

EXCLUSIVE DEPARTURES FOR JUST 16 GUESTS

WONDERS & WATERWAYS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

A unique escorted tour to Botswana, Namibia & Zimbabwe
including a cruise on Lake Kariba

27th April to 9th May & 4th to 16th October 2028



NOBLE CALEDONIA

Victoria Falls



Southern Africa is a region of astounding natural beauty with extraordinary wildlife and majestic landscapes which cast a life-long spell on all who visit. This unique escorted tour, devised for just 16 participants, combines three countries and explores one of the richest wildlife areas on the continent in unique style.

There can be few natural wonders as synonymous with Africa's raw wilderness as the great Chobe River, with its exotic banks that boast one of the densest populations of wildlife on the African continent. From our base at the wonderful Cascades Lodge, at the confluence of the Zambezi and Chobe Rivers, we will cross into Botswana for a game drive around Chobe National Park, visit the villages of Impalila Island and enjoy private boat trips along the Zambezi River. We then journey by small private plane to Lake Kariba where rare and mysterious landscapes await, and we embark our stylish houseboat, the African Dream.

Lake Kariba is formed behind the massive Kariba Dam and, at 280 kilometres long by 50 kilometres wide, is one of the largest man-made lakes in the world. Here, in this remote paradise, ancient long-dead trees reach skywards, their twisted limbs casting shimmering silhouettes against the striking red African sunsets and you can spot lions, leopards, elands, waterbucks, bushbucks, impalas and kudus, and of course hippos and crocodiles, as well as an astonishing variety of birds. Our four night river safari winds its way through the Matusadona National Park, another unique eco-system with a myriad of wildlife including the majestic elephant and the rare cheetah. After the cruise we spend our final nights at the spectacular Victoria Falls or Mosi-oa-Tunya – "The Smoke that Thunders", a fitting finale to this wonderful tour.





THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Kasane, Botswana. Fly by scheduled indirect flight.

Day 2 Kasane, Botswana to Cascades Lodge, Namibia. On arrival, transfer to Kasane via coach and then by small private boat on to Cascades Lodge, our base for the next four nights in the heart of the wilderness. There will be border formalities en-route. During your boat transfer, keep an eye out for the numerous bird species living among the flooded flatlands. You may even catch a glimpse of a few hippos or crocodiles basking in the sun. Be greeted by staff on arrival and settle into your comfortable lodge ideally located on an island created by one of the tributaries of the Zambezi River. We will have dinner at the lodge and enjoy the tranquil surroundings. (D)

Day 3 Chobe National Park, Namibia & Botswana. Today we will journey out on a full day Jeep safari to explore Chobe National Park which is home to more than a quarter of the total elephant population in Africa. Enjoy lunch in a "floating restaurant" in the middle of the river where the views of the surrounding nature are unparalleled. Afterwards, we will board small private boats and sail off on the Chobe River all the way to Sedudu Island and its marshes. Dinner will be at the lodge this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Impalila Island, Namibia. This morning, we will explore some villages on Impalila Island and discover the traditional Namibian houses, culture and customs. We return to the lodge for lunch and either spend an afternoon at leisure to take advantage of the private pools and comfortable surroundings or explore the Zambezi River by small private boat. We will have dinner at the lodge and this evening we will be joined by one of the locals to tell us all about the traditions of this particular island. (B, L, D)

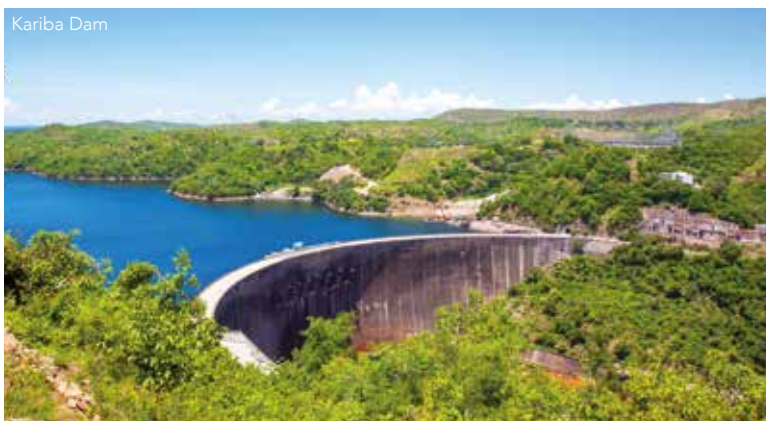
Day 5 Chobe National Park, Namibia & Botswana. Return to Botswana's untamed jewel, the Chobe National Park. On today's safari we will hope to encounter buffalo, giraffe, antelopes, lions, and the myriad bird species that inhabit the park and its surrounds. Enjoy a traditional African lunch,

surrounded by the natural wilderness, before returning to the lodge for an afternoon at leisure. (B, L, D)

