

*Safari
Extraordinaire*



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!

Safari Extraordinaire

Embark on five incredible safari experiences across three countries in some of Africa's greatest wilderness destinations: Pafuri Camp and MalaMala Game Reserve in the Kruger National Park region of South Africa; Onguma Tree Top Camp in Etosha National Park in Namibia; and Xigera Camp and Duba Plains Camp in the Okavango Delta in Botswana

Day 1 - Depart from USA for Cape Town, South Africa

Today we depart for Cape Town, South Africa. This extraordinary city was ranked by *Travel & Leisure* as the world's 2nd best city for 2009.



Day 2 - Arrive in Johannesburg

Once we arrive in Johannesburg, a Lark Tours Representative greets us at the airport and transfers us to Lanseria International Airport. Here we board our connecting flight to Pafuri Camp, situated between the Limpopo and the Luvuvhu Rivers in the northern sector of Kruger National Park, which is one of Africa's oldest and largest parks. This is an area of approximately 59,300 acres called the Pafuri or the Makuleke. Pafuri is the ancestral home of the Makuleke people and is considered by many to be the most diverse and scenically attractive area in all of Kruger National Park. It is certainly the wildest and most remote part of the park and offers wonderful and varied vegetation, great wildlife viewing, the best birding in the region, and an entirely unique perspective of Kruger National Park.

The camp itself is situated on the northern bank of the Luvuvhu

River within a lush riverine forest. It consists of twenty luxurious thatched tents that are raised off the ground on wooden walkways. The camp has two plunge pools, a dining room, and comfortable lounge perfect for reading. The interiors are stylish, with a Makuleke influence, and every room has wonderful views over the Luvuvhu River. Each room is comfortably furnished with en-suite bathrooms, with hot and cold running water, and with an additional outside shower for those who want to enjoy being closer to nature.

That afternoon we set off on our first exciting safari!
Pafuri Camp (lunch, dinner included)

Day 3 & 4 - Safaris in Pafuri

This area is home to all the animal species for which Kruger is famous, including lion, elephant, rhino, buffalo and leopard. It is also especially famous for its big herds of elephants and for rare birds like the Pel's Fishing Owl. Animals such as Nyala, Eland, and Sharpe's Grysbok, which are not commonly seen in the southern regions of Kruger, are common here. Each day we choose from a range of options including game and nature drives in open 4x4 vehicles, night drives, birding walks, and safaris on foot, all of which are led by armed, expert guides. Between activities we spend time relaxing on the veranda while basking in the serenity of the African wilderness.

Pafuri Camp (all meals included)

Day 5 - Transfer to MalaMala Private Game Reserve

Our last day in Pafuri begins with a sunrise game drive followed by a hearty breakfast. After saying goodbye to Pafuri's marvelous staff, we transfer via plane to MalaMala Private Game Reserve, located in the highly acclaimed Sabi Sands Private Game Reserve. Established in 1927, internationally renowned and award-winning MalaMala is the largest privately owned game reserve in South Africa. Comprising of approximately 32,900 acres, MalaMala shares a 12-mile unfenced border with Kruger National Park, one of Africa's oldest and largest national parks. Sandwiched between Kruger and the rest of Sabi Sands, MalaMala has unimpeded access to the surrounding African wildlife. Of great appeal to this wildlife is the vast array of habitat types in MalaMala, ranging from open savannah to dense riparian zones and granite outcrops. But perhaps the strongest allure to the wildlife is the 8-mile stretch of the Sand River that flows through the reserve. It is this habitat diversity, along with sound conservation management, that has earned MalaMala a reputation as one of the foremost game viewing destination in the world. This, coupled with its luxurious accommodations and service, makes MalaMala one of the best safari lodges that South Africa has to offer.



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Upon arrival we settle into our Luxury Rooms in Main Camp, enjoy a late lunch, and embark on our first thrilling safari!

MalaMala Game Reserve (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 6 & 7 - Spectacular Safaris in MalaMala

At MalaMala we spend our time relaxing, soaking in the incredible surroundings, taking advantage of the camp's amenities, and of course, embarking on world-class safaris. A typical day at MalaMala begins with an early morning wake up call around 5:30 a.m., when we enjoy steaming beverages with light snacks before setting off on an adventurous early morning game drive. After an exhilarating safari, we return to camp for a late brunch followed by time for relaxation and leisure that can be spent lounging by the pool, browsing the safari boutique, or exploring the camp. We also have the option of joining one of MalaMala's armed trackers for an exciting walking safari through the African bush.



That afternoon, after a refreshing lunch, we set off on another exciting safari! On this afternoon game drive our guide brings along coolers stocked with wine, beer, and other beverages of choice to be enjoyed during a famous African sundowner, where we stop at sunset and absorb the atmosphere of the bush as the sun sinks into the dusty horizon. Watching the sun set over the wild African bush is a truly memorable experience. As darkness approaches, our tracker scans the bush with a powerful spotlight

pointing out the elusive nocturnal wildlife, a highlight of the day's activities. Be sure to also keep a look out for the Milky Way and Southern Cross in the dark sky above.



