



## EYES OF AFRICA

### Experiencearth

Using aircraft, of all sizes, to connect places of interest around the world is the dominant principle of Escorted Journeys by Air. Traditionally, these tend to be trips of 3 to 4 week duration and include a number of Continents, our Experiencearth collection is typically a 2 week exploration. This can include a large country, a Continent or follow a theme.

The Experiencearth collection includes all the benefits of a privately chartered aircraft in flexibility, choice and peace of mind but also offer in-depth discovery of a destination or a theme. An Experiencearth journey is from 10-16 days long and will suit smaller groups of up to 16 people as well as groups of up to 50 people.

Destinations are unlimited, we suggest to combine remote destinations as well as including interesting experiences. Have a look at our sample itineraries but bear in mind, the world's your oyster when curating itineraries and we would love to help.



## Eyes of Africa

Africa is one of the most populous Continents in the world and has one of the fastest growing population. Where most associate Africa with wildlife safaris and searching for the big five, this Continent has so much more to offer. Whether they are the ancient ruins of Egypt, the incredible Coptic Churches of Ethiopia, one of the great waterfalls of the world as well as the vibrancy and history of Cape Town and the Gold Coast of Ghana. Open your eyes and be amazed by the diversity on offer during our exploration of this fascinating continent.

### Day 1 | Fly to Luxor

Our flight depart from the private jet terminal at Stansted and once boarded, settle in and prepare for our 5 hour flight to Luxor in Egypt. The specially trained crew will prepare a lunch as we cross Europe and the Mediterranean to the first stop on our Eyes of Africa tour. Once we have cleared arrival formalities we make our way to the Sofitel Luxor Winter Palace on the banks of the River Nile. Freshen up before we meet for welcome drinks followed by dinner.

### Day 2 | Valley of the Kings

The Valley of the Kings, also known as the Valley of the Gates of the Kings, is a valley in Egypt where, for a period of nearly 500 years from the 16th to 11th century BC, rock cut tombs were excavated for the pharaohs and powerful nobles of the New Kingdom. The tombs evidence elaborate preparations for the next world, in which humans were promised continuing life and pharaohs were expected to become one with the gods. Mummification was used to preserve the body so that the deceased's eternal soul would be able to reanimate it in the afterlife. Today will no doubt be a fascinating insight into ancient Egyptian history.



### Day 3 | Travel to Ethiopia

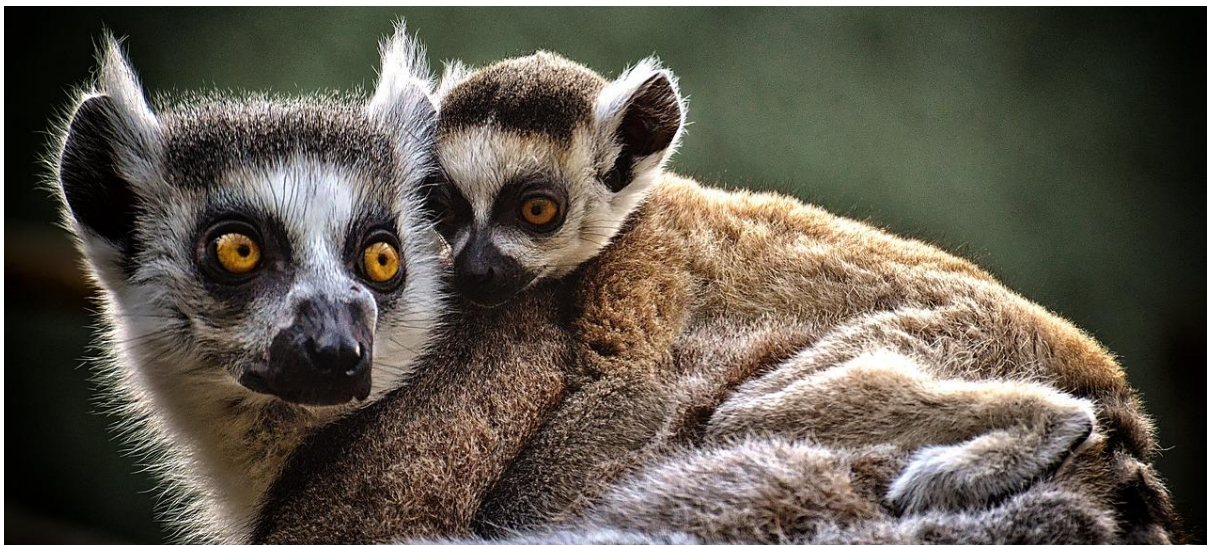
Our aircraft and crew will be waiting to take us to the capital of Addis Ababa this morning. A light lunch will be served on-board before arrival. Although mostly associated with famine and poverty Ethiopia is slowly becoming a prosperous nation and its ancient history means it is often referred to as the “cradle of mankind”.

