



central africa

Set in the warm heart of southern Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Malawi seem to distil the very essence of this vast continent – their broad plateaus, mountain peaks, crystalline lakes, tumbling waterfalls, forests and safari lands crowded with big game and exotic bird life.

To the south and west lie the wide savannahs of Botswana, a landscape of scorched plains. Here too are the flooded deltas and reedy lagoons of the great Okavango Delta where kingfishers flash and hippos snort as you paddle past in mokoros, to local dug-out canoes.

In Zambia the legends of great explorers are stitched into the fabric of the country. The landscape is little changed from the days when David Livingstone trekked its high places and game-rich valleys.

Malawi may be small by African standards, but within its narrow borders you'll find a stunning combination of lowland forests, misty plateaus, mountain peaks and the spectacular 350-mile expanse of Lake Malawi.

the safari concept

Our central African safaris can be broadly divided into three different styles:

- 1) A safari based on accommodation in lodges and permanently sited tented camps with en suite facilities.
- 2) A traditional safari led by a fully licensed guide, based on luxury accommodation in large, walk-in tents with full bedding. Camps are 'mobile', but are professionally staffed and equipped with all amenities.
- 3) A participatory overland safari based on accommodation in comfortable, lightweight camps. Safaris are led and fully supported, but are more informal with everyone expected to contribute.

TRAVEL GUIDE

VISA REQUIREMENTS

UK Passport holders currently do not require visas for Botswana or Malawi, but visas are required for Zambia. Non British Passport holders should check requirements.

HEALTH ADVICE

No vaccinations are currently required for these countries, but the following are recommended:
 Yellow Fever, Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Polio and Tetanus.
 Anti-malarial prophylactics should also be taken.

FLYING TIME

Lusaka 10hrs 10mins
 Maun 15hrs 50mins

LOCAL TIME

Botswana, Zambia & Malawi - GMT + 2hrs



WHEN TO VISIT

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Botswana			✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓		
Zambia				✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓		
Malawi				✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓		

✓✓ indicates the optimum time to visit

bush camps of botswana

The Okavango is undoubtedly the most outstanding of Botswana's natural wonders. This wetland paradise spreads out over the north-western reaches of the country in a wide fan of meandering floodplains dotted with islands and laced with an intricate web of waterways, which teem with game and bird life. South of the Okavango, the Kalahari sand belt is an altogether different environment, a vast wilderness of salt pans and scorched plains, which supports a surprising diversity of wildlife. In the far north lies the arid expanse of the Chobe National Park where some of the world's largest concentrations of elephant can be found.

The best way to explore these fascinating wildernesses is from one of the small, high quality bush camps for which Botswana is renowned, and the following is a preferred selection from the wide choice available.



Eagle Island Camp, Okavango

Shaded by a canopy of indigenous trees on Xaxaba Island, overlooking a tranquil lagoon fed by the waters of the Okavanga Delta, Eagle Island Camp provides a luxurious hidden retreat in pristine natural surroundings. It is the perfect base from which to enjoy the exceptional and prolific birdlife, and good mammal sightings.

The 12 beautifully appointed air-conditioned luxury tents are raised on wooden platforms so guests enjoy wonderful views of the lagoon. Amenities include *al fresco* and covered dining, the renowned Fish Eagle Bar – one of the world's most romantic bars - and a pool. Activities such as walking safaris to neighbouring islands, *mokoro* and motor boat excursions on the waterways, and private fishing are on offer.



Mombo Camp, Okavango

Situated on a private island at the heart of the Moremi Game Reserve, Mombo is one of the country's most luxurious camps. This very special and exclusive tented camp overlooks floodplains that literally teem with wildlife, and this is the only place in Botswana where the 'Big Five' can be seen on one safari.

The camp, which combines a colonial and modern ambience, has nine luxurious raised tents, each with private veranda and separate sala. Wooden walkways connect tents to the stylish main living area, which has expansive views over the floodplain. There is a plunge pool and a variety of traditional activities. Mombo also has a separate small private camp, Little Mombo, ideal for a small party.



Nxabega Safari Camp, Okavango

Lying in an exclusive concession near the permanent channels of the Okavango Delta, Nxabega skilfully combines luxury with the environment. The camp offers a water and wilderness experience with the excitement of viewing big game on land, and has exclusive access to six broad habitats and diverse bird, plant and animal species.

This intimate camp has nine elegant classic safari tents raised on wooden platforms, each with a private deck overlooking a floodplain. The magnificent main building, constructed in timber, reed and thatch, has a dining room, sitting room and expansive decks with sweeping views of the grasslands. There is a swimming pool, and activities include day and night drives and *mokoro* (dugout canoe) and boat excursions.



Little Vumbura, Okavango

Nestling under an enormous canopy of ancient trees on a beautiful island in the northern concession of the Delta, Little Vumbura is arguably the Delta's most picturesque camp. Small and highly personalised, the camp offers the definitive Okavango experience, with the diverse environment and a stunning array of wildlife.

The camp has just six spacious and comfortably appointed tents, each with en suite facilities, private veranda and panoramic views across a lily-filled lagoon. The main living area has a pub, dining room and lounge under canvas, and there is a plunge pool. The camp offers both water and land activities using *mokoros* (dug-out canoes) and motor boats on the flood plains and open 4x4s in the savannah areas.



Stanley's Camp, Moremi

This exclusive camp is set on a 260,000-acre private concession to the south of the world-famous Moremi Game Reserve, overlooking the Boro River. There are just eight classically styled safari tents, each en suite and with private balcony, and a raised central 'boma' offers extensive views across the tree line.

The camp has some of the best game viewing in the Okavango - the immediate area is sanctuary to buffalo, lion, leopard, cheetah, wild dog and, uniquely, a group of semi-habituated elephants, which can be accompanied on walks. A wide variety of activities include bush dinners, *mokoro* canoe excursions, game drives and the opportunity of night drives and bush walking safaris with an armed professional guide.



Selinda Camp, Linyanti

Lying on the banks of the eastern Selinda Spillway, a waterway linking the Okavango Delta to the Linyanti Swamps, Selinda Camp lies at the heart of a 300,000-acre private game reserve. Recently completely re-built, this luxurious small camp is surrounded by floodplains, waterways and open savannahs, habitat to a wide variety of wildlife.

