



*Into the
Okavango*

1-877-LarkTours (527-5868)

www.larktours.com

The Lark Tours Difference

As you have probably already discovered, today's travel industry offers an overwhelming number of options. With so many to pick from, we know just how difficult it can be to select the right travel company. Here are some reasons why we think you should choose Lark Tours:

We are Unique. At Lark Tours we focus solely on offering private luxury vacations and safaris in Africa. Our concept is simple: your vacation in Africa should be just that - it should be **your** vacation.

Personalized & Tailor-Made Itineraries. While most companies present a number of set itineraries with scheduled departure dates, thus forcing you to fit within their framework, we take a very different approach. We offer private vacation itineraries that are personalized and tailor-made to perfectly fit your interests, preferences, and schedule. Whether you are traveling as a couple, a family, a group of friends, an organization, or some combination thereof, we will put together a trip that fits everybody's desires and departs when you want!

Private Groups. There is no denying that Africa is simply spectacular. To truly experience this enchanting continent on an intimate level, in a way that is sure to impact some part of your being, we firmly believe that private journeys are an absolute must. By delving into Africa in a manner that only private travel makes possible, you are able to interact with locals, learn about each region's history and culture at your own pace, and fully delight in all the beauty and wildlife that Africa has to offer. This ensures that you have an authentic experience in Africa and return home feeling enlightened, inspired, and above all else, satisfied.

Flexibility. The real beauty of private travel is having flexibility during your vacation. Because you have your own expert guides with private vehicles, you are free to make changes on a whim. When there are moments so captivating that you simply want to linger and soak in the experience, then you have the freedom to do so. There is no bus to catch, no rigid schedule to follow, and no large group with competing demands. This is your vacation with your own private guides who are there each step of the way to ensure you have the perfect experience.

Service is King. Private luxury travel is about receiving the best service available, which includes incredible attention to detail and help with every facet of your vacation. We deliver all this and more. Our staff and guides are some of the best in the industry and we all follow one simple rule: you are the most important priority. We will do absolutely whatever it takes to ensure you have the easiest, most satisfying vacation experience to date.

Expertise: We have delved deep into Africa and emerged with the extensive first-hand knowledge necessary to make sure your vacation is unforgettable. In addition to substantial training and ongoing education, everybody who works for us has extensive personal expertise from having lived and traveled in Africa. By targeting our focus exclusively on Africa, we are able to continually deepen our knowledge of this region and provide you with a plethora of magnificent experiences.

One Call Convenience. It seems like everything these days is becoming more and more convenient. Why should travel be any different? With one phone call we can take care of all your travel arrangements, including complimentary flight bookings, travel insurance, and much more.

