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INSIDER'S SOUTHERN AFRICA 2008

SOUTH AFRICA

Kruger National Park
Cape Town & the Winelands

BOTSWANA

The Kalahari Desert: Jack's Camp
Okavango & Linyanti Flying Safari

MALAWI

Lake Malawi

MOZAMBIQUE

Bazaruto Archipelago

NAMIBIA

Exploring the Sand Dunes of Sossusvlei
The Skeleton Coast

ZAMBIA

Kafue National Park

Extend Your Adventure!

You've come all this way. Why not stay a little longer? These extensions are great additions to any adventure in Southern Africa.

Printed January 16, 2008

SOUTH AFRICA

KRUGER NATIONAL PARK: “BIG FIVE” HEAVEN!

Kruger has a stellar reputation for being one of Africa’s great wildlife reserves. It harbors a huge variety of animals in astonishing numbers, including the celebrated “Big Five” (elephant, leopard, lion, rhino, and Cape buffalo) and many other predators. Kruger also attracts lots of visitors, though, so on this classic safari—a “must” for any visit to Southern Africa—we take you to a private reserve adjoining the park (part of the Kruger ecosystem). No fences encircle these areas, so the animals roam freely. Here you’ll go on early morning and evening game drives, take short bush walks, and in between enjoy the ambiance of a deluxe intimate lodge. And because these are private reserves, you’ll be far from the crowds; private reserves also allow you to take walks and night drives. Choose between Simbambili Game Lodge or the more upscale Leopard Hills: each lodge boasts gorgeous views of the surrounding African veld, while thatch-roof chalets feature a deck leading to individual plunge pools (not quite big enough to do laps in, but great for cooling off!).

DETAILS 4-day trip begins and ends in Johannesburg • 3 nights deluxe tented camps

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy wildlife viewing by vehicle, nature walks

BEST TIME TO GO January–October

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ Kruger National Park

You will be met at Johannesburg international airport and assisted to your flight to a regional airport servicing Sabi Sand Game Reserve. From here you will be transferred by road to the lodge of your choice in Sabi Sand, a private game reserve bordering Kruger National Park.

L, D...Leopard Hills or Simbambili Game Lodge

DAYS 2-3 ~ Kruger National Park

Each morning you’ll awake early for a game drive in an open 4x4 safari vehicle. Sunrise is a magical moment in the Kruger bushveld and the game is active. You’ll have the chance to see a tremendous variety of birds and wildlife: lion, elephant, giraffe, leopard, antelope, river-going hippos, rhinos—the works. You’ll also have the chance to see wild dogs (the Cape hunting dogs), one of the rarest predators in Africa. Kruger’s habitats range from mopane-red bushwillow scrub and open savannas to the deep bush of mixed forest—the full range of lowveld habitats. Return to the lodge for breakfast. Afterwards, game walks are available to see the endemic birds, ungulates, and small mammals. Lunch is served at the lodge, and you may wish to take a dip in the plunge pool during the heat of the day or just relax and take a nap. In the late afternoon, you’ll enjoy another game drive that develops into a night drive during which a spotlight is used to reveal some of the nocturnal creatures, such as aardvarks, aardwolves, porcupines, and bushbabies. Predators are also more active at night. Back at the lodge, you’ll enjoy dinner served around the campfire under the stars.

B, L, D each day...Leopard Hills or Simbambili Game Lodge

DAY 4 ~ Depart

This morning, enjoy a morning game drive or hike. Road transfer to the regional airport to connect with your flight to Johannesburg and your next destination.

B...

LAND COST

Simbambili Game Lodge: Prices valid year-round

\$1,745 per person, double occupancy

\$500 single supplement

\$2,245 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$600 internal airfare (subject to change)

Leopard Hills: Prices valid year-round

\$3,095 per person, single or double occupancy

\$600 internal airfare (subject to change)

What's Included

- ◆ assistance at Johannesburg International Airport
- ◆ roundtrip flight from Johannesburg to regional airport
- ◆ transfers to/from lodge and regional airport
- ◆ accommodations
- ◆ services of camp guides and staff
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Johannesburg and return; optional tips to camp guides and staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE TOWN: BETWEEN MOUNTAIN & OCEAN

A visit to Southern Africa would not be complete without a visit to Cape Town, the historic and scenic jewel of African cities. You can easily spend a few days absorbing its sophisticated atmosphere, with art galleries, the up-and-coming wine country, and the Cape of Good Hope within easy access. Guided excursions may include a cable

car ride to the top of Table Mountain, a hike at the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, viewing the African penguin colony at Simonstown, and a leisurely walk through Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, a stunning showcase of the indigenous flora of Southern Africa. Our two five-day programs—one with more active options and the other with a cultural focus—also include a visit to the world-renowned Winelands region, famous for its fine wines and Cape Dutch architecture. Choose from the classy Cape Grace Hotel, located on the waterfront and consistently ranked by *Condé Nast Traveler* as among the top 15 hotels in Africa, or the laid-back Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House, situated on the slopes of Table Mountain in the select residential suburb of Oranjezicht. From here you can enjoy panoramic views of Table Mountain, Signal Hill, Lions Head, and the city of Cape Town.

DETAILS 5-day trip begins and ends in Cape Town • 4 nights hotels or guesthouses

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy touring (“Cultural Touring” option), moderate activities (“Active” option)

BEST TIME TO GO January–October

ITINERARY

Cape Town “Active” option:

DAY 1 ~ Cape Town

Arrive in Cape Town. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your choice of hotel or bed and breakfast inn. Today is at leisure and meals are on your own.

Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 2 ~ Silvermine Hike

You will be picked up in the morning and driven to the Silvermine Nature Reserve near Constantia (part of Table Mountain National Park) for a moderate to strenuous hike of 5-6 hours on the southern flank of Table Mountain. Starting out on gravel roads with gentle slopes, you'll hike up to Noordhoek Peak (2,475'), stop at the lookout point above Blackburn Ravine, and continue on to the top of Constantiaberg (3,045'). The walk is an ideal introduction to the indigenous “Fynbos” flora of the Cape floral kingdom, the smallest but the richest of the world's six plant kingdoms, with some 8,600 flowering species. Besides plants like the protea, you may see sunbirds and even black eagle as well as rock hyrax and other small mammals.

A lunch stop on Constantiaberg affords ample time to absorb the vistas of the Atlantic Ocean, and the peninsula south of the city, before continuing the walk down to Elephant's Eye Cave. You'll return to our vehicle, near the Silvermine Reservoir, via the jeep track. Return to your accommodation; the evening is free to spend at your leisure.

Note—you will need to carry your own picnic lunch and drinks (provided). Comfortable, sturdy walking shoes, sunhat, and sun protection is necessary. A warm fleece sweater and rainproof jacket are also strongly advised.

B,L...Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 3 ~ Atlantic Coast, Sea Kayaking to the Penguins or Baboon Walk, Cape of Good Hope National Park

Weather permitting, you'll be picked up in the morning and depart your hotel for the city of Simonstown. Here you'll meet a sea kayaking guide for a safety briefing and gear up for a few hours' easy paddling in twin kayaks along the False Bay Coast (these are safe, comfortable “sit on top” kayaks and require almost no balance or skill). You'll

paddle to the Boulders Beach's colony of African penguins and view them from the ocean as they swim around this quaint cove. Lunch is at a local seafood restaurant.

After lunch, drive down the coast into the Cape of Good Hope National Park with its many endemic species, including bontebok, baboon, and Cape mountain zebra, as we make for the tip of the Peninsula at Cape Point, the south westernmost point of Africa. Walk up to the lighthouse for a photo op across the staggering vistas of False Bay.

You'll leave the reserve, passing the beaches of Noordhoek and over Chapman's Peak Drive (nearly 2,000 feet above the ocean and one of the world's most breathtaking coastal passes). Take in the picturesque fishing hamlet of Hout Bay and then head toward the city along the Atlantic seaboard through Camps Bay and Bantry Bay. From June to November, southern right whales can often be seen just offshore from the road. The evening is free to spend at your leisure.

~OR~

In the morning you'll be picked up and depart your hotel for the Southern Peninsula where you'll meet a qualified baboon monitor for a guided encounter with a troop of Chacma baboons in their natural mountain environment. You'll discover their habits as they eat, play, and socialize. Then, you'll visit the historic naval village of Simonstown, stopping at famous Boulders Beach for another "creature close-up" with a colony of African penguins.

After lunch at one of False Bay's typical seafood restaurants, drive along the rocky coast into the Cape of Good Hope National Park with its many endemic species, including bontebok, baboon, and Cape mountain zebra, as we make for the tip of the Peninsula at Cape Point, the south westernmost point of Africa. Walk up to the lighthouse for a photo op across the staggering vistas of False Bay.

You'll leave the reserve, passing the beaches of Noordhoek and over Chapman's Peak Drive (nearly 2,000 feet above the ocean and one of the world's most breathtaking coastal passes). Take in the picturesque fishing hamlet of Hout Bay and then head toward the city along the Atlantic seaboard through Camps Bay and Bantry Bay. From June to November, southern right whales can often be seen just offshore from the road. The evening is free to spend at your leisure.

B,L...Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 4 ~ Winelands with Cycling

In the morning, you'll be picked up and transferred to the Delvera Tourist Centre below Simonsberg Mountain near Stellenbosch. Here you'll be met by your guide and gear up at the Dirtopia Train Centre for the Winelands Mountain Bike Trail, which visits up to four wine farms in the area. The area is justly famous for quality dry white and red wines from noble grape varieties. Our tour visits an interesting mix of historic estates and contemporary wineries.

We begin cycling and start with an optional cellar tour at Simonsig Estate and a tasting of their famous Cap Classique sparkling wine, the Kaapse Vonkel. Continue toward the mountains, with additional tastings at Knorhoek, Muratile, and Delheim Wine Estates. You'll end your cycle tour and head back to Delvera.

After lunch at a local restaurant, you'll explore Stellenbosch town and its beautiful examples of Cape Dutch architecture, the university, shops, and galleries. The evening is free to spend at your leisure.

B,L...Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 5 ~ Depart

Depending on your ongoing flights, this morning is at leisure. In the afternoon we transfer you to the airport for your next flight.

B...

Cape Town “Cultural Touring” option:

DAY 1 ~ Cape Town

Arrive in Cape Town. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your choice of hotel or bed and breakfast inn. Today is at leisure and meals are on your own.

Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 2 ~ Peninsula with Table Mountain

In the morning you will be picked up and depart the city for the Lower Cableway Station to board the revolving cable car for a five-minute ride to the top of Table Mountain. At 3,339 feet above sea level, it affords a bird's-eye view of both city and Peninsula as you explore its summit (weather permitting).

