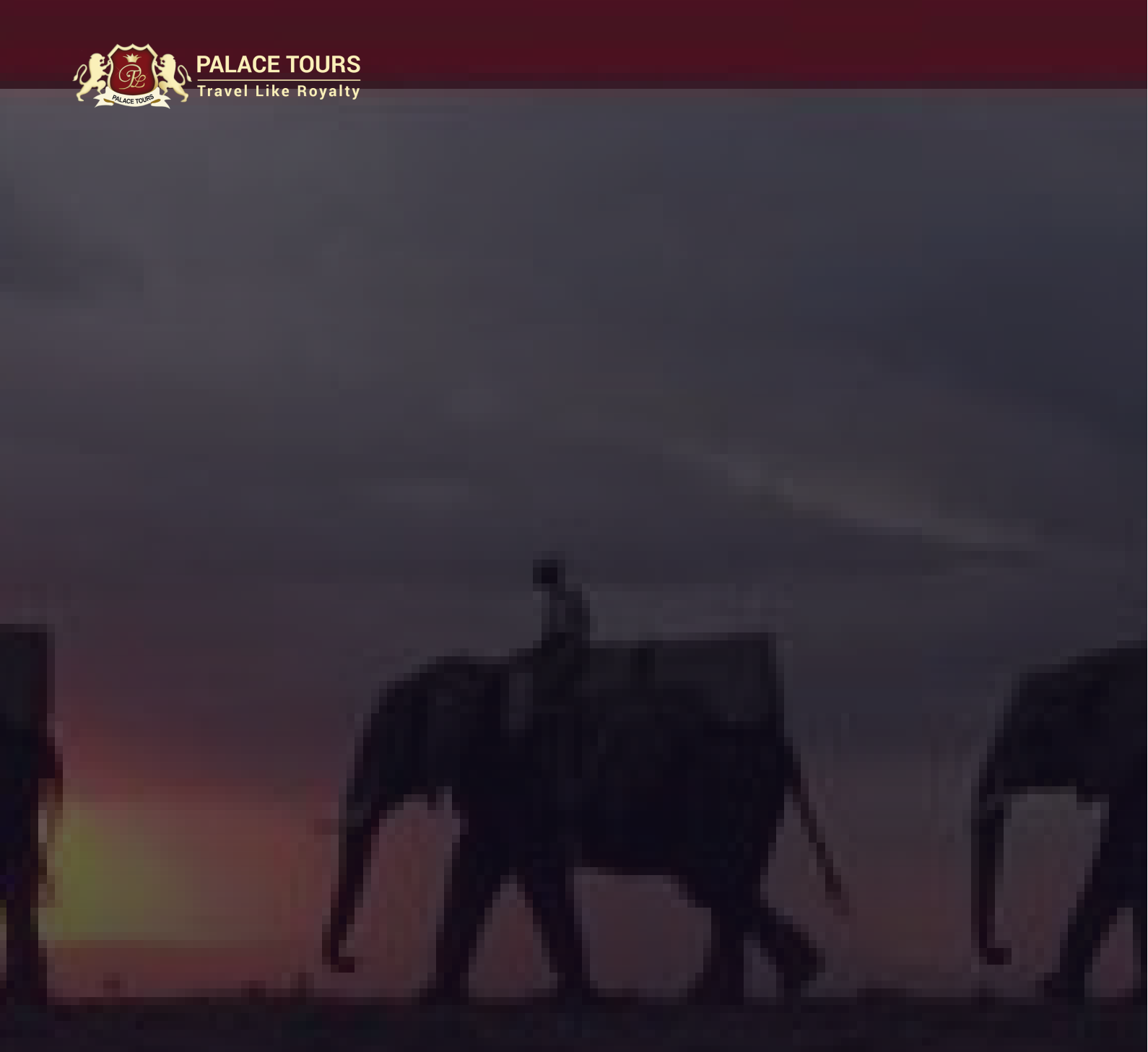
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Cape Town to Dar Es Salaam - An Authentic African Adventure: Rovos Rail (Northbound)