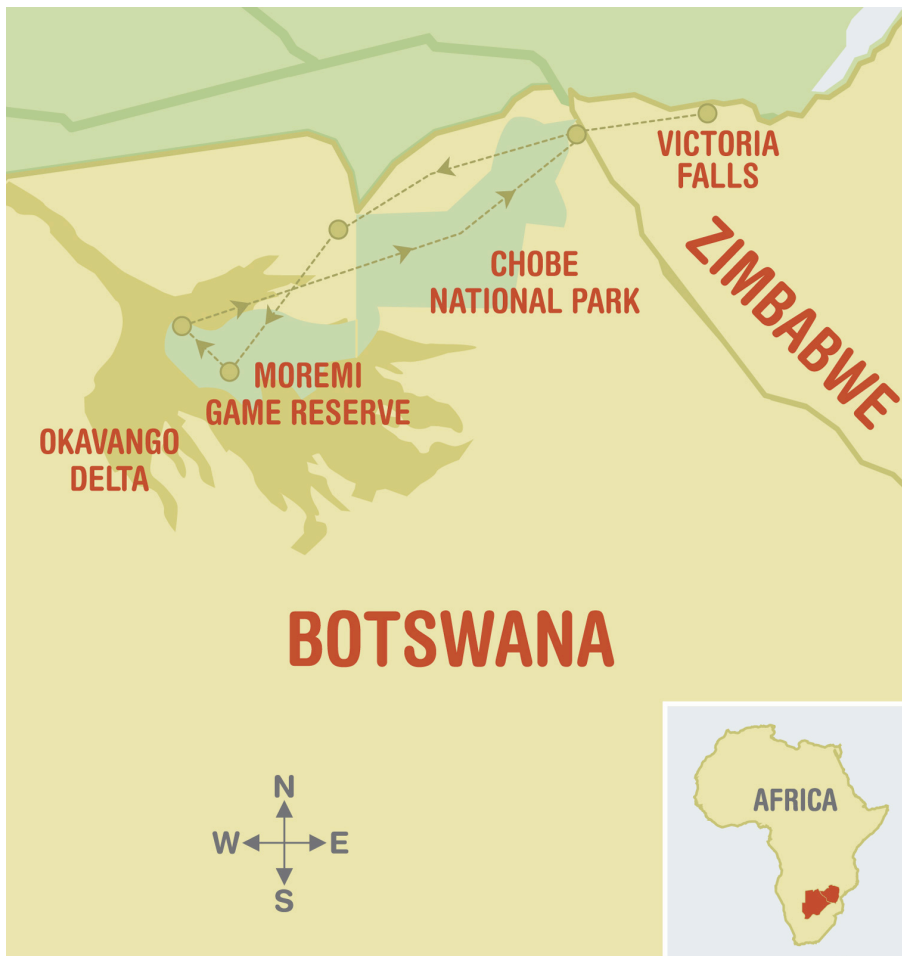
We Like to Have Fun! Let's face it – much of the travel industry is far too serious. This is your vacation! This is your time off, your chance to explore a new region of the world and recharge your batteries. So what are you waiting for? Africa beckons!

Into the Okavango Itinerary

Embark on a 13-day luxurious adventure departing from Victoria Falls. First we fly to the remote Selinda Reserve before travel into the heart of the renowned Okavango Delta, one of the world's most spectacular tracts of wilderness

Day 1 - Depart from USA for Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Today we depart for the town of Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, home to Victoria Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of our planet. If our flight itinerary routes us through Johannesburg, South Africa, a Lark Tours Representative will be present at the airport to greet us and assist us to our connecting flight to Cape Town.



Day 2 - Arrive in Victoria Falls

Once we arrive in Victoria Falls we are escorted to the extravagant, 5-star Victoria Falls Hotel. For more than a century, this hotel has been the address of choice for royal families, statesmen, celebrities and discerning travellers as it occupies a fine location from which to explore the magical wonders of the Victoria Falls. Less than a ten minute walk from the Victoria Falls rainforest, this is one hotel that can truly claim to be unique.

Many a guest has marvelled at the magnificent views seen from The Victoria Falls Hotel. The experience begins with the sun rising over the Victoria Falls, considered to be one of the seven natural wonders of the world. Echoing its glorious past, this hotel's traditional rooms and suites are truly a 5-star experience. Our room, which is one of the hotel's deluxe guest rooms, is spacious, well-appointed and furnished in tradi-

tional Edwardian style with an "out of Africa" feel. All rooms are air-conditioned with every modern amenity available including digital satellite television, direct dial telephone and a personal safe. Cool off and enjoy the splendor of the refreshing swimming pool set amongst the beautiful landscaped gardens, overlooking the famous Victoria Falls Bridge with the Batoka Gorge below.

Later in the day we visit the stunning Victoria Falls, which is approximately 5,545 feet wide with an estimated

145.2 million gallons of water cascading over the 365 foot chasm every minute. It must be highlighted that Zimbabwe has 16 out of the 19 prime viewing spots and it is here where we find the untamed Victoria Falls rainforest with its many winding pathways and trails. In 1855 David Livingstone, arguably the first European to see the awesome falls, remarked “scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight.” Victoria Falls has been declared a World Heritage Site and enjoys special conservation status. *Victoria Falls Hotel (lunch, dinner included)*



Day 3 - The Mighty Victoria Falls

Today we set off on an elephant back safari, which gives us the chance to closely interact with one of Africa’s most beloved animals. Elephants are exceptionally intelligent, willing to respond to instruction, and lots of fun to spend time with. Roaming the wilderness areas around Victoria Falls atop an elephant is an unforgettable experience!

