



ROVOS RAIL ITINERARY

This world-famous 16-day journey spans across 5 countries – South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania. Start in Cape Town and visit the historic Matjiesfontein, the diamond town of Kimberley and South Africa's administrative capital, Pretoria. Spend two nights in the Madikwe Game Reserve before continuing through Botswana to Zimbabwe, with an overnight at the Victoria Falls Hotel. The train then crosses the Zambezi River to join the Tazara line in Zambia and continues to Chisimba Falls for a bush walk. Once across the Tanzanian border the train travels through the Great Rift Valley and Selous Game Reserve before arriving in Dar Es Salaam the following day.

DAR ES SALAAM TO CAPE TOWN

Day 1 Dar Es Salaam

- 09:30 Check-in reception at the Kivukoni Room, **Serena Hotel**, Ohio Street, Dar es Salaam. Transfer to Tazara Station.
- 12:00 Depart from Tazara Station in **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**. Guests may freshen up in their suites before joining fellow travellers in the lounge car and observation car, which will be at the front of the train for the first 72 hours – a different aspect that our rail enthusiasts enjoy.
- Please ensure the Train Manager or Administration Deputy is in possession of passport.** Lectures will take place throughout the journey during the morning and/or afternoon in the lounge car. Please consult Lecture Sheets for details.
- 13:00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train travels the fertile lands of Tanzania towards the Selous.
- 16:30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Fuga Halt.
Dress: Formal

Day 2 Selous Game Reserve

- 05:30 Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
- 07:00 Enjoy a game visit in the **Selous Game Reserve**, the largest in Africa at 55 000km² (time permitting).
- 13:00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train travels towards the jungled **Udzungwa Mountains** and negotiates the dramatic switchbacks, viaducts and tunnels of the escarpment.
- 16:30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars en route to Mlimba.
Dress: Formal

Day 3 Makamabako (Optional)

- 07:00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
- 09:00 Arrive at **Makambako** and enjoy a stroll through the town (time permitting).
- 13:00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train passes baobab forests and ascends the **Rift Valley** to the border, almost exactly the midpoint between Africa's two Great Rift Valley lakes
- 16:30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. *Dress: Formal*
- PLEASE TURN YOUR WATCHES BACK BY ONE HOUR BEFORE RETIRING FOR THE EVENING.**

Day 4 Chisimba Falls

BORDER: TUNDUMA, TANZANIA / NAKONDE, ZAMBIA

- 07:00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Border formalities take place.
- 13:00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train travels the **TAZARA** railway line, an engineering *tour de force* and one of Africa's best-kept secrets as it passes through remote territory.
- 14:30 Enjoy a visit to **Chisimba Falls** where guests can take a pleasant walk down to the rock pools at the base of the falls or admire them from various viewpoints. Return to the train by 18:00.
- 19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: "Africa" Theme or Smart Casual
- Chisimba Falls is a series of three waterfalls named Mutumuna, Kaela and Chishimba (Chisimba), which are separated over 300m along the Luombe River. According to Bemba tradition, the nature spirit "Chishimba" lives in a cave behind the falls therefore no bad behaviour (including fights, insults and arrogance) is allowed in this area. Though the Bemba people arrived here in the 17th century, they weren't the first as the land surrounding the falls is dotted with evidence of Iron Age activities including kilns, smelting pipes and iron ore deposits.*

Day 5 At Leisure on board

- Victoria Falls: If you have decided to book activities through the on-board historian, please ensure you have done so before dinner. Cash accepted.*
- 07:00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
- 13:00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train is turned at Kapiri Mposhi.

16:30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 6 At Leisure on board

07:00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. The train departs Lusaka, capital of Zambia. After breakfast the train crosses the **Kafue Railway Bridge** – a 477-metre long steel girder truss bridge of 13 spans each at 33 metres supported on concrete piers.
13:00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Zimbabwe.
16:30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 7 Victoria Falls *BORDER: LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA / VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE*

Please pack a small overnight bag for the stay at Victoria Falls Hotel. Tog bags have been placed in your suite for your convenience. See below for inclusions/exclusions. Meals are taken at the Victoria Falls Hotel. Currency exchange available at hotel (passports not required); there is a business centre and WiFi available throughout. If you are crossing the border into Zambia during your stay, please obtain your passport from the Train Manager or Administration Deputy.

