

Southern Africa with Zimbabwe & Botswana

Including Victoria Falls & Chobe National Park

Tour Length: 22 Days

Tour Departs: 12 September 2027

South Africa is an extraordinary country — a land of rich history, spectacular landscapes, abundant wildlife and vibrant cultures that truly embodies the “Rainbow Nation.” Our journey begins in Johannesburg before continuing to Zimbabwe to witness the magnificent Victoria Falls. In Botswana, we enjoy exceptional wildlife viewing in Chobe National Park, both on land and along the Chobe River. Returning to South Africa, we travel the scenic Panorama Route to Kruger National Park for unforgettable Big Five safari experiences. From here, we journey along the beautiful Garden Route, with its dramatic coastlines, lush forests and charming seaside towns, before reaching the vibrant “Mother City,” Cape Town. Explore Cape Town’s iconic landmarks, including Table Mountain and the spectacular Cape Peninsula, before enjoying the picturesque Cape Winelands, renowned for their rolling vineyards, historic estates and world-class food and wine. The tour is full of highlights, with just so much to see and do!

Highlights

- Johannesburg, our gateway into South Africa and its largest city
- Zimbabwe – Victoria Falls – sunset cruise on the Zambesi River
- Botswana – Chobe National Park, safari experience staying on the banks of the Chobe River
- Kruger National Park, home to “the big five” – elephant, rhino, lion, leopard and cape buffalo
- Cape Town, including Table Mountain
- Robben Island Tour
- Cape Winelands Tour – vineyards, green valleys, Cape Dutch homesteads, beautifully preserved historic buildings

Tour Costs Per Person

Per Person Share Twin/Double Room

$22,550

Per Person Single Room

$27,050



Tour Costs

Inclusions

- Economy Class air travel ex Auckland– upgrade to Premium Economy & Business Class available at additional cost
- Airport and government security taxes (as at 01/09/2026)
- Superior Class hotel accommodation
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- First Class, air-conditioned coach transportation for all touring
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Services of a driver/guides and local guides for touring and sightseeing
- Baggage handling of one suitcase per person – where possible
- Tips to local guides and coach drivers
- Fully escorted by Maher Tours Leader (subject to minimum numbers)

Exclusions

- Any meals and sightseeing tours not specifically mentioned in the itinerary
- Passport and Visa Fees or Travel Insurance (assistance and advice will be offered)
- Items of a personal nature such as room service, laundry, drink, telephone charges etc.

Booking Conditions

- Initial Deposit due at time of booking: NZD $3,000 per person
- Second Deposit due Friday 12 March 2027: NZD $3,000 per person
- Final Payment Balance due Friday 25 June 2027: Balance

To register for this tour please contact us at 0800 500 518 or tours@mahertours.co.nz

Tour Itinerary

22 Days

Day 1 | New Zealand – Perth - Johannesburg

SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

We begin our tour with a morning flight from Auckland to Perth, where we have a short transit before connecting with our onward flight to Johannesburg, arriving this evening. After clearing Customs and Immigration formalities, we are met and transferred to our hotel in the exclusive Rosebank area for a 2-night stay.

Day 2 | Johannesburg

MONDAY 13 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

Today we enjoy a full-day tour of Johannesburg and the South-Western Townships, better known as Soweto. During our tour, we gain an insight into South Africa's fascinating history and its journey to democracy, visiting significant sites including Nelson Mandela House, the Hector Pieterson Memorial and historic Liliesleaf. This evening, we come together to enjoy our first group dinner.

Day 3 | Johannesburg – Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

After breakfast, we transfer to the airport for our short flight to Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. On arrival, we are met and transferred to our hotel for the next two nights. Overlooking the surrounding bushveld and a wildlife watering hole, our lodge offers a wonderful introduction to Zimbabwe. This evening, we enjoy a memorable African dining experience at The Boma, featuring traditional cuisine, lively entertainment and an interactive drumming show.

Day 4 | Victoria Falls

WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER (B)

This morning, we enjoy a guided tour of the magnificent Victoria Falls. Our local guide shares fascinating facts and history as we explore the falls, taking in the spectacular views from various vantage points. It is a truly awe-inspiring experience – the sight, the sound and the thunderous roar of the largest curtain of falling water in the world is simply unforgettable. For those who wish, there is an opportunity to enjoy a scenic helicopter flight over the falls at the conclusion of our guided tour (additional cost). Later this afternoon, we enjoy a relaxing sunset cruise on the mighty Zambezi River, taking in the beautiful scenery as the sun sets over the African landscape.