Day 6 Kasane, Botswana to Lake Kariba, Zimbabwe. After breakfast we depart from the lodge on private boats for Kasane airport. Take a charter flight by small private planes to Kariba whilst enjoying stunning panoramas over Lake Kariba and the changing landscapes of the wilderness. On arrival we will transfer to the African Dream for our four night stay. Settle into your comfortable cabin as we set sail across the lake. Reaching over 200 kilometres in length and spanning a distance of approximately 40 kilometres at its widest point, the lake's flooded flatlands, hills and forests alike, create unique and emblematic landscapes. Enjoy dinner on board this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Matusadona National Park. We set out this morning on a 4x4 safari to discover the area around Matusadona National Park. Bordered by the Sanyati and Ume Rivers, this 1400 square kilometre, untouched area is home to numerous animal species such as elephants, hippos, crocodiles and buffalo as well as thousands of birds, among which we may see the legendary African sea eagle, the majestic, yellow-billed stork, or the black heron with its interesting hunting methods. We might also be lucky enough to cross paths with a big cat or two. The history of the park is closely linked with that of the lake; during the construction of the dam, the rising floodwaters affected the native wildlife although the damage was mitigated by Operation Noah, an initiative which saved over 6000 animals. This rescue operation allowed for large mammals, big cats, impalas and more to be moved to Matusadona where hunting is strictly prohibited. Enjoy lunch and dinner on board. (B, L, D)

Day 8 Lake Kariba Safari. This morning, set out by private boat to discover Matusadona National Park from the water. Explore the winding waterways and hidden coves that make up the unique landscapes of the lakeshore, creating an area of extraordinary biodiversity. Spend the morning searching



CASCADES LODGE

For the first four nights of our tour we will be based at Cascades Lodge, an authentic retreat in the wilderness which is located on an island at the confluence of the Zambezi and Chobe Rivers. Here you can enjoy the Chobe's wonderful game viewing and birding opportunities, complemented by a unique cultural experience. The eight 80 square metre, fully-equipped bungalows include a bedroom, a large bathroom, and a living area and are all equipped with air-conditioning, safe, storage area, a television, and tea and coffee amenities. They also each have an interior shower and bath, an exterior shower near the pool and a hairdryer. Each bungalow comes with a private swimming pool and an adjoining terrace and deckchairs. The public areas include a restaurant, a lounge and bar area, and a spacious, panoramic terrace with a view of one of the Zambezi River tributaries, ideal for observing the surrounding wilderness. Wi-Fi is available in the restaurant and lobby areas as well as in the bungalows.



for wildlife, before enjoying lunch on board your private boat. In the late afternoon we will take advantage of the golden evening light to explore once more by 4x4, before returning to the ship for dinner. This evening, weather permitting, enjoy a magical stargazing experience, free of light pollution as you sail the tranquil waters of the lake. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Sailing on Lake Kariba. At sunrise we will set sail through the rare and mysterious landscapes of Lake Kariba where drowned trees reach skywards from the depths of the reflecting water. We will set out on a scenic cruise to discover this unique landscape, which is the result of the Kariba Dam project, which between 1959-1965 flooded the region, creating the current layout of the vast lake. We will quietly glide along the banks to get as close as possible to the abundant wildlife populating the area, hoping to see hippos and elephants. We will return to the African Dream for lunch and a relaxing afternoon on board. Enjoy a talk about the history of the lake, its ecosystem, and the local communities, before watching the sunset from the deck. (B, L, D)