16 Nights • Luxury Experience

www.palacetours.com travel@palacetours.com 786-408-0610

Overview

Embark on one of the world's most iconic rail journeys aboard ***Rovos Rail***, a 16-night adventure covering 5,800 km across *South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Tanzania.* Beginning in Cape Town and ending in Dar es Salaam, this extraordinary journey blends timeless luxury with ever-changing landscapes, from vast savannas to lush tropical scenery. Along the way, guests explore historic destinations such as Matjiesfontein, Kimberley, and Pretoria, enjoy a memorable safari experience in the renowned Madikwe Game Reserve, and witness the grandeur of Victoria Falls. Traveling along the historic TAZARA railway, the journey continues through remote regions of Zambia and Tanzania, including the spectacular Nyerere National Park, offering a rare glimpse into some of Africa's most untouched landscapes—all while enjoying the elegance and comfort of one of the world's finest luxury trains.

Images: Courtesy - Rovos Rail

DAY BY DAY

Your Itinerary



DAY 1

CAPE TOWN

Please check-in a minimum of 90 minutes before departure at Rovos Rail Lounge, 1 Adderley Street, Cape Town.
Depart from Cape Town Station.
Lunch is served in the dining cars. Trundle through the winelands of the Western Cape towards Worcester.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train climbs ±750m up the face of the escarpment.

Dress: Formal

DAY 2

MATJIESFONTEIN

Lectures will take place throughout the journey in the lounge car. Please consult Lecture Sheets for details.



Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Disembark at Matjiesfontein for an opportunity to stroll through the historic village. Of special interest is the museum on the platform and a collection of historic cars and railway carriages to the right of the Lord Milner Hotel.
The train traverses the Karoo, a vast semi-desert region that was once an enormous inland sea. Over millions of years, volcanic matter was ground down and deposited as silt upon the seabed to form what geologists call the Karoo system.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Kimberley.

Dress: Formal



DAY 3

KIMBERLEY

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.

Enjoy a tour of Kimberley's Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole. Capital of the Northern Cape, Kimberley is
well known for the discovery of diamonds that led to its establishment in 1871.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Union.

Dress: Formal

DAY 4

PRETORIA

Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
Transfer (±90 min) to Pretoria for a city tour followed by lunch on the Rovos Rail Station platform. Enjoy a walking
tour of the station and locomotive workshops (weather permitting). Return (±90 min) to the train.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Zeerust.

Dress: Formal





DAY 5

MADIKWE GAME RESERVE

Please pack a small overnight bag for the stay in Madikwe. Tog bags have been placed in your suite for your
convenience. See below for inclusions/exclusions. Spa facilities available (own account). Payment in ZAR or
by credit card only. Times of meals and activities confirmed on arrival.
Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
Transfer (±90 min) to a lodge in Madikwe for a two-night stay. Lunch is served on arrival.
Afternoon tea and game drive (approximately 3 hours).
Dinner at the lodge.

Dress: Casual

Madikwe is a prime malaria-free Big 5 wildlife reserve bordering Botswana. It lies within a transition zone between the North West Province bushveld and Kalahari thornveld with enormous volcanic intrusions, wide open plains and the riverine environment along the Marico River. As a result, the region is host to an incredible diversity of species from both ecosystems with a rich assortment of vegetation and more than 300 resident and migrant bird species.

DAY 6

MADIKWE GAME RESERVE



Early morning game drive (approximately 3 hours).
Breakfast is served at the lodge until 09:30.
Lunch at the lodge.
Afternoon tea and game drive (approximately 3 hours).
Dinner at the lodge.

Dress: Casual



DAY 7

MADIKWE GAME RESERVE

BORDER: KOPFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA / TLOKWENG, BOTSWANA

Please ensure luggage is ready for collection at 10:00 and proceed to check-out.

Early morning game drive (approximately 2 hours).
Breakfast is served at the lodge until 09:30.
Depart the lodge. Transfer to the train at Gaborone in Botswana. Border formalities will take place en route and guests are required to present themselves to the border officials (luggage may be searched).
Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train crosses the Tropic of Capricorn and the eastern edge of the Kalahari
Basin. Known as 'Kgalagadi' in Botswana, the Kalahari (which extends to 900 000km2 and covers much of Botswana, parts of Namibia and South Africa) is not a true desert as it does experience small amounts of rain, with some areas enjoying up to 250mm per annum. The surrounding basin covers over 2 500 000km2 extending farther into Botswana, Namibia and South Africa and encroaching into parts of Angola, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It is part desert, part plateau.
The only constant river, the Okavango, flows into a delta in the northwest forming marshes that are rich in wildlife.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.