There are nine beautifully appointed raised guest tents under thatch, each with a large private veranda. The new main living area has a lounge furnished with artworks and a raised thatched dining area that overlooks the floodplains and the Spillway. Other amenities include a shaded plunge pool, whilst activities include bush walks trails in the immediate vicinity of camp and day and night 4x4 game drives further afield.



Khwai River Lodge, Moremi

Nestled on the edge of a leadwood and fig tree forest, Khwai River Lodge overlooks the vast Khwai River floodplains bordering the Moremi Game Reserve. This luxurious lodge has been designed to blend unobtrusively into the surrounding environment and, raised on a wooden platform, offers excellent views.

Each of the 15 luxury en suite tents is beautifully stylish with discreet air-conditioning and a private viewing deck, and the camp offers excellent amenities. Activities include daily game drives, including after dark, guided bush walks and cultural visits. Khwai is an area renowned for its large concentrations of big mammals together with a variety of predators and abundant bird life.



Savuti Camp, Linyanti

This isolated camp is situated in the heart of the private Linyanti Reserve in northern Botswana. The reserve is renowned for its wildlife, which includes large number of predators, huge elephant herds and a good concentration of plains animals, and game viewing is exceptional at Savuti, particularly during the drier winter months.

There are just seven spacious and elegantly appointed tented rooms raised on wooden decks, each with views over the surrounding landscape. The camp also has a thatched living and dining area, a bar and a plunge pool. There is a waterhole close to camp, which attracts large numbers of animals, a number of hides whilst other activities include day or night game drives and bush walks.



Kwando Lagoon / Lebala, Linyanti

These two camps are situated 30km apart on private concessions in the northern reaches of Botswana. Lagoon Camp sits on the banks of the Kwando River in the shade of ancient African ebony and marula trees, whilst Lebala Camp overlooks the vast plains and scattered palms of the Linyanti wetlands.

Lagoon has eight luxury safari-style tents looking out over the water, and Lebala also has eight spacious specially commissioned tents each with claw-foot bathtub and open air shower. Both camps offer a variety of amenities including swimming pools, whilst activities include day and night game drives and bush walks. Around each camp there is a wide variety of wildlife including buffalo, elephant, predators and plains game.



Jack's Camp & San Camp, Kalahari

Situated on the edge of the Makgadikgadi Pans, deep in the Kalahari Desert, Jack's Camp and San Camp offer the opportunity to explore the remarkable Kalahari in a very special way. The luxury camps, which accommodate a maximum of 12-20 guests, offer great comfort in spacious classic 1940's style walk-in tents.

The camps offer a remarkable experience with, in the dry season, day and night desert drives by vehicle or quad bike, and walks with bushmen to view rare desert species such as the habituated wild meerkat. The Makgadikgadi is an important wetland site and, in the wet season, attracts remarkable flocks of flamingo and migratory birds. It is also possible to see a vast migration of wildebeest and zebra.



Savute Elephant Camp, Chobe

Perched on the one-time banks of the dry Savute Channel in the heart of the Chobe National Park, Savute Elephant Camp is an oasis of luxury in arid surroundings. This dramatic area sees high concentrations of elephant and lions, all the other major predators including some endangered species, and desert and savannah birds.

The 12 spacious thatch-shaded tents are raised up on wooden decks, providing excellent views. Each is luxuriously appointed with en suite bathroom, discreet air-conditioning and outside lounge. Excellent amenities include a covered living and dining area, a bar and a heated swimming pool. In addition to game drives, night drives and bird watching there is a waterhole with prevalent wildlife in sight of camp.



Kalahari Plains Camp, Kalahari

Situated in a remote part of the vast and diverse Central Kalahari Game Reserve in central Botswana, Kalahari Plains Camp offers some of the best wildlife viewing opportunities in Africa, particularly in the summer months when the rains bring the desert to life and a wide variety of plains game and predators converge here.

The camp has just six Meru-style en-suite tents with a central lounge, dining and bar area. All are raised a metre off the ground to catch the breeze and take in the sweeping view across the Kalahari. Guided game drives unlock the fascinating wildlife found in this wonderful area, and San Bushmen provide insight into their unique culture of this fascinating tribe.



Ultimate Botswana

A safari in the Linyanti Reserve and the Okavango Delta

This captivating safari through the game-rich wilderness of northern Botswana combines some of the region's most prolific wildlife reserves with small and exclusive camps.

After a stay on the Zambezi upstream from Victoria Falls, you cross into northern Botswana and the heart of the Linyanti Reserve, which is renowned for its wildlife including predators, elephant herds and plains animals. You then fly by light aircraft into the Okavango Delta. Spread out in a fan of flood plains, islands and palm-fringed lagoons, it is a natural paradise teeming with game and birds. After a stay in the Delta itself, ideal for exploring the web of waterways in native dug-out mokoros, you move to the grassy flood plains bordering the Moremi National Park, home to some of the Okavango's largest concentrations of wildlife, a fitting finale to this magical safari.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/3:** Arrive Johannesburg and fly to Livingstone. Overnights River Club. **4/6:** Drive across the border to Kasane in northern Botswana and fly to Linyanti. Game viewing and bush walks. Overnights Savuti Camp. **7/9:** Fly into the Okavango Delta. Boating and bird watching. Overnights Little Vumbura. **10/12:** Fly to Moremi. Game viewing, mokoro rides and bush walks. Overnights Chitabe Trails. **13/14:** Fly to London via Maun and Johannesburg.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £4,990 per person (based on 2 people travelling).

Botswana Explorer

From the Kalahari to the Okavango Delta

This classic safari explores some of the most important of Botswana's natural wonders. Travelling with your own 'mobile' camp and support staff, and limited to just ten participants, this will be a memorable and very personal journey.

Your journey begins in the Kalahari Sandbelt where the vast salt pans attract herds of migrating springbok, gemsbok, wildebeest and thousands of flamingos, before moving to the pristine water wilderness of the Okavango Delta, with its flood plains, islets and waterways teeming with game and birds. The safari ends on the game-rich open savannahs of Savuti in the southern stretch of the Chobe National Park.

