

By Anonymous traveler (2021)

Our journey began with an exciting arrival in Maputo, the vibrant capital city of Mozambique. We made our way to the pier, where a boat waited to take us on a scenic 30-minute ride to Inhaca Village. The crystal-clear waters and breathtaking views set the stage for an unforgettable experience. We settled into our accommodations and had some rest for our journey the next day.



After enjoying a delicious breakfast we couldn't wait to dive into the activities lined up for us. The options were plentiful - snorkeling, kayaking, and stand-up paddleboarding. From gliding through the water's surface to exploring the mesmerizing marine life beneath, we were immersed in the beauty of Inhaca Island. The vibrant coral reefs and colorful fish left us in awe of Mozambique's natural wonders.

As the day turned into evening, we made our way to Machangulo, our overnight destination. Traveling by boat, we soaked in the remaining moments of the island's serenity before reaching our lodging. The tranquil atmosphere and stunning surroundings provided the perfect backdrop for a peaceful night's rest.

The following morning, after a hearty breakfast, we boarded a boat destined for Santa Maria Village. Along the way, we had the opportunity to admire the picturesque mangroves and the pristine waters of the Inhaca Island Marine Reserve.

Upon our arrival, a private picnic lunch awaited us on the dunes, surrounded by breathtaking scenery. We couldn't resist going for a leisurely walk along the beach, enjoying the warm sand beneath our feet and the gentle touch of the ocean breeze.

As the day unfolded, we reveled in the relaxation provided by this idyllic location. The sound of waves crashing against the shore created a soothing ambiance, and we felt truly immersed in nature's embrace. Sadly, it was time to bid farewell to Machangulo and set sail back to Maputo after enjoying a

final breakfast. Our journey continued with a guided tour of the city, where we explored its rich history and cultural landmarks.

We marveled at the imposing fortress and wandered through the bustling central market, filled with vibrant colors and the aromas of local cuisine. The Museum of Natural History allowed us to delve deeper into the diverse ecosystem of Mozambique, showcasing its fascinating flora and fauna. We couldn't resist browsing the curio market, where we discovered unique handicrafts and souvenirs. As we passed by the City Hall and Botanical Gardens, we marveled at the scale and beauty of the country's largest gardens.



In the evening, we were treated to a delightful dinner at Zambi, a renowned Portuguese seafood restaurant. The flavors of the ocean were expertly crafted into tantalizing dishes, leaving our taste buds satisfied and our hearts content.

The next leg of our adventure took us beyond the borders of Mozambique and into the enchanting kingdom of Eswatini. We embarked on a scenic drive to Manzini Market, immersing ourselves in the vibrant atmosphere and admiring the array of local produce and crafts. Our exploration continued at Mantenga Craft & Lifestyle Centre, where we indulged in shopping for stunning Siswati jewelry and beautiful local art. The cultural experience deepened as we visited Mantenga Cultural Village and witnessed traditional dances, ceremonies, and the warmth of the Basotho people.

The Swazi Candle Factory left us mesmerized as we witnessed the intricate artistry involved in creating these beautiful candles. We capped off our day with a delightful lunch and an overnight stay, allowing us to fully savor the wonders of Eswatini.

With the rising sun, we bid farewell to Eswatini and made our way to the airport for an early morning flight to Maseru, the capital of Lesotho, with a brief layover in Johannesburg. Upon our arrival, we were whisked away to our hotel, where we settled in and prepared for the adventures that awaited us.

Our first destination, Thaba Bosiu, captivated us with its rich history and striking vistas. Situated in the heart of Lesotho, this historic site served as the birthplace of the nation. The panoramic views from the summit offered glimpses of Lesotho's rugged beauty, with mountains stretching as far as the eye could see. We were taken aback by the significance of this place and its role in shaping the Lesotho we know today.

Continuing our exploration, we found ourselves in Ha Kome Cave Village, a unique settlement nestled in the Berea District. The cave dwellings, carved out of the rock face, provided a fascinating insight into the traditional Basotho way of life. It was like stepping back in time as we wandered through the settlement, admiring the resilience of the local community. The round stone huts, intricately designed and surrounded by stunning natural landscapes, left us in awe of the Basotho people's resourcefulness and ingenuity.

Our final destination, Tsehlanyane National Park, was a sanctuary of natural splendor. Located in the Maloti Mountains, this park offered a haven of tranquility and breathtaking beauty. We immersed ourselves in the untouched wilderness, exploring the hiking trails that wound their way through dense forests, along cascading waterfalls, and amidst an abundance of wildlife. It was a true paradise for nature enthusiasts, and we relished every moment spent in its serene embrace. Throughout our journey, we indulged in the local flavors and brews that Lesotho had to offer. From traditional dishes that delighted our taste buds to the locally brewed beer that quenched our thirst, we embraced the culinary delights of this vibrant nation. The warmth and hospitality of the locals enhanced our dining experiences, making each meal a memorable affair.



As we reflect on our time in Lesotho, we are filled with gratitude for the unique experiences and memories it bestowed upon us. From the historic significance of Thaba Bosiu to the cultural wonders of Ha Kome Cave Village, and the natural splendor of Tsehlanyane National Park, Lesotho revealed its many treasures to us.

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