Please ensure the Train Manager/Guest Services Manager has your passport.

Dinner is served in the dining cars.

Dress: Formal

Victoria Falls It is a good idea to familiarise yourself with the list of activities available: Tour of Victoria Falls;
helicopter over the falls; whitewater rafting; bungee-jumping; zip-lining; game walks; golf etc. You may book these
excursions at the hotel OR beforehand with the onboard historian – today between 16:30-18:00. Cash accepted.

DAY 8

VICTORIA FALLS



BORDER: FRANCISTOWN, BOTSWANA / PLUMTREE, ZIMBABWE

Victoria Falls: If you have decided to book activities through the onboard historian, please ensure you have
done so before lunch. Cash accepted.
Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. Border formalities.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels along one of the world's longest stretches of straight railway line –114 kilometres (Gwaai–Dete) – and along the eastern edge of Hwange Park.

Dress: Formal



DAY 9

VICTORIA FALLS

Please pack a small overnight bag for the stay at Victoria Falls Hotel. See below for inclusions/exclusions.
Meals are taken at the Victoria Falls Hotel. Currency exchange is available at the hotel (passports not
required); there is a business centre and Wi-Fi available throughout. If you are crossing the border into
Zambia during your stay, please obtain your passport from the Train Manager or Guest Services Manager.

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
Arrive at the incomparable Victoria Falls. Disembark with an overnight bag and walk across to the hotel.
Welcome address on the lawn followed by lunch at Jungle Junction.
Luggage will be delivered to the rooms.
15:45 Winter (May-Aug) / 16:15 Summer (Sep-Apr) Meet in the foyer to depart for the sunset cruise on the Zambezi.
Enjoy dinner at the Livingstone Room, Victoria Falls Hotel.

Dress: Smart Casual (strictly no safari-wear, shorts, sandals or sneakers)

Plunging over the lip of the Victoria Falls is the largest body of falling water on earth. The mighty Zambezi, fourth longest river in Africa, is about 2km wide above the falls and cascades dramatically over a precipice 1.6km in length and 108m at its deepest, compressing the vast volume of water into a chasm 50m wide. The sound can be deafening, the aspect magnificent and the memory indelible. In autumn, the spray is so great it inhibits photography while in spring the seasonal flow considerably reduces leaving large slabs of brown basalt exposed on the lip.

DAY 10

VICTORIA FALLS



BORDER: VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE / LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA

Check-out time is normally at 10:00 (to be advised). If you have organised morning activities, please ensure you
have checked out. Luggage storage at reception is complimentary until afternoon departure. Please call the
front desk and they will send a porter to collect your luggage.
Breakfast is served at the Jungle Junction Restaurant until 10:00. Day at leisure in Victoria Falls.
Lunch at Jungle Junction.
Meet on station platform. Please ensure the Train Manager or Guest Services Manager has your passport.
Cross the Victoria Falls Bridge. Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Border formalities.
Dinner is served in the dining cars.

Dress: Formal



DAY 11

LUSAKA

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars. The train travels across the Kafue Railway Bridge – a 477-metre long steel
girder truss bridge of 13 spans each at 33 metres supported on concrete piers.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train passes Zambia's capital, Lusaka.

Dress: Formal

DAY 12

TAZARA RAILWAY



Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.

The train travels the TAZARA railway line, an engineering tour de force and one of Africa's best-kept secrets as it passes through remote territory.
Lunch is served in the dining cars.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Kasama.

Dress: "Africa" Theme or Smart Casual



DAY 13

CHISIMBA FALLS

BORDER: NAKONDE, ZAMBIA / TUNDUMA, TANZANIA

Breakfast is served in the dining cars.
Enjoy a visit to Chisimba Falls where guests can take a pleasant walk down to the rock pools at the base of the falls or admire them from various viewpoints.
Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train climbs to the border, almost exactly the midpoint between Africa's two Great Rift Valley lakes.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. Border formalities.

Dress: Formal

PLEASE PUT YOUR WATCHES FORWARD AN HOUR BEFORE RETIRING FOR THE EVENING.