You will explore this diversely beautiful country in 4WD open-topped vehicles, dug-out mokoros (canoes) and on walks, accompanied throughout by a professional guide whose knowledge and understanding of the bush is unsurpassed.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/11:** Arrive Johannesburg and fly to Maun. Begin 11-day 'mobile' safari through Savuti, Okavango Delta and Kalahari. Overnights in camp. **12/13:** End safari in Maun and fly to London via Johannesburg.

Dates: Regular set departures - please ask for further information.

Price: From £4,195 per person (based on 2 people travelling).

lodges & camps of zambia

Zambia's world-renowned South Luangwa National Park, 6,000 square miles of classic bush country dissected by the mighty Luangwa River, supports huge concentrations of wildlife and is the place to see big game on foot. Here, in the 'wild heart of Africa', we have identified a number of small, privately run lodges and camps where the unrestricted pleasures of life in the bush can be experienced in full. We have also included two camps in the North Luangwa and Kafue, where you will feel as isolated and removed from civilisation as the prolific game to which these uncharted wildernesses are sanctuary.



Kapani, South Luangwa

This exclusive safari lodge is situated on the banks of one of the many ox-bow lakes in the South Luangwa. Owned and operated by Norman Carr Safaris (NCS), Kapani specializes in escorted bush walks and night game drives where a powerful vehicle-mounted light illuminates the nocturnal world of the Luangwa.

Each of the eight standard suites and two Lagoon Houses is beautifully appointed in contemporary African style, and excellent amenities include a central living/dining area and a secluded swimming pool. In addition, NCS have four very individual seasonal bush camps and can create a tailor-made walking safari around one or more of these rustic, remote hideaways.



Tena Tena, South Luangwa

Lying in the shade of mahogany trees on a sweeping bend of the Luangwa River, Robin Pope Safaris' Tena Tena is a benchmark for all other camps in the valley. This remote small camp has just five spacious and extremely comfortable custom-made tents, and is superbly run with impeccable attention to detail.

The camp is renowned for the quality and flexibility of its activities, which include day and night game drives and bush walks, though guests can also watch elephants, hippo and antelope on the riverbank from the camp itself. You might like to combine a stay here with one of the Robin Pope spectacular walking safaris where fully staffed 'mobile' camps are sited according to the movement of game.



Bush Camp Company, South Luangwa

Situated in the unspoiled wilderness of the South Luangwa, the six Bush Safari Company camps offer an unmatched bush experience where the African walking safari was pioneered. Each camp, three of which can be walked between, is very individual both in their design, and their setting in the most remote areas of the park.

Ranging from a traditional Zambian bush camp to tree-house chalets and a new luxurious lodge, each accommodates just six guests, and is therefore ideal for a family or small group. Activities are tailored to individual tastes and include day and night game drives in search of the parks big game and, of course, the opportunity to explore this magnificent wildlife sanctuary on foot accompanied by a knowledgeable guide.



Busanga Bush Camp, Kafue

Lying in the north-western section of the Busanga Plains in the extreme north of the Kafau National Park, Busanga Bush Camp is about as 'wild' as you can get in today's world; an unfenced mosaic of expansive grassy seasonal floodplains and 'dambos' (open grassy areas that sometimes fill with rainwater).

The simple camp is built on a fig tree 'island' in the heart of the plains and comprises just three tents each with panoramic views of this wildlife paradise. Day and night game drives and walking safaris are very rewarding - the plains are home to a huge variety of plains game and many predators. Lion sightings are particularly good and it is also the only place in Zambia where cheetah can be seen.



Tafika Camp, South Luangwa

Located just outside the Nsefu sector in the remote northern reaches of the South Luangwa, John and Carol Coppinger's wonderful camp is sited where the game is prolific but visitors are few. Nestled in the shade of leadwood trees with breathtaking views up and down the Luangwa River, the camp is a haven of peace.

The camp has just five comfortable thatched chalets, constructed entirely from local materials right down to the furniture. There are also two satellite bush camps on the far side of the river. During the dry season, safaris on foot or by vehicle are offered, whilst in February and March safaris take place in canoes or boats. In addition, the Coppingers' microlight adds a novel aerial dimension to game viewing.



Kutandala, North Luangwa

The North Luangwa National Park may not be as well known as its more illustrious neighbour, but is sanctuary to equally prolific concentrations of game and birds. Set on the banks of the Mwaleshi River in the heart of the park, Kutandala Camp offers the ultimate safari for those seeking truly remote wilderness.

Here, in this wildly remote and inaccessible corner of the country, Rod and Guz Tether have created a rustic, low-key bush camp, which accommodates just six guests in comfortable 'rooms' with sweeping views of the river and its flood plain. There are no roads to speak of so all game viewing is on foot, but this will be rewarded by frequent lion and buffalo sightings.

the zambezi

Africa's greatest river is steeped in the history and legend of early African exploration, its allure little diminished since Livingstone first gazed on the awe-inspiring spectacle of the Victoria Falls. Along Zambia's southern border with Zimbabwe, from the Victoria Falls to Mana Pools, the Zambezi flows through some of Africa's most beautiful wilderness country.



Islands of Siankaba

Set on two densely forested islands linked by suspension bridges in the middle of the Zambezi River upstream from the mighty Victoria Falls, Islands of Siankaba provides a luxurious haven in beautiful, secluded and peaceful surroundings. It would be the perfect beginning or end to a safari in Botswana or Zambia.

The seven stylish chalets are elevated in the trees with large decks overlooking the river, whilst the main lodge has a dining area, lounge, bar, library and small swimming pool in the shade of the forest canopy. Activities include sunset boat trips, mokoro trips, a nature trail and cultural visits to local schools and villages. Other excursions in the Livingstone area can be arranged.

Tongabezi

Set in a tranquil grove of African ebony trees on a sweeping bend of the Zambezi, a few miles upstream from the Victoria Falls, Tongabezi is one of Zambia's most exclusive lodges. It offers seclusion and comfort in beautiful surroundings where elephants come to drink on the opposite river bank and hippopotamus are seen.