Upon arrival, we make our way to the National Museum of Ethiopia to get a base understanding of the anthropological ancestry including the fossilised remains of early hominids, the most famous of which is “Lucy”. Recently added to the basement gallery is a display on Selam, found between 2000 and 2004. This archaic fossil is estimated to date to 3.3 million years ago. We make our way to the Sheraton Addis Ababa, one of Africa’s premium hotels.

### Day 4 | The Coptic Churches of Lalibela

Lalibela is known for its distinctive rock-cut churches dating from the 12th and 13th centuries, which are pilgrimage sites for Coptic Christians. Carved out of rock, the subterranean monoliths include huge Bete Medhane Alem, and cross-shaped Bete Giyorgis. Many are joined by tunnels and trenches, and some have carved bas-reliefs and coloured frescoes inside. The site has been a UNESCO since 1978 and today we will fly on a local flight to Lalibela to explore these incredible feats of mankind.

Ethiopia was one of the earliest nations to adopt Christianity in the first half of the 4th century, and its historical roots date to the time of the Apostles. The layout and names of the major buildings in Lalibela are widely accepted, especially by local clergy, to be a symbolic representation of Jerusalem.



### Day 5 | Fly to Madagascar

After a fascinating day learning about ancient culture we join our aircraft and crew to fly to Madagascar, the island country in the Indian Ocean. With many different influences over the centuries it is melting pot of cultures and history, however our trip is focused on seeing lemur’s in their natural habitat. Apart from lemur’s, the islands has colourful chameleons, stunning orchids, and towering baobab trees, without a doubt Madagascar is home to some of the world's most unique flora and fauna.

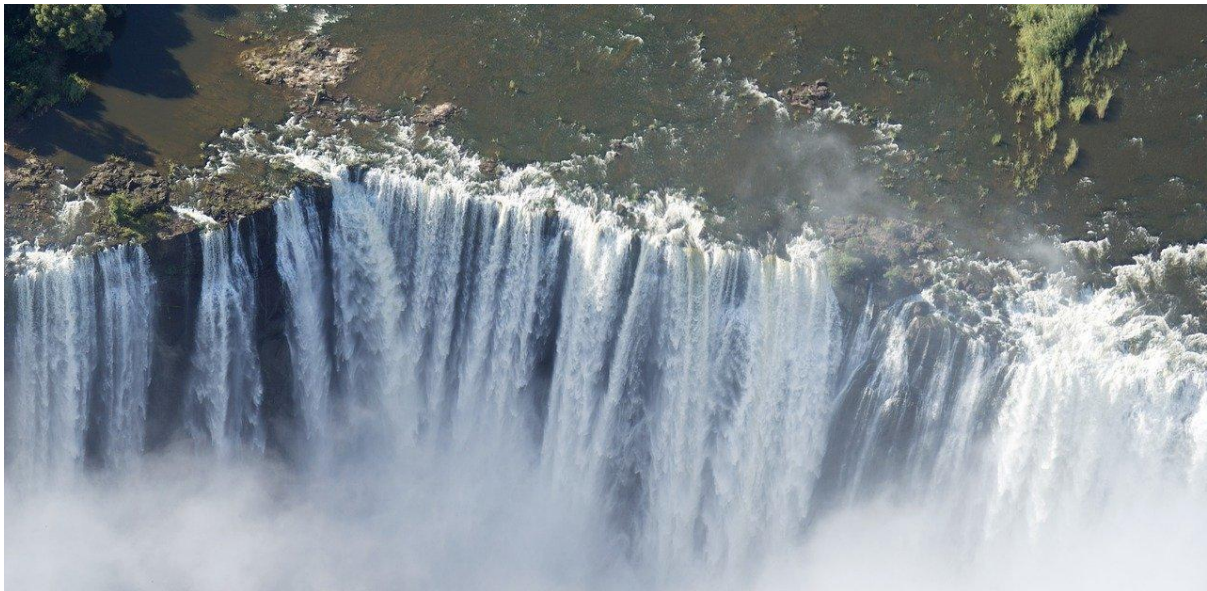


Upon arrival in Antananarivo we join vehicles which take us direct to Andasibe-Mantadia National Park, our home for the next 2 nights. Tourism infrastructure is somewhat limited so roads might be bumpy and hotel accommodation more basic than what we have experienced so far however seeing lemur's in the wild will be memorable.

#### Day 6 | Andasibe-Mantadia National Park

Andasibe-Mantadia National Park is a protected rainforest area in eastern Madagascar. The park includes the Analamazaotra Reserve, home to the large indri lemur, which is known for its distinctively loud song. The park's rich biodiversity includes native species like the big Parson's chameleon, plus rare orchids and ferns. Trail circuits weave through dense forest, past lakes and the Sacred Waterfall.

Depending on how energetic you are we offering a short walk around the National park, looking for the lemur's after which you can return to the lodge for a relaxing afternoon. Alternatively, you can join our guides for a more extensive hike exploring the National Park more extensively.



