

The Trans-African is an epic journey that, crossing the African continent, allows you to discover the various ecosystems, populations, traditions and beauties of Africa.

Our Trans-African adventure itinerary crosses Africa from south to north, touching 12 countries, each with unique characteristics and iconic destinations; we will cross deserts, forests, savannas and mountainous areas in search of wild animals, populations that still live following a traditional lifestyle, the scents, flavors of the many cuisines and architectural masterpieces.

But it will not be just a journey for its own sake, it will be an opportunity to really help the populations and realities involved in the protection and conservation that we will encounter along our travel itinerary.

In fact, the mobile clinic of a non-profit organization in Turin will accompany us by providing assistance to villages where doctors and medicines are difficult to find, we will also stay overnight or visit structures that deal with animal conservation, from the Cheetah Foundation that deals with cheetahs in Namibia to David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust that takes care of orphaned elephants in Kenya, the Giraffe Center also in Nairobi, the Khama Rhino Sanctuary in Botswana, passing from a sports association that helps children and young people to grow up in a healthy environment by practicing sports in Tanzania by pushing them away so from the street.

The entire journey of the Trans-African, with departure scheduled for August 2022, will last **108 days**, but we have divided the route into **5 stages**; it is also possible to participate in just one stage or as many as you wish, in this way it is possible for everyone to participate in this great adventure.

Trans-African route from Cape Town in South Africa to Victoria Falls

The first stage starts from Cape Town in South Africa and reaches the Victoria Falls in Zambia / Zimbabwe, it is a stage that includes a double itinerary, you can choose the route that crosses Namibia or the further east route that crosses Botswana.

The itinerary from Cape Town to the Victoria Falls is an interesting stage from both a landscape and a naturalistic point of view.

South Africa will welcome us with one of the most beautiful cities in the world **Cape Town**,



we will visit the **Cape of Good Hope** where ideally two oceans meet; South Africa will also give us the infinite landscapes of the **desert area of the Karoo**, the pristine beaches of the **West Coast**, ancient colonial and commercial villages and **the dynamic Johannesburg**.

Namibia is the land of wide open spaces, **the oldest desert in the world**, the second largest canyon in the world and a national park famous for its landscapes and the animals that inhabit it: the **Etosha National Park**.

Botswana is home to the highest concentration of elephants in the world, one third of the elephants on the planet are found in this country, mainly in the **Chobe National Park and in the Okawango Delta.**

In Botswana we will also have the opportunity to glide silently along the canals of the Okavango Delta aboard the traditional boats made from a tree trunk: the **mokoro**.

Namibia and **Botswana** are also the land of the **San** people, known as the Bushmen, an ancient people who have inhabited these inhospitable lands for thousands of years and who still live a simple life following ancient traditions.

Zambia, along with Zimbabwe, is the home of **Victoria Falls**, one of the most stunning natural spectacles in the world.





Trans-African route from Victoria Falls to Nairobi in Kenya

The second stage of our Trans-African will take us from **Victoria Falls** through Zambia, we will discover the green Malawi and the wild Tanzania with its spectacular national parks; finally, after visiting the <u>Amboseli National Park</u>, in Kenya, we will reach **Nairobi**.

Zambia, in addition to the Victoria Falls, also boasts national parks of the highest level, rich in biodiversity and with very high concentrations of animals, we will visit the South Luangwa National Park, also known as the leopard park.

We will then arrive in **Malawi** where we will visit the **Nyika National Park** and **Lake Malawi**, which offers crystal clear waters and colorful fish and which is located in the pit of the Rift Valley.

Tanzania

Tanzania is the country of nature safaris, its parks and nature reserves are famous for their breathtaking landscapes and for **the highest concentration of lions in the world** and for the incredible natural event that takes place every year: the Great Migration.

In <u>Tanzania</u> we will visit **three very interesting populations** for their ceremonies, traditions and rites of passage; we will visit the **Hadzabe**, a primitive people of huntergatherers, we will meet the **Datoga**, skilled blacksmiths whose women show off particular scarifications and finally the **Maasai**, perhaps the warrior people among the best known in the entire African continent.

The second stage will end by taking us from the **Ngorongoro** plateau to the salty expanses of the **Amboseli National Park** in Kenya where the last African Big Tuskers are located, that is, the elephants with enormous tusks that sometimes even touch the ground.

