SOUTHERN AFRICA ODYSSEY
February 8-25, 2018

18 days for $7,154 total price from Houston
($5,795 air & land inclusive plus $1,359 airline taxes and fees)

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for Alumni, Parents, and Friends of Rice University

This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure’s World’s Best Tour Operators award.
Dear Rice alumni, parents, and friends,

Journey with us into the heart of Southern Africa to capture the beauty of four distinct nations: South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia.

Start your 18-day tour in Johannesburg with a full day touring Soweto, where the seeds of South African freedom were sown. Next, you visit spectacular Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and enjoy guided walks, visit a local school to interact with children and teachers, and embark on a Sundowner cruise on the Zambezi River. Travel to Chobe National Park in Botswana, home to the world’s largest elephant population, and spend time in remote Namibia viewing and climbing the world’s highest crested sand dunes at Sossusvlei. Next, take a cruise along the storied Skeleton Coast, then conclude your tour with four nights in beautiful Cape Town, South Africa.

With space for only 24 Rice-affiliated guests in total, we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today and secure your place on this remarkable journey!

Warm regards,

Dan Stypa
Associate Director of Alumni Programs
Office of Alumni Relations

RICE UNIVERSITY RESERVATION FORM: SOUTHERN AFRICA ODYSSEY

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______($500 per person) for ____ person(s) on Southern Africa Odyssey departing February 8, 2018. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: Rice Alumni Traveling Owls – MS 520, Rice University, P.O. Box 1892, Houston, TX 77251-1892. Or you may call the Rice Alumni Traveling Owls at 713-34-TRIPS or e-mail travelingowls@rice.edu. You may also fax your reservation to 713-348-5210.

Full Passport Name ______________________________________________ Date of Birth___________ Gender ___
Full Passport Name ______________________________________________ Date of Birth___________ Gender ___
Address ___________________________________________________________________________________________
City ____________________________________________________________ State ________ ZIP ___________________
Home Phone (______)___________________ Cell Phone (______)_______________
E-mail _________________________________________ Badge Name(s) _____________________________________

I will share a room with __________________________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) q

Post-Tour “Kruger: Kapama Private Game Reserve” Extension: Please sign me/us up q

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Southern Africa Odyssey, February 8-25, 2018, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions:

Signature ________________________________________________________________ Date_____________________

Method of Payment   q Check   q American Express   q Discover   q MasterCard   q VISA
Account # _______________________________ Security Code _________ Exp. Date _______________
Name of Cardholder ________________________________________________________________

Signature ________________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.
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** We arrive in Johannesburg today and transfer to our hotel in the suburb of Rosebank. As guests’ arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities planned. Dinner tonight is on our own. 

**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. B,L,D

**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. B,D

**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. B,D

**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. B,D

**Day 7: Chobe National Park, Botswana** Known for a diverse terrain that attracts an exceptional array of wildlife, Chobe National Park in nearby Botswana

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**Small Group Tour Highlights**

- Soweto touring
- Spectacular Victoria Falls
- Rhino safari in Victoria Falls Private Game Reserve
- Chobe National Park safari excursion
- World’s largest crested dunes at Sossusvlei
- Skeleton Coast boat excursion
- Four-night stay in beautiful Cape Town
- The Winelands touring
- Outstanding small group accommodations

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**Day City Hotel Rating**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Depart U.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Rosebank</td>
<td>54 on Bath Deluxe</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-7</td>
<td>Victoria Falls</td>
<td>Victoria Falls Hotel Deluxe</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Windhoek</td>
<td>Windhoek Country Club Sup. First Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Sossusvlei</td>
<td>Sossusvlei Lodge Sup. First Class</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>Swakopmund</td>
<td>Swakopmund Hotel Sup. First Class</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-16</td>
<td>Cape Town</td>
<td>The Table Bay Hotel Deluxe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Cape Town/Depart for U.S. (overnight flight)</td>
<td>The Table Bay Hotel Deluxe</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Arrive U.S.</td>
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Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: We visit awe-inspiring Victoria Falls on Day 4.
boasts one of the largest concentrations of wildlife in all Africa, including the world’s largest elephant 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 wildlife drive and an afternoon wildlife 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. Isolated and immense, tranquil and romantic, this endless expanse offers a glimpse of a land before time. 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/Skeleton Coast From Walvis Bay this morning, we take a cruise along the storied Skeleton Coast, so named for the whale and seal bones that once littered its shores – debris from the whaling industry. Along the way we’ll see Cape fur seals, petrels, and other sea birds, and some of the many shipwrecks that lie off shore. We have lunch on board before returning to Swakopmund and time at leisure. B,L,D

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 just 45 miles east of Cape Town. Amidst the beautiful scenery, we visit two wineries

Some of the dunes at Sossusvlei reach as high as 1,300 feet.

Post-Tour Extension

February 24-28, 2018

KRUGER: KAPAMA
PRIVATE GAME RESERVE

4 days/3 nights
for $1,795 total price
Single Supplement: $595

Experience the magnificence of the South African bush, Kruger National Park region, and “Big Five” animal country at a unique luxury tented camp.

Your Tour Price Includes
• Round-trip air transportation to/from Hoedspruit, inclusive of airline taxes and fees
• 3 nights’ accommodations at Kapama Southern Camp (Deluxe)
• 8 meals: 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
• 5 guided wildlife drives (in open safari vehicles)
• Services of the lodge’s excellent staff
• Transfers to/from airport
for tours, tastings, and lunch. We return to Cape Town mid-afternoon; dinner tonight is on our own in this cosmopolitan city. B,L

**Day 15: Cape Town/Cape of Good Hope**  This morning we take a panoramic tour of this beautiful city at the southern tip of Africa and also stop at stunning Hout Bay. Then 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 of “the meeting of the oceans” (the Atlantic and Indian). After a seafood lunch in historic Simon’s Town we visit Boulders Beach to see a colony of enchanting African penguins up close. Our last stop is acclaimed Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden, nestled against the eastern slopes of Table Mountain. The world’s first such garden founded (in 1913) to preserve native flora, today the Kirstenbosch cultivates only indigenous plants. B,L

**Day 16: Cape Town/Robben Island**  Today we come face-to-face with an indelible aspect of South African history: the notorious prison on Robben Island that once held Nelson Mandela and other opponents of apartheid. We tour the island and prison, guided by a former inmate. Returning to Cape Town, we ride by cable car 3,500 feet to the top of Table Mountain for glorious views. Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner together. B,D

**Day 17: Depart for U.S.** We transfer to the 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.

**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
- 35 meals: 16 breakfasts, 8 lunches, 11 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

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“A desert is a place without expectation.”

– Nadine Gordimer

Tour Departure: February 8, 2018

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boston, New York, Washington, DC</td>
<td>$6,954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle</td>
<td>$7,154</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atlanta, Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Miami, Minneapolis, Orlando, Philadelphia, Tampa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denver, Detroit, Phoenix, Portland (OR)</td>
<td>$7,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Only (transfers not included)</td>
<td>$5,595</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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 $1,495.

Depending on flight schedules, certain U.S. cities may require a departure one day prior to the listed schedule above. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: $4,795 per person in addition to the above costs (upgrade subject to availability and pricing subject to change).

For reservations and information, please call the Rice Alumni Traveling Owls at 713-34-TRIPS, or fax your reservation to 713-348-5210.
Travel in Namibia will be in fairly remote regions. You should be prepared for lengthy
travels 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 our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. 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, the Office of Alumni Relations, Rice University,
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 unavailable 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 air
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-refund-
able 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.