

26 April 2018

REMINDERS

Child Ages on Activities

Please refer to our General Information Manual for details on all activities (from page 20), however, please note the following with regard to game drives in particular:

- Game/nature drives at all camps in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe plus Classic camps in Namibia – 6 years and older;
- Game/nature drives at Adventures camps in Namibia – all ages;
- If sole use of the camp is booked - children of all ages are allowed on game/nature drives in Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, providing the relevant indemnities are signed with regard to minors.

Booking both Namibia & Botswana in the same Itinerary

Where feasible, our recommendation is to book Namibia first followed by Botswana. The reason for this is if someone has been to Botswana first and seen amazing wildlife, expectations may not be met should they not experience the same in Namibia. There is wildlife of course, however, not in the same volume and variety as Botswana. When planning a combination itinerary, we suggest Namibia first for an introduction to wide open spaces, amazing scenery, some very cool wildlife and wonderful cultures...followed by an immersion into a true safari and wildlife experience in Botswana.

WILDERNESS TOURING & TRANSFERS – ZAMBEZI

Livingstone Island is Currently Closed

Bushtracks Africa recently announced the closure of Livingstone Island for safety reasons due to the high water levels of the Zambezi River. Bookings from early April through to May have been cancelled, and applicable payments refunded. The island remains closed until further notice.

BOTSWANA

Slight Change to Mombo Child Policy

Mombo Camp may *not* be booked for children 12 years and younger, UNLESS sole use of the camp is booked. Note that 18 x adult rates will apply as child rates do not apply at Mombo. Please refer to the relevant section in the General Information Manual for further details as specifics do apply for children visiting both Mombo and Little Mombo.

Third Party Aircraft Access to our Airstrips

No third party aircraft may land at any of our Wilderness Safaris Botswana airstrips UNLESS their passengers have accommodation booked at our camps i.e. our airstrips may not be used for access to non-Wilderness camps.

In addition to this, companies that do land at our airstrips need to sign a specific agreement with Wilderness Air prior to confirming.

NAMIBIA

Increase in Namibian Departure Taxes

As of 1 April 2018, Namibian Airport Departures Taxes increased as follows – note that all existing bookings in place on 1 April will be honoured at the previous rates:

- Hosea Kutako (Windhoek international), Eros (Windhoek Domestic) and Walvis Bay: NAD 193.00 per person
- Swakopmund: NAD 77.00 per person

CHANGE | Twyfelfontein Excursion ex Damaraland Camp

Offered as a standard camp activity on a minimum 3-night stay only, subject to availability of a guide and/or vehicle. Should you wish to guarantee the excursion on a stay of 2 or more nights, then a private vehicle must be booked and paid for, subject to standard private vehicle regulations (duration of stay, etc.) Including the San rock engravings at Twyfelfontein, the Organ Pipes, Burnt Mountain and the Damara Living Museum, the excursion can take 6 hours or longer, depending on sightings along the way e.g. desert adapted elephants and other wildlife, and also includes a packed lunch. For shorter stays, Doro Nowas is the better location for a Twyfelfontein excursion.

RWANDA

Arrival & Departure Arrangements for Bisate Lodge

We have made some further adjustments to the arrival and departure scenario at Bisate Lodge. The size/design of the camp and nature of the activities do present some challenges, however, we do endeavour to be as flexible as possible. In a nutshell:

If guests are trekking on the day of departure, they need to vacate their room before departing for the trek. They can then return to the lodge for a shower in the cloakroom and a lunch, provided they leave the lodge by 13:30.

Standard arrival time for Bisate Lodge is from 14:00 and departure is before 10:30. Should guests do any activities (gorilla/golden monkey/Dian Fossey/Bisoke) on the day of departure, note that guests will need to depart their room between 6:00 and 6:30 when guests are collected for the activity.

Arrivals:

- Should guests arrive Rwanda early in the morning, Thousand Hills Africa can either book a day room for them to rest/freshen up OR take them a city tour of Kigali, which includes a key and insightful visit to the Genocide Memorial. There will be an opportunity to enjoy a cup of delicious Rwandan coffee or a light lunch at a local restaurant before departing for Bisate on the guided road transfer – approximately 3 hours' drive. An alternative to spending time in Kigali is a stop en-route in Musanze for lunch and an introduction to Dian Fossey and her legacy, the Karisoke exhibit to learn about gorilla conservation or a visit to the Twin Lakes, formed by volcanic activity.

Departures:

- If guests are not doing a gorilla trek on the day of departure, they may enjoy breakfast with views of Bisoke before departing the lodge at 10:30 on the road transfer back to Kigali or other onward arrangements. Should guests have time on their hands in Kigali before the flight, our suggestion is to book a day room at one of the hotels.
- If guests are doing a park activity or trekking on their day of departure, they will need to be packed and ready to vacate their room by 06:00. After the gorilla trekking, there is the option to return to the lodge to fresh up in the cloakroom, however their room is no longer available. On request, it is possible to have lunch at the lodge before departing by 13:30 at the latest. If time allows, our suggestion is to book a day room at one of the hotels to freshen up before the international flight later that day or evening.

Cheers

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