



SOUTHERN AFRICA SAFARI & RAIL ADVENTURE - A LUXURY SMALL GROUP JOURNEY (2024)

Experience timeless elegance on a spectacular luxury adventure, travelling by glamorous Rovos Rail and safari-going in Chobe National Park and the lush Okavango Delta, following a wide-ranging itinerary that also features cosmopolitan Cape Town and magnificent Victoria Falls.

Small Group Journeys, Luxury Small Group Journeys, Luxury Rail Journeys



Africa, Botswana, South Africa,
Zimbabwe



13 days from AU\$35,545 pp



18 Guests

Journey Overview

Experience timeless elegance on a spectacular luxury adventure, travelling by glamorous Rovos Rail and safari-going in Chobe National Park and the lush Okavango Delta, following a wide-ranging itinerary that also features cosmopolitan Cape Town and magnificent Victoria Falls.

Journey Highlights

- Discover Cape Town, taking in stunning views from Table Mountain, walk the colourful Bo-Kaap neighbourhood, visit the District Six Museum and explore rugged Cape Point
- Traverse majestic mountain ranges and grassy savannas on a three-day train journey by elegant Rovos Rail
- Stay at the only safari lodge inside Chobe National Park, a privileged location that affords you the opportunity to start game-watching ahead of other visitors
- Observe Botswana's amazing animals up close, including the Big Five, as handpicked safari guides use their in-depth tracking skills to lead you to exceptional wildlife encounters
- Set out on a privately guided tour of Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World
- Finish your journey at Sanctuary Chief's Camp — one of Africa's finest — located in the Okavango Delta's premier Moremi Game Reserve



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Cape Town, South Africa

Arrive in Cape Town and transfer to one of the country's most famous hotels, set at the foot of Table Mountain.

Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel, Cape Town

Day 2: Cape Town | Look to the Beacon of Hope

Ascend Table Mountain via cable car to take in an inspiring panorama of the city. Proceed to the colourful and distinctive Bo-Kaap neighbourhood for a walking tour. After lunch, discover the Castle of Good Hope, built by the Dutch East India Company. Learn its colonial history, and then continue to the District Six Museum, which chronicles Cape Town's apartheid past in a poignant yet ultimately uplifting way. Receive an overview of key historical role players, including Nelson Mandela. Tonight, savour a relaxing welcome dinner.

Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel, Cape Town | Meals: BLD

Day 3: Cape Town | Cape Point & Boulders Beach

Discover Cape Point, the scenic promontory at the southwestern tip of the continent. Journey past the "bikini beaches" at the base of the towering Twelve Apostles Mountain Range, along Hout Bay with its bustling fishing harbour and over the famous Chapman's Peak Drive. Explore the stunning Cape Peninsula and Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, home to rare bontebok and chacma baboon. Ride the "Flying Dutchman" funicular to the great pinnacle at blustery Cape Point, which presides over treacherous reefs and sandy beaches. At Boulders Beach, visit its colony of endangered African penguin; accustomed to humans, they provide endless photo opportunities. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure, perhaps exploring the city's harbourfront or dining in one of Cape Town's world-class restaurants.

Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel, Cape Town | Meals: BL

Day 4: Riding the Rovos Rail | Into the Winelands

Today, take in the richness of the Constantia Winelands, nestled below Table Mountain, starting with a visit to Constantia Glen for a tour of their cellar guided by the winemaker. Enjoy a wine tasting followed by a farm-to-table lunch. Afterwards, recapture the romance of a bygone era as you board the wood-panelled coaches of the luxurious Rovos Rail. Depart Cape Town Station as you settle into your suite. Wind through mountains and rolling green hills of the Cape Winelands as the sun sets, and sip South African vintages as the stunning scenery scrolls by.

Rovos Rail | Meals: BLD

Day 5: Riding the Rovos Rail | Across the Great Karoo

This morning, stop for a charming look at Matjiesfontein, an authentically preserved Victorian village. Roll on to the Great Karoo, a vast semi-desert region that was once an inland sea, observing its arid beauty.

Rovos Rail | Meals: BLD

Day 6: Riding the Rovos Rail | Diamond Mine Museum

Arrive in Kimberley to tour the Diamond Mine Museum and view one of the world's largest hand-dug excavation sites. Proceed into the grasslands of gold-rich Highveld, marvelling at the changing landscapes.