Chisimba Falls is a series of three waterfalls named Mutumuna, Kaela and Chishimba (Chisimba), which are separated over 300m along the Luombe River. According to Bemba tradition, the nature spirit "Chishimba" lives in a cave behind the falls therefore no bad behaviour (including fights, insults and arrogance) is allowed in this area. Though the Bemba people arrived here in the 17th century, they weren't the first as the land surrounding the falls is dotted with evidence of Iron Age activities including kilns, smelting pipes and iron ore deposits

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DAY 14

MAKAMBAKO



Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00. The train traverses the Rift Valley and baobab forests towards Mbeya.
Lunch is served in the dining cars. The Southern Highlands of Tanzania are covered with grasslands, savannas,
woodlands and forests. Miombo woodland and savanna predominates at lower elevations while the higher mountains are home to Afromontane evergreen forests, grasslands and shrublands, and part of the Southern Rift montane forest grassland mosaic ecoregion, which extends into the nearby mountains of Malawi and Zambia.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.

Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Makambako.

Dress: Formal



DAY 15

MAKAMBAKO

Breakfast is served until 10:00.

Enjoy an optional stroll through Makambako (time permitting) before departure at 09:30.

Lunch is served in the dining cars. The train travels towards the jungled Udzungwa Mountains and negotiates the
dramatic switchbacks, viaducts and tunnels of the escarpment.
Tea in the lounge and observation cars.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Fuga Halt.

Dress: Formal

DAY 16

NYERERE NATIONAL PARK



Continental breakfast is served in the dining cars until 08:00.
Brunch is served in the dining cars until 12:00.
Enjoy a game visit (weather permitting) in the Nyerere National Park, the largest in Africa at 30 000km2.
The train traverses the fertile lands of Tanzania.
Dinner is served in the dining cars. The train travels to Gwata.

Dress: "1920s" Theme or Smart Casual



DAY 17

DAR ES SALAAM

Please ensure luggage is ready for collection 15 minutes before arrival and that you have your passport.

Breakfast is served in the dining cars until 10:00.

The train arrives at journey's end at Tazara Station in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

Tips & Travel Guide

Please dress accordingly for excursions/game drives: mornings can be cool then warm up considerably; afternoons can be warm then cool down considerably. Warm clothing, comfortable shoes, hats and sun protection are advised. Rain capes are available.

Excursions may be changed according to schedule achieved. Times are approximate and cannot be guaranteed. Please check with the Train Manager for any changes.

In your Suite is a Journeys magazine featuring articles of interest related to the route.

Please ensure passports and the required visas are valid prior to departure for Africa.

View Passport & Visa Guide. Train station platforms are not always accessible from ground level.

Message from Rovos Rail: *"We strongly discourage giving any form of handout to children while travelling. This action may have detrimental consequences to local communities. If you would like to give responsibly, we support many local charities and would be happy to assist."*

DATES & PRICING

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Feb 27, 2027	Pullman Suite	**$26,400**	**$18,200**
	Deluxe Suite	**$34,700**	**$24,000**
	Royal Suite	—	**$31,500**
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	**$26,000**	**$17,800**
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	**$34,300**	**$23,600**
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	**$31,100**
Jul 3, 2027	Pullman Suite	**$26,400**	**$18,200**
	Deluxe Suite	**$34,700**	**$24,000**
	Royal Suite	—	**$31,500**
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	**$25,900**	**$17,700**
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	**$34,200**	**$23,500**
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	**$31,000**
Oct 9, 2027	Pullman Suite	**$26,400**	**$18,200**
	Deluxe Suite	**$34,700**	**$24,000**
	Royal Suite	—	**$31,500**
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	**$25,900**	**$17,700**
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	**$34,200**	**$23,500**
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	**$31,000**
Jan 10, 2028	Pullman Suite	**$29,029**	**$20,020**
	Deluxe Suite	**$38,280**	**$26,400**

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	$28,529	$19,520
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	$37,780	$25,900
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	$34,150
Feb 28, 2028	Pullman Suite	$29,029	$20,020
	Deluxe Suite	$38,280	$26,400
	Royal Suite	—	$34,650
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	$28,529	$19,520
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	$37,780	$25,900
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	$34,150
Jul 3, 2028	Pullman Suite	$29,029	$20,020
	Deluxe Suite	$38,280	$26,400
	Royal Suite	—	$34,650
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	$28,529	$19,520
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	$37,780	$25,900
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	$34,150
Oct 9, 2028	Pullman Suite	$29,029	$20,020
	Deluxe Suite	$38,280	$26,400
	Royal Suite	—	$34,650
	Pullman Suite Early Bird	$28,529	$19,520
	Deluxe Suite Early Bird	$37,780	$25,900
	Royal Suite Early Bird	—	$34,150

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.

