An east-west African adventure uniting the Atlantic and Indian Oceans

In July 2019 Rovos Rail will set off on a new 15-day expedition traversing Tanzania, Zambia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Angola. It will be the first time in history that a passenger train will travel the famous east-to-west copper trail on this route.

“To be able to introduce a new adventure after 29 years in operation is exciting and presents me with a refreshing operational challenge,” says Rohan Vos, owner and CEO. “It’s taken over two years to acquire permission and have our proposed itinerary approved by the respective authorities. My team and I have flown across our borders on a few occasions to meet the relevant officials, drive the route and conduct site visits in an effort to smooth the way as best we can for our band of intrepid travellers who will hopefully join us on this expedition.”

This inaugural voyage sets off on 16 July 2019 from the Tanzanian capital, Dar es Salaam (a city familiar to Rovos Rail as it has been running its 15-day Cape to Dar trip since 1993), and includes a game visit in the Selous Reserve, a fly-in two-night safari in the South Luangwa National Park (Zambia) and a city tour of Lubumbashi (DRC). Thereafter it joins the Benguela line for short walking tours detailing Angola’s recent history with journey’s end in Lobito. The voyage is available in reverse departing from Lobito (Angola) on 2 August 2019.

DAY 1
DEPART DAR, TANZANIA
12h00 The Pride of Africa departs Dar es Salaam and travels the TAZARA line.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train travels the fertile lands of Tanzania towards the Selous Game Reserve.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Fuga Halt.

DAY 2
SELOUS GAME RESERVE VISIT
05h30 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until departure at 07h00.
07h00 Game visit in the Selous Game Reserve, the largest in Africa at 55 000km² (time permitting).
12h30 Return to the train.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train passes the Udzungwa Mountains.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Mlimba.
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| **DAY 3** | **MAKAMBAKO VISIT and LECTURES**  
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10h00 as the train ascends the escarpment negotiating the dramatic switchbacks, viaducts and tunnels.  
09h00 Arrive at Makambako and enjoy a stroll through the town (time permitting).  
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train passes Baobab forests.  
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars as the train travels via Mbeya to Tunduma for the overnight stop. |
| **DAY 4** | **CHISIMBA FALLS VISIT**  
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10h00. Tanzanian and Zambian border formalities take place.  
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train travels in a southwesterly direction across Zambia.  
14h30 Disembark at Kasama for an excursion to Chisimba Falls.  
18h00 Depart Kasama.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Mpika. |
| **DAY 5** | **SOUTH LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK STAY**  
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 09h30.  
10h00 Disembark and transfer to Mpika Airport for a chartered flight to the South Luangwa National Park.  
12h00 Transfer to Mfuwe Game Lodge. Enjoy lunch on arrival followed by check-in.  
15h30 Afternoon game drive in the Luangwa Valley.  
19h30 Dinner and overnight at the lodge. |
| **DAY 6** | **SOUTH LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK STAY**  
06h00 Wake-up call and continental breakfast.  
06h30 Early morning game drive (approximately 3 hours).  
10h00 Brunch is served at the lodge. Afternoon at leisure.  
15h30 High tea and game drive (approximately 3 hours).  
19h30 Dinner at the lodge. |
| **DAY 7** | **SOUTH LUANGWA NATIONAL PARK**  
06h00 Wake-up call and continental breakfast.  
06h30 Early morning game drive (approximately 2 hours).  
08h30 Breakfast is served at the lodge. Please ensure that your luggage is ready for collection at 10h00.  
10h00 Transfer to Mfuwe Airport for the chartered flight to Ndola, Zambia.  
12h00 On arrival, transfer to Ndola Station to rejoin the train.  
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train travels towards Misundu.  
15h00 Arrive at Sakania for Zambian/DRC border formalities.  
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars as the train travels through Kabemba. Overnight Mushoshi. |
| **DAY 8** | **LUBUMBASHI VISIT**  
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10h00.  
10h30 Enjoy a city tour of Lubumbashi.  
13h00 Lunch served in the dining cars.  
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge and observation car as the train passes Luishia, an old open-pit copper and cobalt mine.  
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars as the train travels through Mutaka. Overnight Tenke. |
| **DAY 9** | **COPPER MINE VISIT**  
06h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until departure at 08h00.  
08h00 Enjoy a visit to a copper mine in an area that holds one of the world’s largest known copper and cobalt resources.  
10h00 Return to the train and depart for Kolwezi.  
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars. |
Afternoon lecture in the lounge car.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Mutshatsha.

**DAY 10**

**DAY ON BOARD WITH LECTURES**
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10h00.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train passes Kasaji en route to Malonga.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
17h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Dilolo on the DRC/Angola Border.

**DAY 11**

**LUAU WALKING TOUR**
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10h00. Border formalities take place with Angola.
11h30 Enjoy a walking tour of Luau, the start of the Benguela line.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars as the train departs for Luena.
16h30 Tea is served as the train travels alongside the Kasai River. The catchment of the Kasai River encompasses a vast eco-region of 900 000km2 with an incredibly rich fish fauna. As the train passes the villages of Cassai and Cameia there is sometimes an opportunity to see the local fisherman at work.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Luena.

**DAY 12**

**LUENA WALKING TOUR**
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10h00.
10h00 Enjoy a walking tour of Luena to learn more about the recent history of Angola.
12h00 Depart for Tchicala Tcholohanga.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Afternoon lecture in the lounge car.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars as the train travels towards Kuito for overnight.

**DAY 13**

**KUITO WALKING TOUR**
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 09h00.
09h00 Enjoy a stroll through the town of Kuito, built in the historical heart of the Ovimbundu kingdom.
11h00 Depart for Huambo.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Afternoon lecture in the lounge car.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Huambo.

**DAY 14**

**HUAMBO WALKING TOUR**
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 09h00.
09h00 Enjoy a walking tour of Huambo, the second largest city in Angola and one of the old kingdoms on the central plateau.
11h00 Depart for Lépi.
13h00 Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Afternoon lecture in the lounge car.
16h30 Tea is served in the lounge car and observation car at the rear of the train.
19h30 Dinner is served in the dining cars. Overnight Caimbambo.

**DAY 15**

**ARRIVE LOBITO, ANGOLA**
07h00 Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 09h30.
10h00 Arrive at journey’s end, Lobito Station, Benguela Province, Angola.
Optional Extension: Rates TBA
14h30 Transfer to Hotel Terminus for check-in and lunch. Enjoy a city tour of Benguela. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.