After descending Table Mountain you'll head along the Atlantic seaboard past Camps Bay and Llandudno to the fishing village of Hout Bay, then climb over Chapmans's Peak Drive, one of the world's most awe-inspiring passes, 1,967 feet above the ocean. In the Noordhoek Valley, you'll take in Long Beach and the coastal villages of Kommetjie and Scarborough, with the chance to see southern right whales (between June and November).

After lunch at a popular coastal restaurant, you'll enter the Cape of Good Hope National Park for an off-road drive to untouched Olifants Bay and a chance to see a herd of bontebok antelope, one of the park's many endemic animal species, as well as Cape mountain zebra, ostrich, and baboon. Then, continue to the tip of the Cape Peninsula and Africa's south westernmost point for a walk (or funicular ride) to the Cape Point Lighthouse with its panoramic views of False Bay.

Return along the False Bay coast to Boulders Beach for a close-up with a colony of African penguins before heading back to the hotel through the naval village of Simonstown. The evening is free to spend at your leisure.

B,L...Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 3 ~ Robben Island & New Rest Township

Depart in the morning from the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront for a 25-minute ferry trip across Table Bay to the World Heritage Site of Robben Island, a prison for some 450 years for slaves, exiled eastern princes, lepers, the insane, and political prisoners, among them Nelson Mandela. The tour, led by guides (some of whom were political prisoners themselves), includes a visit to the prison block and the infamous limestone quarry.

After your tour of Robben Island, you'll return to the waterfront where you'll be met by your African guide and continue to District Six, once a vibrant city suburb that stands empty today (thanks to the forced removal of some 60,000 residents and the demolition of their homes during the height of the Apartheid era). You'll drive across the Cape Flats where the non-white inhabitants of District Six were placed—segregated by color, religion, and ethnic background.

Lunch is at a local restaurant, and features a sampling typical African food and hospitality in an authentic setting. After lunch, you'll visit the settlement of New Rest in Gugulethu, meeting people from its community who are involved in the New Rest/Kanana Community Development Trust. Enjoy a scenic drive back to your hotel and the rest of the evening is to spend at your leisure.

B,L...Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 4 ~ Winelands

You'll be picked up from your hotel in the morning and depart for the Winelands region in the nearby Boland Mountains for a leisurely exploration of historic Wine Route towns, their liquid delights, and famed hospitality.

The estates you'll visit will depend upon your taste, but the tour includes the region's major wine producing areas. There will be plenty of opportunities for tastings of high quality reds and whites as well as Cap Classique (South African sparkling wine) in areas including Stellenbosch, Simonsberg, Paarl, and Franschhoek. Lunch will be served at one of the many classic restaurants in the area.

Natural and historic heritage abounds in this area. Your tour may take in sights like the Afrikaans Language Monument with its panoramic Boland views and the historic estate of Boschendal with its beautifully preserved Cape Dutch building, while idyllic Franschhoek, nestled in the valley where the French Huguenots settled in 1688, is a delight for antique lovers and gastronomes. Enjoy a scenic drive back to your hotel and the rest of the evening is to spend at your leisure.

B,L...Four Rosmead Boutique Guest House or Cape Grace Hotel

DAY 5 ~ Depart

Depending on your ongoing flights, this morning is at leisure. In the afternoon we transfer you to the airport for your next flight.

B...

LAND COST

Four Rosmead Guest House: Prices valid year-round

Prices for both Active and Touring options

\$1,795 per person, double occupancy

\$350 single supplement

\$2,795 (1 person, includes single supplement)

Cape Grace Hotel: Prices valid year-round

Prices for both Active and Touring options

\$2,645 per person, double occupancy

\$1,150 single supplement

\$4,345 (1 person, includes single supplement)

What's Included

- ◆ services of local guides
- ◆ accommodations

- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ private airport transfers
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ sightseeing and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ entrance fees during guided portions (the Table Mountain entry/cable car fees are at additional cost as this is not always possible to do because of the weather)
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Cape Town and return; optional tips to your guides and drivers; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (drinks in hotels, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

BOTSWANA

THE KALAHARI DESERT

Few parts of Africa can match the mystique of Botswana's Kalahari Desert. Its unique and striking environment, and its vastness and isolation, leaves a lasting impression on all visitors. In addition to exploring its fragile ecosystem, you can experience the cultural richness of the indigenous San (Bushman) people, who live in complete harmony with their environment. From Jack's Camp or San Camp, elegant, traditional East African-style camps (the best in the Kalahari!), you'll explore the salt pans on quad bikes and take a walk with a Bushman and learn how the San people have survived for centuries in this harshly beautiful environment.

DETAILS 4-day trip begins and ends in Maun • 3 nights deluxe tented camp

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy wildlife viewing by vehicle, nature walks

BEST TIME TO GO Year-round

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ To Makgadikgadi National Park

From Maun, take a light aircraft transfer across the vast expanse of northern Botswana to Makgadikgadi National Park with its endless vistas of rolling golden grasslands. The camp staff will meet you at the airstrip and take you the short distance to Jack's Camp, a permanent camp offering a chance to explore and understand the Kalahari. The Makgadikgadi is a relic of one of the world's largest super-lakes, dried up thousands of years ago as a result of the continued shifting of the earth's crust. Theories as to how and when this vast geographic phenomenon was formed vary. Our aim is to attempt to unravel some of the mysteries while providing the sophisticated traveler a first-class safari.