The five luxury river and garden cottages and five open-plan thatched 'houses' all have verandas and en suite bathrooms with magnificent river views, and a private valet. Activities include journeys on the river, fishing, canoeing, guided bird-watching and river walks, mountain biking, and visits to the Victoria Falls and Livingstone Island on the very edge of the falls.



The River Club

Occupying an idyllic position on the bank of the Zambezi upstream from the Victoria Falls, The River Club has a delightful colonial ambience. Surrounded by manicured lawns under shady trees, this is the perfect retreat for those seeking lavish comfort and discreet but attentive service in a charming setting.

Centred on a comfortable Edwardian-style main house are ten luxury open-fronted thatched chalets and two honeymoon suites, each with wonderful views over the river. All traditional activities are available, including boating and fishing on the river, white water rafting, helicopter flights for stunning aerial views of the Falls and, for the adrenalin junky, bungee jumping.



Chongwe River Camp

Situated on the confluence of the Chongwe and Zambezi Rivers, directly opposite Mana Pools, Chongwe River Camp occupies an unrivalled location, used twice by David Livingstone on his travels. The Chongwe River is the boundary of the Lower Zambezi National Park, a pristine and picturesque wilderness teeming with game.

Set under a canopy of Albida thorns, the camp has a total of eight spacious safari tents and three suites, set under thatch on elevated decks with magnificent views over the Zambezi. The game viewing here is exceptional, and activities include day and night drives, guided bush walks, canoeing or boating and game fishing. Nearby, Chongwe River House is available to private parties (see page 87).



Chiawa Camp

Attractively sited on the Zambian bank of the river within the Lower Zambezi National Park, Chiawa Camp was voted one of Conde Nast's 'Top Ten Safari Camps'. This exclusive family owned and run camp combines superb accommodation with magnificent game viewing and scenery.

The camp accommodates a maximum of 16 guests in spacious and elegantly appointed tents, which epitomise the old African safari style, each built on raised platforms with panoramic views across the river. There is a full range of land and water based activities, including game drives, bush walks, river safaris and canoeing, and Chiawa is also renowned for its tiger fishing.

Sausage Tree Camp

The Zambezi escarpment forms the stunning backdrop to this wonderful camp, which sits on the floodplains of the Lower Zambezi National Park. Nestling in a forest on the banks of the picturesque Chifungulu Channel, Sausage Tree offers guests the very best game viewing with traditional safari style.

The camp sleeps just 16 in luxurious Bedouin-style 'signature' tents and honeymoon suites. There is also the two-bedroom Kigelia House. All are positioned along the riverbank, each with open-air en-suite and personal *muchinda* (butler). The Park has a large variety of wildlife and exceptional game viewing with a range of 4X4 safaris and bush walks on land, and on the water with canoes, boats and fishing.



Ultimate Zambia

Unspoiled Africa at its best

This is the classic Zambian safari, incorporating small, private camps, day and night game drives and accompanied walks, all in search of some of the most diverse and prolific wildlife imaginable.

Much of the safari is spent in a number of locations in the Luangwa Valley and the world-renowned South Luangwa National Park - 6,000 square miles of classic bush country dissected by the mighty Luangwa River, which supports huge concentrations of wildlife and is the place to see big game on foot. You then fly, via Lusaka, to the Lower Zambezi National Park where the game viewing is exceptional with a large variety of mammals, birds and reptiles.

The safari ends with a few days relaxation at a wonderful riverside lodge upstream from the Victoria Falls on the banks of the Zambezi River.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/4:** Arrive Lusaka and fly to the Luangwa Valley. Day and night game drives and walking safaris. Overnights Nkwali Camp. **5/6:** Day and night game drives and walking safaris. Overnights Nsefu Camp. **7/8:** Day and night game drives and walking safaris. Overnights Tena Tena Camp. **9/11:** Fly to Lower Zambezi via Lusaka. Day and night game drives, bush walks, canoeing, fishing. Overnights Chongwe River Camp. **12/13:** Fly to Livingstone via Lusaka. Explore the Victoria Falls, boat trips, canoeing. Overnights Tongabezi Camp. **14/15:** Fly to London via Johannesburg.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £4,910 per person (based on 2 people travelling).



Highlights of Zambia

A wilderness safari from South Luangwa to Kafue

A unique safari encompassing not only the exceptional South Luangwa, but also the magnificent and game-rich wilderness of the less-visited Kafue National Park.

The safari begins with two days of game viewing in the classic bush country of the South Luangwa National Park, before you embark on a spectacular 3-day walking safari through the remoter parts of the park. Nights are spent at seasonal bush camps and roads are few here, so a true wilderness experience is assured.

You then fly west to the uncharted wilderness of Kafue and the Busanga Plains, which are home to a huge variety of plains game and many predators. This unfenced mosaic of expansive grassy seasonal floodplains and 'dambos' is truly the 'wild heart of Africa' in all its original raw and isolated splendour, and a magnificent finale to your safari.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/3:** Arrive Lusaka and fly to the Luangwa Valley. Day and night game drives and bush walks. Overnights Kuyenda Camp. **4/7:** 4-day walking safari through South Luangwa. Overnights bush camps. **8/10:** Fly to North Kafue via Lusaka. Game drives, bush walks and canoeing. Overnights Busanga Bush Camp. **11/12:** Fly to London via Johannesburg.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £4,765 per person (based on 2 people travelling).



Zambia for the Connoisseur

Off the beaten track in Luangwa and the Lower Zambezi

This exclusive safari combines three of Zambia's most exceptional National Parks, each very different in character but equally blessed with abundant wildlife.

The safari begins in the remote northern sector of the South Luangwa National Park, where the varied terrain is game-rich and ideal for bush walks, before flying up to the heart of the North Luangwa National Park. This may not be as well known as its more illustrious neighbour but is renowned for its lion population and huge buffalo herds, enhanced by a complete absence of roads so game viewing is entirely on foot.

