

Code FZV **Zanzibar to Vic Falls**

Tour Dossier Introduction

Dossier Last Updated: 30-10-2014

Tour Code: FZV

Duration: 13 nights / 14 days

Joining City: Dar es Salaam

Departure City: Livingstone

Nearest Joining International Airport: Dar Es Salaam Julius Nyerere Int Airport (DAR)

Nearest Departing International Airport: Livingstone Harry Mwanga Nkumbula Apt (LVI)

Please check this document just before departing in case of last minute changes to your tour.

Tour Documents

 PDF Document  Web Page

 Tanzania Dossier

 Zambia Dossier

 Malawi Dossier

 Swahili Language Survival Guide

What's Included

- 4-day Zanzibar Island excursion including Stone Town and North Beach
- Guided Tour of the Spice Plantations & lunch at a local house.
- Village Tour in Chitimba or Kande Beach
- Entrance to Victoria Falls
- 10 nights camping, 3 nights in hotels, hostels & guesthouses
- 13 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 10 dinners
- Travel by **Tucan Travel Expedition Vehicle**, boat, taxi, on foot, 4WD
- Tucan Travel tour leader, Tucan Travel driver, English-speaking local guide(s) on included excursions

What's not Included

- Sleeping bag & sleeping mat
- International flights and departure taxes
- Domestic flight taxes if applicable
- Tips on included excursions, visas, travel insurance, personal items and single rooms.
- Airport transfers and pre and post tour accommodation

- Spending money – budget for meals, snacks, drinks, limited souvenirs, laundry, tips and any extras
- Optional excursions - Please see our optional excursions guide on the dossier page for a comprehensive list of optional activities and excursions available on this tour.

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 to 1 - Arrive Dar es Salaam

The first day of your tour is simply an arrival day with no pre-organised activities. In order to allow time to relax and see some of the sights you may wish to add pre tour accommodation. On arrival please ask at the reception for information on when the pre departure meeting will be held.

Dar es Salaam is a bustling port on the Indian Ocean and our gateway to the exotic island of Zanzibar.

Day 2 to 4 - Zanzibar

Today we are bound for the enigmatic, intoxicating Isles of Zanzibar. Taking tuk-tuks to the ferry terminal, we board our fast ferry to make the crossing. Arriving in Stone Town, we're given a guided tour of a nearby spice plantation discovering the many plants that flourish in this verdant, tropical environment. You can sample spices picked straight from the plant including fresh cloves and cinnamon bark before stopping for lunch at a local home.

The UNESCO-listed Stone Town has changed little over the past 200 years. It boasts a labyrinth of walled streets, winding alleys, bustling markets and grand crumbling architecture. You can spend many idle hours simply wandering the streets, shopping at the bazaars and admiring the intriguingly decorated elephant-proof doors before sitting down to watch the sun set with a cold beer and a sumptuous seafood feast. If food is your thing, make sure you check out the excellent night market on the promenade which serves traditional local fare.

Our time in Zanzibar is divided between Stone Town and relaxing on the powder white sands of North Beach. The most beautiful, isolated beaches in Zanzibar lie to the north and east of the island. With sparkling turquoise water and silvery sand fringed with palm trees, these beaches are nothing short of paradise. There are plenty of options available here. Relax and take it easy, indulge with a massage or go diving, snorkelling or swimming with dolphins.

Included Excursions: Guided Tour of the Spice Plantations and lunch at a local house.

Optional Excursions: Dhow sunset cruise – US\$15 • Snorkelling – US\$20-45 • Scuba diving – US\$135

Day 5 to 5 - Dar es Salaam

This afternoon we take a ferry back to the mainland, making the most of our last few hours on Zanzibar Island before we depart. We return to the same campsite in Dar es Salaam, reuniting with our overland truck and gear.

Day 6 to 6 - Iringa

Still enjoying the effects of our relaxing island getaway, we take to the open road on our way to Iringa. On the way, we drive through Mikumi National Park where it is possible to see elephant, giraffe, zebra and antelope from the road.

