Ultimate Overland - Coast to Coast Southern Africa

Trip Code: PXCC

Version:

PIONEER	GUIDED GROUP	5 MODERATE



HIGHLIGHTS

- The best wildlife viewing, bar none, in Southern Africa - Incredible game drives in Moremi, Chobe, Hwange, Matopos, and Kruger with opportunities to see the big five and many, many more incredible animals throughout.

- Some of the most impressive landscapes on the continent including the sharp edged dunes of Sossusvlei, the far reaching salt pans of Makgadikgadi, and the rainbow shrouded 'Smoke that Thunders' - Victoria Falls.
- Camping in the wildest of wild landscapes and drifting off to sleep with the distant roar of lions as they head out to hunt under the light of the moon.
- Silently cruising through the papyrus and lilies of the Okavango Delta, surrounded by bird and insect life and the occasional grunts of a hippo across the water.

AT A GLANCE

- 12 days campsites
- 4 days wild camp
- 11 days lodge
- overland safari
- Join at Swakopmund

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

Introduction

We'll be covering around 5300km of overlanding, camping and lodging in some of the very best game reserves, cultural highlights and magnificent landscapes in all of Southern Africa.

We start in Swakopmund, dipping our toes in the Atlantic Ocean as it laps up against the fringes of the namib desert, before travelling inland to find Sossusvlei's dramatic landscapes, the desert city of Windhoek, and then into the Kalahari where we cross the border to Botswana. We find Ghanzi and spend a day with the San people, before reaching the edge of the Okavango Delta at Maun. This is where it gets really wild. We will be wild camping in the Delta, Moremi, and Chobe reserves, enveloping ourselves in the visceral sounds and sights of these huge megafauna filled landscapes in this wild corner of Botswana. Our trip through Botswana ends at Kasane where we cross the border into Zimbabwe and are immediately confronted by the hush and rush, and rainbow-filled clouds of the Mosi-Oa-Tunya waterfalls. We continue through Zimbabwe to two more contrasting but similarly wild and fascinating reserves of Hwange and Matopos. At the latter we're treated to an incredible walking rhino safari, a truly special moment to see these critically endangered animals in a wild but incredibly intimate way. We cross into South Africa for another lodge night before three days camping in the Kruger National Park [*roughly same size as Wales, 4x the Cairngorms NP - or more than 8x Lake District NP].

We finally reach the Indian Ocean after just over three weeks of travelling, and take in the expansive views of the Ponta do Ouro with its bright yellow sands and gently lapping waves. We have the opportunity to swim here, where a pod of dolphins are known to frequent, gambolling among the waves. The trip culminates with a few relaxing days at the beautiful Zululand Lodge in KwaZulu Natal, before we reach Durban and the end of our journey.

Is this holiday for you?

This trip is a mixed 2/3rds camping and 1/3rd lodge safari comprising of designated campsites, wild camps, and interspersed with lodges and over 5,300km of overlanding in functional vehicles designed to cover all types of terrain, from rough gravel, dirt and sand tracks to tarmacked roads. There are hundreds of kilometres of each on this trip and the journeys will be long but fruitful as we track across the many diverse and fascinating landscapes of Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, parts of South Africa and Mozambique. The driving times are indicated on each day. These times do not include stops. We ensure that regular comfort breaks are taken, and stops try to be scheduled to visit interesting towns or sights.

There are several designated campsites, with showers and some have wifi, a bar and a swimming pool, and we also spend a week or so of our trip in wild camps. You will need to put your tent up, and help pack up the truck in the mornings. The guides prepare most of the meals on these days and it is good group etiquette to help with food prep and washing up. This is usually done on rotation - It is all part of the adventure and when everyone puts in a little effort, the trip runs smoothly whilst also helping to create a sense of community within the group. Included in the itinerary are also a few walks. These can be on paved surfaces, uneven marshy islands in the Delta or rocky and dusty terrain, and are always accompanied by your experienced guide. Each walk is paced with time for your guide to interpret the environment around you. On some walks, it is vital to keep within the group and listen to the instructions and directions of your guide. This journey is suitable for the overland adventurer, looking to experience all of Southern Africa's finest safari and cultural experiences in a raw and unfiltered way.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

A professional and qualified guide,

Airport transfers,

All accommodation as described,

Meals as described in the Meal Plan,

National Park entrance fees and special permit fees,

All activities/excursions mentioned except where specified as 'optional.'

What's not Included

Travel Insurance,

Visas (where applicable),

Airport transfers,

Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan,

Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional,

Tips for local staff,

Miscellaneous personal expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the group hotel in Swakopmund.

On arrival airport transfers are provided to the group hotel.

