Botswana and Zimbabwe offer some of the best safari experiences on the African continent. View lions, giraffes, and wildebeests in the Khwai Concession, on the edges of Botswana’s Okavango Delta. At the private Imbabala Concession in Zimbabwe, watch elephants drink from the river by day and search for the elusive leopard on night game drives. In the heart of Zimbabwe’s remote Hwange National Park, a wide variety of birds and other wildlife awaits, including vast herds of plains game and the predators that follow. Finish in Zimbabwe’s northwest corner, where the mighty Zambezi River forms the border with Zambia. Enjoy the majesty of the river and stunning Victoria Falls.

STUDY LEADER: To be announced

ACCOMMODATES: 12–15 guests

PRICING: From $7,695 DOUBLE/$7,990 SINGLE

SCHEDULE BY DAY

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 10**
DEPART U.S.

Depart the USA (or other gateways) on an overnight flight to Johannesburg, South Africa

**MONDAY, JANUARY 11**
JOHANNESBURG

Upon arrival at Johannesburg’s OR Tambo airport, you are met and transferred to the beautiful Tintswalo at Waterfall countryside lodge, located in Johannesburg’s northern suburbs.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 12–THURSDAY, JANUARY 14**
KHWAI CONCESSION

On January 12, fly from Johannesburg to Maun, Botswana. After clearing customs and immigration, you are met and escorted to your
charter flight to Khwai Tented Camp, situated in a community-run concession on the eastern border of the Moremi Game Reserve.

The Khwai River forms a boundary between the reserve and the community area, and as the sole source of water for miles around, attracts wildlife from afar. The camp has spacious Meru-style tents which are complete with comfortable beds and a private bathroom with flush toilets and showers.

Located in the eastern part of the Okavango Delta, the Khwai River area abounds with wildlife. It is particularly well known for its predators, especially one of the most endangered carnivores in Africa, the wild dog. Lion and leopard are commonly found as well as herds of buffalo, elephant and hippo. Game in Khwai is abundant and varied, and includes tsessebe, lechwe, wildebeest, impala, waterbuck, sable, and giraffe.

As part of a community concession, Khwai Tented Camp allows you to partake in night drives and walking activities (which are not permitted in the national parks). Game drives in open four-wheel-drive vehicles are available as part of the daily activities. Exploring after dark with spotlights gives you an opportunity to discover the nocturnal animals which are rarely encountered during the day. You may also explore the surrounding wilderness on foot and get up close to flora and fauna.

Overnight: Khwai Tented Camp (B, L., D)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15 & SATURDAY, JANUARY 16
IMBABALA CONCESSION

On January 15, take a charter flight from Khwai to Kasane, the gateway to Chobe National Park.

After you land, embark on an afternoon boat cruise on the Chobe River where you may see elephant, buffalo, and other wildlife that gather on the banks of the river to drink and bathe. Immerse yourself in the unique environment viewing numerous birds including sacred ibis, blue heron, goliath heron, saddle-billed storks, marabou storks, and little egrets.

Following the Chobe boat cruise, drive across the Zimbabwe border to Imbabala Lodge, where you have a chance to settle in and enjoy the riverfront scenery.
The Imbabala Zambezi Safari Lodge is a beautiful thatched lodge resting by the Zambezi River in Zimbabwe. Due to its border with the Chobe Forest Reserve, Imbabala is a regular stop for elephant herds. The lodge features a lounge, dining room, and bar area but meals are often served outside. Rooms are stone and thatch mini-lodges with breathtaking views of the Zambezi River and a watering hole where animals often congregate. During the day, guests can take advantage of morning and afternoon game drives, river safaris, fishing safaris, and more. Game drives here are taken in open-air safari vehicles in the early morning and late afternoons into evening, moving through the plains searching for predators and other game.

Overnight: Imbabala Zambezi Safari Lodge (B, L, D)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17–TUESDAY, JANUARY 19
HWANGE NATIONAL PARK

Transfer by vehicle to Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe’s premier safari destination. Along the way, visit a local village near Hwange, where a number of community projects are sponsored. Learn about these projects from the locals that benefit from them, as you experience life in rural Zimbabwe.

Afterward, continue the transfer into the park to Somalisa Camp, with game-viewing along the way. Hwange is legendary for its wonderful array of wildlife, particularly the massive herds of elephant and buffalo. Large antelope herds migrate onto the plains, closely followed by large predators. There are a number of shallow pans spread throughout the park, around which wildlife congregates, making for excellent and reliable game viewing. Elephant, Cape buffalo, sable, roan, southern giraffe, blue wildebeest, impala, and sometimes even gemsbok (oryx) can be seen here. This park is one of the best for predators—lion, leopard, wild dog, and cheetah are regularly sighted, along with the smaller African wildcat, serval, honey badger, civet, and spotted hyena. Bird life in the area is also prolific, with more than 400 species found.

Set in the heart of Hwange National Park, Somalisa Camp offers guests the perfect blend of old African charm and elegance. Tucked beneath an acacia island along the edge of an ancient seasonal flood plain, this camp has breathtaking views of the savannah plains of the famous Kennedy Vlei line.

Activities include guided walks led by passionate guides who share their knowledge and love of the bush with you, game drives, bird watching, and evening spot lighting. The area provides guests with the opportunity to see a variety of plains game and predators including elephant, kudu, sable, the rare and
endangered roan antelope, buffalo, white rhino, lion, leopard, and hyena among other wildlife species.

Overnight: Somalisa Camp (B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20
VICTORIA FALLS

A ground transfer takes you from Somalisa Camp to the town of Victoria Falls, and the Victoria Falls Hotel, a beautiful example of typical colonial design and an African landmark. Established in 1904, the hotel is set in The Victoria Falls National Park with a private path to the Falls.

After arriving, you explore the magnificent Victoria Falls, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Victoria Falls is where the Zambezi River opens out into an extravaganza of roaring, spray-tumbled water, known to the locals as “Mosi oa Tunya” (the smoke that thunders). Few sights are as awe-inspiring as this when the ground rumbles with the forces of the water. You are joined by a noted local historian who discusses the story of Scottish explorer Dr. David Livingstone, who first visited Victoria Falls over 150 years ago, and whose journeys laid the ground work for the Colonial era that followed.

The farewell dinner is held in the Livingstone Room, the hotel’s fine dining restaurant.

Overnight: Victoria Falls Hotel (B, L, D)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21
DEPARTURE

This morning transfer to the Victoria Falls Airport for your commercial flight to Johannesburg. Upon arrival in Johannesburg, you connect to your international flight home.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22
ARRIVE HOME

Early morning arrival back home.