Approximate Travel Time: A full day drive

Day 7 to 8 - Chitimba

Often referred to as 'the warm heart of Africa', Malawi's charm and simplicity of life is rejuvenating and refreshing. We enter the country at the head of Lake Malawi, travelling along the shoreline to our lakeside camp at Chitimba. Lake Malawi covers roughly a quarter of Malawi's total land area and is an integral part of the local life. In this sleepy lakeside location, you have the option to hike to Livingstonia, a town established by Scottish missionaries in the late-1800s or just relax and watch the locals bring in the catch from their fishing boats.

Approximate Travel Time: A full day drive

Optional Excursions: Livingstonia hike – US\$3 • Try your hand at wood carving, prices start at – US\$4 • Abseiling – US\$45 (minimum 5 passengers)

Day 9 to 10 - Kande Beach

In contrast to our previous night's stay, Kande Beach is a buzzing hive of activity. Its beautiful beach and lakeside bar has a lively atmosphere and as one of the big overland havens, you will likely be in for a party or two! We'll take an included village tour in either Chitimba or Kande Beach where you may hear about the local way of life, farming techniques, and how the village runs, as well as visiting the local school and hospital. There are various activities on offer here as well, including scuba diving, horse riding and boat trips.

Included Excursions: Village tour in Chitimba or Kande beach

Approximate Travel Time: Four hours

Optional Excursions:

Horse riding – US\$60 • Scuba diving – US\$65-70. Aquanuts is the onsite dive school run by fully qualified PADI Instructors. There is a selection of options available for qualified divers or those who wish to learn. • Village meal – US\$7

Day 11 to 11 - Chipata

We bid farewell to Malawi and cross the border into Zambia, stopping off in Chipata along the way. This busy little town features colourful fruit and vegetable markets and a surprising number of ornate mosques due to its large Indian community.

Approximate Travel Time: Nine hours depending on the border

Day 12 to 12 - Lusaka

Continuing our journey through Zambia we pass through the country's hottest point, Crooks Corner where temperatures average at approximately 50 degrees. We arrive at Lusaka, Zambia's bustling capital and largest city where we spend the night just outside the city. Our campsite this evening has giraffe and zebra wandering freely among the thatch roofed bungalows and surrounding bush – a truly serene setting.

Approximate Travel Time: Nine hours

Day 13 to 13 - Livingstone

Welcome to Livingstone! As well as a gateway to the majestic Victoria Falls, the town, named after the great 19th century Scottish explorer David Livingstone, is also a haven for adrenalin-pumping, heart-stopping adventure activities.

Packed with optional excursions, your time in Livingstone allows some time to try out some of the many activities on offer, although you may wish to book extra nights at the end of your tour if you want to see it all. All the excursions can be booked from our hotel and you can even cross in to Zimbabwe for the day. If you book post-tour accommodation in Livingstone, our campsite is located inside the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park on the banks of the Zambezi and there is a US\$10 per night national park fee which is payable locally.

Included Excursions: Entry to Victoria Falls

Approximate Travel Time: Nine hours

Optional Excursions: Half/full day white water rafting – US\$160-185 (Zambezi rafting is generally possible between June and January and is closed throughout the rest of the year) • Half/full day river boarding – US\$165-175 • Chobe National Park day trip – US\$190 (excluding visas) • Bungee jumping US\$157 • Abseiling – US\$162 • Gorge swing – US\$95 • Livingstone Island – US\$150 • Microlight ride - 15 mins – US\$174 • Helicopter ride over Victoria Falls (

Day 14 to 14 - Depart Livingstone

Your adventure of a lifetime comes to an end today. If you have a late flight or have lengthened your stay by adding post tour accommodation you will have more time to explore the sights.