Day 5 | Victoria Falls – Kasane, Botswana

THURSDAY 16 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

This morning, we travel by road across the border into Botswana, making our way to the Chobe region, renowned for its spectacular wildlife and large elephant population. On arrival, we transfer to our lodge overlooking the mighty Chobe River. Here we enjoy a three-night stay, with daily game viewing activities offering wonderful opportunities to experience Africa's incredible wildlife up close.

Day 6 | Chobe National Park Botswana

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER (B,L,D)

We enjoy a full day in Chobe National Park with two game viewing activities today. This might include an early morning wake up call to head into the Chobe National Park in search of the Big 5! Or out on the river for a cruise as we enjoy viewing the animals on the banks of the river. Your game viewing schedule will be confirmed on check-in.

Day 7 | Chobe National Park Botswana

SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER (B,L,D)

Another wonderful day awaits us in the Chobe region, with two more safari activities included. Each outing offers a different experience and new opportunities to spot the incredible wildlife that makes this region one of Africa's premier safari destinations. There is also time to relax and enjoy the peaceful surroundings of our lodge.

Day 8 | Kasane - Johannesburg

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER (B)

After breakfast we travel to Kasane Airport in time for our flight to Johannesburg. On arrival, we transfer to our hotel conveniently located near the airport for an overnight stay.

Day 9 | Johannesburg – Kruger National Park

MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

This morning, we depart Johannesburg and travel by coach towards the spectacular Mpumalanga Province, enjoying the changing scenery along the way. Our journey takes us along the famous Panorama Route, renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and dramatic viewpoints. Highlights include the magnificent Blyde River Canyon, the iconic Three Rondavels, the fascinating rock formations of Bourke's Luck Potholes and the spectacular views from God's Window. We continue to our accommodation, conveniently located just 100m from the Paul Kruger Gate of Kruger National Park, where we settle in for a three-night stay.

Day 10 | Kruger National Park

TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER (B,L,D)

Today we depart our hotel early for a full-day safari adventure in the world-renowned Kruger National Park. Travelling in open safari vehicles with experienced local guides, we explore the park's vast wilderness in search of its incredible wildlife, including the famous Big Five – lion, leopard, elephant, buffalo and rhino. Along the way, we enjoy the diverse landscapes and abundant birdlife that make Kruger one of Africa's premier safari destinations. We take a break for lunch, before continuing our game viewing this afternoon. We return to our hotel later in the day.

Day 11 | Kruger National Park

WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER (B,L,D)

Another exciting day awaits us as we head back into Kruger National Park for a full-day game drive. With such an abundance of wildlife, every safari offers something different, and today brings more opportunities to encounter Africa's magnificent animals in their natural habitat. We enjoy a picnic lunch along the way before continuing our wildlife viewing, returning to our hotel later this afternoon.

Day 12 | Kruger – Port Elizabeth

THURSDAY 23 SEPTEMBER (B, D)

Enjoy a morning at leisure before we check out of our hotel and transfer to Kruger Airport in time to catch our flight to Port Elizabeth, via Johannesburg. We arrive mid-afternoon and are transferred to our hotel for an overnight stay. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant.

Day 13 | Port Elizabeth - Knysna

FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

After breakfast, we board our coach and journey along South Africa's spectacular Garden Route, travelling through beautiful coastal scenery and the lush indigenous forests of Tsitsikamma. We visit Tsitsikamma National Park and the picturesque Storms River Mouth, where dramatic cliffs, dense forests and the crashing waves of the Indian Ocean create a breathtaking landscape. Our journey continues via the popular coastal resort of Plettenberg Bay before arriving in the charming town of Knysna, beautifully situated on a tranquil lagoon framed by two striking headlands known as The Heads. We settle into the Knysna Hollow Country Estate for a two-night stay. This evening, we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 14 | Knysna

SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER (B,L)

Knysna is one of the southern Cape's most popular holiday destinations, located between lush forests and the sheltered waters of the lagoon. This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we are taken on a tour of the Featherbed Nature Reserve, including lunch. We start with a 25-minute ferry ride during which a local guide shares fascinating tales about the lagoon, the shipping industry and oyster cultivation. On arrival at the reserve, we join a unimog-drawn trailer and drive up to the top of the reserve. While stopping at a scenic lookout point, our specialist guides share with us some fascinating tales about Knysna and the surrounding area while we enjoy the panoramic views. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 15 | Knysna - Oudtshoorn

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

This morning, we depart Knysna and travel to Oudtshoorn via Mossel Bay. Mossel Bay is historically significant as the site where Portuguese explorer Bartholomeu Dias first landed in 1488, and today it is a popular holiday destination. We then continue to the Cango Caves for a guided tour. Widely regarded as one of South Africa's most impressive natural attractions, these remarkable calcite caves feature a spectacular underground world of stalactites and stalagmites. On arrival in Oudtshoorn, we check in to Buffelsdrift Game Lodge for an overnight stay.