Return flights, on the last day of holiday, should not depart before 1400. The holiday will end in the at Durban King Shaka Airport via one stop at the airport.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

27 breakfasts, 25 lunches and 17 dinners are included. Non-included lunches are in Victoria Falls and at Durban, and non-included evening meals are at most of the lodges and campsites with facilities, where we will have own expense meals. We recommend you budget £10 - 15 for each of these.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

Water from the taps may not be drinkable in all locations on this trip - please check with your guide. We recommend taking water purification tablets and a reusable bottle with a filter such as **Water-to-Go**, which can both be used to help make safe other water sources. Please note that we do not encourage the purchase of single use plastic bottles.

All meals are provided whilst camping and some meals are provided whilst in lodges. Breakfast usually consists of cereals and yoghurt, with coffee, tea, fruit juice, toast and the occasional cooked breakfast. Lunch will typically be picnic style - cold meats, cheese, salads, bread, rolls and fruit. Dinner whilst camping is usually a mix of potjies (traditional stews), braais (barbecue), stir fries, pasta dishes, curries etc. often on gas burner rings carried in the trucks, and sometimes over the open fire, particularly whilst wild camping. Fresh produce will be used wherever possible, and there is a fruit basket carried with every truck for snacks throughout the driving portions of the trip, replenished every few days by the guides. Many of the meals are prepared by the guides and it is good group etiquette to help with preparation and washing up on these days, usually organised by group rotation. Some meals, particularly whilst at lodges are taken at the accommodation or in local restaurants. Special dietary requirements (vegetarian or allergies) can usually be catered for, but it is essential that this information is communicated at time of booking. There is one cool box available for the group to put your own drinks in, with a second used by the guides to keep chilled produce. Stops at supermarkets are regular to pick up supplies such as alcohol, snacks, fruit and soft drinks.

Accommodation

This 26 night holiday stays at variety of different accommodations including guesthouses, lodges, tented lodges, campsites and wild camps.

Lodges – The lodges each have their own style and feel, but often they have an African aesthetic, with woven baskets, traditional blankets, ornaments, and stained and polished wooden furniture. The rooms are twin/double with mainly en-suite facilities. Most of the lodge accommodations also have a bar and restaurant, and a swimming pool.

When at a tented lodge you will stay in a classic canvas safari tent with twin beds, en suite facilities. It is built on a permanent base (concrete or wood platform) and might have a thatch roof. There is usually a main lodge area with a bar, and possibly a swimming pool and small shop.

Camping - where possible we will stay at designated campsites in national parks, on private land and in towns. Campsite facilities are generally very good but in places can be basic. There are hot and cold showers, restaurants, washing facilities and telephones available at most of the campsites. Some camps have simple reed enclosures for showers but do have flush toilets!

We supply all the camping equipment with the exception of your sleeping bag and pillow. The dome tents we use are 2.2 x 2.2 x 1.8 meters and putting them up or down takes only 5 or so minutes. Tents have built-in insect nets. We supply mattresses, which are about 5 cm thick, warm and comfortable. The camp chairs have a backrest.

Wild camping - Wild camps have no facilities; we will need to take our own water and all equipment. Wild camping can be very enjoyable but please remember that we leave no trace of our stay and take all rubbish away with us. Toilets will be of the "dig and bury" variety and a simple bucket bush shower will be provided.

You will need to put your tent up, and help pack up the truck in the mornings. Most of the meals are prepared by the guide and it is good group etiquette to help with preparation and washing up - it's all part of the adventure and when everyone puts in a little effort the trip runs smoothly.

If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. Single tents and rooms are available for a supplementary cost.

All accommodation is subject to change without prior warning.

SAFARI VEHICLES

For the national parks of Botswana we use custom built 4WDs, with individual "bucket" seats, with trailers for the equipment. The vehicles are designed to handle all road conditions expected on the route. These open-sided land cruisers also have a bank of plug sockets or USB ports for charging. Game viewing from an "open sided" vehicle means that you are open to the usually favourable elements, but this also means you are afforded the best uninterrupted views, and wildlife experiences too.

These custom built game viewing vehicles are the first of their kind in Botswana. Each new vehicle has a built in "roll cage" that conforms to the latest safety standards of South Africa, and each individual bucket seat has a lap belt. The vehicles are constructed by a registered coach builder and ensure structural integrity of the passenger cabin in the unlikely event of a roll.

There are a couple of long days of travelling but the vehicles have a comfortable cruising speed. The

emphasis of the trip is "getting out and doing things".

For the transfers in South Africa at the beginning and end of the holiday we will likely travel by closed station wagon Land Cruiser or a Sprinter minibus.