Jack's Camp offers a traditional East African 1940s safari-style experience and is comfortable and stylish. It recently underwent extensive remodeling and now offers the comfortable amenities associated with a permanent structure—

flush toilets, electricity, and hot and cold running water. At San Camp, roomy, classically styled tents with private showers and toilets are set into a palm grove creating an oasis of civilization in what can be the harshest of stark environments.

L,D...Jack's Camp or San Camp

DAYS 2-3 ~

You'll spend two full days exploring the fragile ecosystem in this part of the Kalahari Desert. When the Pans are dry, we use motorized four-wheel-drive quad bikes to travel where conventional vehicles cannot and to guard against scarring the Pan's crust. Venturing far into the middle of the Pans, you are able to explore remote archaeological sites, periodically discovering sites never before documented such as fossil beds of extinct giant zebra and hippo. You'll get an in-depth interpretation of the geology, archaeology, and anthropology of the Kalahari and Makgadikgadi.

The Makgadikgadi is also one of the most important wetland sites remaining in Africa. In the wet season, the Pans fill with water, attracting flocks of flamingo and other migratory birds. The area is also the only place in Southern Africa, depending on the season, where one is able to see a migration of tens of thousands of wildebeest and zebra followed by predators. Other desert species include gemsbok, rare brown hyena, springbuck, and meerkat (several families of meerkats have been habituated to human presence).

Many of the guides are fully qualified zoologists/geologists, often working on Ph.D. research. As such, they are most able to convey all the nuances of the desert and the adaptations of its inhabitants. Game drives are conducted in four-wheel-drive vehicles and walks guided by a bushman (San) guide are also an option.

B,L,D each day...Jack's Camp or San Camp

DAY 4 ~ Depart

Return to Maun after breakfast by light aircraft to connect with your homeward-bound flight.

B...

LAND COST

Jack's Camp: Prices valid year-round

\$3,295 per person, double occupancy

\$1,000 single supplement

\$4,495 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$200 internal airfare

San Camp: Prices valid year-round

\$2,945 per person, double occupancy

\$750 single supplement

\$4,145 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$200 internal airfare

What's Included

- ◆ air transfers between Maun and Jack's Camp or San Camp
- ◆ transfers to/from airstrip and Jack's Camp or San Camp
- ◆ accommodations at Jack's Camp or San Camp
- ◆ services of camp guides and staff
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ game drives and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Maun and return; optional tips to camp guides and staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

BOTSWANA

OKAVANGO & LINYANTI FLYING SAFARI

A safari in Botswana has a wonderfully authentic, old-Africa feel to it. Hordes of tourists simply do not exist here, and often you feel like you have the entire wilderness to yourself! We stay in private concessions so it's likely the only people you'll see are from your camp (camps usually accommodate about 15 people). This safari focuses on two major areas of wildlife: the wetland paradise of the Okavango Delta and Linyanti Wildlife Reserve, both with high concentrations of big game and excellent bird life. You'll spend two nights at an intimate deluxe tented camp in each area. And while we use the word *camp*, they are hardly rustic: expect to be pampered beyond your wildest dreams, with luxurious en suite bathrooms, beds with crisp linens, and all the amenities of a fine hotel. Charter flights between the camps maximize your time for game viewing.

DETAILS 5-day trip begins and ends in Maun • 4 nights deluxe tented camps

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy wildlife viewing by vehicle, nature walks, boat and canoe travel

BEST TIME TO GO Year-round (except March–April)

ITINERARY

DAY I ~ Maun – Okavango Delta

From Maun, fly by charter aircraft into the heart of the celebrated Okavango Delta, where one of Africa's great rivers fans out into the sands of the Kalahari. Transfer to your deluxe tented camp for an unforgettable two-night stay. Accommodations in the Okavango are at one of several deluxe tented camps. Each features large and roomy tents with en suite bathroom facilities, often with private outdoor showers. We'll set you up in the camp that is most ideal for your group size and for the time of year you'll be there.

L,D...Deluxe tented camp

DAY 2 ~ Okavango Delta

The Okavango, a great inland marsh similar to Florida's Everglades, is one of the most pristine and unique wilderness areas of Africa. Here the Okavango River spreads out through a sea of grass. Reeds and papyrus filter out the sediments of the Angola floods, leaving crystal clear waters to flow through channels covered with water lilies. Bird life is fantastic: the magnificent fish-eagle is a common sight, as are a wide variety of storks, herons, ibises, and other water birds, including pygmy geese, African darter, African jacana, and malachite kingfishers. Larger wildlife is interesting, too: lechwe stamp through the grassy shallows while sitatunga take shelter in the reeds (both are types of antelopes); hippos and crocs glide through sparkling waters.

To explore the Delta, we board eco-friendly fiberglass dugout canoes, modeled on the traditional African wooden canoes called *mekoro* (we don't have to cut down a huge old tree to make them), and paddle into its maze of meandering waterways. (*Mokoro* is the singular form, *mekoro*, the plural.) It's a unique way to travel—expert boatmen pole us through narrow channels that cut through mats of floating papyrus, then paddle us across lovely deep-water lagoons. We enjoy fishing as well as wildlife viewing, and we explore the larger Delta islands on foot—an opportunity to stalk lechwe, sitatunga, or the rare and beautiful fishing owl.

