

PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

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FRESH APPEAL IN WIDELY TRAVELLED AFRICA

David Livingstone, Sir Richard Francis Burton, Mungo Park and Mary Kingsley are just a few of the British and Scottish explorers who as the first Europeans to set foot on the continent have charted Africa's many regions. Since then, much of Africa has been widely travelled, with overcrowded tourist traps taking the spirit of adventure that these early voyagers experienced, out of the equation. However, Acacia Adventure Holidays takes travellers off the beaten track, traversing remote places in Africa and satisfying the yearnings of our inner explorer.

Kate Plummer, Sales & Marketing Co-ordinator at Acacia Adventure Holidays, comments: "We can probably find a popular corner of the continent and still unearth hidden secrets. This enables those looking to venture beyond the popular tourist spots to feel like modern day explorers. One of the delights of travel is coming across a place that does not appear on traditional itineraries, and we aim to give that sense of delight to travellers who book with us. In this sense, our trips are the gateway to real adventure in Africa. The majority of our tours feature camping accommodation throughout the tour and we often set up tents in wilderness areas right in the heart of national parks and game reserves. Sleeping under big skies and building camaraderie round the campfire all combine with the continent's amazing wildlife – ensuring a rugged explorer feel to our itineraries."

The Kruger Uncovered: Almost the size of Wales, the Kruger National Park is the largest game reserve in South Africa, designated by the United Nations as an International Man and Biosphere Reserve. The Kruger might be well-known and visited, but Acacia Adventure Holidays' 4-day Call of the Kruger takes wanna' be explorers to the less frequented northern parts of the reserve, offering adventurers a chance to get away from the crowds and see more of the wildlife.

Here, natural migration routes between South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique can be observed, providing opportunities to spot rare spiral-horned nyalas, Eland bucks and bull elephants (small group safari, £375pp, with twice weekly departures). Travellers who want a taste of exclusivity can also opt for Acacia Adventure Holidays' 6- day African Insight trip. The overland tour incorporates a night drive in a private game reserve adjoining the Kruger, a once-in-a- lifetime opportunity to see lions and leopards hunt their prey under the cover of darkness. (£275pp + local payment from £89pp + night drive payment from £23pp, with year round departures).

Kingdoms In The Clouds: South Africa might have seen its fair share of travellers when compared to other African nations, but it still boasts off the beaten track locations and a relatively untouched wilderness. Offering a more remote slice of the Rainbow Nation, travellers will step into the heart of Zululand on Acacia Adventure Holidays' 7-day Kingdom of the Zulu; an adventure itinerary that begins at Lake St. Lucia, one of the jewels of the South African coastline and a World Heritage Site. Supporting more species of animal than the larger Kruger National Park, the wetland ecosystem is home to giant leatherback turtles, black rhinos, and a vast array of bird and marine life. Modern day explorers can also hike through the Drakensburg Mountains, swapping their own legs for some sure-footed horses before travelling up the Sani Pas to the independent Kingdom of Lesotho – a landlocked country contained within South Africa. On reaching the top of the mountain, the group will be treated to some local hospitality in a Basotho village followed by a well-deserved cold beer at the highest pub in Africa (2,874 metres above sea level). Beer around 67p (10 Rand), view priceless (£695pp, with daily departures).

Hidden culture in ancient Africa: Those looking to discover ancient Africa can head to Namibia's Spitzkoppe, a group of remarkable granite peaks estimated to be more than 700 million years old. Acacia Adventure Holidays' 25-day Desert Tracker brings travellers to this stunning site, referred to as the "Matterhorn of Africa", rising majestically out of the surrounding gravel plains. After climbing the bizarre rock formations travellers will be able to view artworks created by Bushmen thousands of years ago. However, this isn't just a place of scenic wonderment, as Acacia Adventure Holidays takes explorers a step or two further, immersing them in a totally different culture. Encounters with the Himba Tribe, distinctive for their vibrant red colour, achieved through applying ochre powder to their skin, have also been factored into the itinerary. Adventurers will visit a traditional village in Spitzkoppe where they can interact with the tribe on their home turf; the domed huts made from mud, cow dung and palm leaves, proving that people can live without the trappings of commercialism. (Overland tour £695pp + local payment from £332pp, with year round departures)

The above prices include all tour highlights as listed in the brochure, transport, road tolls and taxes, all camping accommodation and cooking equipment, most meals and services of tour leader and driver.

Excludes return international flight, visas, departure taxes, transfers, flexible local payment excursions. All overland tours are no single supplement. Please note: the above local payments are FROM prices and should appear separate to the actual tour cost as they have been converted from \$USD to £GBP for media. Acacia Adventure Holidays is tour only and they do not sell International flights. Telephone Acacia Adventure Holidays on 020 7706 4700, email info@acacia-africa.com or visit www.acacia-africa.com. ATOL No.6499 and ABTA No.W4093 PROTECTED. All prices are subject to availability.

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