Day by Day Itinerary

Day	Activity	Country	Meals
Day 1	Dar es Salaam	Tanzania	D
Day 2	Zanzibar		B
Day 3	Zanzibar		B
Day 4	Zanzibar		B
Day 5	Dar es Salaam		BD
Day 6	Iringa		BLD
Day 7	Chitimba	Malawi	BLD
Day 8	Chitimba		BLD
Day 9	Kande Beach		BLD
Day 10	Kande Beach		BLD

Day 11	Chipata	Zambia	BLD
Day 12	Lusaka		BLD
Day 13	Livingstone		BLD
Day 14	Livingstone		B

(B - Breakfast, L - Lunch, D - Dinner included)

For tours that include the option of a single supplement, a ? will indicate in which destinations single rooms are available. The detailed and day by day itineraries above are provided in good faith and it is our intention to adhere to the published route. Changes may be made before or during your tour for operational or safety reasons or to incorporate improvements. Impromptu changes may also occur whilst you are travelling as a result of one-off circumstances such as an excursion being closed on a particular day, weather conditions or transport. Delays are rare but occur occasionally and for this reason and the reasons above this itinerary should be considered as a guide only. Published transport times are approximations and may vary depending on local conditions.

Travel Style

This is an Overland Tour, travelling by custom built vehicle and camping along the route. There is a maximum of 34 travellers with an average group size 6-15-24. Please read the Overland Tour travel style dossier to ensure you understand the style of travel you are undertaking:

<http://www.tucantravel.com/travel-styles/dossier/overland-tours>

Local Payment

The tour price is divided into a set amount paid in advance and a compulsory local payment which is due to your tour leader in US\$ cash at the group meeting on the first day of your tour. The local payment amount is found on the tour price page and will be printed on your invoice and tour voucher. Our brochures are updated in September/October each year and the local payment you will pay will be the cost published at the time of your departure. It can be very difficult to obtain US\$ in some South American countries and virtually impossible in others, so we recommend organising your local payment before you arrive for your tour.

In general your local payment will cover:

- Meals while camping and some lunches on travel days on the expedition vehicle
- Campsite fees and cooking gas
- Hotels and hostels when staying in towns/cities (and possibly lodges if bad weather on camping days)
- National park entrance fees when visited in the expedition vehicle

Joining your tour

Your joining location is:

Mikadi Beach,
Kigamboni
South Beach
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

Tel: +255 754370269

www.mikadibeach.com

info@mikadibeach.com

If you book pre-tour accommodation, you will be staying in cabins or rooms. From day one of your tour you will be staying in tented accommodation.

The Mikadi Beach camp serves breakfast in the bar area (breakfast is not included) with tea and coffee available at the bar all morning.

The camp also offers a safety deposit box facilities which we would advise you to take advantage of. Please leave all of your important documents, money and travellers cheques here when you go out especially in the evening. It is advisable not to wear chains or expensive looking watches or jewellery while in major African cities. You should also keep your camera concealed when not in use and carry daypacks on your front for extra safety.

Arriving in Dar es Salaam

When arriving at Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International Airport we recommend that you obtain some Tanzanian shillings as soon as you arrive.

There are several ATMs just outside arrivals on the right, as well as the Galaxy Bureau De Change. The bureau is open 7am – 11pm but does not change traveller's cheques. The airport rates for cash are comparable to what you will get in town and please be advised that although Mikadi do accept US dollars their rates are quite low and they do not exchange cash.

Airport Transfers

Airport transfers are not included in the tour price and must be booked separately in advance through Tucan Travel. If you have booked an airport/hotel transfer with us, please look out for someone with a sign which has your name, Tucan Travel, or both after exiting the customs hall.

If you have booked an arrival transfer with us and you are going to be delayed by more than two hours, you must advise us of the delay at least six hours before arrival. If we are advised in time, we will make every effort to reschedule your transfer and your driver will be asked to wait for two hours after your new expected arrival time. However, if we are not made aware of any change, the driver will only wait for two hours after the original scheduled arrival time and after this point it will be up to you to arrange transport to your hotel at your own expense. Please contact us on the emergency contact details below if you are likely to be delayed.

Contact your arrival transfer

Phone: + 255 (0)754 370 269 or + 255 (0)759 177 393

E-mail: info@mikadibeach.com

Contact: Jo or Lucho

Making your own way

If you would prefer to make your own way to and from your hotel, there is an official taxi stand directly after you exit the arrivals hall on the left, just past the information centre. An official taxi to Mikadi Beach will cost 30,000 Tanzanian shillings (US\$20). All of the major destinations and hostels in Dar es Salaam are listed on a price board with fixed prices. Please be aware that the city and Mikadi Beach are quite some distance from the airport and with traffic it can take over an hour, with the taxi sometimes taking a ferry across to the campsite. If you do go via the ferry it is cheap but should be included in the advertised fare. Mikadi Beach can also organise an airport pick for the same price, which you can organise through the campsite and payment is made directly to the driver.