Day 16 | Oudtshoorn – Cape Town

MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER (B,D)

For those who wish, there is an opportunity to rise early this morning and join a fascinating Meerkat Safari (optional, additional cost). Accompanied by an experienced ranger, travel by safari vehicle to the meerkat burrows, keeping an eye out for other wildlife along the way. As dawn breaks, watch these charming creatures emerge from their burrows to begin their day, while the ranger shares interesting insights into their behaviour and social habits.

After breakfast, we depart Oudtshoorn and journey towards the beautiful city of Cape Town, stopping enroute to visit a local ostrich farm. On arrival, we transfer to our hotel, conveniently located in the popular V&A Waterfront, with its wonderful selection of shops, restaurants and attractions. This evening, we enjoy dinner together.

Day 17 | Cape Town

TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER (B)

Our tour today sees us first at the Table Mountain lower cable station. Weather permitting, we board the cable car for a ride to the top of the mountain. Table Mountain is probably the most famous landmark in Cape Town, and offers spectacular views that stretch from Table Bay to False Bay and around the mountain to Hout Bay. On a clear day, one can see right across the Cape Flats to the Hottentots Holland Mountain range. It also offers a restaurant, from where you can enjoy the view. Return to central Cape Town for a tour of the mother city. Further highlights include the South African Museum - a window on the world of natural history and the Castle of Good Hope, built by the Dutch in 1666 and the oldest surviving building in South Africa. We also visit the Malay Quarter, which is a living cultural museum and home to the oldest mosque in the Southern Hemisphere. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.

Day 18 | Cape Town

WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER (B,L)

This morning, our full day tour commences as we make our way down to Cape Point via rugged coastlines, beautiful gardens and quaint villages. The Atlantic Seaboard stretches along Sea Point, Bantry Bay, Clifton and Camps Bay where some of Cape Town's best beaches are found. The road follows the coastline between the mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. Continuing along the coast, we enter the Cape of Good Hope section of the Table Mountain National Park and visit the Nature Reserve with its natural beauty and abundance of indigenous flora and fauna. We then go to Cape Point, the extreme tip of the Cape Peninsula where you may take a funicular trip to the lighthouse look-out point at the top of the cliffs. Lunch is enjoyed in Simon's town, at a local restaurant. On the journey back to the hotel we visit Boulders Beach, famous for its African penguins and also the world renowned Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden on the eastern slopes of Table Mountain.

Day 19 | Cape Town – Cape Winelands

THURSDAY 30 SEPTEMBER (B,L)

Today we enjoy a full-day tour of the beautiful Cape Winelands, renowned for its rolling vineyards, spectacular mountain scenery and historic towns. We begin in Paarl, with its charming Cape Dutch architecture and picturesque vineyards, before continuing to Franschhoek, a delightful village founded by French Huguenot settlers and now regarded as the gourmet capital of South Africa. Our journey then takes us to Stellenbosch, the country's second-oldest town, famous for its oak-lined streets, historic buildings and world-class wines. Throughout the day, we enjoy visits to local wine estates, including three wine tastings, a cellar tour and lunch, while taking in the wonderful scenery of this celebrated wine-growing region.

Day 20 | Cape Town – Robben Island

FRIDAY 01 OCTOBER (B)

Following breakfast, we will set out by ferry to Robben Island. The island has a long and fascinating history and is best known as the site of a maximum security prison where Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners were incarcerated during apartheid. What survives on the island from its episodic history are 17th century quarries, the tomb of Hadije Kramat who died in 1755, 19th century 'village' administrative buildings including a chapel and parsonage, small lighthouse, the lepers' church, the only remains of a leper colony, derelict World War II military structures around the harbour and the stark and functional maximum-security prison of the Apartheid period began in the 1960s. There is time to wander the museum, before returning by ferry this afternoon. Remainder of the day at leisure before enjoying a final farewell dinner together this evening.

Day 21 | Cape Town – Johannesburg

SATURDAY 02 OCTOBER (B)

Sadly, it is time to farewell Cape Town this morning as we are transferred by coach to the airport, in time to join our flight to Johannesburg where we will connect with our international flight home via Sydney.

Day 22 | Sydney - Auckland

SUNDAY 03 OCTOBER

Our flight arrives in Sydney early afternoon, with time to connect with a late afternoon flight to Auckland.





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