This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure's World's Best Tour Operators award.

SOUTHERN AFRICA ODYSSEY
October 31-November 17, 2019

18 days from $7,654 total price from Boston, New York, Wash, DC
($6,295 air & land inclusive plus $1,359 airline taxes and fees)

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for Smith Travel
Featuring Steven Williams, the Gates Foundation Chair of Biological Sciences and Biochemistry at Smith College
Dear Alumnae and Friends,

Join us on an exclusive 18-day small group journey into the heart of Southern Africa to experience the natural splendor and fascinating cultural heritage of four distinct nations: South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia. We are thrilled to include Professor Steven Williams, the Gates Foundation Chair of Biological Sciences and Biochemistry at Smith College, and his Smith alumna daughter, Kalani Williams, on the tour.

We begin our touring in Johannesburg with a full-day discovery of Soweto, where the seeds of South African freedom were sown. Next, we encounter spectacular Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe with a guided walk; visit a local school to interact with children and teachers; and embark on a Sundowner cruise on the Zambezi River. We travel to Chobe National Park in Botswana, home to the world's largest elephant population, and spend time in remote Namibia viewing and climbing some of the world's highest crested sand dunes at Sossusvlei. Following this adventure, we take a cruise along the storied Namibian coast, then conclude our tour with four nights in beautiful Cape Town, South Africa. Experience the splendor of the South African bush with an optional 4-day/3-night post-tour Kruger extension.

This air-inclusive journey is exclusive to Smith and limited to 24 travelers. Our small group size enables us to move flexibly, enjoy spontaneous encounters, and foster a sense of Smith camaraderie. Call today to secure your space on this exceptional tour!

Warm regards,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel
It's a small group journey of astonishing beauty and consummate adventure, one that captures the magnificence of four distinct nations. It's nature's showcase come to life: ocean and mountains, desert and plains, waterfalls and wildlife extraordinaire. It's Southern Africa, where diversity reigns and where visitors are welcomed as never before.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Johannesburg, South Africa

Day 2: Arrive Johannesburg

Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel in the suburb of Rosebank, where our rooms will be ready for our early check-in. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities planned.

Day 3: Johannesburg/Soweto

We meet our fellow travelers today as we embark on a tour of the Soweto district of Johannesburg. Here we see the home of former Archbishop Desmond Tutu; visit the home, now a museum, of the late Nelson Mandela; and tour the moving Hector Pieterson Memorial and Museum, where we learn more about apartheid and the Soweto uprising of 1976. Then we hear fascinating stories from a local Sowetan who was present during the uprising, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Tonight we enjoy a welcome dinner together.

Day 4: Johannesburg/Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

We fly this morning to Victoria Falls, first “discovered” by explorer David Livingstone and claimed for Great Britain's Queen Victoria in 1855. With its 300-foot-deep gorge and thundering spray, “Vic” Falls is a wonder of the natural world. This afternoon we see it for ourselves on a guided walk.

Day 5: Victoria Falls

This morning we visit a local school where we have the opportunity to interact with the children and teachers, then spend some time exploring the town of Victoria Falls. Late this afternoon we embark on a Sundowner dinner cruise on the Zambezi River.

Day 6: Victoria Falls

This morning we set off on a rhino safari in open-top safari vehicles. This afternoon is at leisure; this evening we attend a talk on David Livingstone’s travels, trials, and travails.

Day 7: Chobe National Park, Botswana

Known for a diverse terrain that attracts an exceptional array of wildlife, Chobe National Park in nearby Botswana boasts one of the largest concentrations of game in all Africa, including the world's largest elephant.
We tour the Winelands, South Africa's renowned wine-growing region, and visit a winery.

population (some 120,000), as well as zebra, lion, hippo, giraffe, impala, wildebeest, buffalo, and more. We’re sure to see some of them on today’s full-day excursion to Chobe, where we take a morning game drive and an afternoon game cruise.  B,L,D

Day 8: Victoria Falls/Windhoek, Namibia  Today we fly via Johannesburg to the Namibian capital of Windhoek, arriving late this evening.  B

Day 9: Windhoek/Namib Desert/Sossusvlei  After a brief tour of Namibia’s largest city, we set out through the central Namib Desert of vast gravel plains and rocky mountains. Late this afternoon we reach our lodge in the heart of the dune desert.  B,L,D

Day 10: Namib Desert/Sossusvlei  We rise with the sun to see the world’s highest crested dunes at Sossusvlei, their red-orange hues constantly changing in the early morning light. Here we have the opportunity to climb the velvet-like sand of Big Mama, as the locals call the largest dune.  B,L,D