Pre-Departure Meeting

When you arrive on day one of your trip, you should find some local information at the hotel lobby. Your tour leader will be staying in the hotel and should have put up a welcome note to let you know what room they are in. A pre-departure meeting is usually held in the afternoon or early evening of day one. You will need to bring the following important items to the meeting with your tour leader:

- Your passport, including any necessary visas and at least one photocopy to give to your tour leader
- Vaccination certificates if relevant to any destinations on your tour
- Travel insurance policy and a photocopy to give to your tour leader
- Your travel voucher
- Your local payment in US\$ cash (Budget Expeditions only)

Missing the tour departure

If you miss the start of your tour, please ask at the reception of the hotel for a message from your tour leader which will give you instructions on how to catch up with the group. Any associated costs will be at your own expense (although, depending on the reason, you may be able to claim these from your travel insurance so ensure you keep all receipts).

If you know in advance that you are unlikely to arrive on time, please contact Tucan Travel immediately so we can inform the tour leader. Tucan Travel cannot be held responsible should your airline/boat/coach be delayed and we are unable to refund any unused portion of your tour.

Time Keeping

Punctuality is very important and throughout the tour your tour leader will give you the time to meet in reception. Tour leaders will often post notes at reception with meeting times, so remember to always look out for these.

Although rare, delays can occur and we therefore advise you not to arrange your onward travel too close to the end of the tour. We take no responsibility for any missed flights or additional expenses if the group arrives late into the departure city at the end of the tour.

Emergency Contact Details

In the unlikely event of an emergency you can contact the number below. Please bear in mind that your tour leader or other crew members should be your first port of call.

Keeping in Touch

Wifi may be available at some hotels, but the quality of internet in Africa is of varying quality and is often unreliable. If someone needs to contact you urgently during your tour, the best method is to contact our office who can pass a message on to the tour leader.

Optional Accommodation Upgrades

Optional cabin upgrades at campsites and room upgrades at hostels are often available during your tour, subject to availability. Upgrade prices vary usually between - US\$5-\$35 per person and can only be booked locally with the assistance of your tour leader. Upgrades are optional so please consider them in advance as part of your budget.

Money

Your spending money should cover some meals, optional excursions, souvenirs, drinks, laundry, border and airport taxes and any visas obtained locally. We provide guideline prices for optional excursions in the itinerary to help you budget, but ultimately the amount you will need to budget for your trip very much depends on your individual requirements. We recommend bringing extra money to cover emergencies or unexpected situations.

It can be difficult to obtain US dollars in Africa, so please ensure you obtain enough cash to cover your visas and optional excursions before you travel. Local operators do not accept any notes that are marked, torn or older than the year 2002 and you may have difficulty exchanging these notes elsewhere in Africa, so please check your cash carefully at the point of purchase. While bank cards provide a very good way to access funds overall, it is not recommended to rely on them as your sole source of funds as cash machines do not always work and may not be available in remote locations. Carry a mix of cards and cash with you, including notes in small denominations.

Tipping

While tipping is part of the culture in Africa, you should not feel obliged or pressured to tip. A gratuity of 10% of the total bill is recommended in restaurants. Gratuities are usually expected for local guides on included and optional excursions. Tips are also appreciated by Tucan Travel tour leaders at the end of your tour and we recommend an average of \$2-\$4 per person per day for the duration of your tour. This is only if you feel that their service was up to standard and is completely at your own discretion.

Packing List

The best advice when packing is to travel light and leave space for souvenirs in your bag.

Luggage

We recommend a frameless backpack or a sports type shoulder bag as they are less bulky and easier to handle than rigid suitcases or framed backpacks. Suitcases are not suitable for our tours and are not recommended. Generally your luggage is kept in the overland truck or your tent, but in some major cities and towns you will be staying in hotels and hostels and you will need to be able to carry your bag some distance. Tucan Travel takes no responsibility for damage to your luggage while on tour.