B,L,D...Deluxe tented camp

DAYS 3-4 ~ Linyanti Private Game Reserve

Transfer to the airstrip and take a charter flight to the Linyanti Private Game Reserve, to the northeast of the Okavango Delta. Transfer to your deluxe tented camp, searching for wildlife along the way. Accommodations are in one of several camps of the same caliber as the camps in the Okavango.

This area is rich in game—there are excellent hippo pools, plenty of elephant, sable and roan antelope, and it's great lion country. This is elephant country par excellence; it's possible to see large congregations coming down to the river to drink and bathe, and it's great fun to watch their social interactions.

Other wildlife is abundant here, too, either along the Savuti Marsh or in the wooded hills behind: lion, leopard, kudu, sable, and roan antelope are all resident species. We'll search for reclusive predators such as the African wildcat, civet, and the beautiful long-legged serval cat. Another specialty is the beautifully marked Chobe bushbuck. Bird life on the Linyanti marsh is always spectacular: storks catch thermal currents, herons, egrets, waterfowl, hornbills, kingfishers, and lilac-breasted rollers are always in abundance; seasonally, we can find colonies of gaily-colored white-fronted and carmine bee-eaters. Here we are outside Chobe National Park, so we will have the area all to ourselves. In addition to superb game viewing aboard our safari vehicle, we may be able to go on game drives at night in search of nocturnal animals. Lions and leopards are most active at night, so we will have a good chance to observe the big cats on the prowl (water levels permitting).

B,L,D each day...Deluxe tented camp

DAY 5 ~ Depart

Transfer to the airstrip and depart on charter flight back to Maun.

B...

LAND COST

Jan. 1–June 15, 2008

\$2,995 per person, double occupancy

\$800 single supplement

\$4,195 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$500 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at each camp

June 16–Nov. 30, 2008

\$4,395 per person, double occupancy

\$1,000 single supplement

\$5,545 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$500 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at each camp

Please call for December/Holiday prices.

What's Included

- ◆ air transfers between Maun and camps
- ◆ transfers to/from airstrip and camps
- ◆ accommodations
- ◆ services of camp guides and staff
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ game drives and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Maun and return; optional tips to camp guides and staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

MALAWI

LAKE MALAWI

Lake Malawi, the southernmost of the great lakes of the African Rift Valley, is an ideal location to spend a bit of “beach time” before or after your safari. This beautiful tropical island retreat offers a variety of activities, including swimming, kayaking, snorkeling, scuba diving, or simply soaking up the rays! Accommodations are at Kaya Mawa Lodge on Likoma Island or Mumbo Island Camp on Mumbo Island, the undisputed jewel of Lake Malawi National Park.

DETAILS 4-day trip begins and ends in Lilongwe • 3 nights resort

ACTIVITY LEVEL 2 days optional swimming, snorkeling, kayaking, scuba diving

BEST TIME TO GO May–October

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ Lilongwe – Lake Malawi

Arrive in Lilongwe, Malawi. You will be met upon arrival and transferred to the southern trip of Likoma Island where eco-friendly Kaya Mawa Lodge is situated, or to Mumbo Island Camp on Mumbo Island. Kaya Mawa is an elegant island retreat with ten small cottages with four-poster beds and sunken bathtubs; each has a private terrace and faces the water. Mumbo Island, an exclusive camp situated on a pristine and otherwise-deserted tropical island, features six safari tents, each with its own shaded view-deck and hammock. Either camp is a truly idyllic spot to begin your exciting adventure!

L,D...Kaya Mawa Lodge or Mumbo Island Camp

DAYS 2-3 ~

Two days to swim, snorkel, kayak, scuba, explore the sites of the island, or just relax—the choice is yours! Likoma Island, where Kaya Maya is located, is a populated island with lots of culture and private beaches to explore. Mumbo is a protected private wilderness island that is perfect for kayaking.

B,L,D each day...Kaya Mawa Lodge or Mumbo Island Camp

DAY 4 ~ Depart

Transfer back to Lilongwe and depart.

B...

LAND COST

Premier Accommodation—Kaya Mawa

\$1,845 per person, double occupancy

\$245 single supplement

\$2,845 (1 person, includes single supplement)

Classic Accommodation—Mumbo Island

\$1,345 per person, double occupancy

\$225 single supplement

\$2,145 (1 person, includes single supplement)

Please call for December/Holiday prices.

What's Included

- ◆ transfers between Lilongwe to Lake Malawi and return
- ◆ accommodations at either Kaya Mawa or Mumbo Island (your choice—see separate prices above)

- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Malawi and return; optional tips to lodge staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

MOZAMBIQUE

BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO

Explore the pristine Bazaruto Archipelago, a protected national park where low-impact eco-lodges overlook azure seas that are ideal for snorkeling and whale watching. You'll enjoy relaxing on the white sand beaches or choose from a variety of outdoor activities, including some of the world's best diving, a range of water sports, horseback riding, island drives, and ocean cruises. Accommodations are at Indigo Bay Island Resort & Spa.

DETAILS 4-day trip begins and ends in Maputo • 3 nights resort

ACTIVITY LEVEL 2 days optional swimming, snorkeling, kayaking

BEST TIME TO GO May–October

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ Maputo – Bazaruto Archipelago

Arrive in Maputo, the capital of Mozambique, and fly to Vilanculos. Transfer to the Bazaruto Archipelago by boat and plane and continue to Indigo Bay Island Resort & Spa, located on the west side of Bazaruto Island in a protected bay.

