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hello@exploreafrica.com.au



Photo · The Portswood Hotel / legacyhotels.co.za · Source

The Essentials of Southern Africa

Ref EA2026003

Indicative from A$6,500 per person

The journey

DAY 1
TRANSFER

Road: CPT (Cape Town, South Africa) to The Portswood Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa

DAY 1–4
STAY

The Portswood Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa · 4 nights

How to book: Use the official property website to enquire about availability or booking. Explore Africa can add The Portswood Hotel to an itinerary, but does not make the booking. · Website: https://www.legacyhotels.co.za/hotels/portswood-hotel

ACTIVITY

Table Mountain Rise & Climb

How to book: Book with the official operator or ask Explore Africa to include this in a tailored itinerary. · Website: https://travelslowly.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Table-Mountain-Rise-Climb-Low-Res.pdf

ACTIVITY

Cape Winelands wine adventure

How to book: Book with the official operator or ask Explore Africa to include this in a tailored itinerary. · Website: https://escapeexplore.com/experience-africa/

DAY 5
TRANSFER

Road: The Portswood Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa to CPT (Cape Town, South Africa)

DAY 5
TRANSFER

Scheduled flight: CPT (Cape Town, South Africa) to HDS (Hoedspruit, South Africa)

Arrival timing cannot yet be checked against the property. Please confirm the flight, transfer time and check-in arrangements.

DAY 5–8
STAY

Kapama River Lodge, Greater Kruger, South Africa · 4 nights

How to book: Use the official property website to enquire about availability or booking. Explore Africa can add Kapama River Lodge to an itinerary, but does not make the booking. · Website: http://www.kapama.co.za/kapama-river-lodge/ · Note: Includes Transfers

DAY 9
TRANSFER

Road: Kapama River Lodge, Greater Kruger, South Africa to MQP (Kruger Mpumalanga, South Africa)

DAY 9
TRANSFER

Scheduled flight: MQP (Kruger Mpumalanga, South Africa) to VFA (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

Arrival timing cannot yet be checked against the property. Please confirm the flight, transfer time and check-in arrangements.

DAY 9
TRANSFER

Road: VFA (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe) to Ilala Lodge Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

DAY 9–10
STAY

Ilala Lodge Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe · 2 nights

Includes: Guided Victoria Falls tour · Zambezi River cruise · How to book: The hotel accepts direct online reservations and maintains a separate agent-reservations team. Explore Africa can show the chosen route in the itinerary, but does not make the booking. · Website: https://www.ilalalodge.com/

DAY 11
TRANSFER

Road: Ilala Lodge Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe to VFA (Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe)

NOTE

Consider a Chobe National Park Extension

DAY 11
TRANSFER

Road: Ilala Lodge Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe to Chobe Game Lodge, Chobe, Botswana

Note: Optional extension. Crosses into Botswana at the Kazungula border

DAY 11–12
STAY

Chobe Game Lodge, Chobe, Botswana · 2 nights

Note: Optional Extension

DAY 13
TRANSFER

Road: Chobe Game Lodge, Chobe, Botswana to BBK (Kasane, Botswana)

When to go

May–Sep is prime dry-season safari; the Cape is best Nov–Mar. Aug–Oct for big game; the Falls are fullest Apr–Jun. May–Oct (dry) for the Okavango flood and concentrated game; Nov–Mar is green and great for birds.

Country information

South Africa

South Africa is the great all-rounder: Big Five safari, Cape Town, the Winelands, dramatic coastlines and an extensive visitor network in one journey.

- Entry requirements: Confirm passport validity, visas, digital entry forms and transit rules with Smartraveller and the destination's official immigration authority before travel.
- Health: Ask a travel-health professional for advice specific to this itinerary. Vaccination and malaria guidance varies by route and season.
- Currency: South African Rand (ZAR); cards are widely accepted in established visitor areas.
- Getting around: Domestic flights and road transfers connect the main regions; light-aircraft sectors usually have soft-luggage limits.
- Best time: May to September is classic dry-season safari time, while November to March suits the Cape.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe pairs Victoria Falls with renowned guiding and wildlife areas such as Hwange, Mana Pools and the private reserves around the south-east Lowveld.

- Entry requirements: Confirm passport validity, visas, digital entry forms and transit rules with Smartraveller and the destination's official immigration authority before travel.
- Health: Ask a travel-health professional for advice specific to this itinerary. Vaccination and malaria guidance varies by route and season.
- Currency: US dollars are widely used; confirm current payment arrangements before travel.
- Getting around: Road and light-aircraft transfers connect Victoria Falls with the main safari regions.
- Best time: August to October is strong for dry-season game viewing; Victoria Falls water levels are usually higher earlier in the year.

Botswana

Botswana is safari at its most exclusive — the water wilderness of the Okavango Delta, Chobe's elephant herds and the vast Kalahari, protected through a low-volume approach to tourism.

• Entry requirements: Confirm passport validity, visas, digital entry forms and transit rules with Smartraveller and the destination's official immigration authority before travel.

• Health: Ask a travel-health professional for advice specific to this itinerary. Vaccination and malaria guidance varies by route and season.

• Currency: Botswana Pula (BWP); US dollars are useful for gratuities.

• Getting around: Light-aircraft hops are common between camps and usually require soft-sided luggage.

• Best time: May to October is the classic dry season for the Delta flood and concentrated game viewing.

Want this route tailored to you?

Love this route, but travelling with children, need malaria-free options, or want to fit in Victoria Falls? Generate your tailored blueprint or request a one-to-one itinerary review with Explore Africa.

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This is an itinerary only. Nothing here is booked or reserved, and submitting it does not create a booking. It is advice only: details such as visa, health and entry requirements must be confirmed with official sources before you travel. Prices are indicative “from” estimates in AUD, exclude international flights unless stated, and can change. We confirm everything in writing before anything is booked. See exploreafrica.com.au/terms and /privacy.

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