Day 10 Kariba to Victoria Falls. At sunrise we set sail towards Kariba where we will discover the gigantic Kariba Dam which was created in 1955 to form Lake Kariba. Today, the dam serves as a source of electric power for 70% of Zimbabwe. Discover the history and legends surrounding the creation of the lake including the tale of Nyami Nyami, the river god. Disembark the African Dream and transfer to the airport for our flight to Victoria Falls on board private planes. On arrival we will enjoy a lunch cruise upstream from the falls, on the mighty Zambezi River, before checking into our hotel this afternoon. After some free time, we meet for dinner this evening. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Victoria Falls. This morning, take a guided tour of the falls which form the largest single curtain of falling water on earth (on average the curtain is 92 metres deep). The 500-metre plume of spray can be seen from

as far as 70 kilometres away and the sound of the water can also be heard from kilometres away and up close this muted 'thunder' becomes a roar. The vast width of the falls, extending 1708 metres, allow for many safe vantage points from where you will be able to get different views of the roiling water as it crashes into the gorge and whose constant spray sustains the rainforest. Return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure before we enjoy our farewell dinner in the hotel. (B, D)

Day 12 Victoria Falls to London. After breakfast transfer to Victoria Falls airport for the return indirect flight to London. (B)

Day 13 London. Arrive today.

PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Category	
Twin	£8995
Twin with balcony cabin aboard the African Dream	£9795
Single	£10795

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • All internal and charter flights • Four nights accommodation at Cascades Lodge in Namibia • Four nights aboard the African Dream • Two nights accommodation at Victoria Falls Safari Lodge • Meals as indicated (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner) • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager • Excursions as described • Gratuities • Airport taxes.

Not Included: Travel insurance, Zimbabwean & Namibian visas.

NB: Due to restrictions on the charter flights, the total luggage allowance is 20 kilos per person and only soft sided travel cases are permitted.



Cabin



Lounge



Restaurant

AFRICAN DREAM

We are delighted to have chartered the African Dream from our associates at CroisiEurope for our four night adventure on Lake Kariba, situated along the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. Built and launched in 2018, the African Dream is a stylish, modern vessel which is small and agile enough to navigate the unspoiled bays, islands and inlets of this wonderful waterway. The atmosphere on board is relaxed and informal and there are spacious public areas which provide marvellous panoramic views of the passing landscapes. Accommodating a maximum of 16 passengers, with an equal number of crew, the vessel will be sure to provide a warm, professional and attentive service and is perfect for our exploration of magical Lake Kariba.

Your Cabin

The African Dream has eight cabins measuring 17 square metres, two of which also have 3.5 metre square balconies. All cabins face outside and are tastefully decorated in shades of grey and cream offset with beautiful African-inspired furnishings. Each cabin has a twin bed which can be converted into a double on request and is equipped with climate control, private bathroom with shower, toiletries, television and a safe.

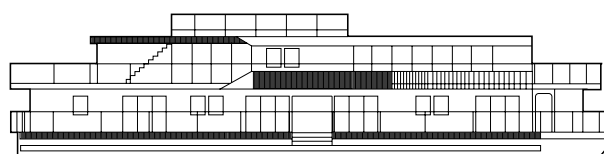
Your Space

The African Dream is comfortably furnished and spacious throughout. The panoramic glass-walled Lounge Bar is the ideal area for relaxing with a good book or for socialising with fellow guests over a freshly tapped beer or glass of South African wine. To immerse yourself in the heart of the wilderness and to maximise the wildlife viewing opportunities, the Observation Deck offers 360 degree views of the Lake and, for ultimate relaxation, there is a plunge pool on the Upper Deck. There is no formal dress code on board and comfortable and casual attire is appropriate.

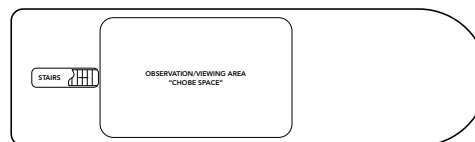
Your Dining

All meals during the cruise are served in the Restaurant which is casual yet elegant and seats all guests at tables of varying sizes. Located on the Upper Deck, the Restaurant offers wonderful unobstructed views of the lake which can be enjoyed alongside the mouthwatering local and international cuisine on offer – all lovingly prepared with fresh, carefully selected local produce. Breakfast is served buffet style while lunch and dinner are served to the table with a choice of three dishes per course. Complimentary house wine, beer and soft drinks are available on board as well as tea and coffee which may be ordered between 5.00 am to 11.00 pm.