L,D...Indigo Bay Island Resort & Spa

DAYS 2-3 ~

Enjoy a range of activities: located in a proclaimed Marine National Park, Bazaruto Island offers a true, unspoiled African island experience, from miles of sandy white beaches, crystal clear azure seas, superb coral reefs and dive sites, soaring sand dunes and exuberant bird life, to abundant marine life, including sea turtles and the rare and near-extinct dugong, the ocean-going version of the manatee. Depending on the season, you can watch whales on their annual migration from the safety and comfort of one of the resort's fleet of boats.

B,L,D each day...Indigo Bay Island Resort & Spa

DAY 4 ~ Depart

Return to Vilanculos and continue to Maputo for departure.

B...

LAND COST

Low Season: Jan. 14–March 20, Nov. 10–Dec. 12)

\$1,395 per person, double occupancy

\$400 single supplement

\$1,895 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$500 internal airfare

Shoulder Season: April 14–July 27, Sep. 8–Nov. 9

\$1,595 per person, double occupancy

\$550 single supplement

\$2,295 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$500 internal airfare

Holiday/High Season: Jan. 1-13, March 21–April 13, July 28–Sep. 7

\$1,995 per person, double occupancy

\$700 single supplement

\$2,845 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$500 internal airfare

Please call for December/Holiday prices.

What's Included

- ◆ air transfers between Maputo and Vilanculos and return (see separate cost above)
- ◆ boat transfer between Vilanculos and Bazaruto Archipelago
- ◆ accommodations at Indigo Bay Island Resort & Spa
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Mozambique and return; optional tips to lodge staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

NAMIBIA

EXPLORING THE SAND DUNES OF SOSSUSVLEI

Sossusvlei is a beautiful, wild, and romantic spot unlike any other—the scenic bed of a seasonal lake that is surrounded by what are reputed to be the highest shifting sand dunes in the world (more than a thousand feet tall!). You'll awake early and climb up onto the dunes as they start to glow under the soft morning light—a photographer's dream!—then return to camp and spend the afternoon taking in the desert scenery and the unique flora and fauna. A highlight is an optional hot air balloon flight over the desert for startling bird's-eye-views of the amazing landscape. Choose between Little Kulala, a wilderness camp featuring thatched chalets on raised decks with wraparound verandas; or Sossusvlei Wilderness Camp, built near the top of a mountain and providing a comfortable refuge from the desert. Both feature en suite bathrooms and individual plunge pools.

DETAILS 4-day trip begins and ends in Windhoek • 3 nights deluxe tented camp

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy wildlife viewing by vehicle, nature walks

BEST TIME TO GO Year-round

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ Windhoek – Sossusvlei

Fly from Windhoek, Namibia, to Sossusvlei, scenic bed of a seasonal lake that is surrounded by thousand-foot-high sand dunes. Your accommodation is at Little Kulala Camp, in a prime location of the Kulala Wilderness Reserve; or Sossusvlei Wilderness Camp, situated on a private reserve just 12 miles from the park entrance to the dunes. No matter in which direction you face, there are magnificent views: to the west are the dunes, to the east is a rugged mountain escarpment, to the north and east are grassy plains. Activities here include early morning guided game drives to the dunes, nature drives and walks on the private reserve, excursions into the mountains, and early morning ballooning (at optional cost of \$450 per person).

DAY 2 ~ Sossusvlei

We awake very early and travel west along the Tsauchab River bed to the towering dunes surrounding Sossusvlei. This is certainly one of the best times to visit the dunes, as they start to glow under the soft light. We hike through acacia woods and then climb high onto the dunes for spectacular views of the surrounding desertscape. Return to camp and spend the afternoon taking in the desert scenery and its unique flora and fauna. A sunset drive is available.

B,L,D...Little Kulala Camp or Wilderness Camp

DAY 3 ~ Sossusvlei

Another day to enjoy the beauty of Sossusvlei. You may wish to take an optional early morning hot air balloon flight (not included in the Land Cost), or participate in other activities, including nature walks and game drives, or simply relax at camp.

B,L,D...Little Kulala Camp or Wilderness Camp

DAY 4 ~ Depart

Transfer to the airstrip and fly back to Windhoek.

B...

LAND COST

Premier Accommodation—Little Kulala Camp

Jan. 1–June 15, 2008

\$2,995 per person, double occupancy

\$750 single supplement

\$4,495 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$300 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

June 16–Nov. 30, 2008

\$3,745 per person, double occupancy

\$850 single supplement

\$5,245 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$300 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

Please call for December/Holiday prices.

Classic Accommodation—Sossusvlei Wilderness Camp

Jan. 1–June 15, 2008

\$2,395 per person, double occupancy

\$750 single supplement

\$3,895 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$300 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

June 16–Nov. 30, 2008

\$2,995 per person, double occupancy

\$850 single supplement

\$4,495 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$300 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

Please call for December/Holiday prices.

