the flight. Allocation of the front seat, next to the pilot, is determined according to onboard weight distribution and is at the discretion of the ground crew. (1) The Table Mountain cableway closes every year for a variable period ranging from 2 to 7 weeks in July/August. Passengers departing during this period will instead benefit from a visit to the District Six Museum, retracing the history of a district of Cape Town that was razed to the ground by the Apartheid regime, and a tour of the Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, featuring almost 7,000 species of plants from southern Africa along its many landscaped paths. (2) This flight may include a stopover for technical or customs reasons. *Alcohol can be harmful to your health. Please drink in moderation.*

Our price does not include

>> CORE PROGRAM

international flights and their taxes - flight between Victoria Falls and Johannesburg - other transfers - cancellation and baggage insurance - Namibian and Zimbabwean visas (please, check with your embassy) - cancellation/baggage insurance - optional excursions - tips for crew members on board the ship and at the lodge (for informational purposes, daily tips per passenger amount to US$5) - the Botswana Tourism levy (US$30 to be paid for on site in US$, and likely to be applicable in the year) - personal expenses.

>> EXTENDED STAYS

Pre-cruise: Dinner on D1.

Post-cruise: Tips (for guidance, plan $10 to $20 per night per passenger on board the train and $10 per day per passenger for the guide during excursions).

Useful information

These cruises and tours are not recommended for persons with reduced mobility as we will walk along stony paths and slopes. There are no elevators on the ships.

- Your cruise as well as your stay at the lodge are fully dedicated to the protected areas of Lake Kariba and Chobé National Park. Life on board and at the lodge revolves around the discovery and observation of the local fauna and flora, providing constant enchantment. Strict safety rules and guidelines will be given on site, such as staying close to the lodge and ship at all times outside of the context of excursions because of the ever-present wilderness and fauna around you.
- Please be aware that most of your stay will take place at the border with three different countries, meaning mandatory and frequent border crossings. Our teams on site are doing everything in their power to make the process quicker.
- The domestic flight from Cape Town to Johannesburg will be provided by South African Airways or another airline serving Southern Africa.
- The domestic flight from Johannesburg to Kasane will be provided by South African Airways or another airline serving Southern Africa.
- Domestic flights for Lake Kariba will be provided by MackAir, Safari Logistics or another airline serving Southern Africa.
- Our services start at the hotel in Cape Town and end at the hotel in Victoria Falls, international flights are not included.

Please note: international flights are not included, our services start from the hotel in Johannesburg and end at the hotel in Victoria Falls.

PRECAUTIONS

The following information is given for guidance only and may be modified at any time. This information cannot anticipate the sovereign application thereof made by the authorities of the countries to be visited nor by the airlines.

There are no compulsory vaccinations for your destinations except for guests arriving from countries with risk of yellow fever; these guests may be required to produce proof of vaccination at the airport or at the border post.

However, it is strongly recommended you ensure your vaccines for the following diseases are up-to-date: tetanus, polio, hepatitis A and B, diphtheria and typhoid. We also recommend consulting with your general practitioner regarding an antimalarial treatment and a yellow fever vaccine.

Vaccines for rubella, mumps, measles are recommended for minors. As a general rule, we strongly recommend consulting with your general practitioner about any health concerns before your departure.

CURRENCY

Onboard the ships and at the lodges, payments can be made with a major bank card. We recommend bringing US dollars with you as they will be accepted in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe. For your information*:

- South Africa: the rand (ZAR) €1 = ZAR 20 / $1 = ZAR 18
- Botswana: the pula (BWP) €1 = BWP 15 / $1 = BWP 13*
- Namibia: the Namibian dollar (NAD) €1 = NAD 20 / $1 = NAD 18*
- Zimbabwe: due to regular changes in the local monetary system, payment in US dollars is strongly encouraged and advised.

*Exchange rates of June 2023.

CLIMATE

In Johannesburg, temperatures are never excessive due to its altitude (1,752m./5,751 ft.). Winters (May to September) are dry and sunny with cold nights, but the days are usually very pleasant. Summers (October to April) are hot during the day with thunderstorms in the afternoon or evening, and nights are cool. In the Kasane, Lake Kariba and Victoria Falls areas, the climate is semi-arid. Winters (May to October) are the dry season; days are hot and sunny, and nights are cool or even cold. Summers (November to April) can be rainy and temperatures are hot.

TIME DIFFERENCE

You can consult www.worldtimezone.com to see the time difference between your home and your destination.

- Your checked baggage (1 per person maximum) MUST NOT EXCEED 20KG/44lbs.
- It MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING DIMENSIONS 70cm/27,50in. in length x 35cm/13,70in. in height x 30cm/11,80in. in width.
- It must be made from SOFT FABRIC. Hard-shell suitcases are not accepted.
- Luggage with wheels is accepted (a maximum of 2 wheels per bag).
- Your carry-on baggage and personal items MUST NOT EXCEED 5KG/11lbs.

FORMALITIES

Depending on nationality. Each nationality is requested to consult their embassy or consulate.