



DELVE DEEP: SOUTH AFRICA & ZIMBABWE (SAFARI)



TRIP CODE:
TBFJV3

TOPDECKER, meet Africa (TD)

TRIP VIBE = iconic sights and in-depth adventures with a local Trip Leader. You want the animals. The landscapes. The culture. The food. And you want it all in one neat 8-day package. You've GOT it. Welcome to your insider guide to South Africa and Zimbabwe. Expect: spine-tingling safaris, eye-popping experiences, mouthwatering meals and wonderous waterfalls (looking at you, Victoria). This short (but oh-so-sweet) adventure's got your name all over it.

WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

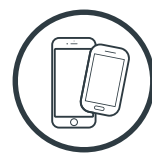
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Delve Deep



Nights



Download app



Meals

Thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

Ready for the time of your LIFE?

The countdown's on...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – from where to meet your Topdeck fam to what we suggest you bring.

Read them on the train, in the supermarket queue or on the loo – we don't mind, just look through them carefully so you know what to expect on your trip. We recommend you download this document so it's with you when you travel (and give a copy to your MVPs so they know what you're up to).

IMPORTANT: please refresh this doc as close to your departure as possible. This means you'll have the most up-to-date info available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- Afternoon and full-day 4x4 game drives in Kruger National Park
- Bush walk in Kruger National Park
- Half-day game drive in Matobo National Park
- Wilderness walk in Matobo National Park
- Tour of Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, including Victoria Falls

MORE INCLUSIONS

- Afternoon 4x4 game drive through Kruger National Park
- Full-day 4x4 game drive through Kruger National Park
- Morning bush walk in Kruger National Park
- Half-day game drive through Matobo National Park
- Wilderness walk in Matobo National Park
- Tour of Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, including Victoria Falls

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Johannesburg
South Africa

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Victoria Falls
Zimbabwe

TRIP CURRENCIES

- South Africa - ZAR
- Zimbabwe - ZWD

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | JOHANNESBURG (SOUTH AFRICA)

Yep. You've just landed in Africa. Welkom to Johannesburg! Say 'howzit?' to your fellow explorers. Then: we'll kick things off with our first group dinner. Ready for the best damn week of your life? Let's DO this.



MEALS:

- Dinner

DAY 2 | JOHANNESBURG – KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Start practising your Hakuna Matata – we're up bright and early this morning to make our way to the world-famous Kruger National Park. Once we've hopped off the truck, there's a DELish lunch waiting for us amid the plains of the African bush. Then, it's ACTUALLY happening: our first taste of safari awaits on an included 4x4 game drive. Oh hey, Simba! Tonight, toast to a spine-tingling sunset and soak up all those nature vibes. You know those 'pinch yourself' moments people talk about? This is one of them.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Afternoon 4x4 game drive through Kruger National Park

DAY 3 | KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

Rise and shine, adventurers! Dig into breakfast and make sure your camera's charged – we've got a full day of 4X4 driving to get on board with. Comin' atcha with the stats: this place is home to 500 species of birds, 148 mammals and a sh*t-ton of reptiles. Excitement levels: 11/10. Keep your eyes peeled as our eagle-eyed guide helps us spot the legendary Big Five. We're talking buffalo grazing on savannahs, rhinos frolicking in the mud, lions on their afternoon hunt and elephants getting their bubble bath on. Tonight, we'll tuck into a group din back at the camp. Convo starter: which Big Five animal would you wanna be, and why? No judgement here...



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Full-day 4x4 game drive through Kruger National Park

DAY 4 | KRUGER NATIONAL PARK – TSHIPISE

You wanted to delve deeper, right? That's why we've sorted a morning bush walk through Kruger with a fundi – aka a wilderness expert. Get ready to admire Mother Nature's mad skills. And then? Next stop: Tshipise. Think giant baobab trees and rustic vibes galore. Here the afternoon's yours to chill at the accom or quiz your Trip Leader on alllll the weird nature facts. Tonight = more snacking, stargazing and sweet AF moments. Lekker.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Morning bush walk in Kruger National Park

DAY 5 | TSHIPISE – MATOBO NATIONAL PARK (ZIMBABWE)

Tums full after another group brekkie, this morning we're heading for Zimbabwe! Once known for its political violence and economic instability, this nation has rebuilt itself into a buzzing tourist destination filled with natural wonders and out-of-this-world landscapes. When we've got all the formalities over with at the border post, we'll make a beeline for Matobo National Park – where super-dramatic rock formations and even MORE incredible creatures await. Tonight, we'll crack open a cold one as the sun sets over the rolling savannahs. This is livin'.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner

DAY 6 | MATOBO NATIONAL PARK

Slurp up your coffee and get ready for another epic game drive through Matobo National Park. It's time for the best game of 'I spy' you've ever had spotting black and white rhinos, zebras, wildebeest and giraffe. Then: check out the massive rock formations of the Matobo Hills. Seriously – it looks like a giant's been playing Jenga up here. And FYI, humans have been drawing graffiti on these rocks way before Banksy made it cool (since the Stone Age, in fact). This afternoon we'll delve deeper into the park with a guided trail walk, before swapping stories around the campfire. Hear that? It's the sound of the wild lulling you to sleep tonight. This is as authentic as it gets.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Lunch
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Half-day game drive through Matobo National Park
- Wilderness walk in Matobo National Park

DAY 7 | MATOBO NATIONAL PARK – VICTORIA FALLS

Play it cool: today we're ticking off one of the Seven Wonders of the World. That's right folks, we're headed to the magnificent Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park – aka home of Victoria Falls. A place where wilderness, adventure and culture are all tied up in one gobsmacking, crazy-beautiful parcel. After we make camp, we'll head out on an included tour of the park to see why the falls are called 'the smoke that thunders'. Later, opt for a cruise of the Zambezi River for all the sunset views, or dance to the beat of your own drum at a traditional Boma drumming show. And tonight? Gather round for one final group dinner. WHAT a trip it's been.



MEALS:

- Breakfast
- Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- Tour of Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park, including Victoria Falls



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Sunset Zambezi River cruise: from 55 USD
- Boma dinner and drumming experience: from 76 USD

DAY 8 | VICTORIA FALLS

So... that happened. A week's worth of UNbelievable African adventures = completed. It may be our last day but there's still time to get your adrenaline pumping with some epic optionals. We're talking whitewater rafting, gorge swimming, canoeing and zip-lining. Or go all out with a helicopter flight over the falls. Why the hell not?



MEALS:

- Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- Canoe trail in Victoria Falls: from 185 USD
- Gorge swim in Victoria Falls: from 110 USD
- Helicopter flight over Victoria Falls: from 334 USD
- Whitewater rafting at Victoria Falls: from 140 USD
- Zip-lining at Victoria Falls: from 50 USD
- Village township tour in Victoria Falls: from 81 USD

OTHER INFORMATION

TOPDECK APP

Feeling appy? Download the Topdeck app and get PUMPED for the adventure ahead. Best bit is: from 45 days before departure you'll be able to chat with your soon-to-be tripmates.

Plus, get your itinerary at your fingertips – so you know where you'll be going and what you'll be doing on each day of your trip. Nice!

Links:

Apple <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/topdeck/id994727866>

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.FlexiTechSolutions.TopDeck&hl=en>



YOUR SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

We love a good night out – experiencing the nightlife and entertainment places have to offer is a big part of travelling. But alongside the fun it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety.

When you're out late, remember to avoid walking alone – particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. Make sure you have your trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking – and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Customers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana – even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip immediately. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER: if you are found in possession of drugs, not only do you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if they are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you don't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!
- Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations

- Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home too – so they're sure to know some tried- and- tested ways to beat the blues
- Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (fact!)

TRAVEL SINCE COVID-19

Travel looks a bit different since COVID-19. That's why we've put some new procedures in place to help keep you safe on the road.

What remains the same? Your Topdeck trip will be run hygienically, responsibly, and with your safety at the forefront of everything we do. End of.

Here's the info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/travel-safely>

INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

Head to our FAQ for more info: <https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/faqs-0>

Got more Qs? Chat with our Customer Service team: <https://www.topdeck.travel/about-us/contact>

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip's departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling. Check out our handy interactive map showing global visa requirements:

<https://www.topdeck.travel/resources/latest-border-restrictions>

PLEASE NOTE: some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

TIPPING

Basically: it's not necessary.

Your Trip Leader and Driver don't expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. Meaning? More dollar to spend on optional activities (and a souvenir for your nan).

WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!).

Off to Japan? Your luggage must be no bigger than 160cm in total (height x width x length). So maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

Psst: this is a packing list for Topdeck trips in general. Obv you'd look silly splashing around the Greek islands in a snowsuit.

- 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- 4 shirts/T-shirts
- 2 sweaters/jumpers
- Smart casual evening wear
- 1 warm jacket + 1 rainproof jacket
- Underwear and socks + swimwear
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Hat and sunscreen
- Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- Adaptor plug
- Reusable water bottle
- Snow gear



THAT'S IT!