#### Day 7 | Travel to Livingstone, Zambia

It will be an early start as we join our vehicle to return to Antananarivo for our flight to Livingstone in Zambia. Our aircraft and crew will be awaiting our arrival accept a glass of champagne before you settle in for our 3 hours flight across to the African mainland. Lunch will be served onboard.

Upon arrival we join a short transfer to the Royal Livingstone Hotel for our 3 night stay.

#### Day 8 | Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls presents a spectacular sight of awe-inspiring beauty and grandeur on the Zambezi River, forming the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe. It was described by the Kololo tribe living in the area in the 1800s as 'Mosi-oa-Tunya' – 'The Smoke that Thunders'. In more modern terms Victoria Falls is known as the greatest curtain of falling water in the world.

Columns of spray can be seen from miles away as, at the height of the rainy season, more than five hundred million cubic meters of water per minute plummet over the edge, over a width of nearly two kilometres, into a gorge over one hundred meters below.

Our guides will take us around the Zambian side of the falls and share the tales and meaning of the falls to the local people. We return to the hotel at lunch time and the remainder of the day is at leisure. You can choose to join an optional helicopter flight over the falls this afternoon. Dinner this evening is a very special affair.

#### Day 9 | Search for the Big Five

Zambia is known for its proliferation of wildlife and today we will join an early morning and late afternoon safari. Our fleet of small jeeps will allow us to explore the area in comfort. It is no surprise that Zambia is where adventurous travellers seek raw African wilderness. There's no better way to get close to African wildlife than on one of Zambia's famous safaris. We are hoping to see African elephant (the largest of this species), zebra, lions, leopards, hippo, giraffe and many more. In between our morning and evening drives we return to the hotel where you can enjoy the fantastic facilities. This evening we share sundowners overlooking the falls before a traditional African Boma.



#### Day 10 | Fly to Cape Town

Cape Town is one of the most attractive cities in the world, its location at the foot of Table Mountain scenically beautiful. The city and the surrounding areas have so much to offer the traveller and our 3 night stay will no doubt fly by.

We re-connect with our crew late morning, sharing stories of our experiences in Zambia. Our lunch time flight across Southern Africa brings us to Cape Town by mid-afternoon. After clearing formalities we are transferred to the Victoria & Alfred Hotel right at Cape Town Waterfront with easy access to the shops and restaurants in the area.

Dinner is a selection of local restaurants this evening.



### Day 11 | Cape Town, Table Mountain, Robben Island

Today we will visit some of the essentials in and around Cape Town. Our first port of call is Table Mountain (weather permitting) we take the cable car up to the top from where we have an incredible view across Cape Town and beyond. Whether it is covered in a blanket of moody clouds or showing off against a crisp cloudless blue sky, Table Mountain is always spectacular.

We return to the Waterfront and board our vessel to take us to Robben Island. It was fortified and used as a prison from the late 17th century to 1996, after the end of apartheid. Many of its prisoners were political. Political activist Nelson Mandela was imprisoned there for 18 of the 27 years he served behind bars before the fall of apartheid and expansion of the franchise to all residents of the country. He was later awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace and was elected in 1994 as President of South Africa, serving one term.

Robben Island is a South African National Heritage Site as well as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A tour of the island will show the conditions under which prisoners were held. It will no doubt be a poignant day.

Dinner this evening is a treat for seafood lovers when we visit Captain Cod, just pick your seafood which will be expertly cooked to your liking.

### Day 12 | Cape Town and surrounding areas

Today is your day! Whether you like to venture into Cape Town, learn about the townships, visit the Cape of Good Hope or perhaps visit the local wine producing regions, there is an option for everyone. It will be our last day in this incredible city and this evening we offer a range of local restaurants for our final dinner.



### Day 13 | flying to Accra

Our flight this morning follows the Western part of the African continent to the capital of Ghana. A welcome glass of champagne awaits us when boarding our aircraft. An extensive lunch accompanied by specially selected wines will ensure time does fly by. We make our way to the Kempinski Gold Coast.

### Day 14 | Ghana's Cape Coast forts

Ghana offers incredible colonial history with remnants of colonial power dotting the coast line. Our guides will share the history of gold and slave trade which marked the previous centuries. The impressive forts build along the coast are a lasting memory of times gone by. We enjoy a simple lunch in a beachside restaurant before returning to Accra for our final night.



### Day 15 | Returning to the UK

We leave Ghana and Africa behind but take our shared memories with us as we board our private aircraft for the last sector and return home. Mingle with new made friends, enjoy the on-board hospitality and start dreaming of your next trip.

### The detail

- Aircraft type is dependent on the group size and this can be up to 50 people.
- All sightseeing is undertaken in groups of maximum 15 people, each with their own guide.
- All transportation and sightseeing is included as per itinerary
- This tour is best operate in the period September to November or March-April time
- All meals, including special events as listed are included
- Prices from £26,250