Day 11: Sossusvlei/Swakopmund  We travel today through the Namib desert en route to Swakopmund, Namibia’s largest port.  B,L,D

Day 12: Swakopmund/Walvis Bay/Namibian Coast  From Walvis Bay this morning, we take a cruise along the storied Namibian coast, getting a mariner’s perspective on this striking region known by local tribespeople as “the land God created in anger.” Along the way we’ll see Cape fur seals and sea birds, including petrels. We enjoy lunch on board before disembarking and returning to Swakopmund, where the remainder of the day is at leisure.  B,L

Day 13: Swakopmund/Cape Town, S.A.  We fly to Cape Town today. After time at leisure to explore as we wish, we dine together tonight at a local restaurant.  B,D

Day 14: Cape Town/The Winelands  Today we tour the Winelands, South Africa’s renowned wine-growing region. Amidst the beautiful scenery, we visit a winery for a tour, tasting, and lunch. We return to Cape Town mid-afternoon; dinner tonight is on our own in this cosmopolitan city.  B,L

Your Tour Price Includes

• Round-trip air transportation to/from Hoedspruit (Kruger), inclusive of airline taxes and fees
• 3 nights’ accommodations at Kapama Southern Camp (Deluxe)
• 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
• 5 guided game drives (in open safari vehicles)
• Services of the lodge’s excellent staff
• Transfers to/from airport

Post-Tour Extension

November 16-20, 2019
Kruger: Kapama Private Game Reserve
4 days/3 nights
for $1,995 total price
Single Supplement: $695

Experience the magnificence of the South African bush, Kruger National Park region, and “Big Five” game country at a unique luxury tented camp.
Day 15: Cape Town/Cape of Good Hope  This morning we travel to the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, home to more than 250 species of birds, and where we ride a funicular to the summit for stupendous views. After a seafood lunch in historic Simon’s Town we visit Boulders Beach to see a colony of enchanting African penguins up close. B,L

Day 16: Cape Town  Our tour of Cape Town this morning features a visit to the Bo-Kaap neighborhood, the city’s historical center of Cape Malay culture. We also pay a visit to acclaimed Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, one of the world’s great botanic gardens. Then we enjoy glorious bird’s-eye views of Cape Town as we ride by cable car 3,500 feet to the flat top of the city’s signature Table Mountain. This afternoon is at leisure; tonight, we celebrate our southern Africa odyssey at a farewell dinner. B,D

Day 17: Depart for U.S.  We transfer to the Cape Town airport this morning for our return flights to the U.S. B

Day 18: Arrive U.S.  We arrive in the U.S. today and connect with our flights home.

Sossusvlei’s dunes, among the world’s highest

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 15 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 34 meals: 16 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Meet Your Faculty Lecturer

Steven Williams is the Gates Foundation Chair of Biological Sciences and Biochemistry at Smith College, as well as Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is also the Director of the National Institutes of Health’s Molecular Division of the Filarial Research Reagent Resource Center and Director of the New England Biolabs Molecular Biology Summer Workshops. His specialty is in the molecular biology of infectious disease, and his laboratory primarily studies tropical parasitic and viral infections. His research focuses on the use of molecular technologies to help solve some of the most important global tropical diseases, including elephantiasis, hookworm, malaria, Zika, chikungunya, and dengue. He has accompanied Smith trips around the globe. Professor Williams will be joined by his daughter, Smith alumna Kalani Williams, who is currently a Research Associate and Ph.D. candidate at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, and a specialist in the use of molecular tools to study evolutionary biology.

Tour Departs: October 31, 2019

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<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>Boston, New York, Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver, Detroit, Phoenix, Portland (OR)</td>
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<td>Land Only (transfers not included)</td>
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Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of $1,359, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Single travelers please add $1,595. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Depending on flight schedules, certain U.S. cities may require a departure one day prior to the listed schedule above. Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: $4,995 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade is subject to availability and pricing is subject to change).

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

“...nature doesn’t acknowledge frontiers.”

– Nadine Gordimer
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a $500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: $10-$15 per traveler, per day); communication charges; optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.’s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 64-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue.

Trip Insurance: For your protection, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be your only source of reimbursement. Insurance information will be sent to you by Smith Travel once your registration has been confirmed by Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.

Responsibility

The liability of Smith College, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Smith College and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking over uneven terrain, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches, boats, and safari vehicles, and go up and down steps that may not have handrails on your own. Travel in Namibia will be in fairly remote regions. You should be prepared for lengthy drives on unpaved and very bumpy roads. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you.

Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Smith College and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unacceptable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.