Later we embark on a 15-minute helicopter ride where we have breathtaking aerial views of the stunning Falls! When viewing the Falls, there is nothing that can rival the experience of being high above in a helicopter.

We conclude the day with a sunset cruise on the broad Zambezi River, complete with a complimentary bar and freshly baked snacks. With hippos bellowing all around we float lazily down the river, watching as the sky reddens into a fiery panorama before disappearing over the horizon to make way for the night’s twinkling stars. It is hard to conceive of a more fitting ending to such a magnificent day.

Victoria Falls Hotel (breakfast, lunch, dinner included)

Day 4 - Transfer to Selinda Camp located in Remote Botswana

After one last glorious sunrise over the thundering Victoria Falls, we transfer to Kasane, Botswana where

we board our light aircraft (also known as a “bush airplane”) for our flight to Selinda Camp located in the Selinda Reserve. This reserve is a 300,000-acre private wildlife sanctuary in northern Botswana where there are still places so wild that nobody has yet explored them. Here we find huge herds of buffalo and elephants, as well as a multitude of other wildlife including lions, cheetah, aardwolves, rare African wild dogs, and much more, all roaming freely without borders. With its prime location between the Okavango Delta and Chobe National Park, Selinda



Reserve has the unique advantages of each of these regions minus the crowds. As a matter of fact, this huge reserve only has accommodation for a maximum of 32 guests at any given time. Thus any safari experience at Selinda is sure to be intimate, exclusive, and unforgettable.



Selinda Camp is a small, luxury tented safari camp situated on the banks of the eastern Selinda Spillway. It has nine spacious tents, each of which has been raised approximately 3 feet above the ground in order to offer exceptional views across the waterways, floodplains, and open savannas. Each tent is complete with flowing mosquito nets, ceiling fans, writing desks, lounge furniture, spacious en-suite bathrooms with full-sized stone baths and antique showers, and large, private verandas overlooking our very own piece of African heaven.

That afternoon we set out on safari for our first look at the famous African wildlife.
Selinda Camp (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 5 & 6 - On Safari in Selinda

At Selinda all wildlife and nature drives are conducted by professional guides in open, rugged 2008 4x4 Toyota Landcruisers with removable canvas tops. With excellent all-around visibility, and the power to navigate through most any terrain, these vehicles allow for amazing safaris. The best thing about safaris at Selinda is that there is no routine or schedule. Because this camp is so intimate and personal, we can tailor-make our safari experience. Inevitably, though, the game drives revolve around the best game viewing times, animal movements, and the weather. The wildlife and nature drives generally begin at dawn



because this is when most of the wildlife, and especially the predators, are active. Usually these early game drives end around mid-morning, once the heat has forced the animals to retire to the shade and stay inactive. Then we set

out again mid-to-late afternoon and stay out in the bush well past sunset. Once it is dark our guides use spotlights to point out the nocturnal wildlife, particularly the predators, which become active once again during the night.



Of particular interest in this area are the prides of lions that have specialized at killing large game. The hippo-killing lions of the Selinda, caught on film by Dereck and Beverly Joubert in their National Geographic movies, are especially famous. These bold prides of lions have even been known to hunt large elephants, as depicted in BBC's highly acclaimed *Planet Earth* series. Keep in mind, though, that sights such as these are very rare.

All in all, the safari experience at Selinda is relaxed and varies depending on our preferences. Because the guides at Selinda are just as excited about the safaris as we are, they ensure that we have the best chances of seeing all the riches that Selinda Reserve has to offer.