Group Leader & Support Staff

Your guides are the key to any successful safari. On this adventure safari, you will travel with two qualified and experienced, registered field guides (FGASA). All our guides have a passion for Africa, her people and wildlife, and they love nothing more than sharing their knowledge with you.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

We estimate a total of around £500-600 per person (or equivalent in euros/dollars) for personal spending. This amount should be sufficient to cover all non-included meals and miscellaneous expenses, including tips to local staff. If you are intending to buy expensive souvenirs, considerable quantities of soft drinks / alcohol, or undertake additional activities or excursions, you should budget accordingly (credit cards can be useful in this respect, and are widely used throughout the destinations of this trip). Your travel money is best in US dollars, as this can be used in most countries on your visit. We also advise you to change some of your money into local currency on arrival at the airport, and your local leader will advise further places to change money en-route and at borders. Additionally, you will be able to get currency from bank ATMs in many of the towns that we will visit. Worldwide credit cards are useful in this case, most countries accept Mastercard and Visa, except for Mozambique where only Visa is accepted. American Express cards are not widely accepted.

Many small traders will accept US$, and your notes should be clean and undamaged. Please avoid USD$100 and old issue ‘small head’ US$ notes as they might not be accepted.

There are many optional activities that you can take part in on this holiday. These should be booked on arrival with your leader and paid for locally. All optional activities taken outside of the KE trip itinerary are at your own risk.

Guidance on Tipping

Your tour leader also works extremely hard to ensure that your holiday runs smoothly and that you are happy. We suggest that a tip of £2-5 per client per day for your tour leader is reasonable. When it comes to tipping the guides that we sometimes use for various activities (e.g. game walks, polers in the Okavango Delta etc) we suggest that a tip of £1-3 per client per ½ day activity, or the local currency equivalent, is acceptable. As in all cases with tipping, the final decision of the amount tipped is up to the individual. It is up to you to decide if you thought the service was poor, or exceptional, and the amount tipped should reflect that. The amounts quoted above are guidelines for you to get an idea of what to tip.

Baggage Allowance

For this trip you should take one piece of luggage and a daypack. Your baggage will travel in the gear compartment of the truck with the group, and there is a finite amount of space. Please keep the weight of your main luggage to 12kg. You should bring a soft bag as these are more suitable to pack in the vehicles. Bear in mind that laundry services are often available at the lodges, and some of the fixed campsites we visit, so you can limit your packing to reflect the opportunity to clean your clothes along the way.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the ‘Dates and Prices’ table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

South Africa Indemnity Form

As a member of the South African Tourism Service Association, our ground agent in South Africa may require you to complete an indemnity form at the start of your holiday, which you will need your insurance details for. As a client of KE Adventure Travel, your rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangement Regulations (2018) are unaffected and KE Adventure Travel will remain liable for the actions of our suppliers.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required**,** and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Visa Botswana

UK nationals do not normally need a visa to enter Botswana for stays of up to 90 days.

Travelling with children under 18yrs - Botswana

Parents travelling with children under 18 years will be asked to show the child's full unabridged birth certificate. If the child is travelling with one parent, with another adult or unaccompanied, the parent or parents who aren't present will need to provide an affidavit giving their consent for the child to travel. Please note that they are very strict and they do not accept photocopies of birth certificates or short versions. This is also applicable if you are transiting through Botswana. For further details please see FCO website https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/botswana/entry-requirements

Visa South Africa

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays. You must have 2 blank pages in your passport.

Rules on **travelling with children under 18 years** have been relaxed. Visa exempt children entering South Africa only need passports, and not birth certificates as previously required. This applies if the child is travelling with both parents, one parent or an adult who is not a biological parent, and school groups. There are some different requirements for unaccompanied children, and children who do not have UK passports or visa exempt passports. For full details please see the FCDO website.

Visa Zimbabwe

A visa is required. This is obtained on arrival and is $55 single entry and $70 for double. Payment must be in cash and you should take small denomination notes for this.

Important Note: Please check your itinerary and your arrival/departure flights. If your accommodation and flights are from a different side of the falls you may need both a Zambian and a Zimbabwe visa. The town of Victoria Falls is in Zimbabwe, and the town of Livingstone is in Zambia.

Additionally If you visit the falls (on the border) and wish to cross the bridge to the other side you will require a visa for both countries.

Visa Namibia

There is a 1,600N$ charge (approx. 80 EUR, or 90 USD) in place as of the 1st April 2025 for 31 countries including the UK and USA which can either be purchased in advance as an e-Visa by following this link:

https://eservices.mhaiss.gov.na/holidayvisa-services, or can be purchased on the day. Namibian immigration has stated that credit card facilities will be available at border posts. However, just in case, we recommend carrying NAD 1,600 or ZAR 1,600 in cash for visa fees, when applying at the border. For further information on how to apply, please click here.