What's Included

- ◆ air transfers between Windhoek and Sossusvlei
- ◆ transfers to/from airstrip and Little Kulala Camp or Wilderness Camp
- ◆ accommodations at Little Kulala Camp or Wilderness Camp
- ◆ services of camp guides and staff
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ game drives and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Windhoek and return; optional tips to camp guides and staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); optional hot air balloon flight (\$450); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

NAMIBIA

THE SKELETON COAST

The Skeleton Coast Park is one of the planet's most hauntingly beautiful places. Wild, desolate, and undeveloped, it has everything from roaring sand dunes and windswept plains to towering canyons and salt pans. This is a rare opportunity to explore the little-visited northern sections of the park that are off limits to the general public—a very rugged area with limited access. While here you'll spend most of the day out in the wild, with a picnic lunch, and return to camp in the late afternoon. You'll also have a chance to visit with the Himba, who are celebrated for their traditional way of life. "Base camp" is Skeleton Coast Camp, featuring six luxury tented rooms with en suite bathrooms.

DETAILS 4- or 5-day trip begins and ends in Windhoek • 3 or 4 nights deluxe tented camp

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy wildlife viewing by vehicle, nature walks

BEST TIME TO GO Year-round

Note—The 4-day option starts on Wednesdays; the 5-day option starts on Saturdays

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ Windhoek – Skeleton Coast

From Windhoek, take a morning flight northwest to the remote and rugged Skeleton Coast, a strange landscape of sand dunes, gravel plains, and fog-bound, treacherous coastline. You will be met upon arrival at the airstrip and transferred to Skeleton Coast Camp, set in a private area of about 600,000 acres of Skeleton Coast Park and about 12 miles inland from the coast. The camp features six luxury "Meru-style" tents that are large and roomy, and an open-air dining area under an ancient leadwood tree. It's a comfortable base from which to explore this incredible

and diverse corner of the world. Activities include all-day safaris, game and nature drives, birding, and guided walks.

L,D...Skeleton Coast Camp

DAYS 2-3 (or 2-4) ~

You'll spend the next few days exploring Skeleton Coast Park on foot or by vehicle. The arid desert environment in the Skeleton Coast is within the northern reaches of the Namib Desert. The cold Benguela Current travels from Antarctica and brings plankton-rich waters to this coastline, along with massive amounts of fish. The current also helps to moderate temperatures. The cool air off the ocean meets the hotter desert air, and nearly every morning in winter, a cool mist envelops the coastline, bringing life sustaining moisture to the desert. (By about 9 or 10 a.m. this mist is burned off by the rays of the sun.)

Freshwater springs permeate the barren sands to create rare desert oases that sustain pockets of wildlife. Springbok, gemsbok (oryx), the rare desert elephant, ostrich, Cape fur seals, jackal, and brown hyena—even cheetah on rare occasions—carve out an existence in this rugged terrain, along with vegetation like the ancient *Welwitschia* that has adapted to the harsh conditions.

Though there are many regions in the Skeleton Coast, we'll visit the most isolated, beautiful, remote, and private northern sector of the park—just north of Mowe Bay to just south of the Kunene River. While here we'll spend most of the day out in the wild, with a picnic lunch, and return to camp in the late afternoon. We travel in 4x4 Land Rovers with pop-top roofs and cover an extraordinary variety of terrain. Nature drives may include visits to the clay "castles" of the Hoarusib River, deposited here around 35,000 years ago; Rocky Point on the coast, where seals frolic offshore and dolphins swim close by; the roaring dunes; lichen fields; and possibly a shipwreck site. We may also have a chance to do some walking—due to the pristine nature of the area, many parts are accessible only on foot, and we'll be able to search out many specially adapted species of plants like lithops and welwitschia.

While in the extreme northern section of the Skeleton Coast, we will also have a chance to visit with the Himba nomads (the bare-breasted, ochre-daubed women you may have seen in photos). The Himba are celebrated for their traditional way of life, which revolves around their cattle, symbols of wealth and status. Many still wear traditional dress: animal-skin aprons or skirts and jewelry that includes coiled leather necklaces, copper bangles, and beaded anklets. The women also sport elaborate braided hairdos. The Himba migrated into the area from central Africa and tend their stock in these thirstlands.

B,L,D each day...Skeleton Coast Camp

DAY 4 (or 5) ~ Depart

Transfer to the airstrip and fly back to Windhoek.

B...

LAND COST

4-day trip (departs on Wednesday)

\$3,695 per person, double occupancy

\$600 single supplement

\$6,695 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$350 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

5-day trip (departs on Saturday)

\$3,995 per person, double occupancy

\$700 single supplement

\$6,995 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$350 internal airfare

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

Rates quoted are per person, based on two people traveling together and sharing double accommodations. If you prefer single accommodations, you must pay the Single Supplement Fee.

Please contact our office for availability.

What's Included

- ◆ air transfers between Windhoek and Skeleton Coast Camp
- ◆ transfers to/from airstrip and Skeleton Coast Camp
- ◆ accommodations at Skeleton Coast Camp
- ◆ services of camp guides and staff
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ game drives and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Windhoek and return; optional tips to camp guides and staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

ZAMBIA

KAFUE NATIONAL PARK

With an area of more than 8,600 square miles, Zambia's Kafue National Park is one of the largest national parks in Africa. Its northern sector harbors the Busanga Plains—one of Zambia's most significant wetland resources and one of the few areas in the world that remain untouched by development and human activity. This is 290 square miles of pristine wilderness at its finest!