In **Nairobi**, the capital of Kenya we will go to visit the **Giraffe Center**, an organization that works to save the rare Rothschild giraffes, the **David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust** and the elephant orphanage and **Kazuri** an association that helps lonely women and single mothers, offering them a job in the production of terracotta jewelry.

The second stage of our Trans-Africa adventure ends in Nairobi.





Trans-African route from Nairobi in Kenya to Abbis Abeba in Ethiopia

The third stage of our Trans-African starts from the city of Nairobi in <u>Kenya</u> and heads north where we will explore the arid lands of the **Samburu National Park** and the savannahs and acacia forests of the **Lake Nakuru National Park**; from here we will continue towards the shores of Lake Victoria from where we will enter the land of the gorillas: **Uganda**.

The forests of Uganda are one of the last paradises to observe **mountain gorillas**, but Uganda also offers splendid 4×4 safaris and boat trips to observe the animals.

After discovering and admiring the wonders of Uganda we will return to Kenya and head to the remote areas of the north; here is Lake Turkana, a turquoise gem set in the desert, also



some of the traditional populations live in this semi-desert area: the Turkana, the Rendille and the Pokot.

Ethiopia

From the far north of Kenya we will enter **Ethiopia** and we will get lost in that **kaleidoscope of cultures and populations that is the Omo Valley.**

The Omo Valley is a magical place where many populations live who have ancestral traditions, practice very interesting and different ceremonies and rituals from one tribe to another.

We will meet the **Hamer**, famous for the ritual of transition to adulthood of the boys called the **Bull Jumping**, we will enter a **fortified village of the Konso people**, we will go to the banks of the Omo river to admire the **elaborate body painting of the Kara** and finally, in the Mago National Park, we will meet **the Mursi famous for the lip plates**, worn by women as a beauty accessory.

Finally, we will reach **Addis Ababa**, the capital of Ethiopia, with the Ethiopian Orthodox churches and cathedrals and the very interesting National Museum which displays the skeleton of Lucy, the most famous and best preserved hominid ever.





Trans-African route from Abbis Abeba in Ethiopia to Khartoum in Sudan

The fourth stage of our Trans-African starts from Addis Ababa and runs along the roads that lead north, we will then visit the destinations of the so-called **Historical Route of Ethiopia**: the city of **Lalibela with its incredible rock-cut churches**, we will visit **Lake Tana with the richly frescoed monasteries** and we will go to **Gondar**, an ancient city that still has numerous castles and palaces.

At this point we will leave Ethiopia to reach Sudan where the legendary Karthoum and



the desert where **the pyramids of the Black Pharaohs** stand out, the archaeological site of Meroe, a UNESCO World Heritage Site will be one of the most evocative places we will visit.

We will sleep in the desert to admire an incredible starry sky and visit mysterious ruins swallowed by the sand.

Trans-African route from Khartoum in Sudan to Cairo in Egypt

The fifth and last stage will take us **from Karthoum**, through its desert and its archaeological sites, **to Cairo**, Egypt, making a journey through millennia of history that have made this land **an open-air museum**.

We will visit **northern Sudan** and sleep in the desert admiring the starry sky without the slightest light pollution, we will also explore **the ruins of ancient caravanserais** where the caravans, which crossed the desert, found a safe place to rest and stock up on food and water.

Egypt will welcome us with one of the most significant monuments of Ancient Egypt: **the Temple of Abu Simbel.**

From the shores of Lake Nasser we will reach **Aswan to embark on a three-day Nile Cruise** that will take us to **Luxor** after visiting the temples that rise along the way.

In Luxor, the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens will show us their masterpieces painted on the walls of the tombs and the **Temples of Luxor and Karnak** will show us the majesty and architectural ingenuity of Ancient Egypt.

We will then reach the **Red Sea in Hurgada** for a little relaxation and to enjoy the beauty of the crystal clear waters of the sea and its spectacular coral bottoms; from here, through the desert, we will reach Cairo, the last stage of this great adventure.

In Cairo we will visit the Giza Plateau with the Pyramids and the Sphinx, the new Egyptian Museum, the Citadel and the colorful and famous souq of the city.

In Cairo, a 108-day journey will end across a continent that will smile at us, invite us to enter their homes, offer us exquisite dishes and leave indelible memories in our memory.



For more information or to travel with us: $\underline{www.transafrica\text{-}adventure.com}$