EARLY BIRD FARES

Book early, pay less

Plan ahead and you'll pay less for exactly the same journey. Every cabin on this tour has an Early Bird fare. Look for it in the booking calendar, right next to the regular fare: it is labelled "<cabin> Early Bird".

6 MONTHS OR MORE BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save $250

per person

3 TO 6 MONTHS BEFORE DEPARTURE

Save $150

per person

INSIDE 3 MONTHS

Regular fare

the Early Bird fare closes

CABIN	REGULAR DOUBLE (PP)	EARLY BIRD, 6+ MONTHS AHEAD	EARLY BIRD, 3–6 MONTHS AHEAD
Pullman Suite	**from $18,200**	**from $17,950** save $250	**from $18,050** save $150
Deluxe Suite	**from $24,000**	**from $23,750** save $250	**from $23,850** save $150
Royal Suite	**from $31,500**	**from $31,250** save $250	**from $31,350** save $150

Double fares per person, two sharing; "from" is the lowest fare across the departures listed above. The saving depends on the cabin's regular price per person: $250 / $150 on journeys from $8,000, $150 / $100 from $5,000, and $50 on shorter trips. It's the same cabin, the same itinerary and everything included as before. The only difference is the price. Early Bird fares are limited to the cabins on each departure and close automatically. If you already know your dates, now is the time to book.

🏷️ **Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.**

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/Rovos_Rail_Cape-Town_to_Dar_es_Salaam_SouthAfrica for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Terms & Conditions

Payment Terms

- A deposit of 25% of the total tour cost is required at the time of booking to confirm the reservation.
- The remaining balance of 75% must be paid no later than 65 days prior to the date of the first service provided by Travbuzz / Palace Tours.

Cancellation Policy

- 25% of the total tour value will be charged for cancellations made more than 65 days prior to the date of the first service.
- 100% of the total tour value will be charged for cancellations made between 64 days and the departure date.

We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance to protect against unforeseen circumstances and cancellation penalties. For more information on available plans or to purchase coverage, please visit: www.palacetours.com/insurance.

COMMON QUESTIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

How long is the Rovos Rail journey from Cape Town to Dar es Salaam and which countries does it cross?

> This northbound journey lasts 16 nights and covers about 5,800 km. It crosses five countries: South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Tanzania. It starts in Cape Town and ends at Tazara Station in Dar es Salaam, and it is one of the longest luxury rail journeys in the world.

Where do I check in for the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam journey?

> Check in at least 90 minutes before departure at the train's lounge at 1 Adderley Street, Cape Town. The train leaves from Cape Town Station, with lunch served in the dining cars as it heads through the Western Cape towards Worcester.

Where does the journey finish in Tanzania?

> The train arrives on the morning of Day 17 at Tazara Station in Dar es Salaam, after breakfast on board. Have your luggage ready for collection 15 minutes before arrival and keep your passport with you. Onward flights and hotels in Dar es Salaam are not included.

What are the stops in South Africa on the way north?

> On Day 2 you stroll through the Victorian village of Matjiesfontein and its platform museum. Day 3 brings a tour of Kimberley's Diamond Mine Museum and the Big Hole. On Day 4 there is a city tour of Pretoria, lunch on the train's own station platform and, weather permitting, a walking tour of the station and locomotive workshops.

What is the Madikwe Game Reserve stay like on this journey?

> From Day 5 you spend two nights at a lodge in Madikwe, a malaria-free Big 5 reserve on the Botswana border. Several game drives of about 3 hours are included, along with meals at the lodge. Pack a small overnight bag (tote bags are left in your suite). Spa treatments are available at your own expense.

How much time do we get at Victoria Falls?