Complimentary snacks and beverages are served on all game drives. Traditional "sundowners" in the late afternoons/early evenings are especially popular. It is customary to enjoy a gin and tonic, a glass of wine, a beer (or whatever your drink of choice may be) while watching the sun set over the wild African bush. In these few moments, we contemplate the grandeur of the wild and let the full effect of Africa wash over us.

When we are not on safari, we can enjoy some siesta time at one of Selinda's hides overlooking the waterway, watching the passing wildlife between snoozes. Bush walks in the reserve with one of Selinda's expert guides are another of the many options available.



This is the perfect opportunity to experience the African bush firsthand, on ground level. Special activities, such as a picnic in the bush, are also available upon request.

Once the day's adventures have come to an end, we join the other guests for dinner under the stars, served on the outdoor dining deck. If the weather is not suitable, dinner is served under the lofty thatch dining room. After we have had our fill of Selinda's wholesome foods, exotic wines, and cheerful talk, we move to the communal camp-

fire. The evening fireside is a seductive end to the day in the bush and a perfect place to enjoy stories of the day's safaris, shared laughter, and local folk lore.

Selinda Camp (all meals)

Day 7 - Transfer to Xigera Camp in the Heart of the Okavango

Today we transfer via light aircraft to Xigera Camp (pronounced "keejera"), located in the heart of the famed



Okavango Delta. The flight itself provides a unique opportunity to experience a "wing safari," where we are able to view herds of wildlife, flocks of birds, and unique geography from the sky. Xigera Camp is located on Paradise Island in the Moremi Game Reserve, one of the most beautiful regions of the Okavango Delta. This region is situated within the Okavango's permanent wetlands where deep channels and lush riverine vegetation provide us with an entirely new perspective on Botswana and the Delta.

The camp itself consists of ten luxuriously furnished tents, each with outdoor showers and en-suite facilities. Each tent is raised on wooden platforms and connected by raised walkways, offering excellent views across the waterways.

The lounge, pub, and dining area all overlook the permanent channel, making for the perfect place to enjoy evening drinks and dinner with fellow guests. One of Xigera's distinctive features is the long wooden footbridge that

connects Xigera's island with the next island. Lions and leopards often use this bridge to cross between islands, offering guests an impressive close-up (from the safety of main camp, of course) without even being on safari! And don't forget the hippos and elephants that regularly congregate around the camp. But surely the best thing about Xigera is its privacy. This is the only camp in this region, which means we do not have to worry about crowded waterways and other general tourist traffic coming into the region for day trips. This kind of privacy is a rare luxury in the Okavango.

Xigera Camp (breakfast, lunch, dinner)



Day 8 & 9 - Experience the Okavango

With its amazing location right in the center of the Delta, Xigera offers us the opportunity to really experience the essence of this region, which is safaris by water and on foot. We embark on mokoro rides, motor boat outings, and bush walks. Mokoro rides in particular are unique to the Delta, and an unforgettable experience. Mokoros, which are similar to dug-out canoes, are flat-bottomed boats traditionally crafted from an ebony or sausage-tree log. It is worth noting that more and more mokoros are being made from fiberglass and other manufactured materials in order to preserve the local trees, some of which have become endangered. With its flat bottom this boat is ideally suited for gliding across the often-shallow waters of the Delta. The mokoro usually accommodates two guests and is propelled by a poler who stands at the back of the boat and powers it forward with his or her “ngashi,” or long pole. As we glide across the surface of the water, the only noises that can be heard are the rustling of the wind through the reeds, the lapping of the water against the boat, and the calls of birds and animals all about. Mokoro rides put us in direct interaction with the marvelous Okavango Delta and offer us the chance to explore and observe all of its fascinating details.



In addition to mokoro trips, we also explore some of the deeper channels of the Delta by motor boat. Using a motor boat allows us to go further afield and gives a better ability to track down larger game. After all, the Delta does have an abundance of wildlife including hippos, crocodiles, lion, spotted hyena, leopard, red lechwe, and a particularly high concentration of the rare sitatunga.