You then fly east to the Lower Zambezi National Park, where the safari ends in a pristine and picturesque wilderness teeming with wildlife where the game viewing is exceptional.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/4:** Arrive Lusaka and fly to Luangwa Valley. Game drives and bush walks. Overnights Kaingo Camp. **5/8:** Fly to North Luangwa. Bush walks. Overnights Kutandala Camp. **9/11:** Fly to Lower Zambezi via Lusaka. Game drives, bush walks and canoeing. Overnights Old Mondoro. **12:** Fly to London via Lusaka.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £5,190 per person (based on 2 people travelling).

Zambia Explorer

The ultimate walking safari with Robin Pope Safaris

Robin Pope started his safari operation in the Luangwa Valley nearly three decades ago, and his wildlife camps and 'mobile' walking safaris are now renowned worldwide. The 'valley', which attracts huge concentrations of game, remains perhaps Africa's finest area for seeing big game on foot.

After three nights at Nkwali, Robin's camp of six chalets set in ebony woodland overlooking the grassy plains of the Luangwa, you set off on a spectacular 3-day walking safari in the more remote Nsefu sector. The party is limited to just four (six if a group), so you benefit fully from the guide's knowledge of the bush, and a carefully sited and fully staffed, 'mobile' camp awaits you at the end of each day.

The safari ends at Tena Tena, Robin's impeccable flagship camp in the shade of mahogany trees on the banks of the Luangwa River.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/4:** Arrive Lusaka and fly to the Luangwa Valley. Wildlife viewing and night game drives. Overnights Nkwali Camp. **5/7:** 3-day walking safari through the Luangwa Valley. Overnights private tented camps. **8/10:** Wildlife viewing, bush walks and night game drives. Overnights Tena Tena. **11/12:** Fly to London via Johannesburg.

Dates: Set departures from June to October - please ask for further information.

Price: From £3,970 per person (based on 2 people travelling).

malawi options

Visitors to this small, landlocked country will discover a stunning mix of lowland forest, upland plateaux and mountain peaks framing the sparkling expanse of Lake Malawi. They will also find a select number of enchanting lodges and lakeside hotels that define the 'warm heart of Africa'...



Pumulani, Lake Malawi

Lying in a spectacular setting spread along a lush hillside overlooking Lake Malawi, Robin Pope Safaris' new beach Lodge, Pumulani, sets a new benchmark for luxury accommodation within the Lake Malawi National Park. A stay in this remote place can be as relaxing or as active as you choose.

There are just 10 spacious, elegantly appointed villas, each with en suite and private deck affording stunning views over the lake. Facilities include *al fresco* or covered dining and an infinity pool, whilst activities such as snorkelling, diving, fishing, sailing or kayaking on the lake, bird watching and walks through local villages are on offer. The lodge has its own wooden dhow for cruises on the lake.



Kaya Mawa, Likoma Island, Lake Malawi

Situated on the south-western tip of Likoma Island on Lake Malawi, at the head of a crescent-shaped bay surrounded by mango trees and ancient baobabs, Kaya Mawa is a haven of seclusion. The lodge, just a 45-minute walk from the main village with its famous cathedral, has a unique character and special ambience.

Ten individual timber and stone thatched chalets sit on a promontory at the water's edge, each with a magnificent granite bathtub and a private terrace providing breathtaking views over the lake. Whilst relaxing on the lodge's white sand beach may be the prime activity, the lake is also a paradise for water sports including sailing and scuba diving. Day trips to Mozambique can also be arranged.



Mvuu Wilderness Lodge, Liwonde

The Mvuu Wilderness Lodge is situated along the banks of the Shire River in the Liwonde National Park, Malawi's premier wildlife reserve. The lodge offers exclusive accommodation in five spacious and luxurious en suite tents, each with a private veranda over the lagoon, ensuring prime and private wildlife viewing.

Activities here include day and night game drives, nature walks and bird watching. The wildlife here is prolific and diverse, and there are regular sightings of hippo and crocodile from the camp, whilst the surrounding forests are sanctuary to elephant herds, leopard, the rare sable antelope and a variety of bird species. Black rhino, zebra, Lichtenstein's hartebeest and buffalo have been reintroduced.



Malawi Fly-In Safari

A 'fly-in safari' is the perfect way to maximise your time in Malawi. Tailor-made to individual requirements, they utilise light aircraft, which usually fly at low altitude providing passengers with a birds-eye view of the landscape and wildlife.

In Malawi a classic 'bush and beach' fly-in safari could combine the Liwonde National Park, Malawi's premier game reserve, and the peace of Likoma Island on Lake Malawi, with three nights spent in each destination.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £2,145 per person (ex Lilongwe, based on 2 people travelling).

elephant back safaris

There can be no more magnificent creature than the African elephant, and the opportunity to interact with a family of working animals whilst exploring their natural habitat is a real privilege. Riding on elephant back gives you a unique advantage when game viewing and promises an intimate and emotional experience, which will last you a lifetime.



Abu Elephant Camp, Botswana

Elephant back safaris were pioneered in the Okavango Delta some 17 years ago, and they remain one of the most unusual and exciting ways to explore the flood plains of this wetland paradise. Your base is Abu Camp, a luxurious safari camp of six custom-built, stylishly furnished 'tents' set on a tranquil lagoon in an ancient riverine forest.

The camp's 'family' of elephants, which guests interact with, are utilised for half-day and full-day safaris - each adult elephant carrying two guests in a comfortable custom-made saddle - when you will approach and view a wide variety of other game. In addition, Abu Camp also offers game drives in 4WD vehicles and escorted bush walks.

Price: From £4,885 per person (3-night inclusive stay, based on 2 people travelling).



Camp Jabulani, South Africa

Camp Jabulani is utterly spoiling, its six lavish suites each boasting a private viewing deck, plunge pool, and a personal butler to cater to guests every whim. Jabulani also offers a host of other activities including game drives, bush walks, clay pigeon shooting and excursions to the world-renowned Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre.

The camp's daily elephant back safaris through the stunning confines of the Kapama Private Game Reserve are equally memorable, and allow you to view game (the 'big five' can all be seen here) at remarkably close quarters whilst safely seated on comfortable canvas-covered saddles behind an experienced elephant handler.