> You arrive at Victoria Falls on Day 9 and stay overnight at the Victoria Falls Hotel. Day 10 is at leisure until the afternoon departure, when the train crosses the Victoria Falls Bridge into Zambia. You can book extra Victoria Falls activities through the onboard historian before lunch on Day 8, paid in cash.

What is special about the TAZARA railway section through Zambia and Tanzania?

> The TAZARA line is an engineering feat through remote country that few travellers ever see. On this stretch the train crosses the 477-metre Kafue Railway Bridge and stops for a visit to Chisimba Falls. It then climbs through the Rift Valley and baobab forests and winds down the switchbacks, viaducts and tunnels of the escarpment near the

Is there a safari in Tanzania at the end of the journey?

> Yes. On Day 16, weather permitting, there is a game visit in Nyerere National Park, which covers about 30,000 square km. It adds a final wildlife experience before the train continues across the farmland of Tanzania to Dar es Salaam.

How do the border crossings work on the train from Cape Town to Dar es Salaam?

> The journey crosses four borders: South Africa to Botswana, Botswana to Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe to Zambia at Victoria Falls, and Zambia to Tanzania. At the Botswana crossing you present yourself to the officials, and luggage may be searched. For other crossings the Train Manager or Guest Services Manager may hold your passport so formalities run smoothly.

Do I need visas for this five-country rail journey?

> Visas are not included in the fare, and it is your responsibility to make sure your passport and any required visas are valid before departure. Requirements depend on your nationality, and a visa can be needed even when you are only passing through a country. Check with the relevant embassies in good time. We are happy to help you work out what applies to you.

What suite types are available on the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam train?

> There are three suite types, each with double or twin beds and a private bathroom. Pullman Suites are about 7 square metres, Deluxe Suites about 10 square metres, and Royal Suites about 16 square metres, with only two Royal Suites per carriage. The departure list on this page shows the fare for each suite type.

How much does the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam journey cost?

> Fares start from about US$18,200 per person sharing, in the entry suite category. Deluxe and Royal Suites cost more. Fares vary by departure and suite, so the exact fare for each departure is shown on this page.

Can I book the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam journey as a single traveller?

> Yes. Single fares start from about US$26,400 per person for sole use of a suite. The exact single fare for each departure and suite type is shown on this page, or ask us to quote a specific date.

What is included in the fare for this 16-night rail journey?

> The fare includes your suite, all meals, all beverages on board, room service and limited laundry. It also covers guided excursions, entrance fees as listed in the itinerary, an onboard historian and doctor, and government tax. During the Madikwe lodge stay and the Victoria Falls Hotel night, meals and guided excursions are also included.

What is not covered by the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam fare?

> Visas, travel insurance, gratuities and personal expenses are not included. Nor are flights, or transfers and hotel nights before or after the journey. Beverages outside the included selection, and meals at venues not listed in the itinerary, are also extra. Laundry is not included during the off-train stays.

What is the dress code on board?

> Most evenings on board are formal. Casual dress is fine at the Madikwe lodge, and there are two themed evenings: an Africa theme and a 1920s theme, with smart casual always acceptable. For excursions and game drives, dress in layers with comfortable shoes, a hat and sun protection, because mornings and evenings can be cool. Rain capes

What deposit is required, and when is the balance due for this journey?

> A 25% deposit secures your suite, and the balance is due 65 days before departure. Because this long journey runs only a few times a year, early booking gives you the widest choice of suites.

When does the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam journey depart?

> We currently have 9 northbound departures on sale, from 27 February 2027 to 9 October 2027. The journey runs only a handful of times each year, so check the departure list on this page for live availability and fares.

Can children join the Cape Town to Dar es Salaam journey?

> Children can be booked in two age bands, based on age at departure: under 2, and from 2 up to (but not including) 12. Child fares are not listed as a standard discount, so contact us with the ages of your children and we will confirm what is possible and the price for your date.

How do I ask a question or book Cape Town to Dar Es Salaam - An Authentic African Adventure: Rovos Rail (Northbound)?

> You can email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610. A travel specialist or our AI assistant will reply. You can also book any date in the departure list on this page directly: choose your date and suite type and reserve online.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

travel@palacetours.com | 786-408-0610

www.palacetours.com

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