



# The Big Three Explorer

### 9th September – 20th October 2024

Namibia, Botswana and, for the first time, Zimbabwe – 3 huge and varied countries, in parts dominated by rugged mountain ranges and steep escarpments, elsewhere by tropical green valleys, inland deltas and deserts. The main focus of this trip is safari game viewing in some of Africa's best game parks. These countries are home to some of the biggest concentrations of game in Africa, a night at one of Etosha's waterholes will never be forgotten as rhino drink alongside lion and elephant. We'll meet vibrant, exciting cultures such as the Herero, dressed in their Victorian crinolines or the pastoral Himba, dressed in skins and tinted by the very soil they live upon while the San Bushmen survive in some of the harshest conditions on the planet. On the forbidding Skeleton Coast, we'll search for desert adapted elephants amongst the dunes and sand rivers, if we are lucky we'll find lion and rhino as well, in one of the most dry, remote landscapes on the planet. Leaving the sand behind us, we climb up onto the plateaux, first to the fascinating town of Opowa and then into the unrivalled Etosha Park. Continuing east into the tropical Caprivi Strip we'll see the huge diversity of wildlife and vegetation created by the Okavango River as it flows south to its delta to disappear beneath the sands of the Kalahari. We'll enter the smaller parks in the north of the delta to explore this unique wetland environment further, before heading to Victoria Falls and Zimbabwe's Hwange Park. Returning to Botswana via Bulawayo we head across the Makgadikgadi Pans into the Kalahari Desert. In the Central Kalahari Game Reserve we'll search for game in Deception Valley and spend some time with the San bushmen as we cross the Kalahari Desert from north to south. We'll then re-enter South Africa and head back to Cape Town.

The best way to fully experience these countries is in your own 4x4 to explore the remote north and west of Namibia, Victoria Falls and Zimbabwe and Botswana. Your vehicle is shipped in a container to Cape Town, and every step of the shipping process is overseen and managed by us. Once cleared from Customs your vehicle is ready to meet you after your direct flight, ready to explore the very best these captivating, safe and friendly countries have to offer. Contact us for a fly drive quote however if you'd prefer not to take your vehicle.





#### Summary

**Start point** Cape Town, South Africa

**Finish point** Cape Town, South Africa

Number of days 43 days/6 weeks

Approx. distance 10,000 km

**Road conditions** Mixture of gravel, sand, rock tracks and local roads.

**No' of vehicles** Maximum of 6 vehicles or 12 adult guests plus our support vehicle.

Accommodation used Accommodation will be in campsites with toilet/shower facilities or wild

camping.

Specialist equipment - vehicle

A well maintained and serviced 4x4 vehicle fitted with underbody protection. A CB radio must be fitted. Tyres of All Terrain or Mud Terrain tread patterns are most suitable. Front and rear recovery points and a full set of recovery equipment (strops and shackles) are essential, along with a spade. A fuel capacity of 200 litres (1000km range) is required to enable us to complete long periods away from filling stations, it can be carried in jerry cans. At least 60 litres of water is needed and a vehicle fridge is useful for cold drinks and keeping food fresh. A winch is not essential.

Specialist equipment - camping

Either roof or ground tents (with sewn in groundsheets) are suitable. You will need good quality sleeping mats if using ground tents, along with sleeping bags. You should bring your own chairs, table, stove, pans, cutlery and utensils. Protection from the sun and UV is needed.

Passport Your passport should be valid for a minimum period of 6 months from 01 November 2024 and have at least 10 blank pages.

Vehicle documents Carnet de Passage required. OneLife Adventure to advise and assist this

process.

Visa British nationals do not need a visa to enter South Africa, Namibia or

Botswana for a holiday or private visit stays of up to 90 days. For Zimbabwe

visas are obtained on the border at entry.

**Health** Courses or boosters usually advised: Hepatitis A. Tetanus. Typhoid. Other

vaccines to consider: Cholera; Diphtheria; Hepatitis B; Rabies.

Malaria precautions are essential. Check with your doctor/travel clinic about suitable antimalarial tablets. Atovaquone/proguanil OR doxycycline OR

mefloquine is usually recommended for these risk areas.





Cost of living

Less than the UK. You will be able to withdraw local currency from ATM's and debit/credit cards are accepted.

#### Weather

Warm and dry but cooler at night

	Sep	Oct
Average daily temp		
Max <sup>o</sup> C	<mark>30</mark>	<mark>33</mark>
Min <sup>o</sup> C	<mark>22</mark>	<mark>25</mark>
Rainfall mm	8	<mark>20</mark>

#### **Food and Shopping**

Food is readily available in main towns but we will be spending extended periods away from supplies so the ability to carry 5 days worth of food as a minimum is required. Game lodges generally have a restaurant. Meals can be cooked individually or communally, the choice is yours and we will co-ordinate and assist you with food purchasing while in country.

#### **Schedule and Pace**

The route and timings are not fixed, we will be free to break journey, stop and explore, as you desire. We aim to be in the campsite by 17.00 on most days to allow us to relax and enjoy the experiences of the day. The daily distances driven vary due to the terrain and ground conditions but a typical day will be 2-3 hours driving in the morning, 1 hour for lunch and then a further 2-3 hours driving. Some days will be longer as the unexpected is sure to occur on this trip. There will be some rest / non driving days during the trip when you'll be free to explore or rest as you choose, we'll also have slower days game viewing in the many National Park and Reserves we'll enter.

#### **Outbound shipping**

Your vehicle will be shipped in a container to Cape Town while you fly to join it once cleared by customs. We manage this whole process.

#### **Inbound Shipping**

The return shipment will be from Cape Town. Shipping takes approx. 21 days so you will be without your vehicle for 4 weeks before and after this expedition.

With the exception of your flights the whole shipping process is booked and managed by OneLife Adventure.





#### Cost

- £5500 per person for the first 2 adults in a car.
- No single supplements, contact us for under 16 prices.
- The expedition price includes full backup and guiding from the support team 24/7, management of the shipping process and all trip logistics, all basic campsite/accommodation costs and all game park entry and accommodation costs.

Your airfares, container cost and clearances, carnet, accommodation upgrades, fuel, food, snacks, drinks and personal spending are not included. Contact us for an estimate of these costs.

Other options are possible, extended stays with vehicle, shortened stays, fly drive vehicle hire, etc. Please contact us to discuss your preferences.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK YOUR PLACE ON THIS EXPEDITION PLEASE CONTACT US



NUMBERS ARE LIMITED - maximum of 6 vehicles or 12 adults!

#### OneLife Adventure Expedition Rating System

THE BIG 3 EXPLORER









Easy, short driving days, suitable for families and drivers with basic off road driving skills.



Easy camping with occasional wild sites interspersed by sites with facilities, no technical needs, suitable for families and young children.



Higher off road content, moderate driving days, suitable for families and medium off road driving skills.



50% wild camping, some technical needs, suitable for families and young children used to camping.



Longer days occasionally and high content of off road driving, recoveries likely and moderate levels of off road skills needed.



80% wild camping +, weather or environment requires some technical clothing/equipment, suitable for experienced families with older children.



Long days and long distances are the norm, likely to encounter severe hazards and will require teamwork to succeed, experienced drivers.



Extreme weather (hot, wet or cold), will require extensive technical equipment, irregular meals and physical discomfort will be the norm! Success is achieving the destination – Camel Trophy style.

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