Price: From £1,680 per person (3-night inclusive stay, based on 2 people travelling).

riding safaris

This is surely one of the more rewarding ways to enjoy the enthralling scenery and wildlife of the African bush. Far from the beaten track and with no vehicle noise to disturb the animals, the unrestricted pleasure of riding through vast herds of game is an uplifting experience.

Our riding safaris, managed by the best and most experienced field operators in Africa, are organised in the traditional style with professional guide, support staff and fully equipped 'mobile' tented camp. Each carries a limited number of participants to ensure a high degree of personal attention.

Given the isolation of the bush and chance encounters with wildlife, participants on all these safaris should be experienced and competent riders.



Kenya Riding Safari

From the Loita Hills to the Masai Mara

To explore Kenya's rolling Loita Hills and the endless expanse of the Mara plain, whilst riding amongst teeming herds of game, is an experience of a lifetime.

Most rides, which cross Maasailand with its endless savannah, riverine woodland and proud tribe's people, are led by Tristan Voorspuy. His horses are well schooled, even tempered and familiar with being amongst big game. The going underfoot is generally good, with ample opportunity for long gallops, though you may spend up to eight hours at a time in the saddle so need to be a competent rider.

Although nights are spent under canvas, far from civilisation, no comforts are spared in the camp sites, and your ride ends with the colonial splendour of Deloraine, one of Kenya's most beautiful homesteads, on the lower slopes of the Rift Valley – the perfect finale.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/9:** Arrive Nairobi. Fly to the Loita Hills and begin 8-day riding safari towards the plains of the Masai Mara. Overnights private tented camp. **9/11:** End riding safari by the Mara River and drive via Kericho to Rongai. Optional excursions to the Rift Valley lakes. Overnights Deloraine House. **12/13:** Drive to Nairobi and fly to London.

Dates: Group and private departures - please ask for further information.
Price: From £4,390 per person (based on 2 people travelling).



The Limpopo Valley Riding Safari

'Big country' riding through Botswana's Tuli Block

The Limpopo Valley runs through the heart of Botswana's Tuli Block, an undisturbed wilderness of big skies and vast panoramas in the remote south-eastern reaches of the country. The diverse terrain is custom-made for a riding safari.

Riding here is not for the faint-hearted, and appropriate experience is required. Apart from regular encounters with elephant and lion, a typical day might involve exhilarating gallops along dry riverbeds, hurdling fallen trees and negotiating the steep inclines of the Limpopo's banks.

The horses are well schooled and tough enough to handle the difficult terrain that can be encountered in the Limpopo Valley. The safari is escorted throughout by a professional guide, and is fully 'mobile' with the comfortable camp moved ahead each day by vehicle. It ends with a few days' game viewing in the ruggedly beautiful Mashatu Reserve.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2:** Arrive Johannesburg and fly to Polokwane. Overnight Fort Jameson Camp. **3/8:** 7-day riding safari through the Tuli. Overnights private tented camp. **9/11:** End riding safari at Mashatu. Game viewing. Overnights Mashatu Main Camp. **12/13:** Fly to London via Johannesburg.

Dates: Group and private departures - please ask for further information.
Price: From £3,680 per person (based on 2 people travelling).

Okavango Riding Safari

A remote and exciting safari into the Okavango Delta

The Okavango Delta is undoubtedly the most outstanding of Botswana's natural wonders, a 15,000-square kilometre wilderness of floodplain and forest interlaced with lagoons and waterways, and teeming with game and birds. A riding safari through this spectacular wetland sanctuary is an exciting and memorable experience.

Safaris of varying length take you into the heart of the Okavango where vehicles are unable to venture. Based in a comfortable lodge or camp, often with sorties to outlying fly camps, most mornings are spent in the saddle following the game, leaving the afternoons free to swim, bird watch, fish or simply relax.

Nothing equals the thrill of cantering beside giraffe or moving quietly through great herds of buffalo and lechwe, and a riding safari is a rare opportunity to experience nature at very close hand.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/9:** Arrive Maun (Botswana) via Johannesburg and fly into the Okavango for an 8-day riding safari through the Delta. Overnights private tented camp/s. **10/11:** Fly to London via Maun and Johannesburg.

Dates: Group and private departures - please ask for further information.
Price: From £3,735 per person (based on 2 people travelling).



namibia

Namibia defines the meaning of the expression 'epic scale' - witness the all-encompassing emptiness of the Etosha, the ghostly ship's graveyard of the Skeleton Coast, the yawning depths of the Fish River Canyon, and the drifting sands of Sossusvlei. There is nowhere else on the African continent that quite compares with its rugged grandeur.

Bordering South Africa and Botswana in the south and east, and bounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the west, this immense country has four distinct natural environments: the barren sand dunes of the Namib Desert which runs the length of the country's coastline; the semi-arid mountainous plateau of the country's central interior where the country's capital, Windhoek, lies; the low-lying north-east and south-east, which are part of Botswana's Kalahari Desert and South Africa's Karoo, and finally, far to the north, the wilderness plains that surround the shimmering expanse of the Etosha Pan.

It is a country ravaged by time and nature, a place of limitless horizons, gouged into deep 'Grand Canyon' valleys, sculpted into massive desert dunes and twisted by ancient volcanic activity into rocky, inhospitable escarpments and savage mountain slopes. It's like the mixing bowl for the rest of Africa, the place where the continent's elements were gathered and shaped, and then shared out leaving Namibia with the hardened, stony crust. But for all its red rocky heart and desert edging, it is a magnificent country - raw and wild and prehistoric. That is what Namibia is all about - a country with something for everyone.

TRAVEL GUIDE

VISA REQUIREMENTS

UK Passport holders currently do not require a visa for Namibia. Non British Passport holders should check requirements.

HEALTH ADVICE

No vaccinations are currently required for Namibia, but the following are recommended: Yellow Fever, Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Polio and Tetanus. Antimalarial prophylactics should also be taken.

FLYING TIME

Windhoek 10hrs 15mins

LOCAL TIME

Namibia GMT + 2hrs



WHEN TO VISIT

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Namibia	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓

✓✓ indicates the optimum time to visit

lodges & camps of namibia

Stay at one of the wilderness lodges or camps featured on these pages and discover the rugged grandeur and unparalleled beauty of Namibia...