07:00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Border formalities take place. Cross the **Victoria Falls Bridge**.
11:00 Arrive at the incomparable **Victoria Falls**. Disembark with an overnight bag and walk across to the hotel. Welcome address on the lawn followed by lunch at Jungle Junction. Luggage will be delivered to the rooms.
15:45 WINTER / 16:15 SUMMER Meet in the hotel foyer before departure for the **sunset cruise** on the Zambezi.
19:30 Dinner at the Livingstone Room, Victoria Falls Hotel.
Dress: Smart Casual (strictly no safari-wear, shorts, sandals or sneakers)
Plunging over the lip of the Victoria Falls is the largest body of falling water on earth. The mighty Zambezi, fourth longest river in Africa, is about 2kms wide above the falls and cascades dramatically over a precipice 1.6km in length and 108m at its deepest, compressing the vast volume of water into a chasm 50m wide. The sound can be deafening, the aspect magnificent and the memory indelible. In autumn, the spray is so great it inhibits photography while in spring the seasonal flow considerably reduces leaving large slabs of brown basalt exposed on the lip.

Day 8 Victoria Falls

Check-out time is normally at 10:00 (to be advised). If you have organised morning activities, please ensure you have checked out. Luggage storage at reception is complimentary until afternoon departure. Please call the front desk and they will send a porter to collect your luggage.

06:30 Breakfast is served at the Jungle Junction Restaurant until 10:00. Day at leisure in the **Victoria Falls**.
12:00 Lunch at Jungle Junction Restaurant, Victoria Falls Hotel.
16:00 Meet on station platform.
17:00 Depart Victoria Falls.
Please ensure the Train Manager or Administration Deputy is in possession of passport.
19:30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 9 At Leisure on board *BORDER: PLUMTREE, ZIMBABWE / FRANCISTOWN, BOTSWANA*

07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Border formalities take place.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.
The train crosses the Tropic of Capricorn and the eastern edge of the Kalahari Basin. Known as 'Kgalagadi' in Botswana, the Kalahari (which extends to 900 000km² and covers much of Botswana, parts of Namibia and South Africa) is not a true desert as it does experience small amounts of rain, with some areas enjoying up to 250mm. The surrounding basin covers over 2 500 000km² extending farther into Botswana, Namibia and South Africa and encroaching into parts of Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is part desert, part plateau. The only constant river, the Okavango, flows into a delta in the northwest forming marshes that are rich in wildlife.
16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 10 Madikwe Game Reserve *BORDER: GABORONE, BOTSWANA / KOPFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA*

Please pack a small overnight bag for the stay in Madikwe. See below for inclusions/exclusions. Spa facilities available (own account). Payment in ZAR or by credit card only. Times of meals and activities confirmed on arrival.

07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 09:30.
10h00 Transfer (±90 min) to a lodge in Madikwe for a two-night stay. Border formalities will take place en route and guests are required to present themselves to officials (luggage may be searched). Lunch is served upon arrival. Afternoon tea and game drive (approximately 3 hours).
19h00 Dinner at the lodge.
Dress: Casual

Madikwe is a prime malaria-free Big 5 wildlife reserve bordering Botswana. It lies within a transition zone between the North West Province bushveld and Kalahari thornveld with enormous volcanic intrusions, wide open plains and the riverine environment along the Marico River. As a result, the region is host to an incredible diversity of species from both ecosystems with a rich assortment of vegetation and more than 300 resident and migrant bird species.

Day 11 Madikwe Game Reserve

- Early morning game drive (approximately 3 hours).
- 07h00 Breakfast is served at the lodge until 09:30.
- 12h30 Lunch at the lodge.
- Afternoon tea and game drive (approximately 3 hours).
- 19h00 Dinner at the lodge.
Dress: Casual

Day 12 Madikwe Game Reserve

- Early morning game drive (approximately 2 hours).
- 07h00 Breakfast is served until 09:30. Please ensure that your bags are ready for collection by 10:30 and proceed to check out.
- 11h00 Depart the lodge and transfer to the train at Zeerust.
- 13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.
- 16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 13 Pretoria

- 07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. The train travels through the goldfields.
- 08h30 Transfer (± 60 min) to Pretoria for a city tour followed by lunch on the Rovos Rail Station platform. Enjoy a walking tour of the station and locomotive workshops (weather permitting). Return (± 60 min) to the train.
- 16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 14 Kimberley

- 07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
Enjoy a tour of Kimberley's Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole. Capital of the Northern Cape, Kimberley is well known for the discovery of diamonds that led to its establishment in 1871.
- 13h00 Lunch is served. Travel the Karoo, a vast semi-desert that was once an enormous inland sea. Over millions of years, volcanic matter was ground down and deposited as silt upon the seabed to form what geologists call the Karoo system.
- 16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 15 Matjiesfontein