Rovos Rail | Meals: BLD

Day 7: Johannesburg | Heart of South Africa

After breakfast, arrive at Pretoria Station, where you bid farewell to Rovos Rail. Travel to Soweto, a township just southwest of Johannesburg, for a driving tour that takes in key highlights, such as Vilikazi Street — the only street in the world that has been home to two Nobel prize winners, Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu — and the Hector Peterson Museum. After lunch at a local restaurant, continue to your hotel in the suburbs of Johannesburg for an evening at leisure, resting or enjoying the amenities of your accommodations.

Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa | Meals: BL

Day 8: Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe | Livingstone Exclusive

Fly to Victoria Falls, where you transfer to your new luxury hotel set on the banks of the Zambezi River, very near Victoria Falls. This evening, before dinner, enjoy hearing from a special guest speaker who shares tales of celebrated Scottish explorer and missionary David Livingstone on an A&K-exclusive experience.

The Palm River Hotel | Meals: BD

Day 9: Chobe National Park, Botswana | Design your Day

Set out on a guided walking tour of breathtaking Victoria Falls, one of the world's greatest natural wonders. Afterwards, enjoy one of these **Design Your Day** activities.

- **Learn About Traditional Zimbabwean Cuisine** and enjoy a cooking demonstration at a local restaurant.
- **Visit a Rural Village** for an interactive experience that offers insight into Zimbabwean cultural traditions.
- **Privately Bike the Area**, cycling the town of Victoria Falls and stopping at scenic viewpoints along the way.

Later, drive to your safari lodge, the only one located inside Botswana's world-renowned Chobe National Park, and settle into your spacious, river-facing accommodations. This afternoon, set out on a Chobe River safari, watching as elephant line the water's edge, hippo congregate in lagoons and predators come down to quench their thirst. Return to the lodge for dinner.

Chobe Game Lodge | Meals: BLD

Days 10: Chobe National Park | Plentiful Wildlife Viewing

Today, embark on morning and afternoon game drives, starting with an early morning safari, arriving ahead of most visitors, thanks to your lodge's ideal location, to see predators at their most active. Explore along the Chobe River as your experienced guide interprets the bush signs and tracks in search of the resident wildlife. Watch for elephant, huge herds of buffalo and plenty of predators such as lion, wild dog and even leopard.

Chobe Game Lodge | Meals: BLD

Day 11: Okavango Delta, Botswana | A Prized Experience

Fly to the Okavango Delta via Kasane Airport. Arrive at your amazing Sanctuary Chief's Camp in the Mombo Concession of the vast Moremi Game Reserve. Often called the "Predator Capital of the World," this reserve is home to only a handful of camps, which makes for a unique and highly prized game-viewing experience, free of crowds. Observe how the lush delta draws remarkable birds and wildlife, including the Big Five, on a late-afternoon game drive capped by a refreshing Scenic Sundowner.

Sanctuary Chief's Camp | Meals: BLD

Day 12: Okavango Delta | Game Drives and the Big Five

Rise early for a game drive on the reserve, where the game viewing is magnificent. Activities include a seasonal opportunity to Ride Like a Local, gliding on the delta in a *mokoro* (dugout canoe), as well as a Chef's Table experience offering you a taste of traditional local cuisine. Later, set out on another safari with your expert guide, whose well-honed tracking skills may lead you off the beaten trail for an up-close look at a cheetah with a fresh kill, a glimpse of a leopard emerging from dense foliage or an encounter with a rhino grazing on lush Okavango grasses. Tonight, gather for a special farewell dinner.

Sanctuary Chief's Camp | Meals: BLD

Day 13: Depart Johannesburg, South Africa

Fly to Johannesburg via Maun, where you connect with your international flight home. Enjoy access to the Premier Lounge before your departure, compliments of A&K.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Internal air included: Johannesburg/Victoria Falls; Kasane/Okavango Delta/Maun/Johannesburg

Minimum age is 10 years.

Each guest on this journey will receive an A&K Safari Duffle.

First group event: welcome briefing at 8:00 a.m. on Day 2.

Last group event: airport arrival at 3:40 p.m. on Day 13.

Departures are guaranteed to operate with a minimum of 2 guests.

Please note: Table Mountain may be unavailable due to weather conditions or maintenance reasons. In such an instance, alternative sightseeing will be provided.

Included with every Luxury Small Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Luxury Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Travelling Bell Boy Luggage Handling
- Breakfast in Bed on Select Days
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Your Choice of Activity on Design Your Day
- Traveller's Valet Laundry Service
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures with Just Two Guests

Customise this Journey

Talk to one of our expert Journey Designers or your travel agent about booking this tour as a private journey for your own small group with family or friends. Or, if you would prefer to travel privately, find out more about creating the perfect bespoke Tailor-Made Journey based on this itinerary.