Kulala Wilderness Camp, Namib Desert

Situated on a 21,000-hectare private reserve bordering the Namib Naukluft Park, Kulala Wilderness Camp lies in the heart of the Namib and offers magnificent views of the famous red dunes of Sossusvlei, as well as magnificent mountain and plains scenery. It provides an excellent base for exploring the world's oldest desert.

The camp has ten simple yet stylish thatch and canvas en suite chalets built on elevated wooden decks. Activities include nature drives and walks among the towering Sossusvlei dunes (ballooning can also be organised at extra cost), and while wildlife here may be sparse, day and night game drives, and walks on the reserve reveal a rewarding variety of desert game and smaller desert fauna and flora.



The Wolwedans Collection, NamibRand

Nestled amidst red dunes against a backdrop of unparalleled beauty in the heart of NamibRand Nature Reserve, just south of Sossusvlei, the four small and elegant safari camps of the Wolwedans Collection provide unique bases from which to explore vast stretches of awe-inspiring landscape.

The Dunes Lodge's nine wooden chalets blend the ambience of a tented camp with the more sophisticated comforts of a permanent lodge, while the Dune Camp is more 'rustic' with just six en suite safari tents raised on wooden platforms in a wonderfully unspoilt setting. For a small party or those seeking complete seclusion, the idyllic Private Camp caters for just four guests and is the ultimate desert getaway.



Serra Cafema Camp, Kunene River

Perched on the banks of the Kunene River under shady Albia trees, Serra Cafema is one of southern Africa's most remote camps. Set in an incomparable wilderness environment, homeland of the colourful Himba people, some of the last true nomadic people of Africa, the camp offers great comfort in unparalleled surroundings.

The camp has just eight simple but stylish en suite tents, each elevated on wooden decks overlooking the Kunene river valley and the Serra Cafema hills. A variety of activities explore the breathtaking landscape, scattered with springbok, ostrich and oryx, including nature drives in Hatmann's Valley, walks in the remote valleys, boating on the river and traversing the sand dunes on guided quad-bike excursions.



Okonjima, Waterberg

A stay at this wonderful lodge, nestling in the Omboroko Mountains to the west of the Waterberg, is an ideal break in the long road journey south from the Etosha National Park to Windhoek. Okonjima, also the headquarters of the renowned AfriCat Foundation, offers a choice of excellent camps.

The Main Camp has 13 rooms and luxury tents, whilst the Luxury Bush Camp has 11 unique thatched African-style chalets and tents. For unadulterated comfort, the stunning two-bedroom Private Bush Suite is only surpassed by the luxurious Grand Villa, which is ideal for private parties. Each has its own facilities and swimming pool, and offers activities including cheetah and leopard tracking.



Doro Nawas Camp, Damaraland

Lying on a small hill in the dry Aba-Huab River valley within the starkly beautiful Doro Nawas Conservancy, Doro Nawas Camp offers great comfort in spectacular surroundings. It is an excellent base for exploring the diverse landscape of Damaraland in search of the remarkable desert-adapted elephant and other wildlife.

The 16 comfortable en-suite cottages, built of stone and canvas with thatched roof, each have a veranda for star gazing or sleeping outdoors. The main lodge has indoor and outdoor dining, a bar, roof terrace and pool. Activities include game drives or walks, bird watching, visits to the ancient San rock art at Twyfelfontein and excursions to the Petrified Forest, Burnt Mountain and Organ Pipes.



Desert Rhino Camp, Damaraland

This classic semi-permanent camp on the private Palmwag Reserve of Namibia's northern Damaraland, between Etosha and the Skeleton Coast, is a joint venture with 'Save the Rhino Trust'. In this wild and remote landscape, renowned for its rhino population, visitors are guaranteed a memorable wilderness experience.

The camp has eight large East African-styled 'Meru' tents, each with en suite bathroom (bucket shower) and covered deck. The concession has a large variety and abundance of wildlife, which includes the largest free roaming population of black rhino in Africa, a healthy number of desert elephants and over 100 predators. Activities here include rhino tracking on foot and by vehicle.



Mushara Lodge, Etosha

Located just 8kms from the Von Lindequist Gate on the eastern edge of the Etosha National Park, Mushara Lodge is ideally situated for safaris into the park with its diverse and abundant wildlife. This vast area of grass plains, woodland and salt pans are home to a wide variety of mammals, reptiles and birds.

The lodge has 10 spacious and attractive en-suite chalets, one family unit and two single rooms set around the swimming pool and lawns, which occasionally attract wildlife. The central boma has comfortable sitting and dining areas and a small library. Game drives into the park and to waterholes can be arranged, when you might see some of the protected species including black rhino, and cheetah.



Impalila Island Lodge, Caprivi Strip

This unique and secluded luxury island lodge is set at the confluence of two of Africa's mightiest rivers, the Chobe and the Zambezi, and at the meeting point of four countries – Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia. This mosaic of waterways, floodplains and bushveld offers exceptional bird life and game viewing.

The lodge has just eight comfortable elevated chalets set in lush riverine forest, with views over the river from private decks. Amenities include a living / dining area, a library and a swimming pool, all under the canopy of an ancient baobab tree. Activities include game viewing by boat in the Chobe National Park, guided walks, bird watching, river cruises, and varied fishing opportunities.



Ongava Tented Camp, Etosha

This exclusive small, tented camp is set on a privately owned 30,000-hectare reserve along the southern boundary of the Etosha National Park in northern Namibia. Ongava has just eight spacious and attractive en suite tents, each with covered private deck and views of the bush or the camp's busy waterhole.

Activities include game drives into the Okaukuejo area of Etosha where lion, elephant, cheetah, springbok, and hartebeest can be seen at the waterholes in the Park. In addition, hides and walks are offered on the private reserve itself. Ongava has a variety of wildlife including resident white and black rhino, affording guests the unique opportunity to see both of these charismatic species.



Lianshulu Lodge, Caprivi Strip

Lying on a private concession inside the Mudumu National Park, Lianshulu Lodge in the East Caprivi combines traditional hospitality with unobtrusive comfort. Game populations fluctuate seasonally but many typical savannah species are to be found in the area, with elephant, zebra and hippo particularly abundant.

