

2026/27 Super Charged Road Trips

FAQ's

01. The Concept of the Journey

What is "overlanding" in the Southern African context?

Overlanding is a style of travel focused on the journey rather than just the destination. It involves traveling across rugged, often remote terrain in a self-sufficient vehicle, where the experience is defined by the landscapes you cross and the campfires you share.

What exactly do you mean by a "guided self-drive" safari?

It is the ultimate blend of independence and security. You drive your own fully-equipped 4WD vehicle, but you aren't alone. A lead vehicle with professional guides handles the navigation, logistics, and technical support, ensuring you never feel lost or overwhelmed by the wilderness.

How is an Explorations trip different from a standard safari?

We keep things personal, flexible, and well organised. You get adventure and independence, with the reassurance of experienced hosts alongside you.

Do we stay in a strict convoy while driving?

No. While we move as a group for safety, we maintain "visual contact" distances. This allows you to drive at your own pace, avoid the dust of the car in front, and enjoy the privacy of your own vehicle while knowing help is just a radio call away.

What is the role of the guides/hosts?

They manage the route, timings, local information, border support, and problem-solving, while keeping the atmosphere relaxed and friendly. And they are always on hand to provide assistance and manage any emergency situations that may arise.

02. Health, Safety & Requirements

Is it safe to travel to Southern Africa?

Travel in Southern Africa is generally very safe, especially within the structured environment of a guided tour. We avoid high-risk areas, and our guides are trained in wilderness first aid and carry satellite communication for any eventuality.

Which vaccinations do I need?

Standard recommendations usually include Hepatitis A & B, Typhoid, and Tetanus. A Yellow Fever certificate is required if you are traveling from an infected area. We always advise consulting a travel clinic or travel doctor 6–8 weeks before your trip.

I hear malaria is a problem; how can I protect myself?

Many of the best wildlife areas are in malaria zones. We recommend taking a prophylactic (consult your doctor first) and using insect repellent. Wearing long sleeves and trousers at dusk is also highly effective. Our safaris generally run in the dry winter months, which are in the lower risk period for malaria.

Do I need travel insurance?

Yes, comprehensive travel insurance is a mandatory requirement. It must include medical cover, evacuation, cancellation, and 4x4 and adventure activities.

03. Driving & Logistics

What type of 4WD vehicle will we be driving?

The vehicles we use are supplied by specialized 4x4 rental companies. The vehicles are late-model, overland-ready 4WDs - usually Toyota Hilux's - which are fitted with dual battery systems, long range fuel tanks and all the necessary camping equipment. Exact vehicle models and rental companies vary by departure.

Do I need to have extreme 4WD off-road driving experience?

Not at all. While some driving confidence is helpful, our guides provide a comprehensive briefing and on-the-ground assistance if needed. We will guide you through every sandy stretch or river crossing until you feel like a pro.

Do I need an international driver's license in Southern Africa?

If your license is in English and features a photo, it is usually sufficient. Please check with us if you're unsure.

Do we stay in a strict convoy?

We travel together and keep in regular contact, but not in a rigid, military-style line. The pace stays sensible, and allows you to move at your own pace, avoid dust from the car in front, and enjoy the privacy of your own vehicle. When we are in game reserves, it's your own adventure!

How many vehicles or travellers are in the group?

Our group tours run with a maximum of 5 vehicles or 20 participants, usually teamed up in 4 people per vehicle.

04. Life on the road

Do we camp every night?

The "Explorations Style" is to always start in a very comfortable hotel or lodge and end with the same. In between we embrace the magic of camping under the stars, and often mix in stays at lodges/chalets/hotels to offer a balanced experience of rugged adventure and comfort.

Are there toilets and showers on every campsite?

Most campsites have at least basic toilet and shower facilities, but standards vary. On more remote nights, facilities may be simpler, and we will always brief you in advance.

Do I have to cook my own meals?

In the true spirit of an Exploration, most meals are shopped for and prepared by each vehicle team. Far from being a chore, this is often a major highlight of the trip! There is a unique sense of adventure in provisioning along the way and then mastering the art of the "braai" (barbecue) in the wilds. Your first and last dinners are included, and when we stay at hotels or lodges, you'll have the option to enjoy restaurant meals.

How do I charge my electronics in the bush?

Each vehicle is equipped with a dual battery system and 12V/USB ports. You can charge your phones and camera batteries while you drive. We do recommend bringing a 12V car adapter and a portable power bank as a backup.

What other costs do I need to budget for?

Common extras include visas, fuel, cross-border fees, food and drinks (self catering portion), tips, optional activities, laundry, daily park fees when in national parks (range from about US\$10-30 per person per day) and personal spending.

What luggage should I bring?

Pack light and soft where possible. A soft bag or duffel is usually easiest to stow, along with a small daypack for valuables, cameras, and day excursions. (see our packing list)

Which currency or debit/bank card should I bring?

Bring a mix of payment options. A debit or eftpos card is useful in towns and lodges, but cash (US\$) is still important for smaller purchases, tips, and places where card machines are unreliable. More and more vendors are accepting contactless payments too. (information is given out before the tour)

How can I keep in contact with family and friends back home?

Mobile coverage is good in towns and patchy in remote areas. A local SIM or eSIM is usually the easiest way to stay connected, and Wi-Fi is often available in hotels, lodges and some camps.

05. People and group dynamics

Are families welcome on your self drive safaris?

Young adults from 12 years are welcome on scheduled departures. Multigenerational family groups can also book completely private and tailored tours with us outside of our scheduled departures. Ideal for specific celebrations.

How old is too old to join one of these safari tours?

It is more about energy and attitude than age. If you are comfortable with road travel, camp life, climbing up and down ladders to set up tents, and the rhythm of the trip, you are likely a good fit.

Can solo travellers join?

These trips are best suited to groups of 4 people sharing a vehicle - families, friends or 2 couples. We can provide a cost for 2 or 1 person, but it is significantly higher due to the shared travel costs not being applied.

What is the best kind of traveller for this style of trip?

These trips are for the adventurous who are flexible when plans shift, and like travelling independently but can also enjoy the camaraderie and fun of a small group of like-minded people.

You will likely join travellers who booked through different tour operators and travel agents.

06. Booking and Policy

How far out do I need to book?

Our tours are open for bookings from 1 year to 18 months ahead of the departure date. Book early to secure your spot!

How What is your cancellation policy?

All our tours carry a 25% non refundable portion of the deposit. Please refer to the terms and conditions in our agreement for full cancellation policy details. We highly recommend "Cancel for Any Reason" travel insurance to protect your investment.