Map



Accommodation

Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel Cape Town



An oasis of calm at the foot of Table Mountain, Mount Nelson, A Belmond Hotel Cape Town is a unique hideaway within the vibrant heart of Cape Town. Painted pink for peace in 1918, the hotel has become an icon and exudes the magic of a bygone era with exquisitely restored interiors and quirky modern touches.

Each of the 57 suites and 144 spacious bedrooms are individually furnished and four cottages in Sydenham Terrace have been meticulously restored for increased seclusion and are set in private gardens with a swimming pool.

Dining is a delight with seasonal specialities on offer at the Lord Nelson Restaurant. Afternoon tea is a spread of tempting tastes and treats and lighter fare is delivered at the poolside Oasis Bistro. The stylish and lively Planet Bar offers an impressive selection of wine, champagne and cocktails.

For those wishing to explore, complimentary transfers are available within a 10km radius of the hotel. Labrisa Spa offers eight treatment rooms of which four are double and perfect for romantic relaxation treatments. The floodlit tennis courts and two heated swimming pools are set against the mighty backdrop of Table Mountain.

Why we like it

- An discreetly elegant property located in the historic city centre
- A short stroll to the Company Gardens and the boutiques and eateries of Kloof Street
- Sit down to high tea, a Cape Town institution
- Labrisa Spa using only 100% chemical free products
- Beautiful landscaped gardens

Rovos Rail



Rovos Rail's elegant features evoke the spirit of a bygone era and just 72 guests are treated to this unforgettable African rail experience. The Deluxe Suites are cosy and stylishly decorated with wood panelling and polished timber finishes, each with en suite bathroom. Meals are a highlight with an emphasis on fresh local ingredients and traditional dishes with a selection of fine South African wines.

Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa



Once a private home, Fairlawns Boutique Hotel & Spa is a delightful grand retreat away from the busy city. The atmosphere is designed to be elegant with the Terrace restaurant set with candlelit tables. Beautiful linen, crockery and silver cutlery are an integral part of the refined experience at this hotel. We love the hotel's latest addition – the Muse Champagne Room by Perrier-Jouët and adjoining Courtyard are the perfect place to retreat and enjoy a sundowner.

Each opulent suite is spacious and individually decorated with a working fireplace, internet access, under floor heating and air conditioning. The large en-suite bathrooms boast a jacuzzi bath with a separate shower. Lounges can be fully separated from bedroom area. All of the suites overlook the beautiful landscaped gardens.

Why we like it

- Located in the prestigious Sandton suburb of Morningside Manor
- A unique and lavish all-suite hotel
- Unparalleled personal service
- A pleasing blend of traditional and contemporary decor, with unique African touches
- Indulge your body and mind in the Balinese-style Spa

Sanctuary Chief's Camp, Moremi Game Reserve



Sanctuary Chief's Camp sits silent among the glassy waters of the seasonal flood waters. Sited in the exclusive Mombo concession of the Moremi Game Reserve, this camp has been seamlessly integrated into the environment of winding waterways, reedbeds, mopane woodlands and seasonal lagoons. The area's game is outstanding: lions are frequently seen and the area is one of the few places in Botswana offering a 'Big Five' experience. Access to Sanctuary Chief's Camp is by light aircraft, using the private landing strip just 15 minutes' drive away. The swimming pool is perfect to escape from the heat of the day. Sanctuary Chief's Camp also has a small library. Through the day expeditions with expert guides allow an up-close and personal bush experience, and when the floodwaters arrive from the north, mokoros come into their own, gliding silently along labyrinthine waterways (subject to water levels). More conventional, game-drives provide a succession of outstanding photographic opportunities, getting quietly close to unexpected sights of nature's drama in one of the most beautiful places in the world.

The twelve luxury bush pavilions, all set on wooden platforms are spacious offering 141sq metres of living indoor and outdoor space. The features of the pavilions include a private dining area, Nespresso machine, outside seating area, plunge pool, air conditioning and fan and Wi-Fi. The luxury bathrooms feature a spacious outdoor shower, a large bath tub and floor to ceiling windows that look out to the wilderness of the Okavango Delta.

Why we like it

- Sanctuary Chief's Camp is located in the heart of the Moremi Game Reserve known as the "predator capital of Africa"

- Twelve luxury bush pavilions all on raised wooden platforms are the ultimate in privacy and comfort complete with plunge pool
- Activities included are morning and afternoon game drives and seasonal mokoro (dug out canoe) excursions
- Dining is always a pleasure here, blending Western and African influences
- Children over six years old are welcome

Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

Dec 20, 2024 - Jan 1, 2025

Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
AU\$35,545 pp	AU\$13,070	Included	Call for Availability

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