- 07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
During breakfast, there is a chance for guests to disembark the train at Whitehill Siding and walk the 5km into Matjiesfontein. A member of staff will accompany the group.
Disembark at Matjiesfontein for an opportunity to stroll through the historic village. Of special interest is the museum on the platform and a collection of historic cars and railway carriages to the right of the Lord Milner Hotel.
About an hour after Matjiesfontein, the train arrives at the first of four tunnels on the pass. The first tunnel is 13.5km long so guests are to be careful when walking through the train and may wish to turn on necessary lights.
- 13h00 Lunch is served. Travel the Karoo, a vast semi-desert that was once an enormous inland sea. Over millions of years, volcanic matter was ground down and deposited as silt upon the seabed to form what geologists call the Karoo system.
- 16h30 Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
- 19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars.
Dress: Formal

Day 16 Cape Town

- Please ensure that your luggage is ready for collection 15 minutes before arrival and that you have your passport.***
- 07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
- 10h00 The train arrives at journey's end at Cape Town Station.

PREDEPARTURE INFORMATION

Amenities: Rovos Rail provides a complete amenity bag with the following South African biodegradable and/or recyclable products: soap (50g), tissues, shampoo (50ml), hand and body wash (50ml), hand and body lotion (50ml), lip balm (7g), insect repellent gel (10ml), reusable bamboo rounds, bamboo ear buds and a shower cap. Plug-in hairdryers – in addition to your bathroom unit (if applicable) – are available on board as well as sun cream, shoe mits, nail files, sewing kits and ear plugs.

Children: We do accommodate children but we kindly ask parents to be sensitive to the adult nature and atmosphere of the train by keeping them respectful and quiet. Long journeys are not recommended for under 13s. Children between 0-2 years old are not permitted to travel. There are no child-minding facilities or activities available for children on board. See Child Policy on rovos.com.

Currency:

- South Africa – Rands only. We accept all major credit cards on the train.
- Outside of South Africa – Rands are accepted in Namibia and eSwatini. US Dollars are accepted in Zimbabwe, Tanzania (Dar es Salaam only), DRC and Angola. Cash is highly recommended. Hotels and major dealers accept credit cards.
- US Dollars printed before year 2013 or that look worn will not be accepted. Low denominations recommended for shopping/gratuities. Larger denominations recommended for exchanging money to local currency (especially in Tanzania) as you get a better rate.

Dietaries: We cater for food allergies provided a detailed request has been made at that time of your reservation. If a special request has not been made, the chefs will endeavour to prepare suitable meals with the ingredients available on board. We regret we are unable to prepare meals requiring strict religious observance in the preparation.

Dining: Meals on board are served in one sitting only in the dining cars and are complemented by a selection of fine South African wines. Breakfast: 07:00-10:00 • Lunch: 13:00 • Tea: 16:30 • Formal Dinner: 19:30. Bar service is from 07:00-±01:00. All meals are served at these times unless otherwise stated in the timetable. A gong heralds lunch and dinner.

Dress:

- Days on board are smart casual: Neat, conventional yet relatively informal in style combining casual and formal clothing pieces.
- Evening attire is more formal: For gentlemen a jacket and tie is a minimum requirement while for ladies we suggest cocktail/evening dresses or suits. On long journeys we enjoy themed evenings where guests can dress up accordingly or opt for smart casual:
- Off-train excursions: We recommend comfortable walking shoes, sun lotion and hats. If required, blankets and rain capes are available.
- Game drives are on open vehicles so please dress accordingly: mornings can be cool then warm up considerably; afternoons can be warm then cool down considerably. Please see average temperatures as a guide.

Dressing Gowns: We provide a comfortable one-size-fits-all gown plus slippers for each guest for use on board the train. If you wish to take one home, they are available to purchase from the Gift Shop.

Electricity: 220V AC 50Hz 3-point round-pronged wall plugs and 110V/220V 2-pin plugs for shavers and chargers. USB ports are in each suite. International adaptors available. A generator supplies power. Please be aware that certain breaks in power are necessary when servicing is required.

Gift Shop/Administration: There is a small gift shop on the train and at Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria. Due to the varying exchange rates, credit cards are preferred. The Administration Deputy on duty has a basic First Aid Kit and personal essentials (toothbrushes, razors, earplugs etc.). He/she will also fulfil any administrative requirements and check your onward arrangements.