In addition to your main bag, you will need a small daypack for your everyday excursions. Try to keep this bag as light as possible and make sure that all main sections of your bags can be padlocked. This daypack should have enough room to carry food and snacks for long hikes and treks and space to carry belongings for overnight excursions.

Sleeping Bags and Mats

Sleeping bags and sleeping mats are essential on all Africa Overland Tours. A sleeping bag liner is also a good idea to keep your sleeping bag clean and use as a sheet when the weather is hot. The weather in Africa can be varied and is not always as warm as you may think, especially in areas that are at higher altitude, so a warm sleeping bag (3-4 season) is recommended.

Therm-a-rest self inflating mattresses are comfortable and provide protection against the cold ground, while foam roll mats are compact, inexpensive and have similar features. Avoid air mattresses as these can be bulky and puncture easily.

Clothes and Footwear

We recommend packing lightweight and durable clothes. Nights can be cold at higher altitude (Serengeti National Park, parts of Kenya and the Drakensberg region) and in southern Africa in winter, so it is a good idea to bring at least one pair of warm trousers plus several thinner sweaters / fleeces which you can layer. Please avoid military or camouflage-patterned clothing as it can cause problems and in some countries may be illegal.

Good, comfortable walking shoes are essential. These do not need to be expensive boots, but they should have good ankle support and grip, be worn in and ideally waterproof.

When on safari, wear neutral colours to increase your chances of watching animals in their natural environment. Avoid blue or black clothing - these colours attract tsetse flies which deliver a painful sting. White clothes often do not stay that way for long and clothing will likely get dirty, so it is best to bring clothes that are easy to wash and that you won't mind getting ruined.

Essential items:

- A lightweight water/windproof jacket with hood
- Easy to pack wide-brimmed hat or cap
- Towel - you will need a towel for most overnight excursions and while camping
- Swimwear
- Sandals or thongs/jandals/flip flops

Suggested items:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Money belt | <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic bags for waterproofing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses | <input type="checkbox"/> Inflatable pillow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small calculator | <input type="checkbox"/> Swiss army type penknife |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small collapsible umbrella | <input type="checkbox"/> Binoculars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Universal washbasin plug | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel plug adaptor with a USB port |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head torch or flashlight | <input type="checkbox"/> Small sewing kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel alarm clock | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent (DEET 35% min) and bite cream |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lip balm, sun block with high UV factor | <input type="checkbox"/> Antibacterial hand cleansing gel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wet wipes | <input type="checkbox"/> Ear plugs and sleep mask |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cheap plastic watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel sickness tablets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plenty of spare memory cards for your camera | <input type="checkbox"/> Spare pair of spectacles or contact lenses and solution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spare rechargeable batteries for camera | <input type="checkbox"/> Hard drive or USB stick to back up your photos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing materials, address book and diary | <input type="checkbox"/> Pocket size phrasebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel games, cards and a couple of paperbacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Pegless washing line & travel laundry detergent (bio-degradable preferable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet paper (best to carry a roll with you at all times and/or tissues) | <input type="checkbox"/> As gifts for local children - pens, coloured pencils, small notepads. To discourage a begging mentality we recommend that you try to give these gifts at schools or childcare centres rather than on the street. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small medical kit with diarrhoea remedy, rehydration salts, antiseptic cream, sterile dressings, plasters, bandages, pain-killers, safety pins etc. | |

Laundry

Most campsites and towns have laundry and drying facilities, but these are often basic with laundry done by hand and hung outside on a line. For this reason drying clothes can be tricky in the wet season. Many hotels have laundry service but they are generally expensive, so it is best to do most of your laundry whilst at campsites. Hotels generally do not allow guests to wash and dry clothing in their rooms.

Electricity supply

The power supply in Africa is approx. 240 volts; electricity is often provided by a generator and can be erratic. In Zambia, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Malawi electricity is 240 volts and the sockets are the three pin rectangular British-style. In Botswana, Namibia and South Africa, sockets are either two or three pin, and round or flat. We recommend bringing a universal plug adaptor with you. You can also charge your iPods, MP3 players, laptops, cameras, etc using power boards aboard the overland truck, while travelling.