We return to camp at approximately 8 o'clock, where we freshen up before meeting our friends and the rangers for dinner at 9. Dinner is served in the reed-enclosed boma under an ancient Jackalberry tree. Alternatively, when the weather is suitable, we enjoy a candlelit dinner on the safari deck overlooking the Sand River. While seated around the blazing log fire under the starry African sky, enjoying the superb food and excellent wines, we are sure to feel Africa tugging at our hearts. This is yet another of MalaMala's many highlights.

MalaMala Game Reserve (all meals)

*** Do note that during South Africa's*

winter months MalaMala's schedule is slightly different to accompany the shorter days and cooler weather.

Day 8 - Transfer to Etosha National Park in Namibia

After one last exciting safari, and a sumptuous breakfast at camp, say goodbye to this phenomenal region of the world. We board our flight to Windhoek, Namibia via Johannesburg. Once in Windhoek, we transfer by light air flight to Onguma Tree Top Camp located in Onguma Game Reserve next to Etosha National Park. This destination promises to provide us with a dry, remote, though incredibly exciting, safari adventure.



Once our plane touches down, our guide meets us and drives us to camp, which is located on the eastern side of Etosha National Park, next to Fisher's Pan. This reserve consists of nearly 50,000 acres of protected land and wildlife and is home to many species including Kudu, giraffe, eland, onyx, hartebeest, zebra, impala, lion, cheetah, leopard, elusive desert elephants, and even a family of the near-extinct Black Rhinoceros. For bird-lovers, there are over 300 species that call Onguma Game Reserve home. Moreover, during Namibia's summer months, thousands of bird spe-

cies, including massive flocks of flamingos, migrate to the wetlands within this reserve that are created by the annual rainy season and the ephemeral river system.

The camp itself is a small, intimate camp with only four thatched roof, canvass wall rooms. The entire camp is built on wooden stilts among the tree tops with beautiful views overlooking the surrounding plains and watering holes, which attract large herds of plains game, often followed by predators. This camp is luxurious, truly unique, and a place where you can relax and enjoy one of Africa's incredible, of-the-beaten-path destinations.

Onguma Tree Top Camp (breakfast, lunch, dinner)

Day 9 & 10 - Safaris at Onguma

We explore Onguma Game Reserve and the adjacent Etosha National Park, which is the third largest park in Africa, the largest in Namibia, and the main highlight of visiting Namibia. Etosha has been recognized as one of the best game viewing areas in all of Africa. Its main attraction is the so-called "Etosha Pan," an 80-mile salt pan that represents the remains of a large lake that used to fill the area. Here there are scattered waterholes that attract congregations of wildlife, particularly in the dry season from May to September. Elephants, giraffes, rare Black Rhinoceroses, prides of lions, leopards, and so much more all roam these lands in search of water and food. Traversing these vast game reserves on safari provides us with an overview of the salt pans, grass and thorn savannahs, Mopane bushland, and dry forests of Namibia. When we are not on safari, we spend time relaxing back at camp under the shade of surrounding trees, breathing in the aromas of the bush, and enjoying the surrounding wilderness in all its raw splendor.

Onguma Tree Top Camp (breakfast, lunch, dinner)



Day 11 - Transfer to Xigera Camp in the Heart of the Okavango

Today we board our flight to Maun, Botswana via Windhoek. Here 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 of Africa.



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 12 & 13 - 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 14, 15 & 16 – 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

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 17 - Transfer to Maun

After one last exciting safari, and a heart breakfast at camp, say goodbye to this phenomenal region of the world. We board our light air transfer to Maun, Botswana where we catch our flight to Johannesburg en route to the USA.

(breakfast)

Day 18 - 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

- *Safari Extraordinaire* departs daily
- Do note that depending on flight schedules, layovers in Johannesburg and/or Windhoek may be necessary. These are not currently factored into the price

• **Low Season** (January 1 - June 14; November 16 - December 14):
From \$11,150 per person sharing; \$2,315 single supplement

• **High Season** (July 15 - November 15):
From \$12,895 per person sharing; \$2,395 single supplement

• **Peak Season** (December 15 - January 10):
Please contact us for pricing and availability

NOTE: Necessary flights to/from and within Africa (Johannesburg to Pafuri Camp to MalaMala to Johannesburg to Windhoek to Onguma to Windhoek to Maun; Maun to Johannesburg) 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?

- All the necessary pre- and post-departure information
- Full pre-and post-trip Lark Tours customer support, available to answer all your questions during normal business hours (8 a.m. to 6 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
- Flights from Maun to Xigera Camp to Duba Plains Camp back 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 and domestic flights (except to/from camps in the Okavango Delta)
- 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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