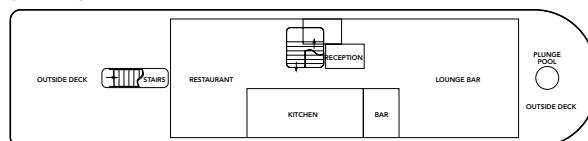
DECK PLAN



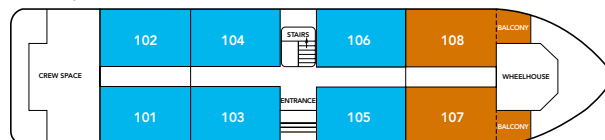
OBSERVATION DECK



UPPER DECK

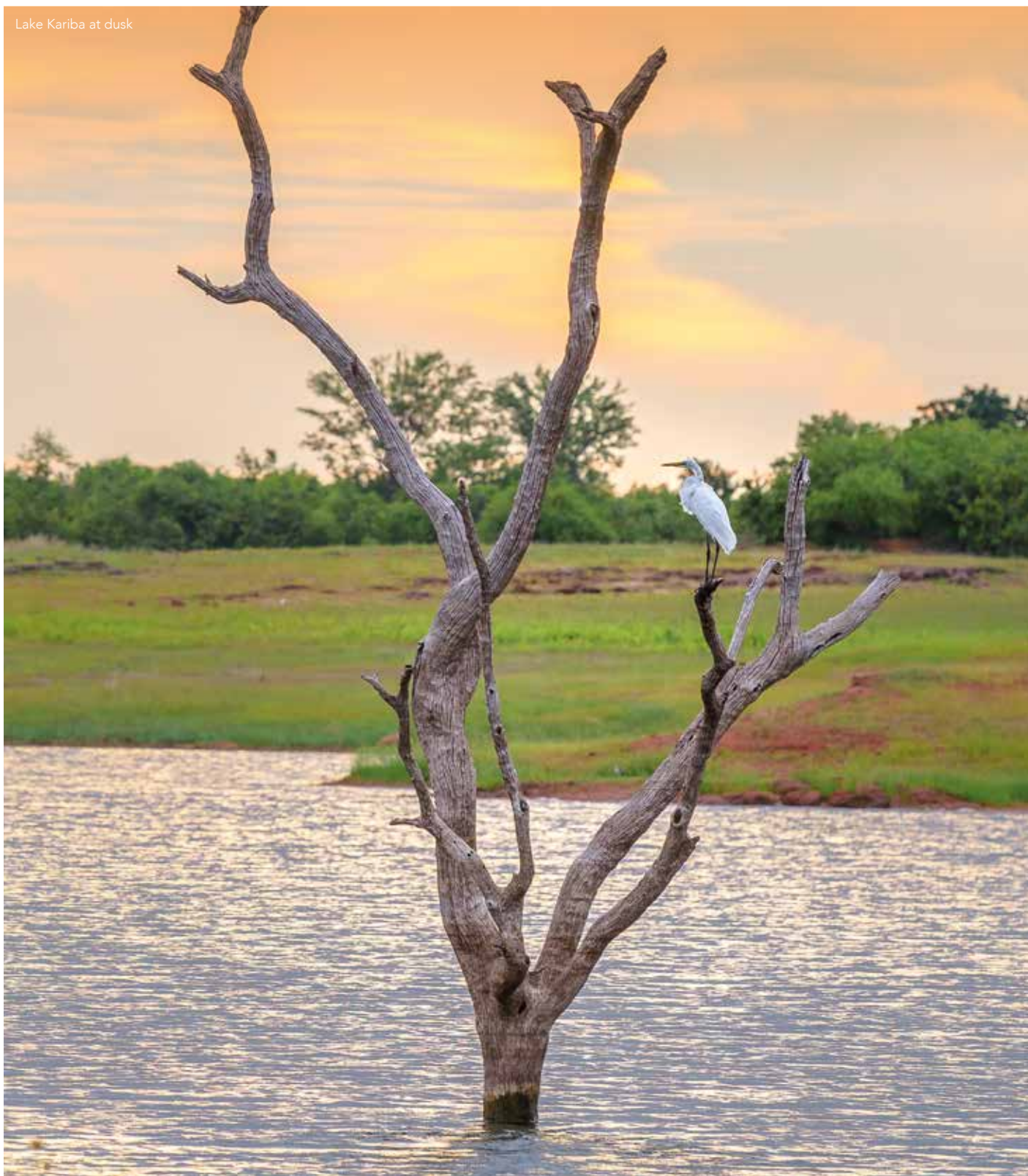


MAIN DECK



■ CABINS ■ CABINS WITH PRIVATE BALCONY

Lake Kariba at dusk



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Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Elephants, Chobe National Park.