And when it comes to wildlife, Kafue certainly delivers the goods: there are fantastic cheetah sightings (some of the best in Africa), huge prides of lions, excellent elephant and buffalo sightings, abundant hippo, and good numbers of

plains game, such as zebra and wildebeest. Wild dogs are occasionally seen and leopard viewing is a regular highlight. A number of other species, not readily encountered in the south, are often seen, and these include puku, Defassa waterbuck, Lichtenstein's hartebeest, oribi, and roan and sable antelope. Birdlife is abundant (nearly 500 species!) and includes many species that do not occur elsewhere in southern Africa, including endemics such as Chaplin's barbet.

Camp activities in northern Kafue revolve around game viewing, and include game drives and night drives in open vehicles in the infamous Busanga Plains.

We offer extensions to two different camps:

Kapinga Bush Camp is located in the heart of the Busanga Plains. With only three luxury safari tents accommodating a maximum of six guests, you can be assured of exceptional personal attention. The camp is designed to blend in with the environment and natural products have been used as much as possible in the construction of the camp. Interiors are spacious and have all the modern conveniences. You can go on game drives in and around the plains and night drives offer the added excitement of the nocturnal wonders of the area. All activities are led by qualified guides who are extremely knowledgeable about the area and its wildlife.

Shumba Bush Camp is located on the fringes of the Busanga Plains. Shumba features six spacious luxury safari tents on raised platforms with breathtaking views of the surrounding plains. A maximum of 12 guests can be accommodated at any one time and great emphasis has been placed on the "guided" experience—being led by qualified, enthusiastic people with in-depth knowledge of the area and its wildlife.

DETAILS 4-day trip begins in Livingstone and ends in Lusaka (or Livingston) • 3 nights deluxe tented camp

ACTIVITY LEVEL Easy wildlife viewing by vehicle, nature walks

BEST TIME TO GO April–November

Note—Kafue National Park is closed December through March

ITINERARY

DAY 1 ~ Livingstone – Kafue National Park

Morning transfer from Livingstone to the airport and fly to the Lunga airstrip (approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes). Upon arrival you will be met and transferred by safari vehicle to the camp of your choice (Kapinga or Shumba Bush Camp). The transfer from the airstrip to Kapinga or Shumba Bush Camp is approximately 3 hours in duration but through some of Kafue's most magnificent game country. You'll settle into camp before a late afternoon game drive with the possibility of sighting some nocturnal animals after sunset.

L,D...Kapinga or Shumba Bush Camp

DAYS 2-3 ~

Game drives, walking safaris, and night drives at Kapinga or Shumba Bush Camp.

B,L,D...Kapinga or Shumba Bush Camp

DAY 4 ~

Morning departure to the Lunga or Moshi airstrip, enjoying an extensive game drive en route. The flight duration from Lunga to Livingstone is approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. You can also elect to fly to Lusaka (1½ hours).
B...

LAND COST

\$2,695 per person, double occupancy

\$650 single supplement

\$3,695 (1 person, includes single supplement)

\$850 internal airfare/helicopter to camp

\$1,850 internal airfare/helicopter to camp (1 person)

Note—There is an additional cost of \$450 per day if you wish to have a private guide and vehicle at camp

What's Included

- ◆ air transfers between Livingstone to Kafue and back to Livingstone or Lusaka
- ◆ transfers to/from airstrip to camps and helicopter transfer within Kafue National Park
- ◆ accommodations in Kafue National Park
- ◆ services of camp guides and staff
- ◆ meals as noted (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- ◆ ground transportation
- ◆ game drives and activities as noted in the itinerary
- ◆ park entrance fees
- ◆ basic medical and evacuation insurance

What's Not

International airfare to Zambia and return; internal airfare (see separate cost above); optional tips to camp guides and staff; insurance other than basic medical and evacuation insurance noted above (we strongly recommend you purchase the supplementary trip insurance offered by Mountain Travel Sobek, which includes trip cancellation insurance); excess baggage charges; airport taxes (if any); cost of medical immunizations; visas; and items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, phone calls, etc.).

Deposit, Transfer & Cancellation Policy

The following policy applies to single- or multi-day extensions to the standard Mountain Travel Sobek program you have signed up for. A nonrefundable \$100 deposit is required to reserve these extra services (your deposit is fully refundable if we cannot secure your request). Full payment is due immediately upon confirmation of your request.

If written notice of cancellation or transfer is received:	Cancellation Fee will be:
60 or more days prior to departure	\$100
30 to 59 days prior to departure	50% of Extension Cost
Less than 30 days prior to departure	100% of Extension Cost

We recommend that you purchase Trip Cancellation Insurance to protect yourself.

Commissions

Extensions are non-commissionable.

Note on Itinerary

Although we will do our best to adhere to the itinerary schedule as listed, it is subject to change. Please read the Limitation of Liability and Booking Conditions in the four-page Participant Information Form. You can find all this information on our website at www.mtsobek.com/faq and the form itself at www.mtsobek.com/pdf/participant_info.pdf.

Terms & Conditions

Once you have made a deposit for a trip, you agree to be bound by all our terms and conditions including the Limitation of Liability Clause. The full Terms and Conditions can be found at www.mtsobek.com/faq/#liability or call 1-888-MTSOBEK (687-6235) for a copy. These are partial conditions. Your participation is contingent on your signature on the full list of terms specified in the four-page Participant Information Form (www.mtsobek.com/pdf/participant_info.pdf). Any dispute concerning, relating or referring to the Terms and Conditions, to any literature concerning this trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration in San Francisco, California, according to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. Such proceedings will be governed by substantive California law (but not procedural law) without regard to the California Arbitration Act.

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