Health, Fitness & Safety

Vaccinations

It is important to consult your doctor or travel clinic in good time before your tour departs to determine what vaccinations you require. You may need several vaccinations and/or malaria tablets and you should be aware that some inoculations require more than one visit and can take several weeks to administer. Always carry your International Certificate of Vaccination with your passport.

For areas with malaria, make sure you pack sufficient prophylactics for the duration of your tour and the incubation period after. Some countries prevent

entry for travellers without a valid Yellow Fever certificate. This must be acquired before departure and takes ten days for your body to build up a resistance. This certificate must be taken with you on your tour with a photocopy stored somewhere safe.

Pack a Medical Kit

A medical kit is handy for minor wounds and ailments. In areas with limited or dubious medical facilities, an emergency medical kit containing sterile syringes is also advisable. By law our staff are not allowed to administer first aid or give drugs to travellers, so please be prepared with your own supplies.

If you are taking medication, please ensure you bring an adequate supply and a letter from your doctor to avoid potential issues at border crossings.

Fitness & Suitability

This is a participatory tour involving camping and with basic facilities at times. Disruptions are likely, and while your tour leader will make every effort to ensure your trip runs smoothly, patience, a sense of humour and willingness to get involved are essential ingredients for a successful and happy overland group.

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions please let us know at the time you book or as early before departure as possible. Depending on the severity of the condition, you may be asked to produce a medical certificate from your doctor approving your participation in this tour. While this would only happen in very exceptional circumstances, if we consider you incapable completing this tour or you have concealed an existing medical condition which is affecting your ability to participate in the tour of Tucan Travel reserve the right to turn you away without reimbursement.

Safety & Security

Africa is generally very safe, even more so in a group. Reasonable precaution is advised; do not bring valuable jewellery or watches (even fakes can catch the eye of a thief), do not walk by yourself at night, heed your tour leader's advice and always keep an eye and a hand on your camera and bags in public places. Tucan Travel cannot accept responsibility for any valuables left in safe deposits in hotels or in our vehicles.

Bathrooms

In some countries it is customary to leave a gratuity of 20-50 cents when using public conveniences. An attendant may collect this or a dish/box will be left out. Our vehicles do not have toilets on board for hygiene and logistical reasons. This may mean roadside toilet stops on travel days and our crew always try and stop in isolated areas with as much privacy as possible if this is necessary.

Travel Guides

If you would like to discover more about your destination, including history, geography, climate and language, please have a read of our country travel guides available here: <http://www.tucantravel.com/destination-travel-guides/africa-travel-guides>

Documents

Passport

Your passport should be valid for at least 6 months after you have finished your tour with sufficient blank pages for visas and immigration stamps. Photocopy your passport, leaving one copy at home and taking one with you on tour. If you lose your passport while on tour, you will be responsible for any expenses incurred such as extra accommodation and transport while replacing your passport and will not be entitled to a refund of any unused portion of your tour.

Tour Documents

Before you depart you will be issued with a voucher for your tour and separate vouchers for any extra services such as airport transfers and pre/post tour accommodation. Please print these out and bring them with you. This dossier is updated regularly, so we recommend checking our website for the latest version just prior to the start of your tour.

Final Balance

The balance for your tour is due no later than 60 days prior to the start of your tour and no tour vouchers will be issued until this is received. In addition please send the following details at least 60 days before you depart:

- Passport number, date of issue, date of expiry, nationality and place of issue
- Your full name and date of birth
- Flight arrival details in your starting city
- Special requirements, e.g. special dietary requirements or allergies

Please let us know if you are travelling with another person on the tour but have made separate bookings and we will endeavour to make suitable rooming arrangements.

Visas

All countries have visa requirements that are subject to change at short notice. A general guideline for visa requirements is available here:

<http://www.tucantravel.com/before-you-go/visa-guide>, but you must check with your local embassy or consulate for the very latest visa requirement information based on your nationality. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have all necessary visas for your tour. If you would like help applying for visas, we have recommended visa agencies on our visa page that we work with regularly.

