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### Discover Zimbabwe in Ndebele Land 9 Days - 8 Nights Bulawayo, Matobo National Park, Hwange National Park, Victoria Falls Eco-Tourism, Safari, Heritage, Photography, Adventure, Discovery

This program may be operated for individuals or for small groups This is a suggested itinerary

Fancy a mix between safaris and cultural travel? Discover the Matabeland region of Zimbabwe and let yourself be charmed by the kindness and architectural artistry of the Ndebele. Departure of your trip from Matopos Park, its cave paintings and Ndebele villages, then join Victoria Falls, passing of course by the gigantic Hwange Park where you will experience incredible safaris in the middle of hundreds of elephants! A fairy-tale journey for lovers of nature and cultural and human encounters.

### Day 1: Bulawayo, Matobo National Park (Matopos)

Arrival at Bulawayo airport and transfer by private vehicle to Matopos. Crossing the pleasant town of Bulawayo before reaching your lodge located on the edge of Matobo National Park. Welcome and presentation of your guide and your translator. Installation for the next three nights in a room with incredible views and relaxation around the pool built on the rock! Appetizer at sunset to admire the superb view of the lodge. Dinner tonight taken around the common table on the terrace or you may reserve your private table if you prefer. Stories and legends of Matobo told around the fire before going to bed early because tomorrow a magical day awaits you. [D]

### Day 2: Matobo National Park

Breakfast this morning, then departure with your ranger for Matobo National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Two park rangers join you for a unique experience, tracking white rhinos on foot! Guaranteed thrills and emotion when you know that they are strongly threatened by poachers. Return for lunch at the lodge or picnic in the park. This afternoon, leave again for park, crossing fantastic landscapes, Matobo has the largest concentration of the San Tribe cave paintings in all of Southern Africa! Discover the caves covered with paintings recounting hunting scenes, rites and traditions of the Bushmen tribe. The thousands of granite blocks awaken the imagination of children and parents alike. More than 741,000 acres of these volcanic rocks have enabled Matobo to be classified as a Unesco World Heritage Site. Appetizer at sunset to admire what Cecil J. Rhodes described as: "The View of the World". Return to the lodge and dine under the beautiful starry sky. Overnight at the Lodge. [B/L/D]

### Day 3: Matobo National Park

Breakfast and departure for a cultural tour of Matopos with your guide. Visit of Ndébélés village, cultural center or school and mix with the people. Return for lunch at the lodge or picnic in Matobo. This afternoon we take a hike in in Matobo park and visit the Ethandweni Orphanage, which accommodates and educates 40 children. Return to the lodge for dinner and overnight at the Lodge. [B/L/D]

### Day 4: Matopos, Hwange National Park

Breakfast early this morning and a 4-hour transfer to Hwange Park, which has become famous thanks to the documentary "All the President's Elephants" filmed by the renowned conservationist Sharon Pinkott that won several international awards. Located in the northwestern part of the country, it has, together with Chobe National Park the highest density of elephants in Africa. Welcome by your guide at Bomani Tented Lodge and lunch. Departure around 4 p.m. for a game drive (safari) ending with appetizers at sunset. Return to the lodge for dinner. Later, your ranger will be escorted you to your tent because you are here in the heart of the park where the animals move freely. The, fall asleep under a beautiful starry sky. [B/L/D]

### Days 5 - 6: Hwange National Park

Your next two days at Bomani will normally go as follows: 6:00 am your guide will wake you up for coffee and breakfast before leaving for your morning game drive. Return around 12 noon for a hearty



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brunch then relax in your tent during high-noon. At 3:00 pm enjoy tea and cakes as well as gourmet snacks before leaving for your second safari in the park. Hwange's flora and fauna are among the richest in Africa with over 450 different bird species and over 120 mammal species. The sandy tracks in the north-western part of the country are explained by the proximity of the Kalahari Desert. Return to the lodge around 6 pm for dinner served around a large table providing passionate and fascinating exchanges with other travelers. Your guide leads you to your tent and you fall asleep to the enchanting sound of the African savannah. [B/L/D]

## Day 7: Hwange National Park, Victoria Falls

Breakfasts early and last morning safari before a 2-hour transfer to Victoria Falls arriving at the Lokuthula Lodge for check-in a 2-bedroom cottage. Then, enjoy lunch in one of the 3 restaurants offered by the Lodge. Meet at 3.15pm to take a short drive to the pier for a cruise on the Zambezi aboard the Ra-Ikane, the replica of the explorer Livingstone's boat (12 guests) who discovered Victoria Falls. Relaxation on the banks of the Zambezi, with appetizers at sunset, while, hopefully viewing hippos, crocodiles, fishing eagles and, maybe, elephants crossing the Zambezi River. Dinner tonight at the traditional restaurant The Boma and overnight at the Lodge. [B/L/D]

## Day 8: Victoria Falls

After breakfasts at the lodge a short ride to Victoria Falls to Visit the amazing and unforgettable falls, considered one of the 7 Natural Wonders of the World. Be ready for an over 2-hour walk to follow the 10.5-mile route along the cataracts. Lunch at the Look Out Café from where you have a magnificent view of the gorges. In the afternoon, visit of the Victoria Falls Hotel, one of the 10 most beautiful colonial hotels in the world. Return to your lodge for dinner at one of the restaurants. Overnight at the Lodge. [B/L/D]

# Day 9: Victoria Falls, USA

Breakfasts and discovery of the crafts market if the timing of your international flights allows it. At the appointed time you'll be pick-up and transferred to the airport to board your connecting flight home. [B]

[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

## Your Tour includes:

- Airfare between the USA and Zimbabwe
- Arrival and departure transfers
- 8 nights' accommodation:
  - o Matobo 3 nights
  - o Hwange 3 nights
  - o Victoria Falls 2 nights
- Meals
  - o Breakfast daily
  - o 7 lunches
  - o 8 dinners
- Matobo Nat'l Park game drives
- Rhino tracking
- Visit of the caves' paintings
- Cultural tour of the Ndebele villages
- Visit the Ethandweni Orphanage

- Game drives at Hwange Park
- Cruise on the Zambezi aboard the Ra-Ikane
- Admire Victoria Falls
- Iconic Victoria Falls Hotel
- Crafts market
- All taxes for national parks

## Tour does not include:

- Taxes or surcharges related to airline tickets
- Travel insurance
- Visa
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out
- Expenses of personal nature





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#### Hotels in your Tour:

Location	Accommodation Name	Tripadvisor
Deluxe		
Matobo	Big Cave Camp	4.5
Hwange	Bomani Tented Lodge	5
Victoria Falls	Lokuthula Lodge	4.5

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

### **Tour Prices:**

These programs can be customized for individuals and groups.

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

### • Airfare

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

### • Program

You may add or remove;

- o Trip days
- $_{\rm O}$  Cities and sites
- o Meals

### • Other options

- The program was designed with private services, however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
- If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.

### • Quotation

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

### Tour Code: ZW03BUQ21MS

### **Options:**

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

### **Group Quotations**

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the lad journey.
- Booking both air an land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.