Travelling with children under 18yrs - Namibia

Parents travelling with children under 18 years will be asked to show the child's full unabridged birth certificate. If the child is travelling with one parent, with another adult or unaccompanied, the parent or parents who aren't present will need to provide an affidavit giving their consent for the child to travel. Please note that they are very strict and they do not accept photocopies of birth certificates or short versions. This is also applicable if you are transiting through Namibia. For further details please see FCDO website.

Visa Mozambique

Visitors to Mozambique intending to stay less than 30 days do not require a visa to entre the country. Therefore for this trip, all passengers are visa exempt, however you must pay a fee of 650 Mozambican meticais using cash or card, and will be required to show a confirmed hotel reservation, an invitation from your host and a return or onward air ticket. Your guide will help you with this, and if you have booked land only, keep your air tickets handy.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Currency

The unit of currency in South Africa is the South African Rand.

The unit of currency in Botswana is the Pula.

The unit of currency in Zimbabwe is the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG). There is currently a shortage of available cash at the banks and ATM's in Zimbabwe. US Dollars are still widely used, so exchange your currency in advance, or use credit cards where possible, as these are widely accepted also.

The unit of currency in Namibia is the Namibian Dollar. The Namibian and the the Southern African Rand have the same value, and the Rand is accepted everywhere in Namibia.

The unit of currency in Mozambique is the Mozambican Metical.

Climate

This Central region of Southern Africa is subtropical being generally warm and mild to humid. November is the beginning of the rainy season, which is also the hottest time of the year. Expect some showers and dramatic skies in the afternoon, although these are usually more frequent in the latter months (March and April) of this S. hemisphere summer period.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's **'Travel Aware'** campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our Travel Insurance page for further information and to get a quote.

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

You should bring the following items:

Lightweight walking shoes or trainers

Sandals

Socks and underwear

Long lightweight trousers

Shorts

Lightweight waterproof jacket & trousers

T-shirts

Casual shirts with sleeves

Fleece jacket or warm jumper

Sunhat with wide brim

Sunglasses

Buff/scarf for dusty days

Small towel/Travel towel

Daypack 20-25 litres

Overnight bag for travelling into the Okavango Delta (large bag with excess kit will remain on the bus)

Sleeping bag* - comfort rating 0 degrees C (May-Sep) and thinner sleeping can be used during the rest

of the year

Headtorch and spare batteries

Sun protection (including total bloc for lips, nose etc.)

Water bottles 1 litre (x2) filter bottle if possible (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic

Water purification tablets

Washbag and toiletries (biodegradable soap is preferred)

Antibacterial handwash

Insect repellent

Basic First Aid Kit including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, re-hydration salts (Dioralite), anti-nausea tablets and antihistamine cream/tablets

The following items are optional:

Swimwear

Pen-knife (remember to pack sharp objects in hold baggage)

Repair kit (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)

A selection of dry bags for daypack/kit bag

Camera

Binoculars (highly recommended)

Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Notes:

Bright bold colours and white are not suitable for game viewing or bush wear as they attract insects and the attention of animals. Please do not bring camouflage or military style clothes as they can cause problems with local authorities.

Please dress appropriately for border crossings, village and market visits - ie: no bare feet, no bare chests, no bikinis and no hats. A few restaurants are also not keen on T-shirts and jeans either.

Tents have mosquito netting on the windows and doors. Sleeping mattresses of 5cm thick are provided.

*It is possible to hire a sleeping bag for this holiday.

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary joining at Swakopmund. Airport transfers are provided.

Flight Inclusive Information

Limited seats are available at the advertised flight price, please book as early as you can. If we are unable to secure seats at the price shown, or you have requested regional departures and/or upgrades, we will provide you with an alternative quote. It is likely that flight payment will be in advance of your final holiday balance. Booking a flight inclusive package means you will benefit from full financial protection, eases your holiday planning, and leaves us to deal with airlines and schedule changes. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Swakopmund (Walvis Bay) and return from Durban (King Shaka) to London.

Outbound flights will depart from the UK in the evening, arriving the morning of the following day (day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights will depart Durban in the evening of the last day of the land only itinerary, arriving in the UK the following morning.

Why Choose KE

Why KE?

This pioneering trip is the only itinerary of its kind to offer so many wildlife, landscape and cultural highlights in one epic, four-week long package. This trip has been hand selected by our safari experts to provide all of the big hits in one show-stopping trip from west to east across the wildest expanses of Southern Africa. We've combined the best wild camping spots with trusted campsites and stunning lodges to create the perfect mix of raw wilderness with some creature comforts along the way.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 12/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change