The lodge has 10 spacious and individually styled thatch chalets, each with secluded outside deck and views of the river. Activities include nature drives and walks in the Mudumu National Park, bird watching along with boat excursions and sunset cruises on the Kwando River. Night drives are offered between May and November. Activities are conducted by experienced, naturalist guides.



Ultimate Namibia

A journey of discovery

This captivating journey is the perfect introduction to Namibia, and encompasses the very best of this spectacular country, from its wind-swept western coast to its desert dunes and game-rich plains.

You begin in the astonishing sand seas of Sossusvlei where the dunes can rise to a staggering 330 metres, before continuing to the NamibRand Nature Reserve, an area of dramatic beauty with bright red dunes flanked by vast open plains and craggy mountains. You then fly north, with wonderful aerial views of the dramatic Skeleton Coast, to Damaraland, a wild and remote wilderness that is home to desert elephant and black rhino, before ending this wonderful journey with more traditional game viewing in the Etosha National Park, a vast area of grass plains, woodland and salt pans, which is home to a wide variety of mammals, reptiles and birds.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2/3:** Arrive Windhoek, Fly to Sossusvlei. Overnights Kulala Wilderness. **4/5:** Drive to the NamibRand Nature Reserve. Overnights Wolwedans Dunes Lodge. **6/8:** Scenic flight to the Damaraland. Overnight Damaraland Camp. **9/10:** Fly to Ongava. Overnights Ongava Tented Camp. **11:** Fly to London via Windhoek.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £6,295 per person (based on 2 people travelling).

Highlights of Namibia

From the Namib Desert to the Etosha Pans

Using a self-drive vehicle is the ideal way to see the natural wonders of this vast country at your own pace. It is both safe and reliable, and Namibia boasts one of the best road networks in Africa.

You begin with the drive west from Windhoek, across the Gamsberg Pass to rise to a staggering 300 metres. You then follow the coastal road north to the colonial town of Swakopmund and the seal colonies at Cape Cross, before heading inland through the savage mountain grandeur of Damaraland to Khorixas, famous for its rock paintings and extraordinary terrain. Following three days of spectacular game viewing on the plains of the Etosha National Park, you return to Windhoek via the unspoiled wilderness of the Waterberg Plateau.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart London. **2:** Arrive Windhoek. At leisure. Overnight Olive Grove. **3/4:** Drive to NamibRand Nature Reserve. Overnights Wolwedans Dune Camp. **5/6:** Drive to Namib Naukluft National Park. Explore the Sossusvlei dunes. Overnights Desert Homestead. **7/8:** Drive to Swakopmund. Local excursions. Overnights Hansa Hotel. **9/10:** Drive to Damaraland via Cape Cross seal colony and Khorixas. Overnights Palmwag Lodge. **11/13:** Drive to Etosha National Park. Game viewing. Overnights Andersson's Camp and Mushara Lodge. **14/15:** Drive to Waterberg Plateau. Game viewing and bird watching. Overnight Okonjima Main Camp. **16/17:** Return by road to Windhoek and fly to London.

Dates: To suit individual requirements.

Price: From £3,395 per person (based on 2 people travelling).



Wings over Namibia

The definitive fly-in safari

A 'fly-in safari' is the perfect way to maximise your time in Namibia and, given the country's spectacular terrain, has the added dimension of spectacular aerial views of the landscape.

This exclusive 7-day air safari from Windhoek encompasses the best of Namibia's dramatic natural wonders. You begin in the spectacular desert landscape of the Namib Desert and the Sossusvlei dunes, before flying north across the savage desolation of the Skeleton Coast to Swakopmund and on up the coast to the Cape Cross seal colony. Turning east along the Huab River you reach the mountain wilderness of Damaraland where might see the endangered desert elephant and rhinoceros. The final leg takes you further inland to the southern boundaries of the Etosha, where the game-rich plains provide a thrilling conclusion to your safari.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1/2: Fly from Windhoek to Sesriem. Explore Sossusvlei dunes. Overnights Sossusvlei Wilderness Camp. **3/4:** Fly to Damaraland via Skeleton Coast and Swakopmund. Game viewing of desert elephant and rhinoceros. Overnights Damaraland Camp. **5/6:** Fly to Ongava. Bush walks on private reserve and game drives in Etosha National Park. Overnights Ongava. **7:** Fly to Windhoek.

Dates: Departures every Sunday - please ask for further information.

Price: From £2,654 per person (ex Windhoek, based on 2 people travelling).

Schoeman Skeleton Coast Safari

The Ultimate Namibia Air Safari

The Skeleton Coast conjures up eerie visions of mist-enshrouded beaches strewn with bleached whalebones and rusting shipwrecks. Stretching from the south of Namibia up into Angola, the coast and its hinterland is a landscape of haunting beauty, a vast area of rolling sand dunes, uninhabited desert plains, fossil beds, unique terrain, desert-adapted animals and strange vegetation.

This 4-day air safari with the renowned Schoeman Brothers is the perfect way to view this magical landscape and maximise your time on the Skeleton Coast. The safaris utilise light aircraft, which in themselves add an extra dimension as they usually fly at low altitude providing passengers with wonderful aerial views of the landscape and wildlife, whilst each night is spent at a comfortable camp.

In the course of your journey, you will see some of the most spectacular sights imaginable, which will leave an indelible impression.

Sample itinerary:

Day 1: Depart Windhoek. Fly over Kuseb Canyon, the Namib Desert & Conception Bay to Swakopmund. Fly over Cape Cross Seal Colony to Huab River Valley. Overnight Kuidas Camp. **2:** Safari in Huab River Valley. Fly over Terence Bay & Skeleton Coast Park to Hoarusib Valley. Overnight Purros Camp. **3:** Safari in Hoarusib Valley. Fly up Skeleton Coast to Hartmann Valley & Kunene Valley. Overnight Kunene Camp. **4:** Boat trip on Kunene River and visit to Hartmann Valley. Fly to Windhoek.

Dates: Regular set departures - please ask for further information.

Price: From £3,535 per person (ex Windhoek, based on 2 people travelling).