Important things to check when applying for visas:

- Does the validity of the visa cover the duration of your time spent in the country?
- Do you require a single or multiple entry visa(s) for your tour?
- Are you required to show additional documentation when you arrive in a country? (Examples include proof of onward travel and travel itinerary)

Some visas are only valid for entry within three months of the date of issue which means on some of our longer tours the visa would expire before you are scheduled to enter the country. In these cases you must obtain the relevant visa during your tour. If it is necessary for you to obtain any visas en-route, please contact Tucan Travel or your travel consultant and inform your tour leader at the start of the tour. If you do not have the appropriate visas, Tucan Travel will not reimburse any expenses incurred in acquiring visas or any unused portion of the tour.

It is best to apply for visas in your home country if possible. If applying for visas by post, please allow plenty of time before departure and send your application by registered mail. Postal applications tend to be given a lower priority than in person applications and can take longer to process.

Special Note: If you have dual nationality it is advised not to obtain different visas in different passports. Although this may sometimes be cheaper, you may encounter problems at border crossings if your exit stamps from one country are not the same as your visa for the next.

Travel Insurance Policy

Travel insurance is compulsory for all tours. You must be adequately insured for medical, hospital, baggage and personal expenses, any necessary extra travel (rejoining tour or repatriation) as well as curtailment and cancellation.

We strongly recommend that all clients carry a copy of their full policy document with them at all times, together with any certificate showing the policy number and emergency contact details. Your tour leader will also ask for a photocopy of your insurance document, so please take this to the pre-departure meeting at the start of your tour. You will not be able to commence your tour unless you can provide proof of insurance to your tour leader.

Document Checklist

- Tour Voucher & Vouchers for extra services
- Passport (with photocopies of information pages and visas)
- Tour Dossier
- Cash & credit/debit cards (best to take a mixture and more than one card in case one does not work)
- Travel Insurance Certificate and photocopy for tour leader
- Travel consultant's phone number and email address
- Proof of onward travel, ie airline ticket

Optional Excursions

Optional excursions are not operated by Tucan Travel and while every effort is made prices may not be up-to-date and are intended as a general guide to help you budget for your trip. Prices for vehicle-based excursions such as game drives are approximate based on the optimum number of participants and the actual price may vary depending on group size.

Sufficient safety equipment such as helmets and life jackets are sometimes not available and Tucan Travel is unable to provide this equipment. If you intend to participate in an optional excursion you may like to consider bringing your own safety gear.

Excursions are run by a local operator or third party with both Tucan Travel and the Tour Leader acting as a booking agent only. Optional activities are not part of the tour and Tucan Travel's booking conditions do not apply to them. It is your responsibility to ensure you have the correct travel insurance for the excursions you intend to take part in and Tucan Travel is not liable for any injuries incurred.

Responsible Travel

We work hard to ensure our tours are sustainably and ethically run. You can read our responsible travel policy and advice on how you can travel responsibly here: <http://www.tucantravel.com/about-us/responsible-travel>.

Meet Up

Our free Meet Up app, available on Facebook, on iTunes and Google Play is an opportunity to chat with others passengers before you depart or keep in touch when you arrive back from tour. Information on the app is available here: <http://www.tucantravel.com/before-you-go/meet-up>

Add-ons & Extras

On many of our Group Tours, we spend one night in our arrival and departure cities. If you want to explore these cities more we can book pre and post tour accommodation, city tours and airport transfers for you. Price information can be found on the price page of each tour. We also have **Add-ons** - short packages that can be booked alongside a tour or on their own and have been carefully designed to ensure you don't miss out on popular highlights.

Illegal Drugs

The possession or use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated on our tours. When overseas you are subject to local laws and the penalties for breaking these laws can be harsh. In order to safeguard the interests of the group as a whole, our tour leaders have been instructed to insist that any person found with illegal drugs leave the tour immediately – without refund. The tour leader's decision on this matter is final. If you need to carry certain drugs with your purposes of medication, please inform your tour leader and ensure that you carry a copy of your prescription or letter from your doctor.