Xigera is also the perfect place for bush walks and birdwatching. The Okavango has an incredible array of different bird species. Even those who think that they have no interest in birds usually become fascinated by the Okavango's bird population once they encounter delights such as Pel's Fishing Owl, the African Fish Eagle, African Skimmers, Slaty Egrets, Wattled Cranes, Malibu Stork, African Jacanas, Lilac-Breasted Rollers, and much, much more. Who knows, we may even become bird watchers - this is a transformation that takes place with many guests visiting Xigera. The bush walks are also very popular. Forging through the Delta's wilds with an experienced guide offers us the opportunity to be completely immersed in African nature.

Beautiful scenery, abundant wildlife, and excellent activities, all in the heart of the Okavango, make Xigera Camp one of the best water camps available in the Delta.

Xigera Camp (all meals)

Day 10 & 11- Action-Packed Safaris in Duba Plains

Today we board our flight to Duba Plains Camp. Like all flights over the Okavango Delta, the scenery below is spectacular and the flight itself provides a marvelous wing safari. Situated in the far north, Duba Plains is one of the Okavango Delta's most remote camps. It is built on a tree-filled island in the private Kweddi Reserve, which consists of over 74,000 acres. Here the vegetation ranges from vast open floodplains and grasslands, often isolated from the mainland by deep waterways, to dense mopane bushveld and savannah. This area has a high concentration of biodiversity as a result of year-round water availability, range of habitat, and plentiful vegetation. This ensures spectacular game viewing opportunities all year round!



At Duba Plains, accommodations consist of only six roomy tents, each with an en-suite bathroom, an outside shower, and a veranda overlooking the floodplain. The thatch-roofed lounge, dining room, pool, and bar areas are all raised on platforms, providing beautiful views of the surrounding area.



Every region in the Okavango has its own specialty and Duba Plains is known for titanic clashes between huge herds of buffalo and aggressive prides of lions. This is one of the best locations in all of Africa to witness action-packed hunts as prides of lions work to take down aggressive buffalo. On safari our rangers pay special attention to the herds of buffalo, keeping a sharp lookout for stalking predators. In addition to the

constant interaction between lions and buffalo, this area is also known as an excellent place to witness the age-old feud between lions and hyenas. Lions and hyenas have a special dislike for one another. Given the opportunity, these species constantly steal food from one another and relish the opportunity to attack if they have sufficient force in numbers. So intense is the hatred that hyenas have been documented to roll around on a dead lion's carcass, in a care-free manner, simply to show disdain. The interaction that takes place between these different species is amazing, helping give Duba Plains a reputation as one of the best safari destinations in all of Africa.

Though cats generally steer clear of water, some of the prides in this region have adopted swimming as a method

for increasing the efficiency of their hunting abilities. If we are lucky, we may have the opportunity to see them in action. In addition, herds of elephants roam this area and hippos are heavily concentrated in some of the deeper channels. Tsessebe and blue wildebeest dot the plains, while red lechwe can be found on the floodplains. Sightings of rare



aardwolf and caracal are another highlight of Duba Plains. Finally, keep an eye out for leopards as they glide through the forested islands.

As with all of the Okavango, birdlife here is abundant and impressive, with rarities such as Rosy-Throated Long-claws, Slaty Egrets, and Wattled Cranes making regular appearances.

Activities at Duba Plains include day safaris, night safaris, nature walks, and Mokoro trips, depending on the water level.

Duba Plains Camp (all meals included)

Day 12 - Transfer to Maun

After one last exciting safari, and a hearty breakfast at camp, say goodbye to this phenomenal region of the world. We board our light air transfer to Maun, Botswana where we board our international flight back home.

(breakfast)

Day 13 - Arrive Back Home

En route to home. As we fly back home, we relish in our new memories and look forward to telling friends and family about our splendid travels in Africa.