Gratuities: Gratuities for the staff are at your discretion. If you wish to show your appreciation in this manner, there will be a suitably marked envelope in your suite that you can hand directly to the Train Manager who will distribute any amounts on a pro-rata basis (share) among the staff on board. An amount between ZAR100-300 (± US\$10-20) per person per night is suggested, depending on the length of your journey. At the game lodges, it is customary to tip guides and lodge staff an estimated ZAR150 (± US\$10) per guest per day.

Languages: The staff on board mainly speak English and local languages. For most of the long journeys and dependent on the language, translated itineraries and on-board information will be provided.

Laundry: There is a LIMITED laundry service (10 items/day) on board comprising household washers, dryers and steam irons. The turnaround is 48 hours so we are unable to handle a week's worth of laundry. There are no dry-cleaning facilities en route or on board. Please note that while this a complimentary service we cannot be held responsible for items that may be damaged or lost in the process.

Locomotion: Use of steam has become increasingly difficult over the years as more and more water and coaling facilities have been scrapped. Diesel or electric locomotives are used while steam is used in and around the area of Rovos Rail Station in Pretoria only.

Luggage: It is possible to store luggage in your suite under the bed or above the door on a luggage rack, which provides ample space for storage. There are no luggage restrictions on board although we do not recommend more than two large suitcases. On selected long journeys, guests are provided with a Rovos Rail tog bag that can be used for overnight trips or hand luggage on aircraft. A soft bag is preferable on plane transfers with a luggage weight restriction of 15kg.

Magazines, Maps & Games: There are board games, cards, a card table (dependent), books and magazines available for your use in the lounge and observation cars while on board. In your suite is a map, itinerary and the Journeys magazine featuring articles of interest related to your route. If the map supplied is not comprehensive enough you may purchase a more detailed map from the Gift Shop.

Medical:

- All guests are solely responsible for ensuring they are capable of undertaking the tours and activities.
- Please inform us at the time of your reservation if you have any medical conditions, physical disabilities or allergies.
- We have a doctor on board on the 15-day Dar es Salaam and Lobito journeys. - Anti-malarial precautions are recommended. Malaria areas: eSwatini, Kruger Park, Northern Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Etosha, Tanzania, DRC and Angola.
- Recommended immunisations (not required): Hepatitis A + B, Polio, Tetanus, Cholera (low risk).
- Ebola is confined to the northeast of DRC. We traverse the very southern tip of the country thousands of miles away on the Lobito journeys.
- A Yellow Fever/Medical Exemption Certificate is essential if travelling to/from DRC and Angola. Although all countries travelled through don't require this, countries guests return to after the trip often require them.
- Please consult your clinic or doctor. TRAVEL DOCTOR AFRICA local 0861 300 911 or international +27 (0) 11 214 9030. UPDATED 20 MAY 2022

Medical Emergencies: Each train is equipped with a standard medical kit, oxygen, automated external defibrillator and a wheelchair. For emergencies there are private healthcare hospitals available. Outside of South Africa, private hospitals are not guaranteed. We can organise

evacuation either by road or air to a medical facility should this be required (own account). All our Train Managers have completed First Aid up to Level 3 and are trained in emergency situations. We do, however, strongly recommend that you explain your concerns to your travel insurance company so they can provide you with the necessary cover to meet and exceed such an eventuality.

Mobile Devices & Internet: In maintaining the spirit of train travel there are no radios or television sets on board. The use of mobile phones, laptops and essentially anything that has the ability to disturb other guests is confined to the privacy of your suites only. The reception is poor while the train is moving. It is advised to contact your service provider to ensure the correct settings for network services are activated. Wi-Fi is available at our lounges in Cape Town and Pretoria and at most off-train accommodation (although not always guaranteed).

Mobility: We are able to accommodate guests with walking difficulties although we recommend an able-bodied passenger accompany them. We regret that the train is not suitable for wheelchair-bound passengers. Should you have mobility impairments/restrictions or special requirements, we urge you to inform your travel agent or Rovos Rail at the time of booking. See Mobility Info on rovos.com.

Pets: We do not allow any pets or emotional-support animals on board.

Postage: Stamps are available for sale from the Gift Shop. Postcards may be handed to the Administration Deputy for posting.

Security: An electronic safe is provided in the cupboard in each suite. When on board we encourage guests to close shutters or preferably shutters and windows when not in your suites. Please be particularly mindful when passing through stations. The train doors in the passages are all locked from the inside. Your suite door can also lock from the inside.

