



## **SOUTHERN AFRICA EXPLORER - 2012**

### **Botswana – Zimbabwe – Zambia – South Africa**

In August 2012 I am intending to lead a small group (maximum number of 14) to areas of Southern Africa which have been very special places to me for a long time. While the focus will be on wildlife, I have included a break at Victoria Falls during the tour, and elected to complete the trip by visiting the beautiful city of Cape Town.

We start in Botswana, which is considered one of the best wildlife viewing areas in Africa. The Botswana Government restricts the number of tourists through limited access and high entry fees, so we see what we came for, and not a lot of other vehicles (as is so often the case in East Africa).

Our first stop is Savuti - this was my favourite wildlife location in all of Africa for many, many years and still ranks as my number one for Botswana. It is a very arid area and the game that comes to the now flowing Savuti River just has to be seen ... and it's very close up.

From Savuti it will be off to the Okavango Delta. This experience is not about "teeming with game", though you will see the wildlife from a very different perspective. The Okavango has a serenity and beauty that has to be experienced. It is scenically stunning, and photographers will revel in it. Walking with the guides on the islands is also a very special experience.

The Falls. Our 2011 group stayed here and all said they could have stayed longer, so we are including it in this tour. This year we will spend two nights on the Zimbabwe side and then a night on the Zambian side, where we gain excellent access to the Zambezi River and the Zambian side of the Falls..... a very different experience from the Zimbabwe side.

Our next area is the South Luangwa Valley, and we shall once again use Lion Camp. Nearly ever member of our 2011 group rated this camp as the highlight of their trip and I am sure our 2012 group will understand why. The Luangwa Valley is very different from Savuti, and from the Okavango, and it will round-off the array of wildlife experiences this tour brings together.

And lastly Cape Town. Three full days will only see us scratching the surface of what this city and its surrounds has to offer. We shall stay in the Waterfront area, which is central to all facilities and itself full of alluring attractions. We only intend to have one tour arranged here, and that is to Cape Point. This will permit individuals to pursue options that appeal to them - and there are so many available.

I believe that this 2012 group tour will be a fabulous experience for those who join in, whether they be avid photographers or not. For more detail, see the last page of the itinerary.

I hope you might join me on this adventure.

Dennis Jones.

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