Trip Details

2010 Departure Dates and Pricing

- *Into the Okavango* departs daily
- **Low Season** (January 11 - March 31):
From \$8,295 per person sharing; \$1,225 single supplement
- **Shoulder Season** (April 1 - June 14; November 16 - November 30):
From \$8,575 per person sharing; \$1,195 single supplement
- **High Season** (June 15 - November 15):
From \$10,795 per person sharing; \$1,275 single supplement
- **Peak Season** (December 1 - January 10):
Please contact us for pricing and availability

NOTE: Necessary flights to/from Africa are an additional fee and are not included in the above rates.

*** The single supplement is an additional charge added to the trip price for travelers requesting single occupancy accommodations.

What's Included With the Cost?

- A Lark Tours welcome packet containing all necessary pre- and post-departure trip planning information

- Full pre-and post-vacation Lark Tours customer support, available to answer all your questions during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST) and available to answer emergency calls from trip participants and/or from family/friends of trip participants at any hour during your vacation
- Guides for all activities, sightseeing, etc as outlined in the itinerary
- All meals
- All lodgings and accommodations
- All entry and participation costs for all activities, sightseeing, etc. as outlined in the itinerary
- All ground transportation (including the drive from Victoria Falls to Kasane)
- All necessary internal flights from Kasane to Selinda to Xigera to Duba Plains to Maun
- Fully comprehensive travel insurance
- All game drives in off-road vehicles
- All conservation and park fees
- Upon request, complimentary flight arrangements

What's NOT Included?

- International flight to Africa
- Alcohol, except where specified in the itinerary
- Personal purchases
- Gratuities
- Passport/visa fees
- Required and/or recommended immunizations
- Any other items of a personal nature

There are absolutely no hidden costs, fees, or extra expenses.

Trip Reservations

All bookings and activities are subject to change and availability.

Complimentary Flight Arrangements

Lark Tours is pleased to offer you our complimentary flight arrangement services, at no additional charge, when you book one of our vacations. With the help of our flight specialists, we are able to find the flights you need, usually for less than you can find as an individual. Also, when we book your flights we can schedule all your arrival and departure times to fit perfectly with your vacation itinerary. But best of all, taking advantage of our complimentary flight arrangements is convenient and means you can make all your vacation plans with a single phone call.

If you decide to handle flight arrangements on your own then we ask that you check with us to coordinate all flights. This is very important since there are flights where arrival and departure times must be coordinated properly to ensure that your trip flows smoothly. Once your flight is booked, please send us a copy of your ticket so we have a copy on file.

Welcome Packet

Once you book a vacation with us, we will send you a detailed packet of information on how to prepare for your upcoming trip, which includes topics such as necessary visas, important vaccinations, safety tips, clothing suggestions, recommended reading, and more.

Payment Schedule

At the time of reservation: 50% of trip cost due
 90 days prior to trip departure: Full balance due

Cancellation & Refund Policy

All cancellations are to be made by speaking with a Lark Tours representative followed by a written notification mailed to our office. At the time of cancellation, the following fees will apply:

91 days or more prior to departure we charge: 25% of total trip price

46 to 90 prior days to departure we retain: 50% of total trip price

45 days or less prior to departure we retain: 100% of total trip price

About Lark Tours

Based in Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.A., Lark Tours is a full-service tour operator that focuses exclusively on offering private luxury vacations and safaris in Africa. Founded in 2005, Lark Tours was developed based on the knowledge that in order to truly experience Africa on an intimate level, private journeys are an absolute must. Since then, Lark Tours has been bringing fresh energy to the world of travel with its innovative approach, and in the process, it has redefined what it means to have an unforgettable vacation experience in Africa.

At Lark Tours, our hope is that you will consider sharing this journey with us, and in the process, grow to love this enchanting continent as much as we do.

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Questions? Comments? To speak with a Lark Tours representative call us toll-free at 1-877-LarkTours (527-5868)

If you prefer, email any of you questions or comments to info@larktours.com



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