Service: A dedicated host/ess is available 24 hours a day. They can be called from the telephone in your suite. Your suite is cleaned daily and there is a nightly turndown service. The Train Manager and Deputy Train Manager are on hand throughout the journey to help with any queries. The Administration Deputy is available for an administrative requirements and is based at the Gift Shop.

Smoking: On board the train, smoking is allowed in the smoking Club Lounge only. HOWEVER, please be mindful of other guests who do not smoke, that the train is generally made up of wood and DO NOT throw flammable items such as cigarette or cigar butts off the train. Bush fires in Africa are a constant and dangerous hazard. Please note at the time of your reservation if you are smoking or non-smoking so that the appropriate room might be requested at the hotels/lodges.

Special Occasions: Please note at the time of your reservation if you are celebrating an occasion as we'd like to share it with you.

Suites & Coaches: Measurements in centimetres (cm) = Length x Width Each train has accommodation carriages, dining cars, a lounge car (± 26 seats), small gift shop, smoking lounge (± 11 seats) and observation car (± 32 seats) with open-air balcony. The suites are elegant and spacious offering passengers privacy and comfort with double or twin beds and fittings and facilities that are of the highest standard. All have en-suites with shower, toilet, basin and bath (Royal only), tea facilities, safes, air conditioning, linen and amenities and are serviced daily. There is adequate storage and small cupboards with hangers and shelves.

1. Royal Suites ($\pm 16\text{m}^2$ / $\pm 172\text{ft}^2$) each take up half a carriage and are spacious and elegant. Each has its own private lounge area and en-suite bathroom with Victorian bath, separate shower, toilet and basin. BEDS: Double 200x189 • Split Twin 200x75.
2. Deluxe Suites ($\pm 10\text{m}^2$ / $\pm 108\text{ft}^2$) have a lounge area and en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. BEDS: Lengthways Double 189x189 • Crosswise Double 189x160 • Split Twin 189x75.
3. Pullman Suites ($\pm 7\text{m}^2$ / $\pm 76\text{ft}^2$) on SHORT journeys only have an en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. During the day the suite is setup with a comfortable couch that can be converted into a few sleeping options. BEDS: Crosswise Double 189x150 • Side-by-side Twin 189x75 – this is achieved by making up the side-by-side twin mattresses with single-bed linen • Single Lower Bunk 189x94 • Single Upper Bunk 189x60.
4. Pullman Gold Suites ($\pm 7\text{m}^2$ / $\pm 76\text{ft}^2$) on LONG journeys only have an en-suite bathroom with shower, toilet and basin. During the day the suite is setup with split twin beds configured as couches. BEDS: Double 189x189 • Split Twin 189x75.

The Track: The track over which we travel is inconsistently maintained. If you wake at night imagining the train is travelling at high speed, be assured it is the state of the track below creating that impression. We restrict the train to 60km/h (37mph) and over bad sections reduce speed to as little as 20km/h (12mph). If you find it noisy, earplugs are available in your amenities bag and at the Gift Shop.

Water: The water used on the train is carried in tanks under each coach. These tanks are filled every day but they cannot be topped up while the train is travelling. Please assist us by using water responsibly. Water inside the suites has been filtered and chlorinated; it is safe for bathing and brushing teeth only. Please use the bottled water provided for drinking.

Passports & Visas: The onus is upon the client to ensure passports and visas, as may be required, are valid prior to departure for Africa. Passports must have at least five blank VISA pages and must be valid for at least six months from your return-home date. Please enquire with us or check with the relevant embassies in good time. Visas are also available through visa/booking agents.

Photography: Rovos Rail reserves the right without notice to make use of any photography/film taken by the staff on the tour for general publicity purposes without payment or permission.

Scheduling Times, Routes & Excursions: Rovos Rail is solely reliant on the traction and railway services provided by the countries through which we travel. Our hands are regrettably tied when these services fail, be they due to locomotives, signals, overhead power-cable damage and/or theft, vandalism, electricity outages, railway tracks or issues with drivers etc. Delays can occur due to our reliance on these national organisations. Rovos Rail is not responsible and cannot be held liable for any delays or changes in tour arrangements that may be caused by natural or other factors beyond the control of Rovos Rail. Rovos Rail reserves the right to cancel or amend our routing, any excursions and the tour departure dates provided we can offer the passenger alternative excursions or departure dates. Rovos Rail cannot guarantee excursions or departure and arrival times. Our obligation to transport guests from departure to arrival points on schedule will override any commitment to excursions although we will endeavour to carry out all of the off-train experiences. We strongly caution against same-day air travel on departure/arrival days due to possible delays with flights or the train.

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